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How to Afford Law School

preLaw
A National Jurist publication

Most Diverse Law Schools

Rutgers-Newark, Florida A&M, Howard University, Texas Southern and 41 other law schools make our honor roll for diversity, earning A’s and B’s. Find out who’s at the top of the class.

Kimberly Banks MacKay graduated from Rutgers-Newark and still benefits from the connections she made in the school’s minority program.
The corporate lawyer

Corporate lawyers are involved in advising businesses on their numerous legal rights, responsibilities and obligations. Many corporate lawyers work in law firms, particularly large or mid-size firms, where they counsel clients and handle business transactions. Business transactions include negotiations, drafting and review of contracts and other agreements associated with the activities of the business, such as mergers and acquisitions.

They also advise business clients on corporate governance and operations issues such as the rights and responsibilities of corporate directors and officers and the general oversight of the legal activities of the company. Other corporate lawyers are employed directly by corporations as in-house corporate counsel.

One role of a corporate lawyer is counseling publicly held companies. Public companies are held to strict standards with regard to disclosure of information that may have either a positive or adverse material effect on earnings and may therefore affect the price of their stock.

New businesses are typically faced with numerous business decisions, including whether to structure the business as a corporation, a partnership, a limited liability company, a sole proprietorship or even as a joint venture. As part of determining how to structure the business, corporate attorneys also assist the start-up venture with matters such as developing a business plan and finding sources of financing.

Corporate lawyers enjoy the intellectual nature of their work. Lawyers who work as corporate in-house counsel advise their companies on a wide range of legal and business issues. In fact, large corporations may have full departments of in-house lawyers. It is beneficial to take business-related law school courses.

Where to study Business & Corporate Law

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Albany Law School</th>
<th>The Catholic University of America Columbus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baylor Law School</td>
<td>The John Marshall Law School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law</td>
<td>Temple University Beasley School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston University School of Law</td>
<td>Texas Tech University School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn Law School</td>
<td>Thomas M. Cooley Law School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital University Law School</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DePaul University College of Law</td>
<td>Touro College Law Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University School of Law</td>
<td>UCLA School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory University School of Law</td>
<td>University of Akron School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fordham Law School</td>
<td>University at Buffalo Law School (SUNY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Mason University School of Law</td>
<td>UC Berkeley School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Gate University</td>
<td>UC Davis School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonzaga University School of Law</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati College of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamline University School of Law</td>
<td>University of Colorado Law School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hofstra University School of Law</td>
<td>University of Georgia School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington</td>
<td>University of Houston Law Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark Law School</td>
<td>University of Iowa College of Law</td>
</tr>
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<td>Massachusetts School of Law</td>
<td>University of Maryland School of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi College School of Law</td>
<td>University of Minnesota Law School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwestern University School of Law</td>
<td>University of Nebraska College of Law</td>
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<td>Ohio Northern University</td>
<td>University of Oregon School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pettit College of Law</td>
<td>University of Pennsylvania Law School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pace University School of Law</td>
<td>University of San Diego School of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rutgers School of Law-Camden</td>
<td>University of Tulsa College of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Louis University School of Law</td>
<td>University of Virginia School of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Clara University School of Law</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin Law School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle University School of Law</td>
<td>Vanderbilt University Law School</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMU Dedman School of Law</td>
<td>Washburn University School of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Texas College of Law</td>
<td>Western State University College of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Methodist School</td>
<td>Widener University School of Law-Delaware</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suffolk University Law School</td>
<td>Willamette University College of Law</td>
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<td>Syracuse University College of Law</td>
<td>Yale Law School</td>
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THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION’S House of Delegates announced its candidates for ABA president-elect and 10 seats on the Board of Governors in February.

The House of Delegates will vote on the nominees in August when it convenes at the 2011 ABA Annual Meeting in Toronto. The Nominating Committee’s selections are virtually assured of being elected by the House.

Under the ABA Constitution, the association’s presidents are not actually elected to that office. Rather, the House elects a candidate— invariably, the choice of the Nominating Committee—to the office of president-elect. After a year, the president-elect automatically becomes ABA president.

Accordingly, Laurel G. Bellows will serve as president-elect after she is formally elected by the House in August. She will then serve a one-year term as president starting in August 2012 at the close of that year’s annual meeting in her hometown of Chicago.

The nominees to the 40-member Board of Governors will serve three-year terms starting in August. Five of the nominees will represent regional districts. Two nominees will represent sections. One of the nominees will serve as a minority member-at-large, one will serve as a woman member-at-large, and one will be a young lawyer member-at-large.

LAUREL G. BELLOWS
PRESIDENT-ELECT

JOSEPH J. ROSZKOWSKI
DISTRICT 1
WHO HE IS: Managing partner at Zimmerman, Roszkowski & Brenner in Woonsocket,
R.I. Member of ABA House of Delegates since 2004; currently chairs executive committee of Conference of State Delegates. Serves on Nominating Committee as state delegate from Rhode Island. Previously served on Board of Governors in 2001-04. Chairs Standing Committee on Meetings and Travel. President of Rhode Island Bar Association in 1985. Received JD in 1964 from Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee. (District 1 encompasses Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.)

JOSEPHINE A. MCNEIL
DISTRICT 2

ALLEN C. GOOLSBY
DISTRICT 4
WHO HE IS: Partner in the business practice group at Hunton & Williams in Richmond, Va. Member of practice committees in ABA Section of Business Law. President of the Virginia Bar Association in 1991. Received LLB in 1968 from University of Virginia School of Law in Charlottesville. (District 4 encompasses the District of Columbia and Virginia.)

ROBERT L. ROTHMAN
DISTRICT 6
WHO HE IS: Partner and co-chair of the litigation department at Arnall Golden Gregory in Atlanta. Chaired ABA Section of Litigation in 2008-09. Member of Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants. Past member of Working Group on Civil Right to Counsel (2009-10), steering committee for Death Penalty Representation Project (2004-08), Standing Committee on Technology and Information Systems (2001-04). Received JD in 1982 from the Florida State University College of Law in Tallahassee. (District 6 encompasses Georgia, Louisiana and Tennessee.)

THOMAS A. HAMIL
DISTRICT 12
WHO HE IS: Of counsel at Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace and Bauer in Overland Park, Kan. Member of ABA House of Delegates in 1993-2010. Served on Nominating Committee in 1999-2010 as state delegate from Kansas. Chaired Conference of State Delegates in 2006-08. Member of Commission on Homelessness and Poverty in 2002-05. Past president of Kansas Bar Association (1991) and Johnson County Bar Association (1982). Received JD in 1967 from the University of Kansas School of Law in Lawrence. (District 12 encompasses Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas and New Mexico.)

CHARLES A. COLLIER JR.
SENIOR LAWYERS DIVISION

BARTBARA MENDEL MAYDEN
SECTION OF BUSINESS LAW
WHO SHE IS: Principal at Young Mayden, a boutique legal search and consulting firm in Nashville, Tenn. Member of ABA House of Delegates in 1986-2004 and again since 2006 (currently represents Section of Business Law). Serves on Nominating Committee as a woman member-at-large. Chaired House Committee on Rules and

HAROLD D. POPE
MINORITY MEMBER-AT-LARGE


SANDRA R. McCANDLESS
WOMAN MEMBER-AT-LARGE

WHO SHE IS: Partner at SNR Denton in San Francisco, and heads up firm's labor and employment practice in California. Member of Legal Opportunity Scholarship Fund-raising Committee for ABA Board of Governors. Member of Standing Committee on Meetings and Travel. Member of Special Committee on Disaster Response and Preparedness in 2006-10; served on Hurricane Katrina Task Force in 2005-06. Chaired Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section in 2005-06. Received JD in 1974 from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

MICHAEL J. PELLICCIOTTI
YOUNG LAWYER

WHO HE IS: Trial and appellate attorney in Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for King County, Wash., in Seattle. Member of ABA House of Delegates since 2004 (currently represents Washington State Bar Association). Vice-chair of House Tellers Committee. Member of Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service. Chaired Law Student Division in 2003-04. Liaison to ABA Board of Governors from Young Lawyers Division. Received JD in 2004 from Gonzaga University School of Law in Spokane, Wash.

GRAPHIC: Photo 1, LAUREL G. BELLOWS, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 2, JOSEPH J. ROSZKOWSKI, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 3, JOSEPHINE A. McNEILL, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 4, ALLEN C. GOOLSBY, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 5, ROBERT L. ROTHMAN, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 6, THOMAS A. HAMIL, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 7, CHARLES A. COLLIER JR., PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 8, BARBARA MENDEL MAYDEN, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 9, HAROLD D. POPE, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 10, SANDRA R. MCCANDLESS, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN; Photo 11, MICHAEL J. PELLICCIOTTI, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN

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Lauren S. Thurmond is now a shareholder of Rogers Townsend & Thomas. Thurmond works in the firm's default services department, representing mortgage lenders, servicers and substitute trustees in foreclosure actions and related litigation. She is licensed in North Carolina and South Carolina and concentrates her practice on foreclosure, real property and creditors' rights matters.

Thurmond holds a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a juris doctor from the University of South Carolina School of Law. She is located in the firm's Charlotte office.

The inaugural class of the Herb Falk Society, named for a Greensboro attorney who inspired others to take on pro bono work, was honored at a dinner last week at the Greensboro Country Club.

The honorees were all attorneys who had worked at least 75 hours pro bono in 2010 and included George W. Aycock III, Steven E. Black, William G. Burgin III, Barbara R. Christy, Locke T. Clifford, Robert C. Cone, Richard W. Gabriel, Garland G. Graham, Allen Holt Gwyn, Thomas P. Hockman, April E. Kight, Jennifer J.L. Koenig, Phyllis Lile-King, Phillip J. Long, James H. Slaughter, Melanie S. Tuttle, Amy J. Walker and Edward C. Winslow III.

N.C. State Bar President Anthony di Santi gave the keynote speech at the event, and those in attendance included Supreme Court Chief Justice Sarah Parker, Justice Bob Edmunds, and Court of Appeals Judges Robert N. Hunter Jr. and Rick Elmore.

Falk, who died in 2002, came up with a novel idea to promote volunteer work while he was president of the Greensboro Bar Association. He decided to call all seven Supreme Court justices to see if they would help build a home for a family in need. The justices agreed. Since then, lawyers in Greensboro continue to help build houses for Habitat for Humanity.

James L. Conner II has been made partner with Ragsdale Liggett. Conner leads the health-care litigation and the environmental law practice groups. He also focuses his practice in administrative law and commercial litigation, representing clients such as mental health providers, real estate developers, construction companies, professionals with licensing disputes and title insurance company.

Conner is a former administrative law judge and has been a certified mediator since 1994. He is also a certified arbitrator. He is a member of the North Carolina Academy of Superior Court Mediators and the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

Conner received his law degree from the University of North Carolina School of Law and a bachelor's degree in botany from Duke University. He is serving his third term as a council member for the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section of the N.C. Bar Association and is a frequent speaker at CLEs.

In other firm news, partner Melissa Dewey Brumback's "Construction Law in North Carolina" blog was recently named the top construction law blog in the country by Design and Construction Report, a division of Construction News and Report Group of Companies.

Brumback focuses her practice on construction law and civil litigation at Ragsdale Liggett. She received her juris doctor from the University of North Carolina School of Law and is a member of the Wake County Bar Association, N.C. Bar Association, N.C. Association of Women Attorneys and the Defense Research Institute. She also serves as vice chair of the 10th Judicial District Grievance Committee.
Poyner Spruill partner Frank Bryant was recently recognized as one of the 2011 Heroes for the Homeless at the third annual "Under Our Roof" Community Partnership Breakfast in Charlotte. He was honored for his volunteer work at the Men's Shelter of Charlotte, where he teaches several nights per week to help men work toward attaining their GEDs.

Bryant focuses his practice on corporate law and has experience in advising and consulting closely held businesses on issues of formation, governance, operation, finance, growth, mergers and acquisitions and successions. He received both his bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mark A. Jones has joined the law firm of Bell Davis & Pitt, where he will help establish a governmental investigations/white collar and general criminal defense practice. The new practice area will counsel and represent individuals and corporations regarding grand jury and government investigations and federal and state criminal proceedings.


Jones is a 2006 graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center, where he was assistant editor of the school’s law journal and senior primary editor of The 35th Annual Review of Criminal Procedure. Jones also covered the 2005 term of the U.S. Supreme Court as a research and press intern for Congressional Quarterly Press in Washington, D.C.

Melanie Black Dubis, a partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein, has partnered with the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce to develop website terms of use and social media policy. The policy covers social networking websites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn, as well as the chamber’s blog. It details the rules and restrictions for appropriate and prohibited content and all responsibilities and liabilities for those using the website and contributing content.

Dubis serves the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce’s communication committee, which operates as an in-house, full-service agency handling a variety of communication activities.

Michael Shay has recently joined Mike Lewis Attorneys in Winston-Salem. Previously, he practiced Social Security Disability law with Legal Aid of North Carolina in Morganton.

Shay is a 2003 graduate of the N.C. Central University School of Law. He was co-chair of the statewide Public Benefits Task Force, a member of the Young Professional Exchange Program and a N.C. Crosby Scholar.

Womble Carlyle attorney Elizabeth Arias has been inducted as a fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. ACTEC is a professional association consisting of approximately 2,700 lawyers from throughout the United States. Fellows of the college are nominated by other fellows in their geographic area and then are elected by the membership at large.

Arias provides estate planning and tax advice to clients across the state on a variety of issues, including creation and administration of irrevocable trusts, estate and gift tax issues, formation of limited liability companies or family limited partnerships, succession planning for family businesses and formation of charitable trusts and foundations. Arias also maintains an active fiduciary litigation practice. She practices in the firm’s Raleigh office.

Cristina Fernandez of Durham and E. Spencer Parris of Raleigh were elected to
the board of directors of Legal Aid of North Carolina at its spring meeting. Fernandez will serve on the LANC Board as a representative from the N.C. Bar Association's Latino Affairs Committee, and Parris will represent the N.C. Advocates for Justice.

Fernandez is vice president and associate general counsel with GlaxoSmithKline in Research Triangle Park, where she focuses on health-care law matters. She is a 1985 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law.

Parris is a 1983 graduate of the University of South Carolina School of Law. He is a past president of the N.C. Advocates for Justice and is also a member of the American Association for Justice and the National Trial Lawyers.

Asheville attorney W. Louis Bissette Jr. has been selected to serve a four-year term on the UNC Board of Governors. The 32-member board handles all policymaking decisions for the 17 schools in the UNC system.

President of McGuire, Wood & Bissette since 1999, Bissette has practiced law with the firm since 1976. He received his undergraduate degree from Wake Forest University in 1965 and his J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1968. He also holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Virginia.

