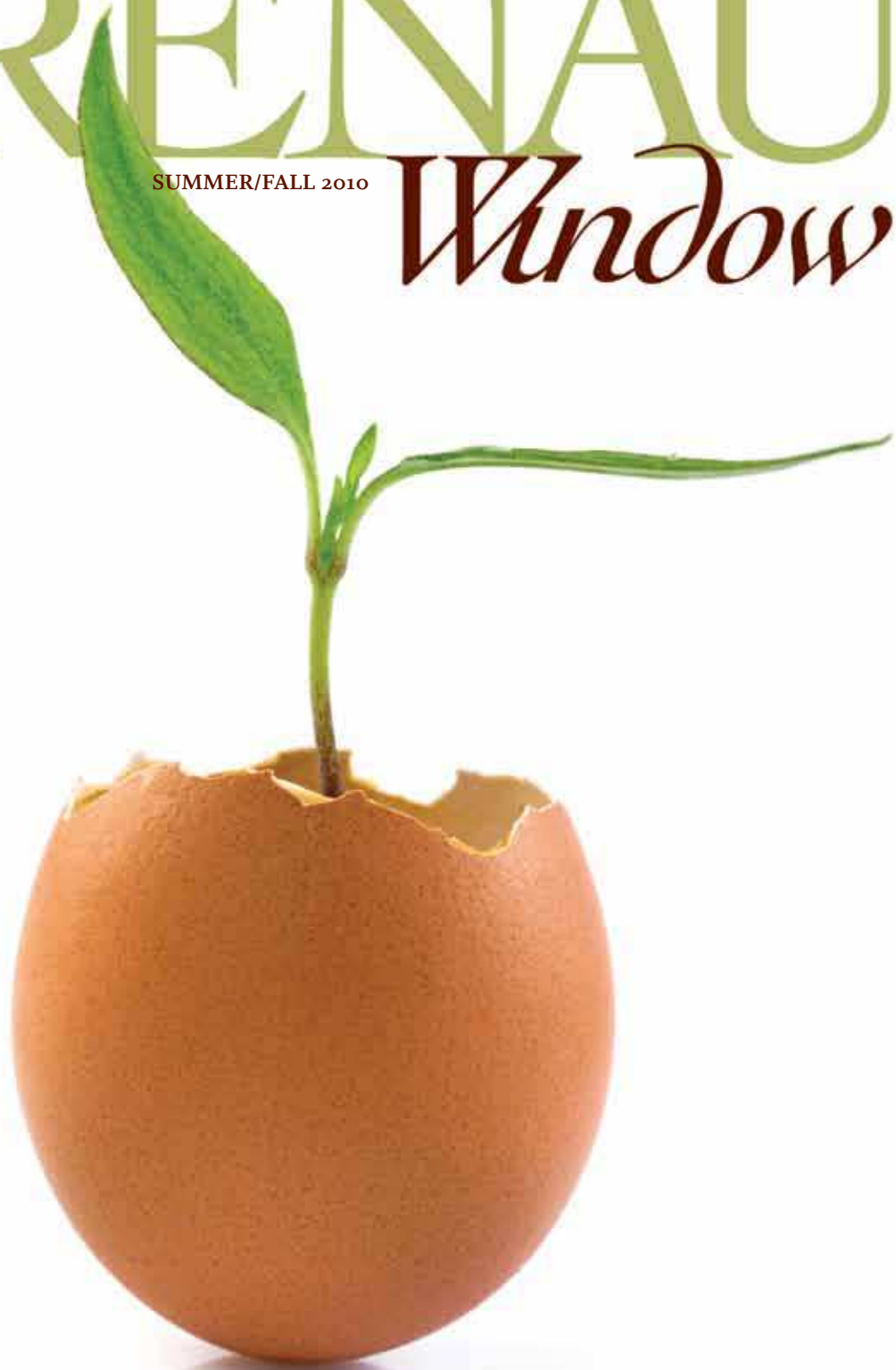


BRENAU

SUMMER/FALL 2010

Window



'Poultry Capital' Hatches
into Brenau's 'Green' Hometown

Turning and Burning with
Vanessa Grubbs



Location! Location! Location!

