

RAR

KARES LIBRARY The Beginning of a New Chapter

KARES

SUMMER 2019













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A MESSAGE FROM Dr. & Mrs. Ingle



Time does indeed fly, and here we are getting ready for a second farewell. Yes, having fun being back on the Athens State University campus has helped the time zoom by, but the relationships renewed and formed have thankfully slowed down the measures of our time here.

We were flattered to be invited as Interim Provost the first time and honored as Interim President for round two. We have felt welcomed, embraced and well cared for by everyone on campus: faculty (talented and dedicated), staff (supportive and committed), physical plant (a special

shout out to these hard-working employees), food services (caterers extraordinaire), and students, whose goals and focus are impressive (especially the Athenian Ambassadors who have served whenever asked).

We shall miss all of you – the people who make Athens State a thriving institution of higher education. Athens State is more than ready for a permanent president, and we are confident that everyone will do whatever is necessary to help Dr. Philip Way be successful.

It is time for us to travel back to the coast of South Carolina and our home on the marsh, where you are welcome to visit. We shall not forget the kindness you have shown us.

Sincerely, Ron & Judy Ingle

WELCOMING DR. PHILIP WAY Athens State's 37th President



The Athens State University Board of Trustees has selected Dr. Philip Way as the 37th president of Athens State University. The appointment was made after a unanimous vote by Board members at its meeting on Friday, May 17.

Way, who currently serves as Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and previously served as interim president at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, was selected through nationwide recruitment led by Academic Search.

Way holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Industrial and Business Studies and a Master of Arts degree in Industrial Relations from the University of Warwick and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Selwyn College, Cambridge University. He also completed the Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship and Visiting Fellowship at Harvard University. Dr. Way has over 30 years' experience as a faculty member and administrator in higher education, serving over 20 years at the University of Cincinnati and over six years at the University of Alabama at Birmingham before his time at Slippery Rock.

"The Board members were impressed with Dr. Way's depth of experience as a scholar and senior-level administrator in higher education," stated Mr. Ronnie Chronister, Board of Trustees Chairman. "His focus on student success aligns well with the mission of Athens State University, and we feel that he will be an asset to this institution." Dr. Way is scheduled to begin his duties on August 1.

OUR VISION

Athens State University will be the premier destination for transfer students seeking the highest quality education and cutting-edge delivery at the most affordable cost. As the upper division university in Alabama, building on a tradition that began in 1822, Athens State University will be the catalyst for positive change in the lives of its students.

OUR MISSION

The University advances the best interests of its students and the State of Alabama through teaching, service, research, and other creative activities to empower students to make valuable contributions in their professional, civic, educational, and economic endeavors. Through innovative communication and course *delivery for high-quality* undergraduate and select graduate programs, Athens State University provides a supporting environment for each student, demonstrating the importance of the diverse and interdependent nature of our state and society. Athens State University changes the face of Alabama by changing the lives of its students.

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Remembering Dr. Angeline Nazaretian



r. Angeline Nazaretian, a long-time member of the Athens State community, passed away on Sunday, March 17, 2019. Known to most as "Angie" or "Miss N," she began her tenure at Athens College in 1958 and called it her home for more than forty-two years.

Dr. Nazaretian attended Fairfield City Schools in Birmingham, Alabama, graduating in 1946, and she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Physical Education in 1950 from Montevallo. She continued her studies at the University of Alabama, earning a Master of Arts degree in Health and Physical Education in 1958 and a Doctor of Education degree in 1979. Angie was preceded in death by her parents, Jeanne O'Nick Nazaretian and Alice Yarchak Nazaretian. She is survived by a sister, Mary Jeanne Smith and brother, Peter Nazaretian; three nephews and one niece, all living in Florida and Jefferson County, Alabama.

There is no possible way to list all of the many accomplishments that she achieved throughout her lifetime. She touched many

lives, opened many doors, and created opportunities in the physical, mental, and social health triangle, not only at Athens State but within the city of Athens and throughout the state of Alabama.

Miss N's mark is embedded in many regional and national organizations involving health and physical education, all beginning at Athens College where she established a certified program in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. Through her efforts to serve the physical needs of those with intellectual disabilities, she created a Special Olympics Program at Athens College, which quickly expanded throughout the state of Alabama. She held the first Special Olympics competition in Alabama for 100 children at Athens State College in 1968 and served on the Alabama Special Olympics Board of Directors for twenty-five years.