Bissette previously served two terms as Asheville's mayor and as chairman of the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce, among other community and civic affiliations. He has received the Citizen Lawyer Award and the Centennial Award from the N.C. Bar Association, the J.D. Cooley Award from the Western North Carolina Community Development Association, the Citizenship Award from the Land of Sky Regional Council and the Big A and Chairman's awards from the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce.

Former federal prosecutor Kieran Shanahan, principal of Shanahan Law Group, has been selected as a visiting professor for the Center for International Legal Studies and recently completed the Senior Lawyer Orientation Program in Salzburg, Austria, to prepare for his appointment.

The Center for International Legal Studies has operated for 32 years facilitating academic and exchange programs in eastern Europe. As a senior lawyer with the center, Shanahan will teach litigation and other topics at the University of Brest in Belarus this fall.

Shanahan was selected from more than 150 applicants and attended a weeklong training program in Austria to prepare for his visiting professorship appointment. The training included sessions on helping facilitate a productive learning experience such as teaching methods for a foreign audience and comparative systems of justice.
U.S. News releases its rankings, and law schools grumble

Audree Wong
2011-04-01 12:00:00 AM


There were other changes, as compiled by Sloan:

- One of the more significant changes wasn't in the order of schools, but in how the magazine presented its rankings. It used to be the magazine listed its top 100 law schools, then broke down other schools into third and fourth tiers, listing the schools in each tier alphabetically. This year, the magazine only has two tiers: a first tier of 145 schools numerically ranked and a second tier of 45 schools only listed alphabetically.

- Among the top ten, University of Michigan Law School moved up two spots to No. 7, and the University of California, Berkeley School of Law moved down two spots to No. 9 to tie with The University of Virginia School of Law, which was at No. 10 last year.

Within the top 50:

- The University of Colorado School of Law dropped nine spots to No. 47.

- Emory University School of Law moved down eight spots, to No. 30.

- Both The University of Georgia School of Law and the University of Wisconsin Law School fell seven spots, from No. 28 last year to tie for No. 35 this year.

- The University of Maryland School of Law moved up six spots to No. 42.

- The University of California, Davis School of Law gained five spots to No. 23.
- Indiana University Maurer School of Law-Bloomington (No. 23), Fordham University School of Law (No. 30), the University of Washington School of Law (No. 30), Washington and Lee University School of Law (No. 30), and Florida State University College of Law (No. 50), all moved up four spots.

Among the top 51 to 100:
- Both St. John's University School of Law and the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law dropped 23 spots, from No. 72 last year to No. 95 this year.
- Villanova University School of Law, whose administrators disclosed that they had reported inaccurate admissions data for a number of years, plummeted 17 spots to No. 84.
- Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law (No. 79), the University of Richmond School of Law (No. 67), and Chicago-Kent College of Law (No. 61) each jumped 19 spots.

Falling out of the top 100:
- Chapman University School of Law fell 11 spots to No. 104, to tie with Saint Louis University School of Law and the University of South Carolina School of Law.
- The University of Missouri School of Law fell 14 spots to No. 107. Two years ago, the school placed No. 65 on the U.S. News list.

In her article, Sloan notes that the annual release of the U.S. News law school rankings prompts plenty of complaints and grumbling among administrators and other legal educators about their accuracy and usefulness. And as reported by Elie Mystal at Above the Law, U.S. News tweaked its methodology slightly to place a little more emphasis on employment after graduation this year. Some schools took a significant hit because of it—and apparently didn't like it. One of the most egregious examples of "whining" so far, as identified by Mystal, came from Emory Law School, which dropped from No. 22 to No. 30. Addressing the drop, School of Law Dean David Partlett wrote an e-mail addressed to law school students:

Emory's move to No. 30 is surprising, and on analysis is directly attributed to a change in the methodology U.S. News uses to calculate employment statistics. The employment numbers for the 2012 rankings are based on statistics from the Class of 2009. This year, U.S. News adjusted the employment rate calculations in an attempt to present a more accurate reflection of actual employment.

Historically, many of our students pursue careers in large law firms—the sector most impacted by the Great Recession. We remain optimistic in the improvements we are seeing in many of the country's large firms.

Mystal notes "you don't hear Yale or Harvard or Stanford—all schools that send a large portion of their classes to Biglaw jobs—complaining that the Great Recession unduly affected their U.S. News ranking." And in a follow-up post, Mystel goes on to describe some of the dampened reactions coming even from law schools that did better in the rankings this year.

Do you have topics you'd like to discuss or tips to share? E-mail The Careerist's chief blogger Vivia Chen at VChen@alm.com or deputy blogger Audree Wong at awong@alm.com.
A federal bankruptcy judge has been named the Girls Preparatory School Distinguished Alumna Award winner for 2011.

Judge Shelley Rucker, a 1976 graduate of GPS and former partner with the local law firm Miller and Martin, was presented the award at the GPS Alumnae Weekend luncheon on Friday, according to a school news release.

Rucker is a U.S. bankruptcy judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee. She is a cum laude graduate of the University of Georgia Law School.

She was named a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy in 2002, and she has appeared more than a dozen times on the lists of Best Lawyers in American and Best Lawyers in Tennessee.

The Distinguished Alumna Award is based on professional achievement; service in home, church and community; and commitment to GPS, according to the school.

Others honored at the GPS event included:

* The Margaret Rawlings Lupton Award of Excellence: Recipients for 2011 are Lt. Col. Dion Roland Flynn and Betsy Martin Willingham.

Those who receive the Award of Excellence are chosen for their community impact and volunteerism.

Flynn, a 1991 graduate of GPS, is stationed at the Pentagon and heads up the Air Force Reserve Outreach Program. She graduated from the Air Force Academy with a degree in management. A resident of Maryland, she and her husband, John J. Flynn Jr., have four children.

The Girl Scout Council in Arizona awarded her the World of Courage award for promoting leadership among young women, and the 100 Black Men of Arizona named her Public Administration Professional of the Year.

Willingham, of Chattanooga, served for 21 years as the executive director of the local chapter of the American Heart Association. During her tenure, the chapter's yearly fundraising grew tenfold to $2 million. Willingham has served on the boards of the Chattanooga Area Wellness Council and Tennessee Donor Services. She has also served on the human relations committee of the Metropolitan YMCA.

* The Love of GPS Award recipient for 2011 is Lew Boyd, only the second man to receive the award. When his daughter entered GPS in 1968, Boyd joined the GPS board of trustees and began 40 years of volunteer service to the school. Boyd's wife, Ann, is a member of the GPS class of 1947.
All that smoke billowing from Auburn is the burning of documents that the NCAA has asked them for.

Warming up my tomahawk chop! Go Braves!

I'm eagerly awaiting that first sack that Cam Newton gets in the NFL.

Looks like a couple of dead trees are the least of Auburn's worries.

Give Barry a break. Since when is it against the law to lie in Washington?

I don't know if Rashan Michel has a legitimate complaint or not, but he might want to think about using our court system before he picks another fight with an athlete.

The Marlins ownership is like the movie "Major League": the better you play, the faster you get fired.

All is right with my world. Baseball season has begun.

If Dominique Wilkins is so broke he's doing those lame title loan commercials, he probably does owe that guy money.

It was a little weird not seeing Bobby in the dugout Thursday. I hope that feeling goes away soon because I am excited about Fredi!

A Georgia fan replies to the Tech fan who says that they go to games hoping not to lose: We got a taste of that last fall, and it's not much fun.

Does UGA need to hire some Tech grads to fix their website for tickets?

Instead of dumping the Fiesta Bowl out of the BCS, why not get rid of the BCS entirely and have a playoff?

Does anyone seriously believe that Auburn will "investigate" allegations that former players were paid?

Consider the four Auburn players who claim they received money. One is suing the university; one was turned down for an assistant job; one never played there, and another flamed out in the NFL.

The main difference between Georgia Tech and Georgia football fans: Tech fans actually attended college. And I'm a Georgia fan.

UGA providing $7.9 million for the homeless in Athens. Glad to see UGA doesn't give up on its former athletes.

Dawgs tickets website messed up. Don't mess with Tech.
The Final Four teams may or may not be the best in the country, but they were the best when it mattered.

No more scholarships for playing sports in college. If you can't make it in the classroom, you can't play period.

I hope we get the BCS game in Atlanta so maybe the name will go back to the Peach Bowl.

Auburn football players admit they play for pay. College football is another form of pro, or at least semi pro, sports.

Auburn whistle-blowers have nothing to lose or gain. Those who deny have everything to lose. Whom should I believe?

It's just around the corner before those Georgia fans start talking about winning the National Championship.

Does the NFL lockout mean that Madden 2012 will have an option to lockout the players so that you can get more money?

With college football only five months away, I'm impressed anyone cares about the Braves.

I suspect that the lawyer who wrote the contracts for Gailey and Hewitt graduated from the UGA law school.
HEADLINE: Attorney Michael A. Schwartz Joins Zausmer, Kaufman, August, Caldwell & Taylor, P.C.

BODY:

April 5, 2011


Schwartz specializes in the defense of first and third party auto claims and commercial general liability claims. Prior to his arrival at ZKACT, he served as in-house counsel for one of the largest mixed-use real estate developers in the Southeast. Additionally, he worked as a legal intern in the Regional Solicitor's Office of the United States Department of the Interior, judicial extern in the Georgia state court system, and legislative intern in the Madison office of United States Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin.

Admitted to the State Bar of Michigan last November, Schwartz graduated cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"We are honored that Michael has joined our firm," said ZKACT shareholder Mark Zausmer. "His experience in real estate and automotive cases make him a valuable asset for our clients." Founded in 1978, and headquartered in Farmington Hills, Michigan, with offices in Lansing, Michigan, Zausmer, Kaufman, August, Caldwell & Taylor PC provides a wide range of legal services to individuals, institutions and industries across the country. Among the firm's practice areas General & Civil Litigation, Alternative Dispute Resolutions, Appellate work, Class Action, Construction Law, Labor & Employment, Liability & Insurance Defense, Insurance Coverage & Fraud, Insurance Insolvency & Liquidation, Municipal Law, Product Liability, Real Estate, Securities Litigation and Transactional Law. For more information, please visit www.lawsite.com.

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BODY:


Schwartz specializes in the defense of first and third party auto claims and commercial general liability claims. Prior to his arrival at ZKACT, he served as in-house counsel for one of the largest mixed-use real estate developers in the Southeast. Additionally, he worked as a legal intern in the Regional Solicitor's Office of the United States Department of the Interior, judicial extern in the Georgia state court system, and legislative intern in the Madison office of United States Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin.

Admitted to the State Bar of Michigan last November, Schwartz graduated cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"We are honored that Michael has joined our firm," said ZKACT shareholder Mark Zausmer. "His experience in real estate and automotive cases make him a valuable asset for our clients."


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Contact Information:

Zausmer, Kaufman, August, Caldwell & Taylor, P.C.

Mike Ingberg
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mingberg@marklayne.com
www.lawsite.com

LOAD-DATE: April 6, 2011
The University of Georgia issued the following news release:

The University of Georgia School of Law is partnering with other departments on campus to present "Careers in Sustainability," a conference designed to educate students and practitioners about the growing field of "green collar" jobs. The event will take place April 15 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall. It is free and open to the public; however, registration is requested.

"The concept of sustainability can take many forms and, for those interested in working in this area, many career paths," third-year law student and co-organizer Anne Marie Pippin said. "Our hope is that this event will help increase interest as well as provide insights into this quickly evolving field."

Sharing personal experiences and recommendations will be keynote speakers Kevin Kirsche, director of the UGA Office of Sustainability, and Mandy Mahoney, director of management and strategy for the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance.

The conference will focus on opportunities in business, law, architecture, design and real estate. Panelists include representatives from Coca-Cola Refreshments, PepsiCo, the UGA College of Environment and Design, the law firm Troutman Sanders, the commercial real estate firm Grubb and Ellis, the engineering firm Newcomb and Boyd and the architecture firm Stevens and Wilkinson.

The event is co-sponsored by the UGA Terry College of Business and Office of Sustainability. For more information or to register, please see www.terry.uga.edu/students/sustainability.html.

Contact: Anne Marie Pippin, 678/371-0017, amp2129@uga.edu

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TNS CT21CT-110409-3331591 61ChengTacorda

LOAD-DATE: April 9, 2011
Indiana University Bloomington issued the following news release:

An internationally recognized forensic geneticist who has worked on the successful exonerations of seven people will present a free, public lecture at Indiana University on how DNA is used to free the wrongly convicted and how informatics is being misused to pervert justice.

Boise State University Professor Greg Hampikian, who holds joint appointments in biology and criminal justice, will speak Friday, April 15, on the IU Bloomington campus as part of the IU School of Informatics and Computing Colloquium Series. He is the co-author of Exit to Freedom, which documents Calvin Johnson's successful fight to prove his innocence after serving 17 years of a life sentence in a Georgia prison. Hampikian will sign copies of the book following his presentation from 3-4 p.m. in room 102 of Lindley Hall.

Hampikian, a board member of the Georgia Innocence Project and founder and director of the Idaho Innocence Project, is also one of several DNA experts who called into question the DNA evidence used to convict American college student Amanda Knox in the 2007 murder and sexual assault of Meredith Kercher in Italy. In the past year, Italian judges have ordered a retrial for Knox and a reexamination of the DNA evidence used in the original trial.

The topic for Hampikian's IU Bloomington visit will be "Stay of Execution: Forensic Bioinformatics and the Innocence Movement."

"Forensic DNA has the power to correct wrongful convictions, but the misapplication of statistics reverses this effect," he said. "As we transition from the Information Age to the 'Too Much Information Age,' informatics is not just the key to complex scientific questions, but it is also the key to our freedom."

A sought-after lecturer who has led workshops and given presentations across America and overseas at institutions such as Harvard University, The University of Georgia Law School, The University of Connecticut Advanced Genetics Technology Center, The Pasteur Institute in Paris, the Medical Research Council in Edinburgh, Scotland, and St. Mary's Hospital in London, Hampikian has designed a presentation for the general public that touches on topics related to informatics, biology and criminal justice.

Before arriving at Boise State University he held research and teaching positions at Yale University Medical School, Emory University, Georgia Tech, La Trobe University in Australia, and at the Centers for Disease Control. His laboratory at BSU has pioneered the study of DNA sequences not found in nature, which he has named "nullomers."

His research and outreach activities have been covered by Science, New Scientist, the Wall Street Journal, Time, Fox News, CNN, and Good Morning America, and his work has been published in leading scientific journals such as Nature and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Hampikian has worked on hundreds of cases in the U.S. and Europe, including seven exonerations and two current stays of execution issued just hours before scheduled death sentences were to be carried out.
Lindley Hall is located at 150 S. Woodlawn Ave., Bloomington, and copies of Exit to Freedom will be on sale for $19.95 each following the presentation.