This issue of Brenau Window takes a detailed look at Brenau's hometown, Gainesville, Ga. It is a good location for a university, one that has been so attractive to many students who have made it their home.

That may seem a bit out of sync with a letter I recently wrote to new faculty and students welcoming them for the 2010-11 academic year. In the letter, I referenced aspects of the Brenau 2025 strategic plan that envisions a university in which students will be unconstrained by confines of classroom, campus or even a country.

Indeed, on a daily basis we are building toward that Brenau without borders. That includes making plans and seeking funding for a state-of-the-art technology and learning center in Gainesville to enhance both the classroom and online experience; hiring faculty capable of teaching in physical classrooms and online; breaking ground on a new building in Augusta; moving some of our stellar academic programs to the North Atlanta/Norcross campus; and adding classes and courses at the South Atlanta/Fairburn branch of Brenau, which occupies a new city-owned campus facility for multiple institutions. Our future at Kings Bay, which has been identified as one of the most desirable locations for military families, retirees and others, must include development of a better Brenau facility.

We are partnering with universities, schools and other institutions around the globe – our exciting new relationship with the High Museum in Atlanta just began on Aug. 1, and I have recently signed an agreement with a university in Korea for partnership exchanges similar to those already in place with universities in China and Europe. We will be requiring all students, starting with those in the Women's College, to seek some sort of international study experience, presumably away from Gainesville, during their time at Brenau. And, there is a young man, a junior executive at Starbucks in Seattle, who, to my knowledge, has never set foot on any Brenau campus. Still, working totally online, he is about to complete a master's degree in applied gerontology – at Brenau University.

To explain why it is necessary to build a university in multiple locations and from "bytes and bits" as well as

bricks and mortar, we hark back to the observation of Willie Sutton, who infamously stated that he robbed banks "because that's where the money is." The Brenau of the future will be "where the students are," wherever there is a need and a critical mass of students who share our vision that the kind of education offered by Brenau will fill that need.

This concept is nothing new. The institution opened its doors in 1878 as the Georgia Baptist Female Seminary because its founders, a group that included leading citizens in Gainesville, perceived a necessity to provide education for a new generation of young women to prepare them for a fast-approaching new century. Brenau's first name did not stick, but the ever-evolving need, and the community support for meeting the need, persisted through the 20th century and on into the 21st.

We have all seen movies built around the adversarial relationship between universities and the communities in which they exist, the "town and gown" tension that is all too often a reality in our society. Some education futurists envision a day when that town and gown demarcation becomes insignificant as colleges and universities move more and more into the world of the global classroom. Just as a student may well be anywhere in the world, so, too, could be the "location" of the university. Community for them simply will not be important.

That, however, is not the Brenau we are building. Brenau is what it is today because ingrained in the soul of the institution is its sense of place. For the past 132 years the institution has called Gainesville its hometown because the community and the institution are so entwined that it is often difficult to discern where one begins and the other leaves off.

The Brenau of the future will not be void of community. It will be community, and it will be boundless. We are Gainesville, Atlanta, Augusta, Kings Bay. We are the world. We are Brenau.

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Gale Bucker just completed a term as chair of the Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles, which is often the court of last resort for death row inmates in the nation's sixth-largest prison system. But the Brenau graduate's compassion extends beyond convicts who are seeking a new start to the victims of their criminal activities.



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For many prospective students, a university's hometown is an afterthought. In Brenau's case, it should be an attraction. Gainesville is a great place to go to school and, as many Brenau alums discovered, a great place to live.



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In the "P" section of the dictionary, you probably will not find a photograph of John W. Jacobs Jr. to illustrate the word "patience," but you might beside the word "persistence." Or "passionate." Or "philanthropic." It could take a whole book to describe his contributions to the university and its hometown.

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A generation gone to pottery

Vanessa Grubbs tried hard to break the mold. “The last thing I wanted to be when I was growing up was an artist,” says Brenau’s gallery director, who is ranked among the country’s leading ceramicists. “I’m no good at drawing, and following my parents seemed like a fate worse than death at the time.”

In fact, Grubbs comes from such a long line of creative types that art felt overly familiar; something was always “turning and burning” in the background.