In addition to Special Olympics, she was selected by the National Olympics Committee to carry the Olympic Torch in Limestone County, Alabama, on its way to Atlanta at the age of sixty-eight. In addition to her work with those with special needs, Dr. Nazaretian became a prominent leader throughout her community where she took on the creation of a fitness program, as well as a community service program for the elderly, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, better known as RSVP. Governor George C. Wallace recognized Dr. Nazaretian in 1983 by declaring "Angie Nazaretian Day" for her efforts with Special Children. She was also selected to be the Director and Coordinator of the "First Women Sports Conference," which took place on the campus of Athens State College. This conference touched high schools, coaches, and college women athletes, paving the way for many "firsts" in women's sports competitions. She was recognized for these efforts by being selected and inducted into the Limestone County Sports Hall of Fame and appointed to the Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness and Sports, serving people throughout Alabama.

The last ten years of her tenure at Athens State University were dedicated to the Alumni Association, where she continued to excel. In her ten years as Director, she enhanced the efforts of the alumni team, grew its board membership, and expanded the alumni recognition and membership programs.

Those who knew Miss N know her heart belonged to whomever she came in contact with. There were no strangers; wherever she was, she touched lives. If she saw hunger, she would feed and nurture, as she did with many students who passed through the doors of the College. Students loved to sit on the porch of her house, on the southwest corner of campus, or to take their children through her amazing house of collectibles. While Miss N is no longer here with us, the memories will continue to live on.

The University now has ownership of The Nazaretian Home and has partnered with the Alumni Association to renovate and restore it. The home is slated to be used for alumni events and as a welcome center for visitors to campus. Always a gracious host, Miss N's home was indeed a welcome center, and this is a way to honor her for many years to come. As her personalized Athens State car tag said: "Ya'll Come!"



Interested in helping restore The Nazaretian Home?

Help us continue Miss N's legacy.

Use the enclosed remittance envelope to make your donation, or visit us online at **ATHENSFOREVER.ORG**.

HONECONDACE 2019

v ver the Moon



Celebrating the 50TH ANNIVERSARY of the Class of 1969

50[™] ANNIVERSARY of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing

FRIDAY, JULY 26 & SATURDAY, JULY 27 RSVPTODAY! ATHENS.EDU/HOMECOMING

FRIDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT BY



FRIDAY, JULY 26 6 PM Homecoming Dinner & Concert Brown Hall Courtyard



Founders Green

SPECIAL GUESTS - CLASS OF 1969

Celebrating 50

Also Celebrating Graduates from the Classes of 1994, 2009, and 2014

The COLUMN | Page 7





"When I close my eyes, I can picture Athens College as it was fifty-one years ago when I had the privilege of attending this college and allowing it to help me mold my life," said Robert Kares, 1968 alumnus of Athens College and namesake of the newly unveiled Kares Library. Recently, he and his wife of forty-eight years, Gale, committed \$2.1 million to the University to create an endowment. In recognition of their gift, the University Library was named "Kares Library."

"This gift will create an endowment that will benefit the library, students, faculty, staff, and the entire Athens community for generations to come," stated Dr. Ron Ingle, interim president at Athens State University. "The University

appreciates generous donors such as Mr. and Mrs. Kares and their desire to make a significant impact on student success."

The interactions Mr. Kares had with Athens College's faculty during his time as a student played a vital role in him wanting to fund an endowment. Loraine Pabst, head of the history department, taught him that you have to look at the whole picture instead of just focusing on one small factor. His French teacher, Margaret Foley, taught him compassion. But it was James What makes a great school is a great faculty. Athens was never a rich school in the sense of having hundreds of millions of dollars in endowment funds, but they were always a rich school in having the people working for them that they had.

approached me, I was receptive to funding an endowment to help the University Library."

A reception and unveiling ceremony were held on May 3 to honor Mr. and Mrs. Kares. Robert was also ceremoniously hooded and received an honorary doctorate degree at Athens State University's College of Arts and Sciences commencement ceremony the next day.