For more information, please contact Steve Chaplin, University Communications, at 812-856-1896 or stjchap@indiana.edu

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TNS C-BhaS 110409-mv45-3331181

LOAD-DATE: April 9, 2011
Q: An AJC story about the foreclosure of a Union City mall said it was "scheduled for foreclosure on the Fulton County courthouse steps." Does this event literally take place on the courthouse steps?

---Grant Glassbrook, Atlanta

A: Georgia is one of many states that allow private power of sale foreclosures if the mortgage documents provide for it, Randy Beck, the Justice Thomas C. Marshall Chair of Constitutional Law at the University of Georgia School of Law, told Q&A on the News. This is an alternative to judicially supervised foreclosures and allows the lender to conduct a foreclosure sale if the borrower defaults, he wrote in an e-mail. "These private foreclosure sales typically do take place outside the courthouse, traditionally on the courthouse steps, though I think they would be equally valid on level ground," he wrote. "The point is to have a central location for such sales so potential buyers know where to show up to purchase foreclosure properties." Lenders like the power of sale foreclosure because it is more efficient and less expensive than a judicially supervised foreclosure, he wrote. "By pursuing this alternative, the lender may lose the option of seeking a deficiency judgment against the (borrower) if the sale fails to bring in sufficient funds to cover the outstanding debt," he wrote.

Lori Johnston wrote this column. Do you have a question about the news? We'll try to get the answer. Call 404-222-2022 or e-mail lori@fastcopy.biz (include name and city).
Retired professor Ball dies at 74

By DON NELSON - don.nelson@onlineathens.com
Published Friday, April 08, 2011

Milner S. Ball, a retired University of Georgia law professor and longtime advocate for the disadvantaged, died Wednesday after an extended battle with Parkinson's disease.

Milner S. Ball, a retired University of Georgia law professor and longtime advocate for the disadvantaged, died Wednesday after an extended battle with Parkinson's disease.

Ball, 74, who retired in 2007 as the UGA law school's Caldwell Professor in Constitutional Law, had been a member of the UGA law faculty since 1978. He led courses in constitutional law, law and theology, Native American law, environmental law and jurisprudence.

A strong proponent of public interest law, Ball founded the school's Public Interest Practicum in 1992, which led to the current Civil Clinic Program through which law students assist people who normally don't have the access or money for an attorney.

Ball, a Presbyterian minister, came to Athens as a campus minister in 1966 and graduated from the law school in 1971 first in his class. He taught at Rutgers-Camden in New Jersey before returning to Athens in 1978.

Ball earned a reputation of "national significance as a legal thinker and an analyst," said UGA law professor Dan Coenen, who considered Ball his "dear friend" and mentor.

Ball wrote several books, including "Called by Stories: Biblical Sagas and Their Challenge for Law" (2000), and articles for several journals.

As a law professor, Ball spoke and taught in a manner that inspired his students, said Russell Gabriel,
director of the criminal defense clinic at UGA's law school and a former student of Ball's constitutional law class.

"He was one of the guiding lights for anyone who hoped through the practice of law to work for the under-represented and the poor - for people with little voice," Gabriel said.

His sense of justice and compassion also led Ball to reach out beyond the classroom to help those less fortunate, Coenen said.

"No one I have ever known was more genuinely devoted to the values of equality and justice," he said. "You will not find a single person in Athens who had more impact in trying to build a network of support for people in need."

Ball worked with Our Daily Bread soup kitchen, the Athens Area Homeless Shelter, Community Connection, the Athens Justice Project and the Nancy Travis House, among other community organizations, Coenen said.

Services are set for 3 p.m. Monday at St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church, 3195 Barnett Shoals Road, with a reception following.

Originally published in the Athens Banner-Herald on Friday, April 08, 2011
Pfeiffer Gleston Wyatt Hewitt's Scott Pfeiffer has been engaged as lead counsel by Core Communications, Inc., a regional competitive local exchange carrier, in a lawsuit pending in the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland against Verizon Maryland, Inc.

The case, which began in 1999 with Core's complaint to the Maryland Public Service Commission, has recently been remanded by the 4th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals to the Maryland District Court. Pfeiffer Gleston Wyatt Hewitt will be replacing Arent Fox as lead counsel for the case on remand.

Attorney Francis F. "Frank" Mood rejoined Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd's Columbia office as special counsel on April 1. Mood previously served as senior vice president and general counsel at SCANA Corporation. Mood has practiced law for over four decades, including 38 years at Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd and its predecessors, where he served as managing director for eight years. As the firm's lead attorney in its regulated utilities and administrative law practice, he also practiced in the areas of health care, business and commercial litigation, and governmental relations.

A native of Summerton, Mood is a member of the South Carolina Bar, the American Bar Association and is a permanent member of The Judicial Conference of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit. In 2000, he received The Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor. Mood served on the inaugural board of Liberty Fellowship in South Carolina and continues as one of eight board members. He also serves on the board of directors for the Columbia Urban League.

A past chairman of The Citadel's governing board, president of The Citadel Foundation and chairman of the South Carolina Board of Bar Examiners, Mood is a graduate of The Citadel and the University of Virginia Law School. Earlier this year he was honored with the Krause Center for Leadership Award from The Citadel. He served as interim dean of the University of South Carolina School of Law from 2003-2004, and later was awarded an honorary doctor of laws and honorary Order of the Coif by the law school. He also received an honorary doctor of laws from The Citadel.

The Bond Buyer, a daily publication covering the public finance industry, has rated McNair Law Firm as the No. 1 bond counsel in South Carolina, according to its recently released survey. The firm was also rated No. 9 among bond counsel in the Southeast region and is the only South Carolina law firm in the Southeast ratings.

Ogletree Deakins has added two new attorneys to its Greenville office. Trip Lehn joins the firm as an associate. Previously, Lehn was an associate with Davis & Snyder in Greenville where he practiced in medical-malpractice defense and health-care law.

Lehn earned his J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law, where he was the notes editor for the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative
Law. Lehn also has a master's degree, with honors, from Yale University and is a graduate, cum laude, of Furman University with a bachelor's in business administration.

James Silvers has also joined the firm's Greenville office as an associate. Silvers is a 2009 graduate of the Charleston School of Law, where he graduated, magna cum laude, was class marshall and served as articles editor for the Law Review. He obtained seven CALI awards, including one in employment law and one in employment discrimination law. Since graduation, he has clerked for Chief Justice Jean Hoefer Toal at the S.C. Supreme Court.

LOAD-DATE: April 18, 2011

********** Print Completed **********

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Send To: MURPHY, HEIDI
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA LAW SCHOOL
HERTY & BOCOCK DRIVE
ATHENS, GA 30602-6018
The Morgan County African American Museum will be having their Spring Gala Banquet on Saturday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the James Madison Inn and Conference center.

The featured speaker at the event is the Honorable Horace J. Johnson, Jr. Judge Johnson is a Georgia Superior Court Judge serving the Alcovy Judicial Circuit, which includes Newton and Walton counties. Judge Johnson is a native of Covington and graduated from Oxford College of Emory University in 1977 with an Associate of Arts Degree and from Emory Business School in 1979 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.

He then graduated from the University of Georgia Law School in 1982 and was admitted to the Georgia Bar the same year.

Judge Johnson was appointed to the bench by then Gov. Roy Barnes in 2002. Judge Johnson was in private practice for 20 years prior to his appointment. He is a graduate of Leadership Newton County, Leadership DeKalb County and Leadership Georgia. He is also a board of trustees chairman for Leadership Georgia.
The University of Georgia has approved the promotion of 153 faculty members. Board of regents’ approval of promotions is no longer required. Those receiving a promotion are:

**College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences**

To Professor
- Peng Wah Chee, crop and soil sciences, and Glen C. Rains, biological and agricultural engineering.

To Associate Professor
- Zhengwei Pan, biological and agricultural engineering and physics and astronomy; Ronald Pegg, food science and technology; Kari K. Turner, animal and dairy science; and Bingqian Xu, biological and agricultural engineering.

**College of Arts and Sciences**

To Professor
- John Michael Burke, plant biology; Jody Karen Clay-Warner, sociology; D. Ray McClellan, music; Carolyn Jones Medine, religion; Alex V. Murawski, art; Kanzo Nakayama, physics and astronomy; Vladimir V. Popik, chemistry; James Marshall Shepherd, geography; Sandra J. Wyld, geology; Xiangrong Yin, statistics; David Hile Zerkel, music; and Chuanlun Zhang, marine sciences.

To Associate Professor
- Oscar A. Chamosa, history; Peter Louis Clark, mathematics; Brian G. Condie, genetics; Shelby Hyatt Funk, computer science; Peter John Jutras, music; Career Kazanci, mathematics and biological and agricultural engineering; John A. Knox, geography; Marcus D. Lay, chemistry; James MacKillop, psychology; Abhyuday Mandal, statistics; Jan Mrazek, microbiology; Akinloye A. Ojo, comparative literature; Cheolwoo Park, statistics; Lakshmi Macheeri Ramaswamy, computer science; Robert S. Romotions.

**College of Environment and Design**

To Professor
- Ashley Steffens Calabria.

To Associate Professor
- Jan M. Hatcote, textiles, merchandising and interiors, and Joan Koontz, housing and consumer economics.

To Associate Professor
- Theodore G. Furris, child and family development; Lance Palmer, housing and consumer economics; and Pamela R. Turner, housing and consumer economics.

**College of Family and Consumer Sciences**

To Professor
- Janice R. Hume, journalism.

To Associate Professor
- Jennifer C. Smith, telecommunications.

To Senior Lecturer
- Jennifer Griffin, advertising and public relations, and Mark Johnson, journalism.

**College of Journalism and Mass Communication**

To Professor
- E. David Dickens, Daniel Markowitz and Laurence Robert Schimleck.

To Associate Professor
- Jeffrey Hepinstall Cymerman, Nathan Paul Nibbelink and Michael John Yabsley, forestry and natural resources and population health.

**College of Pharmacy**

To Professor
- Azza B. El-Remessy, clinical and administrative pharmacy.

To Associate Professor
- Daniel Kapust, political science.

**College of Public Health**

To Professor
- Phaedra Shaffer Corso, health policy and management.

To Associate Professor
- Jessica Legge Muilenburg, health.

**School of Ecology**

To Associate Professor
- Amy Daum Rosemond.

**School of Law**

To Professor
- Peter Appel, Lori A. Ringhand and Peter Bowman Rutledge.

To Associate Professor

To Librarian IV
- Sharon Bradley and Maureen Cahill.

**School of Forestry and Natural Resources**

To Professor
- E. David Dickens, Daniel Markowitz and Laurence Robert Schimleck.

To Associate Professor
- Jeffrey Hepinstall Cymerman, Nathan Paul Nibbelink and Michael John Yabsley, forestry and natural resources and population health.

**School of Public and International Affairs**

To Professor
- Scott H. Ainsworth, political science.

To Associate Professor
- Daniel Kapust, political science.

**School of Social Work**

To Professor
- Michelle Carney, Cheryl D. Dozier, Edwin A. Risler and Margaret Elizabeth Vonk.
Tenure

The University of Georgia approved tenure for 64 faculty members. Board of regents' approval of tenure is no longer required. Those receiving tenure are:

- Roy D. Berghaus, population health
- Benjamin M. Brainard, small animal medicine and surgery
- Ashley Steffens Calabria, environment and design
- Alvin C. Camus, pathology
- Tina Daly Carpenter, accounting
- Oscar A. Chamosa, history
- Liang Chen, communication sciences and special education
- Peter Louis Clark, mathematics
- Brian G. Condie, genetics
- Phaedra Shaffer Corso, health policy and management
- Jeffrey Hepinstall Cymerman, forestry and natural resources
- Jolie Ziomek Daigle, counseling and human development services
- Marsha A. Davis, health promotion and behavior
- Laura A. Dean, counseling and human development services
- John Matthew Drake, ecology
- Angela E. Ellis, pathology
- Azeza B. El-Remessy, clinical and administrative pharmacy
- Shelby Hyatt Funk, computer science
- Theodore G. Futris, child and family development
- Robert M. Gogal, anatomy and radiology
- Biao He, infectious diseases

Hensel, small animal medicine and surgery
- Erik Hofmeister, small animal medicine and surgery
- Robert Jeff Hogan, anatomy and radiology and infectious diseases
- Peter John Jutras, music
- Daniel Kapust, political science
- Caner Kazanci, mathematics and biological and agricultural engineering
- Fazal K. Khare, geography
- Marcus D. Lay, chemistry
- Abhudev Mandal, statistics
- Jan Mrazek, microbiology
- Jessica Legge Mullenburg, health promotion and behavior
- Egbert S. Mundt, population health
- Nathaniel Paul Nibbelink, forestry and natural resources
- Akinloye A. Ojo, comparative literature
- Michael Wayne Overton, population health
- Lance Palmer, housing and consumer economics
- Cheoolwoo Park, statistics
- Ronald Pegg, food science and technology
- Lakshmi Machiritti Ramaswamy, computer science
- James K. Reap, environmental design
- Thomas Philip Robertson, physiology and pharmacology and large animal medicine
- Sheila Devaney, Robin M. Fay and Monica Pereira
- Elizabeth L. White
- Andy L. Carter, Julie Dyles, Esther Giezendanner, Abigail R. Griner, Mary Lynn Miller, Vicki H. Timian and Renna E. Tuten

Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

To Professor
- J. Douglas Toma, Institute of Higher Education

Office of the Vice President for Research

To Senior Research Scientist
- Tudor Vlad, journalism

To Associate Research Scientist
- Ruth Furukawa, cellular biology and Natalia Starostina, cellular biology

John Patrick Rose, biochemistry and molecular biology
- Amy Daum Rosenmöller, ecology
- Robert S. Sabatini, biochemistry and molecular biology
- Scott J. Schatzberg, small animal medicine and surgery
- Lijiang Shen, speech communication
- Jennifer C. Smith, telecommunication
- Xiao Song, epidemiology and biostatistics
- Julie D. Spivey, art
- Jonathan L. Templin, educational psychology and instructional technology
- John Jutras, ecology
- Robert M. Gogal, anatomy and radiology
- William Edward Stair Jr., Cooperative Extension-Southwest District
- Clay Talton, Cooperative Service-Northeast District
- Susan C. Yearwood, Cooperative Extension-Northeast District

Source: Office of Faculty Affairs
States News Service

April 11, 2011 Monday

LENGTH: 412 words

HEADLINE: UGA TO PRESENT LECTURE BY AUTHOR TOMIKO BROWN-NAGIN ON ATLANTA CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

BYLINE: States News Service

DATELINE: Athens, GA

BODY:

The following information was released by the University of Georgia:

The University of Georgia School of Law's American Constitution Society is partnering with other departments on campus to host Tomiko Brown-Nagin, author of the book Courage to Dissent: Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement, on April 20 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel. The event is free and open to the public and is co-sponsored by UGA's Institute for African American Studies, Department of History, African American Cultural Center, and Graduate and Professional Scholars.