“My plan in college was to save the world through subversive education,” she says slyly. “My dad finally convinced me, though, to take a ceramics class. The studio smelled like home. I knew immediately that was where I was supposed to be.”

Now Grubbs proudly identifies herself as a fourth-generation artist who draws inspiration from a taproot that goes deep into some lushly generative earth.

“I love the fact that I work in clay, the same material used by my great-grandmother, and I still have the wheel and kiln used by my grandmother,” says Grubbs, who earned her bachelor’s degree in art from Winthrop University in 1997 and her M.F.A. from Georgia State. Her father, Steve Hewitt, also creates with ceramics and glass, and her mother, Mana Hewitt, shapes metals and manages a gallery in South Carolina, where Grubbs grew up. “They all taught me what it means to be a woman embracing the desire to create.”

BIG PERSONALITY

So, in one of those seamless integrations of creator and medium, Grubbs herself has become a kind of vessel. Bustling around one of Brenau’s three galleries that she oversees while teaching and directing the university’s arts management program, she describes a childhood daubed in bright colors by strong-willed matriarchs.

“My grandmother worked on these green horses and yellow fu dogs that were a little frightening to me,” she recalls. “The fact that they were these inanimate objects that came alive when she painted them bent my mind. She also had a huge cage full of finches, and she was an amazing gardener who believed proper young women worth their salt could push out their busts and recite both the common names and Latin names of all flowers.”

Consequently, Grubbs’ functional pieces, which rely heavily on digitally transferred images, are known for floral themes and animal motifs – particularly birds – and for their cheeky examination of women’s roles.

“I especially like to look at the darkness under the bright surface of the 1950s advertising,” she says, “when housewives were expected to wear pearls and pumps while cooking dinner for 2.5 children.”

Grubbs, who has curly hair and a big, effusive personality, has not lost her subversive instincts. “I had forgotten what it was

like to be around an outspoken feminist,” says Paula Smith, one of Grubbs’ early ceramics instructors, who invited her to conduct a workshop at Central Piedmont Community College. “She is a ball of fire, committed to a high standard of quality exhibitions and making sure she stays active as an artist. She is also a character – feisty and hilarious in her storytelling. My students had mixed opinions of her strong beliefs, but that is what makes her an important asset to the world of art. Art should be controversial and cause some discomfort.”

Television is another of Grubbs’ subjects. “It could be a resource to educate and inspire,” she says, “but mostly it spews garbage that injects self-doubt into every moment of our lives.” So she used *sgraffito*, a “scratch painting” technique, to devastating effect in skewering *The Bachelor* and *The Biggest Loser*, and her M.F.A. exhibition tackled abortion and gay marriage.

“I believe her strengths are in using her work to question society’s obsessions, frivolity or fads,” says collector Ron Porter. “She can cut directly to a visual statement that resonates to expose our folly.”

‘INSANE’ COLLECTION

In 2005 *Ceramics Monthly* named Grubbs an “Emerging Artist of the Year,” and The Clay Studio in Philadelphia included her in a showing of the nation’s top 150 ceramics artists. She worked as an instructor at Georgia State University before coming to Brenau, which lured her with its aesthetic showrooms; innovative rotating exhibits; and, primarily, its world-class permanent collection of approximately 2,000 pieces.

“The fact that I can walk my students down a hall and point to work by Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg and Andy Warhol is just insane,” she says. “Then there’s the public art and the gems hanging around in offices.” Such opportunities will increase this year with Brenau’s partnership with the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, she says, giddily noting the internships and hands-on curatorial opportunities for students.

“Art is not just something in a textbook at Brenau,” she says. “It’s a vibrant, living organism with the full support and enthusiasm of the administration and the community around us.”

– Candice Dyer





Tatiana Khudiakova



Anastasia Minaeva



Kirsty Smith



Jaimey Alleyne

Fall recruits bring depth – and height – to Tigers teams



Athletes hailing from as far away as Russia, England and Trinidad and Tobago and as close as Gwinnett County will join Brenau's sports teams this fall.

Tatiana Khudiakova, a 6-foot-2-inch post, and point guard Anastasia Minaeva, both from Moscow, will play basketball for the Golden Tigers while Kirsty Smith, from Doncaster, South Yorkshire, will be a likely midfielder on the soccer team. Jaime Alleyne, who has played on club and national teams in Trinidad and Tobago, is also a midfielder, but she is willing to move wherever the soccer team needs her.