"I came to Athens College in 1965 to pursue a degree which would put me on a path to be successful in life," Robert stated. "Since my graduation in 1968, I have never failed to acknowledge that the quality of education which I received in

> Athens has been a significant factor in my success, both in life and in my career. I am forever grateful to all of the faculty and staff at Athens State who played a part in my education there, and Gale and I are honored to be part of the University family. It is my wish that the library grows and helps educate other students the way it did me. It is also my hope that a great library adds to the prestige of the university. I would like this library to be thought of as a tree of life for those who would taste the beauty of her fruit."

Belue that helped develop his love of libraries.

Mr. Belue, the director of the library at the time, befriended Robert and eventually hired him as a student intern in the library for a semester. "He was a heck of a nice guy. We used to sit in his office, talk about libraries, talk about philosophy, talk about anything under the sun," Robert said. "He helped create my love for libraries, and he certainly fueled my feelings. I'm indebted to him for this."

"What makes a great school is a great faculty," continued Robert, "Athens was never a rich school in the sense of having hundreds of millions of dollars in endowment funds, but they were always a rich school in having the people working for them that they had. The professional staff could not have been better. All these experiences took a young man and helped him mature into a productive adult. Maybe this will help you understand why when Dr. Ferguson (Vice President for University Advancement)



TENNESSEE VALLEY OLD TIME

FIDDLERS CONVENTION.

Family, Friends, Fiddlers.

53RD ANNUAL CONVENTION: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5



COMPETITIONS:

- Beginning Fiddler (age 10 and under)
- Apprentice Fiddler (ages 11-15)
- Junior Fiddler (ages 16-34)
- Intermediate Fiddler (ages 35-54)
- Senior Fiddler (ages 55+)
- Classic Old Time Fiddler
- Beginner Musician (Guitar, Banjo, or Mandolin)
- Guitar Finger Picking
- Guitar Flat Picking
- Harmonica
- Mandolin
- Bluegrass Banjo
- Old Time Banjo
- Dobro
- Dulcimer
- Old Time Singing
- Bluegrass Band
- Old Time String Band
- Buck Dancing

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STAGE SPONSORS: Alabama Farmers Cooperative, Inc. (Founders Hall) & Aetos Systems, Inc. (Brown Hall)

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Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3 | 7 PM THIS PREVIEW CONCERT IS FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 4 PM & 6 PM

Bradley Walker & Lonesome River Band SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 | 6 PM



INFO & TICKETS: TVOTFC.ORG

I chose education because I truly believe anytime you want to impact a community or definitely a generation it starts with education.

MUSIC & EDUCATION: A HARMONIOUS DUO

When it comes to following our dreams, the fear of failure often stops us from trying. Our dreams sometimes seem unattainable or unrealistic, especially when it comes to building a solid career. However, one special individual is casting her doubts aside and finding a way to turn her passions into a future career. "My life in music is where I'd love to stay. Music means a lot to me, but the more time I spend out in the community sharing my music, I see a need for education as well." Meet Victoria Jones, an aspiring musician and current College of Education student at Athens State University who is turning her dreams into a reality.

At a young age, Victoria felt called to pick up an instrument. "I've always felt so connected to my guitar. I remember telling my parents, 'I believe that I'm destined to play the guitar,' and they were like, 'You've never seen a guitar before!' Even though I'd never seen it, just the sound of it...it was amazing." Following her calling, Victoria started playing the guitar and writing songs at fifteen.

The power of words inspired Victoria to pursue a career in music. "Even though I sing and song-write, I love lyricism, and I love words because they really touch people." In middle school, Victoria's teachers recognized her writing talents and began encouraging her to write. "At the time, I thought I just wanted to be a poet," Victoria said. "Fifteen is when I actually wrote my first song. It was one of those pinchmyself moments, like 'Is this real? Can I really do this?' And from there, it's been a discipline of stewarding my gift."

Victoria also plays the piano, a place where she now finds herself writing most of her songs. "I have more music originating from piano because I'm starting to write there and it's so open," she stated. She draws inspiration for her music from her faith, her life, and people she meets. "A lot of my music is life music, so I'm writing about where I am. Also, whenever you're doing music, you get entrusted with a lot of people, too," she shared. "Those people are sharing their stories, so that rubs off on you as well." Victoria has now been invested in music for over eight years, and hopes to continue and grow in it. "I've learned - just like with education or anything you pursue - it's an endurance training," she stated. "It's a continual grind, it's a continual discipline. I don't think there's such a thing as 'making it,' but you definitely have to practice contentment wherever you are," Victoria advised.