Brown-Nagin's talk will cover a variety of topics addressed in her book and will emphasize the role of lawyers, courts and community-based activism during the civil rights era from both a historical and legal perspective. In recounting Atlanta's desegregation experience from the early 1940s to the 1980s, Brown-Nagin will shed light on a time where issues such as voting rights, housing, education and transportation were faced locally.

"Dr. Tomiko's groundbreaking book tells gripping stories about the long struggle for equality, and I am confident that her presentation will be just as powerful," event organizer and third-year law student Ashland J. Johnson said. "In this sweeping history of the civil rights movement in Atlanta, the South's largest and most economically important city, Tomiko shows that the movement featured a vast array of activists and many sophisticated approaches to change."

The lecture will be followed by a book signing session, with copies of the book available for purchase.

As a law professor, history professor and civil rights scholar at the University of Virginia, Brown-Nagin's work encompasses a broad spectrum of disciplines including law, history, women's studies, African-American studies, education and social work.

Prior to entering academe, Brown-Nagin clerked for Judge Robert L. Carter of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and for Judge Jane Roth of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit. She also worked as a litigation associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton and Garrison in New York City.

She earned her undergraduate degree summa cum laude from Furman University, her doctorate in history from Duke University and her law degree from Yale University, where she was an editor of The Yale Law Journal.

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Note to editors: Please contact Cindy Rice at 706/542-5172 or cindyh@uga.edu to reserve seating for reporters covering this event.

LOAD-DATE: April 11, 2011
Kenneth Millwood, 63, of Atlanta passed away Monday, April 11, at Hospice Atlanta following complications from a liver transplant. Ken is a 1969 graduate of Georgia Military Academy (now Woodward Academy) and two-time graduate of the University of Georgia where he earned a B.A. and law degree. While in law school, Ken served as executive editor of the Law Review and president of the student body, and was a Woodruff Scholar. He also holds an M.B.A. from Georgia State University.

Following undergraduate school, Ken served as director of the Atlanta Corp. He began the practice of law in 1975 at the firm of Smith, Cohen, Ringel, Kohler and Martin where he remained until January of 1990. He next practiced at Trotter, Smith and Jacobs. In 1992, he joined Nelson, Mullins, Riley and Scarbourough, where he remained until February of last year. Ken served as managing partner at each of the three law firms and was also a member of the executive committee at Nelson Mullins. A devoted father and husband, Ken is survived by Sharon Smith Millwood, his wife of 40 years, son Chandler, and daughter Carson, both of Atlanta, and by Igby, the four-legged family friend. Other family members are sister and brother-in-law Patricia and Jerry Stowers of Roswell, Georgia; brother and sister-in-law Tom and Janey Millwood of Flower Mound, Texas; niece and husband Jennifer and Marcus Wiggans, of Duluth, Georgia, and their daughter Madison. Ken's memorial service will be Sunday, April 17, 3:00 PM. at Northside United Methodist Church, 2799 Northside Dr., NW, Atlanta, GA 30305. A reception will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Piedmont Transplant Institute, 1968 Peachtree Rd. NW, Atlanta, GA 30305 or to a charity of your choice. Online condolences may be made to hmpattersonspringhill.com
Why students depend on the First Amendment

By Alii Kolick, ali.kolick@iowastatedaily.com

Frank LoMonte spoke Thursday on behalf of the First Amendment and why it is so vital to students, in particular.

LoMonte is the executive director of the Student Press Law Center and earned his law degree at the University of Georgia School of Law.

The Student Press Law Center began in 1974, serving as a source of research as well as an emergency resource if people's rights are not being met and are determined to reduce censorship in student newspapers.

Dealing mostly with high school students, SPLC receives around 500 calls a year dealing with censorship issues concerning high school newspapers.

LoMonte said when he visits high school students and asks how many have been affected by censorship, about 90 percent of students raise their hands. However, those 90 percent did not report the issue, therefore it is neither recorded nor dealt with.

"Many stories end with a fizzle and not with a bang," LoMonte said about many censorship issues.

However, the state of Iowa is one of the few states that feels that students deserve more than most schools allow.

"Iowa is one of eight in the country that has given more than the bare minimum of the First Amendment," LoMonte said.

LoMonte discussed the Tinker v. Des Moines School District case. In 1969, students in Des Moines wore anti-war arm bands protesting the Vietnam War and were subsequently punished.

Later it was published in the Des Moines Register, acknowledging that the school was in the wrong.

"It's essential to the development of a society," LoMonte said about the use of the First Amendment.

However, in the Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier case it essentially reversed the ruling of the Tinker case. The Hazelwood case essentially said students do not have the same First Amendment rights in the classroom as they do in society.

"This says, 'Schools, you win; students, you lose,'" LoMonte said.

Iowa had this right restored by the Iowa Student Free Expression Law, which is often referred to as an anti-Hazelwood law.

While the Iowa Student Free Expression Law helps in high schools, it isn't the "be all, end all" of censorship issues, not only for high school students, but college students as well.
"It's sneaking under that fence," LoMonte said.

LoMonte spoke to the audience about the possible issues that may make their way to college campuses.

"It's slowly gaining on [students'] rights by a law that was made for 14 year olds. The river has overflowed," LoMonte said, using the metaphor to illustrate the misuse of the Hazelwood case.

The issue of Hazelwood has caused what LoMonte referred to as "battered journalist syndrome." Making the connection to battered spouse syndrome, journalists no longer have to be hit by censorship issues anymore; the threat is becoming enough.

Mark Witherspoon, editorial adviser for the Iowa State Daily, asked what that gets the journalism industry today.

"It gets lazy, complacent journalism that are basically just rewrites of press releases," LoMonte said.

"You're not playing against the house, you're playing against loaded dice and you're never going to win," LoMonte said about students' chances in censorship cases.

LoMonte said this needs to change because even if someone wins in court, he or she still loses, which moves nothing forward.

"We have to change the dialogue," LoMonte said.
Wednesday, April 13, 2011

Jones embraces career milestone
Judge's community involvement, hometown support impressed those who recommended him for federal bench

By R. Robin McDonald, Staff Reporter

At night, after court has adjourned and the lawyers and reporters have left for the day, U.S. District Court Judge Steve C. Jones is wont to replay his rulings and his conversations in his head.

"I reflect back on the day," said Jones in a recent interview with the Daily Report, shortly after his swearing-in. It is a cautious habit that he said stems from wanting to be sure he has made the right call, done or said the right thing and accomplished something productive during the day.

"It's kind of a check mark," he said. "I started it in law school. ... I really got into it when trying cases. I go back and retry a case in my mind. Some people say that once something's done, you can't change it. I don't believe that."

Jones said his habit of reflection will hold true as he embarks on a new career as a federal judge in Atlanta, where he was sworn in last month.

The appointment is a career milestone for the 54-year-old "Law Dawg," who earned his undergraduate and law degrees at the University of Georgia. For the past 15 years, Jones has served as a Superior Court judge in the state's Western Circuit, which includes Athens. For 10 of those years, Jones also served on the state's Judicial Qualifications Commission, including four years as chairman, when the state judicial disciplinary agency struggled to balance the often hot political rhetoric of judicial campaigns with the state's judicial ethics canons.

Jones filled the seat vacated by the district's former chief judge Orinda D. Evans, who took senior status in 2009. Jones was sworn in March 4 with fellow appointee Amy M. Totenberg during a private joint ceremony attended by members of their families and some of their new colleagues. His public investiture will be May 19. (President Barack Obama has nominated U.S. Magistrate Judge Linda T. Walker and V. Natasha Perdew Silas, a staff attorney with the federal public defender's office in Atlanta, for the Northern District's two other vacancies.)

Although Jones replaces Evans—the first woman on the federal bench in Georgia's Northern District—his appointment is more like that of former U.S. District Judge Beverly B. Martin, whom the president named to the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last year.

Like Martin, Jones hails from Georgia's Middle District but will serve in the Northern District.

Martin was the U.S. Attorney in Macon before President Bill Clinton appointed her to the federal bench in Atlanta in 2000. Although Athens is northeast of Atlanta, Georgia's three federal court districts cut diagonally across the state, placing Athens in the same district as Macon, Columbus, Albany and Valdosta. The Northern District includes Atlanta, Rome, Gainesville and Newnan.

A committee appointed in 2009 by the state's Democratic congressmen originally recommended Jones to fill an open slot on the federal bench in Macon that had been vacated when U.S. District Judge Hugh Lawson took senior status in 2009.

But Lawson's post went to Macon personal injury attorney Marc T. Treadwell, and the White House—after consulting with Georgia's two U.S. senators, both Republicans—resurrected Jones' name for one of the Northern District's four vacancies, said George W. "Buddy" Darden, senior counsel at McKenna Long & Aldridge who chaired the Democrats' committee.

Jones, Darden said, had been "a consensus choice" for the Middle District slot and was one of three names, including Treadwell's, that was sent to the congressional delegation as a candidate for a federal judgeship.

"We were especially impressed by his community involvement and the enormous amount of support that came from his hometown and community of Athens," said Darden, a former U.S. representative. "You might call him understated. He's very conscientious. I think, as you come to know him, you will be very impressed."

Ronald L. Carlson, a UGA law professor who is a member of a separate committee that vets judicial candidates for U.S. Sens. Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson, said that the senators viewed Jones "as the kind of person who had qualities
that were very important as a district jurist."

Both senators were aware he had been considered for the Middle District seat, Carlson explained. But, he added, "I think it's also the case that lawyers and court observers around this part of the state made inputs both to the senators' offices and to those who are in advisory positions to the senators that Steve Jones ought to be considered for a judicial spot, wherever it comes up in the state.

"He merited the same kind of consideration that had come along years earlier in the appointment of Judge Martin," Carlson continued. "They thought that was the way things ought to be done. If you have a person of outstanding merit, you identify them and do not apply the geographical boundaries."

Jones "is extremely fair-minded," Carlson added. "This guy simply does not develop or display any measure of unseemly anger as he goes about his judicial duties. ... He keeps it all under marvelous control. If we could all emulate Steve Jones' patience and tolerance, it would be a better world."

Jones was born and raised in Athens. After high school, he put himself through UGA in three years, first as an accounting major and then as a major in business administration. He was prepared to take a job in New Jersey when he learned that Clark County's District Attorney, Harry N. Gordon, was looking for someone to head the office's child support recovery unit.

Gordon recalled during an interview with the Daily Report that he was friends with Jones' grandmother and remembered Jones as "this little skinny guy ... real young, right out of school" who came to his office to apply for the job.

"I hired him right on the spot," Gordon said.

Jones held the post for seven years. He said he liked the job, in part because he just likes people, in part because "I got more people in to provide support for kids who needed support."

In his job, he said, he strove to make people accountable. "I treated people with respect but forced people to support their kids," he said. In doing so, he said, "I got people back involved in their kids' lives." When estranged parents began supporting their children financially, he said they began wanting to visit them, which often led to a desire to legitimize their children who were born out of wedlock.

"I thought I was making a contribution that was important," he said. "I like to think there's a child out there somewhere—and maybe there's only one child—and a father who got back involved in their life, and they're better off."

Jones said his work for the DA prompted his decision to get his law degree.

"He liked being around lawyers. He liked being around the law," Gordon recalled. "He got to know a lot of lawyers, the people in my office. They were all crazy about him."

Gordon said he and the judges in the Western Circuit encouraged Jones to become a lawyer and lobbied for his acceptance. "There was an effort on the part of most all of the Athens bar to try to get Steve into law school," Gordon recalled. But, he added, "I think he got it, without question, on his own merit."

Gordon said that while Jones was in law school, "I wanted to make sure he didn't have to worry about income, that he had a job with me" even if he had to reduce his hours. "What little he got paid, I guarantee he earned it over twice," the former DA recalled.

Jones enrolled in law school in September 1985. When he graduated in December 1987, Gordon said he promptly hired Jones as an assistant DA. "Steve had a lot of common sense," Gordon said. "He had initiative. He knew the difference between right and wrong ... He was a quick learner. He wanted to do what was right."

Gordon said he trained his prosecutors, then gave them a lot of freedom to make their own calls on cases. He also trusted Jones' judgment.

"He was a hard worker, and he knew how to negotiate," Gordon recalled. If Jones came to him and said, "Harry, I don't think the guy is guilty," Gordon said he would reply, "If you don't, then we're not going to put him in jeopardy."

"I bet you he will make one of the better judges," Gordon continued. "He won't be afraid to try cases. But he won't be afraid to say, 'You guys need to work this out.'"

"He doesn't let people run over him," Gordon added. "But he's got a good heart, and he wants to do well to help other people. And it's not fake. It's just the way Steve is."

Gordon said he was "halfway grooming" Jones to be the circuit district attorney after he retired when in 1992 Jones was
offered—and accepted—an appointment from Athens' mayor as a municipal court judge. Three years later, Gov. Zell Miller appointed Jones to fill an unexpired term on the Western Circuit's Superior Court bench. He was elected four times without opposition.

During his tenure on the Superior Court bench, Jones spearheaded the opening of the circuit's drug court. In 1996, he began what became a 10-year tenure on the Judicial Qualifications Commission, the state's judicial disciplinary agency, including four years when he served as chairman.

During that time, the JQC struggled to rewrite its judicial campaign rules to reflect a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that gave judicial candidates more freedom during political campaigns to engage in freewheeling, even misleading, political speech. It also became embroiled in two public rebukes of judicial candidates—one who had challenged Court of Appeals Judge Gary B. Andrews in 1996 and one, attorney George M. Weaver, who challenged then-Georgia Supreme Court Justice Leah Ward Sears.

The JQC's rebuke of Weaver six days before the election for engaging in "unethical, unfair, false and intentionally deceptive" characterizations of Sears' rulings on same-sex marriage, the state's sodomy and statutory rape laws and the electric chair prompted Weaver to sue the JQC, claiming his right to political free speech had been violated.

Weaver lost the election but won his suit when the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found that JQC rules violated constitutional free speech guarantees.

Also during Jones' tenure at the JQC, the American Civil Liberties Union successfully sued the JQC to open up its confidential judicial complaint process. The JQC settled but rewrote its rules that had perpetually barred complainants, on penalty of contempt of court, from ever revealing a complaint against sitting judges. The revised rules permitted complainants to air their complaints publicly—but only after a case was closed.

Jones said that his tenure on the JQC, which ended in 2006, "helped me to become a better judge."

"A lot of people think of the JQC as sanction and punishment. But it also plays a very important part in educating judges," he said.

Jones said that when Judge Hugh Lawson's decision to take senior status opened up a seat on the federal bench in Macon, he viewed it as "an opportunity."