Because the soccer and basketball teams graduated a lot of seniors, their squads will be young, allowing incoming players to make an immediate impact. "We're going to have an international flavor in all of our teams," says Mike Lochstampfor, the athletics director and soccer coach, "but the majority of our athletes will come from local high schools in Georgia and typically the Southeast."

Since graduating from high school in 2005, Khudiakova won the national championship in Russia with her Spartak team three times. Cage coach Gary Bays says the young Brenau basketball teams never have had a player with her experience and skill level in the post position, while Minaeva will fit into the Golden Tigers' up-tempo style of play.

Mississippi State and the University of Massachusetts also wooed Smith, who graduated at the top of her high school class, but she chose Brenau. "She is a natural left footer, which is hard to come

by these days," says Lochstampfor. "She has excellent technical skills, including a great first touch,"

In addition to extensive international experience, Alleyne also has a great story to tell: she did not start taking soccer seriously until the death of her brother, who was four years older and loved the sport. "My brother was everything to me and football was everything to him," she says, "so I play football because it's my gift and brings peace and joy in my heart and I do it as a tribute to my brother."

Canadian Erin Brinks will transfer to Brenau after helping Middle Georgia College win its first Region 17 Championship last fall. The closer-to-home soccer players include Georgians Rachel Zarach from Marietta, Hannah Norwood from Grayson, and Lauren Cain from Kennesaw. Janay Hunt of Madison, Ala., will also begin her collegiate career with the Golden Tigers.

Other basketball signees include Georgians Gabrielle Harvey of Lilburn, who spent the past season at Tusculum (Tenn.), an NCAA Division II school; Raveen Crawford of Toccoa; Anela Durmic of Grayson; Brittney Wiley of Carnesville; Kaitlin Fleming of Mount Airy; and Tala Black of Powder Springs. Kori Suber of Greenville, S.C., is Bays' first recruit from that state.

In volleyball, Tanisha Fields of Atlanta and Ashley Valentine of Gainesville join coach Meredith Franklin's team.

Coach Devon Thomas, who moves from part-time to full-time as softball coach this season, added



and had the same coach. Choo had represented her country at the Junior Federation Cup in Thailand and the World Junior Championships in Australia. “Lindsay said, ‘You’ve got to get this girl,’” Leslie recalls. “I took her sight unseen.”

Choo was in the dark about Brenau as well. “I said, ‘Is it a city?’” Choo asked Woon. “She said, ‘No, it’s a suburban area. The people here are really nice and there are lots of trees. It’s more calm than a city.’”

Choo has a double major in business and accounting and an analytical mind that serves her well on the court. Her biggest issue, she concedes, is dealing with unsportsmanlike “attitude” from opposing players, especially those who try to break their opponents’ concentration by “cheating” on the verbal score-keeping that goes on during the unmonitored collegiate game. “I hate that,” she says, “but you have to maintain your emotions. You have to play your game.”

Tigers pitcher wants to change K’s to Z Z z z z

Batters better not be caught napping when they face Brenau pitcher Anna Maness. After throwing 29 scoreless innings in March, she became the first Golden Tiger to be named NAIA national softball pitcher of the week. But the freshman from Seagrove, N.C., didn’t come to the university just to strike people out; she wants to learn how to knock them out. “I want to put people to sleep,” Maness says. That means becoming a nurse anesthetist. Although she was recruited by Division I schools, Maness decided Brenau offered her the best chance to attend college on a softball scholarship while allowing sufficient time for her demanding coursework.

“I have friends who are nursing majors (at other universities),” Maness says, “but they have to transfer after their sophomore year, because they can’t do nursing and play softball – it conflicts too much.” Brenau coach Devon Thomas said Maness could do both. And, it is worth noting that her chosen field, nurse anesthetist, is targeted as a possible doctorate track at Brenau.