While music is her main focus, Victoria is currently working on obtaining her degree in education at Athens State University. "I chose education because I truly believe anytime you want to impact a community—or definitely a generation—it starts with education," she stated. She hopes to make music her full-time occupation and incorporate her community into future projects. "So far within my career in music, I love seeing how people have connected to it, and just that connection - it shows me how important community is," stated Victoria. "I hope that I can serve in a civic capacity where I can use music but also influence people."

Victoria has already been able to achieve an impressive list of accomplishments early in her music career. She recorded her first EP at 318 Productions in Huntsville where it was produced by Canita Rogers and mastered by Grammynominated Kelvin Wooten. She has also traveled with her music and has performed for non-profit organizations such as The Microwave Dave Music Foundation and The Little Orange Fish, which promotes mental health awareness.

Victoria is a truly remarkable, genuine young woman who proves that dreams can come true as long as you keep working toward them. With her fearless drive, Victoria is sure to continue to reach new and exciting heights in every facet of her life and career. "My journey has been really organic," she stated. "It's the most gratifying job. It's something that I love doing."



Follow **ATHENS FOREVER** on Facebook (@AthensForeverBicentennial) or visit **ATHENSFOREVER.ORG** for more stories from students, alumni, donors, and others from the Athens State family.

#AthensForever



PLAQUES INSTALLED AT ARBOR DAY EVENT TO RECOGNIZE HISTORIC TREES ON CAMPUS

Athens State University held its annual Arbor Day Festival on Saturday, April 20. In conjunction with the event, special "Athens Forever" Bicentennial plaques were installed for all historic trees on campus. The plaques were purchased in part through a grant provided by the Alabama Bicentennial Commission.

With a campus that is home to over 40 historic trees, Athens State seeks to honor the beauty and historic charm they lend to the campus and surrounding community. The Historic Tree Project helps maintain and celebrate the historic living collection of trees on campus and encourages the University community to carry its legacy into the future.

For more information about Athens State University's historic trees, please visit the University Archives at Kares Library or online at www.athens.edu/library/archives.



from the University of Notre Dame with concentrations in Economics and German and a master's degree in International Management from Thunderbird School of Global Management.

Rachel joins Athens State University after working for the American Red Cross of Alabama for three years, where she

O'SULLIVAN APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF MAJOR GIFTS

Athens State is wa pleased to announce he the appointment of Sh Rachel O'Sullivan wa as Director of Major to Gifts and Annual Sh Giving within the ph Office of University Advancement. O'

O'Sullivan holds a bachelor's degree

was responsible for foundation giving across the state and helped foster relationships that led to over 100% growth. She held a previous position with a children's museum, where she proudly developed and coordinated an effort to bring snow to the children of Brownsville, Texas. She has also worked in brand management within the pharmaceuticals industry.

O'Sullivan belongs to the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) and is actively involved with community organizations such as St. Vincent de Paul Society and Mercy Parish.

As the University prepares to celebrate its bicentennial, O'Sullivan will be invaluable in securing funds to ensure bright futures for students. For more information about the Athens Forever Bicentennial Celebration, please visit ATHENSFOREVER.ORG.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NAMES 2019 ALUMNI AWARD HONOREES



2019 Alumni Award Honorees (left to right): Laura Poe, Deborah Ward, Betty Marks, Heather Mueller, Mark Eady, Henri Helstowski, Charlie Donald, Melinda Simpkins, Melanie Barkley, and Joan Prassas

On April 6, 2019, the Athens State University Foundation, in conjunction with the Alumni Association, held a Scholarship Reception and Alumni Awards Ceremony in Carter Gymnasium. The event offered an opportunity to recognize University supporters, honor successful Athens State alumni, and serve as a mentoring opportunity for new scholarship recipients. **Congratulations to the 2019 Alumni Award Honorees!**



Betty Marks Henri Helstowski

Dutstanding Alumna in Arts & Sciences

Laura Poe

Dutstanding Recent Graduates

Melinda Simpkins Mark Eady

Distinguished Alumni

Charlie Donald Heather Mueller

Outstanding Alumna in **Business**

Deborah Ward

Outstanding Alumni in Education

Melanie Barkley Joan Prassas



Know someone you would like to nominate for 2020? VISIT ATHENS.EDU/ALUMNI/AWARDS-CEREMONY



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See Pages 4-5 for a celebration of "Miss N"