"I have loved being a judge," he said. "My wife says I love it too much. ... It's a tremendous trust ... to make decisions about other people's lives. I don't take that lightly."

After interviewing with Darden's committee, Jones was among three recommended nominees for the Middle District post, but Treadwell got the nod.

Jones said he learned he was being considered for a Northern District seat in a call from officials at the U.S. Justice Department who informed him that the White House was considering him for a federal judgeship in Atlanta.

Jones recalled to the second the moment last July when Chambliss called to tell him he had gotten the nod: "I got a call from Sen. Chambliss at 5:30 p.m. and 24 seconds. He told me I was nominated by President Obama."

After Jones' nomination, members of the Gate City Bar, Atlanta's African-American bar association, traveled to Washington where they met with Obama's legal staff to protest Jones' appointment over a large pool of other, equally-qualified African-American lawyers and judges in metropolitan Atlanta.

"We had big issues concerning the fact that apparently those who were in power were of the opinion that Atlanta lawyers, particularly black lawyers, were not qualified to sit on the bench," Atlanta attorney Antonio L. Thomas told the Daily Report last fall.

"They're expressing their opinion," Jones said of the Gate City Bar's reaction to his nomination. "That's what America's all about."

On Nov. 17, Jones appeared before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee for his confirmation hearing. It was 15 years to the day that he had been sworn in as a Superior Court judge in Athens, he recalled.

Jones said that after he was nominated, he began boning up on federal law, including the Northern District's local rules, federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines. "If you're going to do it, you've got to get in there and take it seriously from Day One," he said.
"I love the law," he continued. "I enjoy reading it. ... Some might say reading the law is not that exciting. It's exciting to me."

"My philosophy is just basically to follow the laws set by Congress, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals," he continued. "I want to emphasize that I have no position, other than following the law, whatever the law may be."

He was hard pressed to name any individual as a personal hero. "I never pick out an individual," he said. "I like people who work hard, who don't make excuses and who always try to treat other people right and do what's right. ... No matter what you're doing in life, if you're a hard-working person and treat people right and try to do what's right, that's the kind of person I like."

Jones is already hard at work. Having taken the oath of office on a Friday, Jones set up shop in a temporary office in the federal courthouse the following Monday. He said he has already been assigned 224 cases.

Jones said that he and his wife are moving to Atlanta. But they are keeping their "mini-farm" in Athens where Gordon said Jones' main hobby is "to get out on a Saturday morning and clip his pasture on his tractor."

Gordon said Jones also likes to spend time with his four pet goats, which live on the farm with two donkeys and three cats.

"I named them after judges," Jones said of the goats. But he declined to divulge their names. "A lot my friends are judges," he said. "The judges they're named after are out of respect. Out of respect, I won't tell you their names."

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BYLINE: By, John McLean, Arizona Business Gazette

BODY:

* Former Congressman John Shadegg joined Steptoe & Johnson as a partner in both their Phoenix and Washington D.C. offices. He will focus on government affairs and public policy practice. Shadegg was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994 and served eight terms representing Arizona's 3rd District before retiring in 2010. Shadegg received his law degree from the University of Arizona College of Law in 1975.

Promotions and hires

* Christopher R. Stovall has been named a partner at Jennings Haug & Cunningham in Phoenix. He is a litigator who focuses his practice in construction law, surety and fidelity, commercial and business litigation, bankruptcy and liability and insurance defense litigation. Stovall received his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1995.

* Snell & Wilmer in Phoenix has added three attorneys to its firm. Kevin Lytle and Craig Cartwright joined as partners, and Timothy Smith joined as counsel, all three in the real-estate group. Lytle provides counsel to public and private real-estate investment trusts, extending to all aspects of sales and acquisitions, leases, sale-leasebacks, construction and permanent loans, acquisition loans, refinancing, loan and lease modifications and workouts and inter-creditor agreements. He received his law degree from the University of Nebraska College of Law. Cartwright advises clients on general real-estate matters, secured lending, property development, commercial leasing, sales and acquisitions, entity formation, bankruptcy workouts and construction-related matters. He received his law degree from the University of Kansas School of Law. Smith represents clients in commercial transactions including acquisitions, finance, construction lending and development. His practice includes responsibility for commercial mortgage loan transactions, equipment and asset-based loan transactions, sale-leaseback transactions, loan work-outs and construction loan matters. Smith received his law degree from Drake University School of Law.

* Terence N. Cushing, Eric D. Gere, Stephanie E. Hart, Nancy C. Pohl, Todd B. Tuggle and Eric S. West have been elected members (partners) at Jennings, Strouss & Salmon in Phoenix. Cushing focuses his practice on civil litigation matters, including product liability, commercial litigation, real estate, personal injury, and insurance matters. He received his law degree from Penn State Dickinson School of Law in 2003. Gere focuses on general, commercial, real estate, and construction litigation. He received his law degree from the University of Washington School of Law in 2004. Hart focuses on general, commercial, energy, banking and employment litigation. She received her law degree from Columbia University School of Law in 2000. Pohl is focused in tax and trust and estate matters, with an emphasis on estate and gift taxation, income taxation and estate planning. She received her law degree from Tulane University Law School in 2001 and her master of laws degree in 2002 from New York University School of Law. Tuggle practices in commercial litigation,
bankruptcy, creditor and debtors rights and business reorganization. He received his law degree cum laude from Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School in 1996. West practices in real estate and commercial transactions. He received his law degree from Stanford Law School in 2002.

Matthew L. Cates, a member at Jennings, Strouss & Salmon in Phoenix, has been appointed to the Arizona Association of Defense Counsel board of directors. He focuses his litigation practice on medical malpractice defense, health-care law and commercial litigation. Cates earned his law degree from Arizona State University College of Law in 1999.

Send legal news to John McLean at john.mclean@arizonarepublic.com

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Sasser Fields LLP Proudly Announces the Addition of Two New Partners

Triangle - (RALEIGH, NC) - Sasser Fields LLP is excited to welcome its two newest partners, Samuel Piñero II and Kimberly A. Brackett-Jones, to the growing Triangle law firm.

Piñero is a promising young attorney with experience in several areas of law including litigation, intellectual property and government contracts. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and went on to obtain his law degree from the Wake Forest University School of Law, where upon graduation he was presented with the E. McGruder Faris Memorial Award, given for extraordinary character, leadership and scholarship. Prior to becoming a partner at Sasser Fields, he worked within the company as an associate attorney.

"I am excited, as a new partner at Sasser Fields, to continue the longstanding tradition of providing quality legal representation to the community," said Piñero.

Brackett-Jones' extensive experience in law includes working in-house for a telecommunications corporation on mergers and acquisitions, and for another large law firm working on individual matters as well as on a team handling national multi-jurisdictional litigation. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma, and continued on to obtain her law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law. After 12 years as an attorney, she is happy to be joining the team at Sasser Fields as a partner.

Brackett-Jones said, "I look forward to continuing to find cost-effective, real-world solutions for clients as a part of the Sasser Fields team."

Founders Robert Sasser and Rob Fields are delighted to welcome Piñero and Brackett-Jones as partners in the Sasser Fields firm. "We could not be more pleased with the addition of these two outstanding attorneys to our team," said Sasser. "We look forward to their experience and enthusiasm helping Sasser Fields continue to grow and be successful in serving clients both on a local level and nationally."

For more information about Sasser Fields LLP, please call (919) 899-9655 or visit www.sasserfields.com.

About Sasser Fields LLP

Sasser Fields LLP is an agency of attorneys that provide quality dispute resolution representation to small, mid-sized and large businesses and professionals. Founded in January 2010 to provide flexibility and tailored services, Sasser Fields LLP offers over 20 years of experience in business law both in North Carolina and throughout the nation. For more information about Sasser Fields LLP, please call (919) 899-9655 or visit www.sasserfields.com.

Posted on: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 03:04 PM
Vicki E. Carter

Athens - Vicki Elizabeth Carter, 62, of Athens, died on April 13, 2011 at her home after a long battle against breast cancer and cancer of the larynx. A 1967 graduate of Druid Hills High School in Decatur, Georgia, Vicki obtained a degree in Anthropology from Georgia State University before going on to graduate from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1978. Vicki spent the majority of her professional career as a Public Defender in Athens, starting work at the Legal Aid office right out of law school and returning to work there in 1991 after giving birth to her two children. In 1995, Vicki was named Athens's first female Municipal Court Judge and she served in that capacity until 1999. A member of St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church, Vicki taught Sunday school there for many years. Vicki is survived by her two daughters, Jessica and Elizabeth Affleck; her brother, Chris Carter; and her nieces and nephews, Heather, Joseph, Matthew, Christina, and Michael Carter. A memorial service will be held at St. Gregory the Great at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 16, 2011. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Vicki's name to the Athens Nurses Clinic, 496 Reese Street, Athens, Ga. 30601. Metro Embalming & Crematory, Conyers, has charge of arrangements.

Published in Athens Banner-Herald on April 16, 2011
Tomiko Brown-Nagin, author of the book "Courage to Dissent: Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement," will deliver a lecture based on her book at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the University of Georgia Chapel.

The lecture is free and open to the public, and is sponsored by the UGA Law School's American Constitution Society, the Institute for African American Studies, Department of History, African American Cultural Center, and Graduate and Professional Scholars.

The lecture will be followed by a book-signing session, with copies of the book available for purchase.
Training safe for pregnant women

For exercise and sport science major, while she does leg lifts.

O'Connor says women can lift weights while maintaining proper breathing techniques for exercise.

The researchers also monitored blood pressure over the course of the study.

"We wanted to see if a weight-training program would lower blood pressure, which would be beneficial, or if potentially on the other side it would raise blood pressure, which would be concerning to a pregnant woman," he said.

People often experience a small reduction in blood pressure immediately after a workout, but the researchers found no change in the blood pressure for pregnant women after each individual session or after the entire 12-week program.

"So the weight-training program was neither good nor bad for blood pressure," he said.

O'Connor collaborated with Melanie Poudevigne, now the director of health and fitness management in the department of natural sciences at Clayton State University. O'Connor worked with Messina.

Symposium to honor geography prof

A symposium honoring the late James O. Wheeler will take place April 20 from 2:30-5 p.m. in Room 206C of the geography and geology building.

The event, which will focus on urban and economic geography, is open free to the public. Speakers will include William Graves of the University of North Carolina-Charlotte; Selima Sultana and Keith Debbage of UNC-Greensboro; Eric Fournier of Sanford University; and Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen of the State University of New York-Buffalo.

Wheeler, the Merle Prunty Jr. Professor Emeritus in the department of geography, died Dec. 9, 2010.

His early teaching career at the college level included positions at Indiana University (Gary), Ohio State University, Western Michigan University and Michigan State University. In 1971 he joined the UGA faculty, where he served as geography department head from 1975 to 1983 and advised graduate students and taught until his retirement in 1999. His writing and research continued until his death.

Author to lecture on Atlanta civil rights

The School of Law's American Constitution Society is partnering with other departments on campus to host Tomiko Brown-Nagin, author of the book Courage to Dissent: Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement, on April 20 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel.

The event is free and open to the public and is co-sponsored by the Institute for African American Studies, the department of history, the African American Cultural Center and the Graduate and Professional Scholars organization.

Brown-Nagin's talk will cover topics addressed in her book and will emphasize the role of lawyers, courts and community-based activism during the civil rights era from a historical and a legal perspective. In recounting Atlanta's desegregation experience from the early 1940s to the 1960s, Brown-Nagin will shed light on a time when issues such as voting rights, housing, education and transportation were faced locally.

The lecture will be followed by a book signing session, with copies of the book available for purchase.

Brown-Nagin is a law professor, history professor and civil rights scholar at the University of Virginia. Her work encompasses a spectrum of disciplines including law, history, women's studies, African-American studies, education and social work.

Alumnus to give Earth Day lecture

The Alumnus Service Lecture Series will host an Earth Day lecture April 20, according to the UGA President's Office.

The event is free and open to the public. The Alumnus Service Lecture Series is a program that invites UGA alumni to talk about their professional work and service to the community.

The event will be held at the UGA President's Office, 120 East Clayton St. in Athens. The event is free and open to the public.

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His music appears on eight compact discs and has been performed in Europe, Asia, Australia, South America, Canada and in 33 states across the U.S. He had been published and performed nationally since 1977, and they have been performed internationally since 1979. In February 2011, his song cycle, "Love Letters," was performed as part of the Tallisken Chamber Music Series in Toronto, Canada. His choral song cycle "Cats and Bats and Things with Wings," commissioned and performed in honor of the University of Georgia's bicentennial in 1984, won the prize for publication in the 1991 Roger Wagner Choral Composition Competition and has since been performed numerous times.

Duncan's ability to develop new methods, as well as to assimilate recent breakthroughs from other researchers, keeps his lab at the forefront of this area of science. The tools he has provided to the chemical community are quickly being incorporated into experiments around the world. This year's recipients have demonstrated significant contributions to knowledge and have been recognized for their original contributions to knowledge and whose work promises to foster continued creativity in their discipline. This year's recipients include:

- Walter Hellerstein, professor of law, who is regarded by many as the nation's foremost authority on state and local tax law. Hellerstein's work is so well-received that it influences both the setting of policy, nationally and internationally, and the thinking of other scholars. Over his 34-year career, he has published 132 articles in law reviews and journals as well as six books. This includes the leading two-volume treatise, "State Taxation," regarded by many as the field's bible, and "State and Local Taxation," the leading casebook on this subject. Hellerstein's research and writings have been cited in more than 20 separate U.S. Supreme Court decisions on state taxation.
- Andrew Herod, professor of geography, who seeks to understand how economies function as geographical entities. He is internationally recognized as one of the leading scholars on the geography of the global economy and processes of globalization. Hellerstein's work has advanced theory and research in the field of labor geography, a field he essentially created in the 1990s that looks at the geographical organization of work and employment. Herod's work has had a major impact in microbial physiology, ecology, and taxonomy, but also in marine science. His early work at UGA pioneered the use of genetics to study the ecology of methane-producing archaea. He helped develop criteria for the taxonomy of all prokaryotes and applied them to the methane-producers, proposing the methane-producers of the phytoplankton group. Herod's ability to develop new methods, as well as to assimilate recent breakthroughs from other researchers, keeps his lab at the forefront of this area of science. The tools he has provided to the chemical community are quickly being incorporated into experiments around the world. This year's recipients have demonstrated significant contributions to knowledge and whose work promises to foster continued creativity in their discipline. This year's recipients include:

- William Whitman, professor of microbiology, who has dedicated his career to the study of free-living prokaryotes, such as bacteria and archaea. His studies have had a major impact in microbial physiology, ecology, and taxonomy, but also in marine science. His early work at UGA pioneered the use of genetics to study the ecology of methane-producing archaea. He helped develop criteria for the taxonomy of all prokaryotes and applied them to the methane-producers, proposing the methane-producers of the phytoplankton group.
Q&A on the News

By Lori Johnston
For the AJC

12:33 p.m. Wednesday, April 20, 2011

Q: What is the significance of a sentence of life versus one for life plus 70 years?
—P. Sweezey, Fayetteville

A: Life sentences under Georgia law can either be life without parole or life, University of Georgia School of Law Criminal Defense Clinic Director Russell Gabriel told Q&A on the News in an e-mail. "[Life without parole] speaks for itself and means what it says," he wrote. Persons serving a straight life sentence under current law are eligible for parole consideration after 30 years. Persons sentenced to life between 1994 and 2007 are eligible for parole consideration after 14 years, Gabriel added. The parole options for life plus 70 depend on the offenses for the sentences totaling 70 years. "There is no parole for certain offenses [most of the serious sexual assaults, kidnapping and armed robbery], and there is no parole for certain recidivist offenders, regardless of the offense," Gabriel wrote. "It is difficult to give a single answer without knowing more about the specific offender and the offenses of conviction," he added. "However, for some offenses, the term of years following a life sentence would not affect parole eligibility at all. ... It would be surprising if a person with a life-plus-70 sentence was released after 30 years. It is much more likely that the 70-year additional sentence would drive up the release date."