“That’s really a plus for me,” she says, and she has been a plus for the Golden Tigers as well. The right-hander usually pitches half a double-header while sophomore Ellen Black pitches the other. Maness notched 24 wins for Brenau to rank 11th in the NAIA. The Golden Tigers finished the season at No. 16 in the NAIA (after ranking as high as No. 11) with a 35-13-1 record. They had a 25-10-1 record in the Southern States Athletic Conference to place third. Maness was named first-team SSAC and Freshman of the Year.

“I think one thing that makes her a good pitcher is her confidence in her abilities and her demeanor on the mound,” says Thomas. “She is very focused and does not let anything bother her regardless of the situation.”

Maness literally talks herself out of a jam. During games, she’ll turn around on the mound and give herself some encouragement. “I’m like, ‘OK, I need a strike right here, I don’t need to go full count on them,’” Maness says. “I just have to calm myself down. Or I’ll sing a song. My catcher will say, ‘I hear you sometimes.’”

Hey, whatever works. Morgan Smith, the sophomore catcher who was also named first-team SSAC, says Maness has good ball placement and very good movement. “She’s not overpowering in that she doesn’t get a lot of strikeouts, but she throws pitches that they swing at,” says Smith, who is from Covington, Ga. “She’s very deceptive. Her movement catches hitters off guard.”

Maness began playing softball at 4 and has pitched since she was 9 or 10. She worked every day – even watching herself throw in a mirror. Her father, who had played college football at Elon, would tell her she could do better. “He’d make me cry so much,” Maness says, “but he pushed me to the limit. The reason I think he pushes me so much is he knows he could have worked harder.”

In high school, where she won two state 3-A titles and was MVP both years, Maness was known for her lucky headband in her favorite color, pink. “Here I can’t wear pink,” she says, noting that it’s not a school color. “Now it’s just black – but it’s still sparkly.”

And it still helps her get the job done while she prepares for her future. “I don’t have any intentions of going pro,” Maness says. “People say, ‘I’m going to see you on TV.’ I say, ‘No, you’re going to see me in a hospital.’”

– Karen Rosen

more than half a dozen new players to his nationally-ranked squad. Jacqueline McWhorter transfers from Chattahoochee Valley Community College where she was a First Team All-Conference and All Region selection in 2009 and 2010 with a .401 batting average. The other signees are Georgians Kayla Heggood of Newnan, Katie Bolin of Danielsville, Kristina Reynolds of Bogart, and Ashley Denton of Homer. They are joined by Alabamians Sally Duggan of Huntsville and McKenzie Fetner of Cullman.

Cross country coach Susan McIntyre signed a pair of runners from Flowery Branch, Ga., Eileen DeVico and Ana Lopera, both of whom finished in the Top 40 at the Georgia state championships.

Monica Souther of Tunnel Hill, Ga., and Lisa Portwood, of Marietta, Ga., join the swimming team, along with another new face: Blaire Bachman, who attended Gainesville High School and swam collegiately at Georgia College and State University. Although she probably will be mistaken for one of Lochstampfor’s new student recruits because of her age, she’s actually the swimming coach – the youngest collegiate head coach in the nation.

In the photos above, l-r, Soccer coach Mike Lochstampfor on signing day with freshman ace Lauren Cain and her parents; cager Tala Black and her mom; and Habersham County star Kaitlyn Fleming and her family and coaches along with head basketball coach Gary Bays.

No. 1 by your name comes with a target on your back

It’s a tall order to compete against the opposing team’s best player every match, but Brenau’s 5-foot-2 inch Lyn See Choo is up for the challenge. The junior from Malaysia, who plays No. 1 for the Golden Tigers, idolizes Justine Henin, a Belgian who is also small in stature, but has won big.

“She makes me feel that it is possible for me to win a match, that size doesn’t matter,” says Choo, who forged an 11-9 record in singles last season while helping coach Gordon Leslie’s Golden Tigers to a No. 6 national ranking and an NAIA tournament quarterfinals appearance.



Brenau (12-10) was second in the Southern States Athletic Conference with Choo, Kate Mazackova and Jolene Wong named to the SSAC all-conference team. Choo capped the season by being named to the first-team NAIA All-America team.

“I believe that coach trusts me enough to put me at the top, so I’ll just try my best,” she says.