Lori Johnston wrote this column. Do you have a question about the news? We'll try to get the answer. Call 404-222-2002 or e-mail q&a@ajc.com (include name, phone and city).

Find this article at:
The revelation that an Auburn city police sergeant falsified official documents has led to a review of pending Superior Court criminal cases and could result in the dismissal of some cases the officer investigated, local court and legal officials said.

Local Superior Court attorneys and legal experts said the damage in credibility could have an effect on pending cases in which the investigation or testimony of Sgt. Derek Ulrich, who was fired on March 29 for falsifying police records and giving false information to his superiors, are central to the case. That effect could range from a reduction in charges to outright dismissal if Ulrich's work is deemed untrustworthy.

"In general, and certainly with cases where there have not been convictions, the DA will dismiss charges to avoid embarrassment," said Donald E. Wilkes, Jr., a professor of law at the University of Georgia School of Law, where he has taught criminal procedure for 37 years. "They don’t want someone put on the stand and grilled and embarrassed. They do it reluctantly, but they don’t really have any choice."

Katie Anderson, a supervising attorney in the public defender's office in Barrow County, said her office would be reviewing cases in which Ulrich was involved.

"I do think it’s going to be an issue from now on," she said. "I would not be surprised if the DA wouldn’t reassess pending cases. We’re certainly going to look at them. We would want to assess cases and determine whether his (Ulrich’s) involvement in them is going to be an issue."

District Attorney Brad Smith did not respond to requests for comment.

Anderson and Wilkes said just having Ulrich's name on a case, for example, if he simply made the arrest, likely would not doom it. However, if the principle evidence against a defendant is based on Ulrich's investigations, documents or testimony, defense attorneys could force prosecutors to reduce charges or dismiss cases altogether.
Anderson said the Superior Courts in the Piedmont District, which includes Barrow County, saw a wave of appeals from people convicted of crimes prosecuted under former District Attorney Timothy Madison, who was convicted of corruption.

"But that's a little different because it's a district attorney, who may not have tried those particular cases," she said.

Madison resigned in 2007 and pleaded guilty to making false statements and conspiracy charges in 2008 for falsifying time cards to diverting money from the Banks County government and the Piedmont Judicial Circuit. He was sentenced to six years in prison and ordered to pay $40,000 in restitution.

Read the full article in today's print edition of Barrow County News.
Cumming First United Methodist Church

By Candice Hannigan
For the AJC

4:40 p.m. Wednesday, April 20, 2011

Name: Cumming First UMC
Address: 770 Canton Highway, Cumming, Ga. 30040
Phone: 770-887-2900
Website: www.cfumcga.com

Services: Year-round 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m., then May through August, a 9 a.m. service at Bald Ridge Marina is added.

Worship style: 8:45 a.m. less formal with camp meeting style music. 9 a.m. lake service camp meeting casual. 11 a.m. traditional with pipe organ.

Average Sunday attendance: 1,000

Minister: Rev. John Cromartie

Denomination affiliation: United Methodist Church

History:
The first church site cost $50 in 1832. Members built a log meeting house on the acre site, and updated with a white frame church in 1840. In 1914, a new brick church took the place of the frame building. In 1957, the church was incorporated and a new church constructed on Pilgrim Mill Road. The move to the current site on the side of Sawnee Mountain was made in 1989.

Pastor's path:
Cromartie grew up in Gainesville, earned an undergrad degree from Emory University and a law degree from the University of Georgia. After years in private practice and serving as director of Georgia Legal Aid, Cromartie enrolled in Candler Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1988. He's been the senior pastor at Cumming First since 1997.

The pastor is known for his love of hiking the Appalachian Trail. When he turned 60, the church gave him a two-month sabbatical and he walked 900 miles. Between 1990 and 1994, he hiked the entire trail.
While he usually makes the trek alone, his wife has accompanied him on the Georgia portion.
wife and three children hiked Kilimanjaro in the 1990s.

Ministries:

More than 350 people are active in the intercessory prayer ministry, through praying and sending notes locally and around the world.

“We’re known as a very active church in terms of community outreach,” Cromartie said. He highlighted the food program, which serves 400 people weekly, and 500-600 each Thanksgiving. The church also has a busy ESL program and Hispanic ministry.

Through the children’s ministries, 12-14 summer camps covering music, art and science will take place this summer. An after-school program hosts about 100 children who are picked up from their schools and brought to the church.

Cromartie estimates 380 children are enrolled in the weekday preschool program. Members of the youth groups make regular mission trips to Ecuador, where church members have had a year-round presence for the last 10 years. The church youth members stay active throughout the summer with recreational and mission projects.

Church missions are regularly featured during Sunday morning “Ministry Moments,” in which short videos are shown on large screens. It has been an effective way to keep worshippers posted on different ways to serve.

An arts festival is planned for May 8-15, and features afternoon and evening concerts, a luncheon music series and art exhibits. The event usually attracts several thousand people. For a detailed schedule, visit http://www.music.cummingfirstmethodist.com/.

Thoughts from the pastor:

“Cumming First is a place that just loves to be in ministry. The members love to gather for fellowship and worship; they have a passion for serving. They love to touch the lives of others and be involved. They are always coming up with new ways of serving and new ministries. It’s just a dynamic place to be. It’s been a wonderful 15 years for me here.”

Find this article at:
North Carolina Lawyers Weekly

April 21, 2011 Thursday

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 561 words

HEADLINE: North Carolina Lawyers in the News: April 21, 2011

BYLINE: North Carolina Lawyers Weekly Staff

BODY:

David L. McKenzie is joining the Raleigh office of Sands Anderson and will become the lead litigator for the firm's North Carolina clients. The firm is acquiring McKenzie's solo practice.

McKenzie focuses his work on general civil litigation, intellectual property law, land use law, business disputes and corporate litigation. Most of his federal and state court experience has been handling civil litigation matters pertaining to copyright and trademark infringement, misappropriation of trade secrets, breach of contract and business torts. He has also represented homeowners associations and handled transactional work including intellectual property, contracts, business formation and elder law matters.

The attorneys of Thomas, Ferguson & Mullins recently supported the Young Lawyers division of North Carolina Bar Association's Wills for Heroes effort.

McGuire Wood & Bissette attorneys Grant Osborne and Hayley Roper have completed the American Law Institute-American Bar Association's course in advanced employment law and litigation. The course, which took place in Washington, D.C. at the end of March, was focused on the implementation of major changes in the enforcement of federal employment-related laws and regulations. Osborne and Roper are both attorneys in the firm's employment and labor law team.

Matt Rhoad, a lawyer with Smith Anderson's land use and zoning and commercial real estate practice groups, has been elected to serve a three-year term on the section council of the Zoning, Planning, and Land Use Section of the North Carolina Bar Association.

Rhoad joined the firm in August 2002 after completing a two-year clerkship with then-Justice (now Chief Justice) Sarah Parker of the North Carolina Supreme Court. He has experience in land use and zoning, real estate development, commercial real estate transactions and public utility real estate issues. He handles matters including right-of-way acquisitions and condemnations/eminent domain, easement negotiation and drafting, negotiating and litigating boundary and encroachment disputes and title disputes.

Sasser Fields, a Triangle business law firm, recently added Kimberly A. Brackett-Jones and Samuel Pinero II to its practice as partners.

Brackett-Jones graduated cum laude from the University of Oklahoma and earned her law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law. In 12 years of practice, Brackett-Jones has served small and large businesses in a variety of industries including telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, specialty building products, alternative energy and health care. She has also accumulated business law experience, including corporate formations, mergers and acquisitions, contract drafting and negotiation, product liability litigation, and national multi-jurisdictional litigation. Brackett-Jones also implements and manages all phases of large-scale document review projects with an emphasis on cost control.
Pinero earned his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina in Charlotte and went on to obtain his law degree from the Wake Forest University School of Law. His practice includes business litigation, intellectual property and government contracts. Pinero also brings 10 years of technology experience to the firm, which allows him to consult with clients in the areas of e-discovery, file retention policies and Web 2.0 strategies.

LOAD-DATE: April 28, 2011

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NEWMAKERS

HIRES AND PROMOTIONS

Terri O'Neil

New job title: Director of development

Company: Historic Savannah Foundation

Duties: O'Neil is responsible for management of all membership-related issues, cultivating new donor relationships and securing sponsorships for fundraising events.

Related work experience: As CEO and president of Harold Wolfe Co., Inc. and sole owner of T&L Properties, O'Neil managed sales, marketing, financial and operational responsibilities for both organizations' property for 15 years. A member of Historic Savannah Foundation, she is also past community liaison for the Historic Neighborhood Council, past president of the Ardsley Park Chatham Crescent Neighborhood Association and past consultant to the Savannah-Chatham Humane Society's Development Initiatives.

Kimberly Hunsinger

New job title: Sales recruiting manager

Company: Estrea USA, LLC

Duties: Her duties include recruiting, training and managing independent sales representatives for the company. She will also develop strategies for preparing individuals and small businesses for successful sales of Estrea products, as well as maintaining training standards and client relationships.

Related work experience: She has over twelve years of experience in sales, including management and customer service.
Education: She graduated from Georgia Southern University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a focus on business management.

Jenna Anderson

New job title: Assistant account representative

Company: Wells Fargo Insurance Services

Duties: She has recently joined the Girl Scout program to assist in servicing the needs of the various Girl Scout councils. She will also oversee the management of CyberSure, the online client system.

Related work experience: She has been with Wells Fargo Insurance Services for one year in the administrative department.

Education: She graduated from Emory University with a bachelor of arts in mathematics.

Jason C. Pedigo

New job title: Partner

Company: Ellis, Painter, Ratterree & Adams LLP

Related work experience: As a civil litigator with the firm, Pedigo has represented businesses, financial institutions and individuals in contractual disputes, breach of fiduciary duty claims, lender liability, member and shareholder claims and personal injury suits.

Megan Usher Manly

New job title: Associate

Company: Ellis, Painter, Ratterree & Adams LLP

Related work experience: A magna cum laude graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law and a member of the Order of the Coif, Manly served as a law clerk in the Southern District of Georgia before joining the firm in 2010.

Karen Daiss

New job title: Director of marketing and development

Company: Senior Citizens, Inc.

Duties: Daiss is responsible for the development and implementation of comprehensive marketing plans and advertising efforts as well as planning and execution of special events management and fundraising campaigns for the organization.

Related work experience: Daiss worked as a writer and editor for the Savannah Morning News before joining Senior Citizens, Inc., in 2008 as a marketing coordinator.
Education: Daiss graduated cum laude with a B.A. in English communications from Armstrong Atlantic State University.

Lauren Cruickshank

New job title: Director of volunteers

Company: Senior Citizens, Inc.

Duties: Cruickshank is responsible for recruiting and managing volunteers for programs and services at Senior Citizens, Inc., including the Meals on Wheels program and the Sterling Rides Volunteer Transportation program. She will also coordinate volunteers for ongoing activities at the organization’s senior activity centers, as well as special events.

Related work experience: Cruickshank worked for the Volunteer Programs department at ACDI/VOCA, an international development organization in Washington, D.C., helping to mobilize and coordinate over 200 volunteers a year for overseas assignments. She also has over 10 years of volunteer experience.

Education: Cruickshank graduated from the University of Virginia with a double major in foreign affairs and studies of women and gender.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Savannah Port Society selects officers

Honor/Award: The Savannah Port Society, Inc., doing business as the International Seaman’s House, elected a new slate of Officers for the 2011-2012 calendar years.

The officers are: president, Chuck Davis; vice president of public relations, Richard Towns; vice president of house and grounds, Joe Marchese; secretary/treasurer, Janice Cantrell.

Willingway Foundation names trustee

Honor/Award: William G. Borchert was recently appointed a trustee of the Willingway Foundation, the non-profit affiliate of Willingway Hospital in Statesboro that supports research, education and recovery projects in the field of alcoholism and drug addiction.

Background: Borchert has written a number of best-selling books and award-winning movies on the subject of recovery, including the Hallmark/Warner Brothers movie, “My Name Is Bill W.” starring James Garner and James Woods. The movie about the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous was nominated for an Emmy Award.

Local designer receives national certification

Honor/Award: Marjorie Weibe-Reed, owner of Access Design Group LLC, has received national certification for Aging In Place Specialist.

Background: Weibe-Reed is a registered architect and interior designer and graduate of
the Savannah College of Art and Design. She specializes in residential modifications for individuals who wish to remain in their homes throughout their lives.

Andrews awarded real estate designation

Honor/Award: Jay W. Andrews, president of Savannah Commercial Real Estate, LLC., was recently awarded the certified commercial investment member designation by the CCIM Institute as a recognized expert in the disciplines of commercial and investment real estate.

Andrews earned the designation by passing the institute’s comprehensive examination in Bethesda, Md., on April 15.

Patrick, Darley receive sales recognition

Honor/Award: The Patrick/Darley Team of Jeri Patrick and Sharon Darley received the Summit Circle Award Silver Citation for new home sales over $4 million and sales team of the year.

Background: The Patrick/Darley Team are agents/sales associates with Weichert, REALTORS — Pursuit Real Estate Group. They are the Top New Homes Sales Team, chair of Savannah Chapter of sales and Marketing Council, members of SABOR, Master Certified New Homes Sales Professionals, and recipient of CB Circle of Excellence.

Jackson named salesperson of year

Honor/Award: Beth Ann Jackson, a sales associate with Weichert, REALTORS — Pursuit Real Estate Group, was named salesperson of the year runner-up for on-site agent, highest dollar volume.

Hart, Johnson, Lancaster

win citation

Honor/Award: Andrew Hart, Eva Johnson and Marian Lancaster, all of Fred Williams New Home Sales, were presented a Silver Citation at the seventh annual Greater Savannah Summit Awards, hosted by the Sales and Marketing Council of Greater Savannah.

The Silver Citation is for producing more than $2 million in new home sales.

Lingle presented Bronze Citation

Honor/Award: Rebecca Lingle, of Fred Williams New Home Sales, Inc., was presented a Bronze Citation at the seventh annual Greater Savannah Summit Awards, hosted by the Sales and Marketing Council of Greater Savannah.

The Bronze Citation is for producing more than $1 million in new home sales.

Williams chosen sales, marketing executive of year
Honor/Award: Stevie Williams, sales and marketing director for Fred Williams New Home Sales, Inc., was chosen Greater Savannah’s Sales and Marketing Executive of the Year for New Home Sales.

Under Williams, the firm gained market share and had the area’s top selling new home agents and the top three selling communities. She also took home a Silver Citation Sales Award for producing more than $25 million in new home sales.

Aleff awarded salesperson of the year

Honor/Award: Lori Ann Aleff, of Fred Williams New Home Sales, Inc., was awarded salesperson of the year for highest number of new home sold at the seventh annual Greater Savannah Summit Awards hosted by the Sales and Marketing Council of Greater Savannah.

The Greater Savannah’s salesperson of the year is for high number of units sold in the on-site agent category. Aleff closed 30 units totaling more than $4 million in new home sales. She also took home a Silver Citation Sales Award for outstanding achievement.

McDonald is runner-up for salesperson of the year

Honor/Award: Lorenzo McDonald, of Fred Williams New Home Sales, Inc., was named Greater Savannah’s runner-up for salesperson of the year for high number of units sold in the on-site agent category. McDonald closed 28 units worth more than $4 million in new home sales. He also took home a Silver Citation sales award for outstanding achievement.

Gibson receives health education award

Honor/Award: Cristina Gibson received the Kathy Miner Health Education and Promotion Award of the Year from the Georgia Public Health Association for finding innovative ways to promote healthy behaviors throughout the Coastal Health District, which includes Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, and McIntosh Counties.

Background: Gibson spearheads the annual “Let’s Dance, Savannah!” event and is working with coastal counties and cities to achieve We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children’s Activity & Nutrition!) designation. Gibson is director of health promotion and disease prevention for the Coastal Health District.

Jones named president of state health group

Honor/Award: Todd Jones, environmental health director for the Chatham County Health Department, has been named president of the Georgia Public Health Association. Jones will be responsible for leading the organization’s efforts over the next year. In addition, the organization recently named Jones as its environmentalist of the year.

Weems receives Sellers-McCroan Award
Honor/Award: Diane Weems, the chief medical officer for the Chatham County Health Department, has received the Sellers-McCroan Award from the Georgia Public Health Association. The award, named for Georgia public health pioneers Thomas Fort Sellers and John Edgar McCroan Jr. recognizes and encourages outstanding achievement and service to Georgians in epidemiology and/or laboratory services.

Weems also received the association’s Al Dohany Award for Community Service.

Logistics Award of Excellence goes to D.J. Powers

Honor/Award: D.J. Powers Company, Inc., was presented the Logistics Award of Excellence in recognition of outstanding quality and service by the Thiele Kaolin Co.

Daniels appointed to advisory council

Honor/Award: Robert Daniels, chief operating officer of Bernard Williams Insurance and Financial Services of Savannah, has been asked to serve on the National Agent Advisory Council for PURE Insurance.

Background: Daniels has 25 years of insurance experience.

Savannah Morning News

Georgia 2011 Champion of the Year named by U.S. SBA

Honor/Award: Darron M. Burnette, executive vice president of Sea Island Bank, has been named Georgia’s 2011 Financial Services Champion of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Burnette, with over 28 years in banking, also received the SBA Regional Award for the financial services category. Burnette was nominated for his award by the Georgia Southern Small Business Development Center in Statesboro.

Background: Burnette will represent Georgia and the Southeast as a financial services champion during national small business week, May 18-20. He oversees Sea Island Bank’s retail banking division and manages its offices in Statesboro, Savannah and Metter.
Georgia trust chief to speak at historic preservation awards
(http://daltondailycitizen.com/local/x1149634085/Georgia-trust-chief-to-speak-at-historic-preservation-awards)

Submitted by the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society
(http://daltondailycitizen.com)

The Whitfield-Murray Historical Society will hold its annual Historic Preservation Awards and Scholarships meeting on Sunday, May 15, at 2:30 p.m.

The society awards scholarships to Dalton, Whitfield and Murray County students who have shown an interest in preserving local history. The Preservation award is given to one person, living or deceased, for outstanding contributions to the preservation of the history of Whitfield and Murray counties.

The event will be at the recently renovated Whitfield-Murray History Center and Archives (Crown Gardens and Archives) on Chattanooga Avenue in Dalton, with a reception following the meeting. All who are interested in history and preservation are cordially invited.

The featured speaker will be Mark C. McDonald, president and CEO of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, one of the largest nonprofit statewide preservation organizations in the country. His topic will be “The Value of Historic Preservation to Georgia.”

McDonald has more than 25 years of professional involvement in historic preservation and a strong business background. He received a bachelor of arts degree with a double major in history and English from Emory University and a law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law.

He has served as the executive director for three preservation organizations in the Southeast, including the Historic Salisbury Foundation in North Carolina from 1986 to 1990, the Mobile Historic Development Commission in Mobile, Ala., from 1990 to 1998, and, most recently, the Historic
McDonald is the son-in-law of the Rev. Dr. Walter Jones and Jeane Jones of Dalton. He is married to their daughter Carmi. Since 2009 they have lived in mid-town Atlanta near Rhodes Hall, the headquarters for the Trust. McDonald travels the state widely regarding historic preservation, having recently led The Ramble in Macon and a mini-Ramble of Sparta.
Thursday, April 28, 2011

Milner Ball lived many different lives in one
By Dan T. Coenen, Special to the Daily Report

On April 6, 2011, Milner Ball—who served on the faculty of the University of Georgia School of Law for nearly 30 years—passed away. Some seven months earlier, the Athens Justice Project recognized Milner both by bestowing on him its annual Social Justice Award and by permanently renaming that award in his honor. On that occasion, a short film about Milner was shown. I had a small role in creating this documentary, and the account that follows has its origins in one early step in the filmmaking process.

Milner was rightly recognized during his lifetime in significant ways—for example, as a recipient of two separate Fulbright Program grants, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Journal of Law and Religion, the Martin Luther King Award of the Athens Human Rights Council, and a Lifetime Achievement Award given to him by the student organizers of the School of Law’s annual Working in the Public Interest Conference. These recognitions—and particularly the variety of contributions and competencies they reflect—communicate something important about Milner Ball. But a listing of awards only begins to capture his unique and intensely lived humanity. I hope the following personal reflections offer a glimpse into why Milner stood out for me and for many others as a powerful source of learning and enduring inspiration.

On June 7, 2010, I met with UGA School of Law Associate Dean Paul Kurtz, Criminal Defense Clinic Director Russell Gabriel and Athens Justice Project Board Member Madeline VanDyck. Also present was the filmmaker we had hired to make a short documentary about Milner, and our job was to educate him about the different elements of Milner’s life that might be captured when the cameras rolled.

The task seemed straightforward enough. But before long we found ourselves caught up in an experience that was wonderful, even electrifying—and all the more so as time passed. Having the chance to reflect upon the many sides of Milner was a joy. But it was also deeply challenging, because (as we increasingly came to see with the sharing of each new thought) it is futile in the extreme to try to put into words the full richness of Milner’s qualities, in all their distinctive valences and curious interconnections. Our discussion wasn’t a love-fest, because we knew Milner wouldn’t have wanted that. Rather, it came to be, at least in aspiration, the sort of studied investigation of an important matter of life that Milner himself would have blessed, encouraged and celebrated—though never, ever about himself.

Out of our discussion tumbled an avalanche of memories and observations so diverse in range, and at first blush so lacking in a discernible pattern, that they might, to an outsider, have seemed to be about five people, or maybe ten. To us, I think, the jumble increasingly came to make sense precisely because it was a jumble—the strangely wonderful mix of character traits and roles and deeds that, taken together, made Milner the compelling person he was.

What caused that conversation to have the magic it did?

Along the way we kept reminding each other of the many different lives that Milner had lived over time. As husband. Father. Grandfather. Minister. Lawyer. Activist. Judge. Community organizer. Author of four books. Creator of some community service organizations and volunteer supporter of many more. Founder of public interest conferences.


Conscience of the law school faculty. And—for me and many others—true, engaged and caring friend.

All of this, and so much more, woven together in one man.

things. But always a deflector of attention away from himself. Someone with a gift for leading others, but also someone who always looked to step away to let others take the lead and take the credit. A person, by nature and training, of formality, of decorum and of proper social distance. But also a person who never missed a chance to connect with, smile with and show kindness to others in encounters in which he was always fully present in the moment.

A person who was immersed in his work but who was also, more than anything else, deeply and palpably and vitally in love with his high-school-sweetheart-turned-life-partner, June. And with the children and grandchildren he spoke of at every opportunity with the deepest measures of affection and pride.

Studious to the point of frequent isolation. But somehow always seeming to be with June. And despite all the reading and writing and teaching and volunteering, constantly off on new adventures—to offer classes, for example, in London or Brussels or Reykjavik or Buenos Aires. The quintessential intellectual who was also the quintessential physical fitness buff. In fact, far more than that—a backpacker, a 28-time marathoner, a triathlete, even a dogsledder. Full of energy in good health. Full of valor in his time of illness.

Nationally recognized law professor who, 30 years into it, enrolled as a student in a law school clinic course. Luminous among legal academics who was no less at home with colleagues in the departments of English, philosophy, classics or religion. A person deeply deserving of recognitions, but who had no interest in praise, except to give it to others. One whose daily routine and manner of dress were disciplined, predictable and organized to a tee, but who was also—more than anyone—open to vulnerability, risk-taking, rocking the boat and entering strange, uncharted, chaotic realms of thought and action.

Someone who for decades threw himself into the law's theory and structure and doctrine only to find in time more power and meaning in the law's narratives and stories. A Presbyterian minister who discovered the right faith home in an Episcopal church. A person whose essential identity centered on his Christian faith, but who was also deeply drawn to Native American mysticism and every positive manifestation of the Great Spirit.

A man who grew to adulthood in the South of a different age and found a way, by building on the best lessons of that experience, to channel a lifetime into working to help battered women, rape victims and homeless mothers. And whose message to his white male colleagues, who long dominated the academic world he occupied, always went something like this: "Be careful, in shaping these great Institutions, not merely to clone yourselves, lest you bring deprivation on both your students and the broader world—but most of all upon yourselves."

A vigorous opponent and protestor of Secretary of State Dean Rusk and the Vietnam War he helped oversee, who later formed such a close personal bond with Mr. Rusk that he was called on to eulogize Mr. Rusk at his funeral service. And who on that occasion celebrated in Mr. Rusk—as we might now rightly celebrate in Milner himself—a lifelong commitment to the "heroic duty" of "living well in public affairs" and "performing all the duties of his place with justice, integrity and uprightness."

Courageous to the point of risking it all. Yet humble to the point of never speaking of that. Brilliant practitioner of the legal craft. But also the wise counselor who cautioned his students not to seek enduring meaning in mere perfection of that craft. And who taught us all that the search for meaning—both in our work in the law and beyond it—should take close account of the "worthy perspectives that we have received from our families, from communities of faith, and, to the extent they are distinguishable, from profoundly political communities as well."

Recipient of privilege who threw himself into helping the underprivileged. Occupier of the ivory tower—so competent in that realm that he could publish works in the Harvard, Stanford and Michigan Law Reviews—who was no less comfortable working in the Athens Area Homeless Shelter or soup kitchen.

These words offer only a hint of Milner's rich, curious, fascinating, paradoxical, wonderful, predictable yet unpredictable, loving, caring, vibrant being.

Yet they remind me of what a privilege it was to have Milner in my life and what a blessing it is to reflect on all of what—in just one person—this dear, this brilliant and this inspiring man embodied.
States News Service
April 28, 2011 Thursday

LENGTH: 301 words

HEADLINE: GEORGIA LAW PREVAILS AT INTRASTATE MOOT COURT COMPETITION

BYLINE: States News Service

DATELINE: Athens, GA

BODY:

The following information was released by the University of Georgia:

Writer: Curry Andrews, 706/542-5172, lawprstu@uga.edu

The University of Georgia School of Law recently took home the championship trophy and the Best Brief Award at the 2011 Intrastate Moot Court Competition, which included two teams from each of Georgia's five law schools competing for top honors. This is the sixth consecutive year UGA has won this competition and the eighth consecutive year it has earned the best brief title.

The championship team consisted of second-year students Andrew M. Bagley, Rachel D. Ivey and Samuel H. Sabulis, who defeated teams from John Marshall, Mercer University, Georgia State University and Emory University during the two-day event held in Athens.

Second-year students Bailey A. Blair, William F. Crozer and James Hunter Knowles also represented UGA in the competition and finished as semifinalists.

"Georgia Law has traditionally performed well at this tournament," director of advocacy Kellie Casey Monk said. "The competition between the Georgia schools produces some fierce rivalries, and I was excited our students rose to the occasion."

The fictional case argued by the competitors, titled Walter Whyte v. United States of America, addressed legal questions surrounding the Fourth Amendment and whether or not police installing and following a Global Positioning System, or GPS, on a car constitutes an unconstitutional search.

Additionally, first-year student Jocelyn Nicole Maner won Georgia Law's 2011 Richard B. Russell Moot Court Competition, which is held annually for those in the first-year class. Maner defeated classmate Michael C. Gretchen in the final round of the competition to take home the top crown.

For more information on Georgia Law's moot court team, see www.law.uga.edu/moot-court/.

LOAD-DATE: April 28, 2011

LENGTH: 318 words
The University of Georgia issued the following news release:

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LOAD-DATE: April 29, 2011
Volleyball team welcomes new coach

By: Naomi Walker

Posted: 4/28/11

Eric Neely is entering his first year as the Head Volleyball Coach at Simmons College. Prior to arriving at Simmons, Neely was the Head Volleyball Coach at Ursuline Academy in Dedham, Mass. In his six years with the team, Neely led the Bears to a 94-40 (.701) record. Neely’s teams won four MIAA South Sectional Championships and two league championships. In 2008, he was named the Boston Globe Coach of the Year for Division III after leading the team to a 20-2 record and an undefeated 10-0 in the Catholic Conference.

In addition to coaching at Ursuline, Neely has served as a coach for SMASH Junior Olympic Volleyball club since 2005. In 2007, he led the SMASH 18s to the East Coast Championship. He currently coaches the club’s top 16-and-under volleyball team. Neely also coached the Northeastern University Women’s Club Volleyball team for the 2010-2011 season.

While at the University of Georgia School of Law, Neely founded the Georgia Men’s Club Volleyball team and served as captain and starting opposite. He continues to compete in beach and indoor tournaments locally.

A native of Easton, Mass., Neely earned his Bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Rochester in 1998 and a law degree from the University of Georgia in 2003. He served as a prosecutor and lawyer in private practice for four years before becoming a full-time coach and educator. He is currently an eighth grade teacher in Foxborough, Mass.

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Obituary

Albon Hatcher Jr. | Visit Guest Book

Family-Placed Death Notice

HATCHER, Albon Lee "AF" Jr. Funeral services for Albon Lee "AF" Hatcher Jr., 81, of Dublin, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 30, 2011 at Henry Memorial Presbyterian Church with Brother Bill O'fani officiating. Interment will be at Nightville Cemetery. Mr. Hatcher passed away Wednesday, April 27, 2011. Mr. Hatcher was born in Dublin in 1930 to Albon Lee Hatcher and Bess Powell Hatcher. He was of Presbyterian faith and attended Dublin public schools. Mr. Hatcher graduated from Georgia Military College in 1948 and attended Georgia Teachers College. His great-grandfather, Alphonso Lee Hatcher and his father Albon Lee Hatcher graduated from the University of Georgia. Alphonso was a third generation graduate of UGA, graduating from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1936 with a Juris Doctor degree. Mr. Hatcher was a Sergeant in the United States Army, Warrant, and was a Regimental Instructor-Military Courtesy from 1963 to 1965. Mr. Hatcher was appointed Lt. Governor Peter Zaglaud's Chief Administrative Aide and Executive Secretary in 1963 where he served until 1967. He was then named Deputy Insurance Commissioner by former Insurance Commissioner and Comptroller General, James L. Bentley, serving in this capacity until 1970. He entered the development and real estate field developing apartments, shopping centers and malls, which carried his name: Hatchers Square Mall in Millidgeville, Hatcher Point Mall in Waycross, Beechwood Apartments in Athens, Tatum Woods Apartments in Athens, Holly Hills Apartments in Dublin, and Williamsburg Village Shopping Center in Dublin. He was a Senior Field Deputy with the Georgia Department of Labor, serving in this capacity until 1989. In 1985, he was named one of the first "Most Outstanding State Employees" in the Georgia Department of Labor, and went on to win the "Governor's Award for Outstanding Service in State Government." Hatcher was first employed by the State of Georgia in 1952 as a Reading Clerk in the "Georgia House of Representatives" under the late Joe Boone, Clerk of the Georgia House of Representatives. Beginning with the General Assembly Session 2002, Mr. Hatcher was employed intermittently by the State of Georgia for the past 50 years. He was appointed Director of Transportation by the Georgia Public Service Commission in 1989 where he served until his retirement Oct. 31, 2001, when the Transportation Division merged into the newly created Department of Motor Vehicle Safety. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Gay Ritts Hatcher; son, Jim Ritts (Gay) Hatcher of Milledgeville, Ga., and grandchildren, Jeff, Robby, and Tommy Minter, daughter, Shari Hatcher (Rocky) George of Plato, Texas, and grandchildren, Keigh, Matthew, and Seth, George, daughter, Holly Hatcher (Dr. E.J.) Bincar of Augusta, Ga., and grandchildren, Stephen, Stuart and Joseph Stinner, daughter, Melody Hatcher (Michael Joseph) Gold of Marietta, Ga., and granddaughters Heather Huff, Hannah Greer and Bess Hamill, and grandson, Wilt Daniel, and numerous great and great-great grandchildren. Pallbearers will be his grandchildren. Townsend Brothers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Please go to www.townsfuneralhome.com to sign the online memorial registry.

Published In The Atlanta Journal-Constitution on April 29, 2011

Share your memories, express your condolences and add photos in the Guest Book for Albon Hatcher Jr..

Begin your Guest Book entry here: View suggested entries add entry

Related Legacies | University of Georgia

Additional Resources

- How To Submit An Obituary
- Learn how to place an obituary
- In Remembrance
- Honor those lost in Afghanistan & Iraq
- ObitMender
- Obituaries e-mailed to you daily
- Find A Charity
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2 of 3
Funeral services for Albon Lee "Al" Hatcher Jr., 81, of Dublin, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 30, 2011 at Henry Memorial Presbyterian Church with Brother Bill Otten officiating. Interment will be at Northview Cemetery. Mr.
Hatcher passed away Wednesday, April 27, 2011.

Mr. Hatcher was born in Dublin in 1929 to Albon Lee Hatcher and Bess Powell Hatcher. He was of Presbyterian faith and attended Dublin public schools. Mr. Hatcher graduated from Georgia Military College in 1946 and attended Georgia Teacher's College. His great-grandfather, Alonzo Lee Hatcher and his father, Albon Lee Hatcher graduated from the University of Georgia. Al was a third generation graduate of UGA, graduating from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1956 with a Juris Doctor degree.

Mr. Hatcher was a Sergeant in the United States Army Infantry, and was a Regimental Instructor-Military Courtesy from 1953 to 1955.

Mr. Hatcher was appointed Lt. Governor Peter Zacc Geer's Chief Administrative Aide and Executive Secretary in 1963 where he served until 1967. He was then named Deputy Insurance Commissioner by former Insurance Commissioner and Comptroller General, James I. Bentley, serving in this capacity until 1970. He entered the development and real estate field developing apartments, shopping centers and malls, which carry his name: Hatcher Square Mall in Milledgeville, Hatcher Point Mall in Waycross, Beechwood Apartments in Athens, Humlin Woods Apartments in Athens, Holly Hills Apartments in Dublin, and Williamsburg Village Shopping Center in Dublin. He was a Senior Field Deputy with the Georgia Department of Labor, serving in this capacity until 1989. In 1985, he was named one of the five "Most Outstanding State Employees" in the Georgia Department of Labor, and went on to win the "Governor's Award for Outstanding Service in State Government." Hatcher was first employed with the State of Georgia in 1952 as a Reading Clerk in the "Georgia House of Representatives" under the late Joe Boone, Clerk of the Georgia House of Representatives. Beginning with the General Assembly, Session 2002, Mr. Hatcher was employed intermittently by the State of Georgia for the past 50 years. He was appointed Director of Transportation by the Georgia Public Service Commission in 1969 where he served until his retirement Oct. 31, 2001, when the Transportation Division merged into the newly created Department of Motor Vehicle Safety.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Gay Ritts Hatcher; son, Jim Ritts (Gail) Hatcher of Milledgeville, Ga., and grandsons, Jeff, Robby, and Tommy Minter; daughter, Sherri Hatcher (Rocky) George of Plano, Texas, and grandsons, Keigh, Matthew, and Seth George; daughter, Holly Hatcher (Dr. E.J.) Stincer of Augusta, Ga., and grandsons, Stephen, Stuart and Joseph Stincer; daughter, Melody Hatcher (Michael Joseph) Gold of Marietta, Ga., and granddaughters Heather Huff, Hannah Grey and Bess Harrell, and grandson, Walt Daniel; and numerous great and great-great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be his grandsons.

Townsend Brothers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Please go to: www.townsendfuneralhome.com to sign the online memorial registry.

Sign the guestbook at AugustaChronicle.com/obits

The Augusta Chronicle-April 29, 2011

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Friday, April 29, 2011
Lawyer’s Facebook page became tornado lifeline
Ringgold attorney delivered real-time accounts of storm, helped faraway friends and family locate loved ones
By R. Robin McDonald, Staff Reporter

Ringgold attorney McCracken Poston watched from his home on a ridge of White Oak Mountain as a tornado cut a sickening swath through his hometown Wednesday night.

Poston’s eyewitness accounts of the devastating storm on Facebook quickly became not just a running diary of destruction but also a clearinghouse of information and prayers about the storm, about who was safe, who had been injured, who was trapped and needed aid, and how to get and give help.

For people who had lost power and had contact with others only via their mobile phones, Poston’s page became a lifeline of hope and relief as he tracked down members of people’s families and assured frantic relations in other cities and other states that their relatives had survived and were safe.

"Thank you for all the updates as we have no power for any info," wrote one of Poston’s 2,733 Facebook friends. "Praying for all."

"Ken Poston for president," wrote another friend. "Thank you for all you do, kid."

On Thursday, a sleep-deprived Poston, a former Georgia legislator whose law office is in downtown Ringgold, told the Daily Report what he had witnessed the night before.

"I watched the tornado go from south of I-75 to U.S. 41 and over toward the high school," he said. "I had a panoramic view of all this destruction. ... it’s the worst thing that’s happened to Ringgold since the Civil War."

Perhaps because his home was on a ridge overlooking the town, Poston did not lose power as the storm roared past. "I felt I had a responsibility as one of the only ones with power on to try to get information to people," he said.

Poston began reporting as he watched the skies early Thursday afternoon. "I can’t remember when the weather was so ominous," he wrote about 5 p.m. "Everybody stay safe."

Three hours later, Poston reported tornadoes had touched down in Walker and Dade counties, that there were injuries, and a "Bad one coming toward us from Sand Mtn. Lafayette take cover!"

Within an hour, Poston had posted one of the first eyewitness accounts of the storm.

"My neighbor and I just watched as a tornado ripped across I-75 and through the valley and through Ringgold," he wrote. "It was sickening, and prayers are with all affected."

"We watched it touch down on I-75, then it danced basically along the business strip of North Alabama Highway," he wrote in a subsequent post. "One of our judges called me and said it was devastating down there. At one point, the cloud dissipated but then a big black cloud rose up from the ground and rejoined the funnel. It was awful."

Poston told the Daily Report that the twister flattened businesses and homes, although he said the historic section of Ringgold appears to have survived largely intact. But the storm, he said, "devastated Cherokee Valley," adding that "half a dozen fatalities" had been reported there. The county tax commissioner and one of Poston’s close friends were injured, the lawyer said.

"God bless Ringgold," he posted on his Facebook page shortly after the storm had passed.

Poston said that his posts quickly began generating often frantic questions from Facebook friends trying to reach family members, friends and neighbors. Some had information. Others were seeking news. One friend in Kansas City was desperate to reach her elderly mother. "Ken, I’m freaking out right now," she wrote. "Can’t get in touch with my MOM! She lives really close."

Poston began making calls, eventually learning that although the friend’s mother’s home had been hit by the tornado, she
had survived and was with the county sheriff.

"We are fine," Poston wrote shortly after 10 p.m. "It's all the folks in the valley that need our thoughts and prayers. Multiple cars involved on I-75. I couldn't imagine being from out of town and having to deal with this."

A short time later, Poston wrote: "Ringgold update. Scores of flashing blue and red lights stretch from I-75 to [U.S.] 41. All of downtown Ringgold in darkness. A few emergency vehicle lights still flashing in both NB and SB lanes of I-75."

Others supplied their own eyewitness accounts or information they gleaned from radios and cell phones. "Reports of multiple businesses completely wiped out and fatalities in Ringgold," one wrote. "75 shut down at Ringgold."

"Ken," another Facebook friend posted, "I have got reports off of the Internet that the Waffle House, Krystal, Wendy's and Pizza Hut were damaged, and they are saying that the Taco Bell and McDonald's were wiped out and there are people trapped. I am praying for everyone."

The Ringgold exit was "a war zone," another friend reported, with fast food restaurants "flattened."

People inside a Walgreen's pharmacy survived, although they were trapped inside by fallen power lines. The steeple had blown off the Ringgold Baptist Church:

"The Ringgold High School press box is in the parking lot. The arts building is collapsed," Poston wrote in another update.

"No part of Ringgold is unaffected. Historic block is intact, but Jesse Thornton's roof is on Tennessee St. ... Seven confirmed dead in Catoosa County according to law enforcement sources. ... There are power lines and trees everywhere. ... The courthouse looked OK, although there are downed power lines on every street surrounding it. ... It is the worst thing I have ever seen in my life around here though. ... Our local paper is out there working. And I'm pretty sure their offices were hit in some respect, being next to the Baptist church."

As he surveyed the damage and sought to check on neighbors and friends, Poston also answered a barrage of questions.

"No power, Jan. But I think your business was not hit," he wrote in answer to one friend. "I just found your grandmother. Your dad just brought her home," he informed another.

"Lisa Blankenship - my phone went out. Your sister Sara is with Chris Harris and I have a friend trying to get through the lines to check on your mother," he reassured another Facebook friend, adding later, "Chris and your sister are stuck at Walgreen's. Emergency folk won't let people out and about. Understandable. Will keep relaying information to you."

As people began seeking help or ways to help, Poston began fielding those requests as well, alerting them as to where emergency workers were mustering but warning them. "A lot of people are coming in to help, but you need to heed the warnings of the state troopers and others, and not be mistaken for a looter. I saw at least one local business owner packing his own heat while he struggled to get generators to keep his restaurant's freezers going."

In the early hours of Thursday morning, Poston offered reassurances to his friends and neighbors. "Ringgold has shown amazing strength and resolve tonight. As the sun comes up, we will all see the extent of the devastation for the first time. ... Your hearts would be touched by the many volunteers and out of town law enforcement officers and rescue squads that have descended upon the staging area at the Ingles parking lot. I saw half the Fort Oglethorpe police dept. force, and more state troopers from several posts. Tonight they are all Ringgoldians."

At 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Poston offered still another update. "FEMA and GEMA control Ringgold."

And, he wrote, "As soon as my kids wake up, I've got to start finding a way to explain all this."
University of Kentucky law students could face extra tuition increase

By John Cheves — jcheves@herald-leader.com

Posted: 12:00am on Apr 30, 2011; Modified: 3:51am on Apr 30, 2011

University of Kentucky law students could face a steeper tuition climb than others on campus.

College of Law Dean David Brennen has written to law students to say that on Tuesday he'll ask the UK Board of Trustees for a 1.8 percent tuition increase for his school, on top of the 6 percent tuition hike the board will consider for the entire university.

The extra money will create "a modest salary raise pool" for law school faculty, Brennen wrote. He did not say how much money he expects to generate, and he did not return a call Friday seeking comment.

"Our salary structure is simply not competitive with other law schools with which we compete," Brennen wrote. "For example, the average faculty salary at the University of Georgia College of Law is nearly 40 percent higher than the average faculty salary at our college. Top 20 law schools average almost 50 percent higher faculty pay."

Brennen's salary is $250,000, according to a February 2011 UK salary database.

UK plans to increase tuition by 6 percent for all of its students next school year, which would help pay for an average 3 percent raise for faculty and staff members — the first raise they've had in three years.