Choo’s career record in singles at Brenau is 33-11 in two years. She feels most comfortable on the baseline, but Leslie is trying to get her to volley more. “A lot of times she’ll set the point up well, and she won’t finish it off,” he says. “She’ll go back to the baseline and restart the rally.” Yet Leslie says Choo, who is only 18, will continue to get stronger. “She’s a tremendous competitor,” he says. “She’s very determined.”

Choo is one of seven team members who are all from different countries. The others are from Singapore, Armenia, Russia, England, Czech Republic and Belgium, with Leslie a native of Scotland.

At No. 1 doubles, Choo pairs with Mazackova, a junior from Czech Republic. They finished with a 13-9 record, to make Choo’s doubles record 31-16 at Brenau over two years. Choo, who speaks English, Chinese and Malay, says there are culture differences, but no clashes with her teammates. “You have to get to know them and try to get along, because everybody is not the same,” she says.

Choo arrived at Brenau on the recommendation of her friend **Lindsay Woon, WC ’07**, who was from the same hometown, Kuching,

“We’re all in the same boat. We know what it’s like for somebody who’s from a foreign land.”

– Scotland native Gordon Leslie

First Golden Tigers Homecoming Oct. 2

The Athletics Department hopes to initiate an annual fall festivity that’s a must-attend event on college campuses – HOMECOMING! The first occurs on Saturday, Oct. 2, and you can register at www.brenautigers.com. The afternoon kicks off at 2 p.m. at the Fitness Center on the Gainesville campus as Golden Tiger alumnae-athletes participate in a “goldfish dive” in the swimming pool and soccer, softball and basketball games. Later, alumnae and guests meet at the amphitheater for dinner, music and fellowship starting at 6 p.m.





Quick with a Kleenex
or a Glock, Gale Buckner has, in
many ways, lived her girlhood
Police Woman fantasy.

Brenau alum makes tough, compassionate choices in parole board role

by Candice Dyer

She has mentally rehearsed her speech during the drive here, so her words sound precise, polite, and all the more powerful because they are controlled.

"I have written him a letter telling him that I forgive him – and I do," Ronda Phillips says, "but I feel that a promise made to our family is not being honored."

She is referring to the drunk driver, a repeat offender, who killed her 18-year-old son and received a 20-year sentence. Because of a legal loophole, he is scheduled to be released two years earlier in 2011, or maybe sooner. With quiet dignity, Phillips conveys her distress to Gale Buckner, chairwoman of the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles, in a gathering at the Department of Corrections campus in Forsyth where crime victims can meet with authorities, ask questions and air concerns. Only once does Phillips' voice quaver, when she says, "I can not tell you how proud of my son I was. I am asking you to reinstate the original sentence."

WORD IS BOND

Buckner, who earned a master's degree in public administration from Brenau in 1987, extends a sisterly, manicured hand with a tissue (Kleenex boxes are usually within arm's reach in these meetings), makes direct eye contact, and says, "I give you my word that I will present a synopsis of our conversation to the board and ask them to reconsider this case, and you will receive notification within 60 days."

They look at each other for a lengthy moment – two resolved, distinctly Southern women in pearls – and then Phillips nods. In most litigious, overburdened bureaucracies, someone's "word of honor" frequently ends up shuffled to the bottom of a filing cabinet with other quaint, low-priority exigencies, but not Buckner's.

During her term as Pardons and Paroles chair, which ended June 30, she supervised an agency of 800 employees from her headquarters near the Capitol and guided the fates of Georgia's 53,760 inmates. They reside in the country's sixth-largest prison system, the only one that does not award "time off for good behavior." The board rules on approximately 17,000 cases a year, and because it possesses Georgia's only statutory power to commute a death sentence, the office is usually one of an inmate's last stops before the electric chair.

Buckner has spent three edifying decades in the criminal justice system. In the catalog of human frailty – from stupid screw-ups to greedy politicians on the take to Cain-and-Abel

bloodshed – she has seen it all, and then some. Along the way, she has earned a reputation for scanning a police report and visualizing faces, not just crime statistics.

"In fact, I try to keep photographs of victims, so that we all remember this was a dynamic and vital human being," she says, indicating a portrait of Jay Harrington, Phillips' college-age son who was killed in 1994. "The job is not always about keeping someone locked up. It's also about ensuring that people who are falsely accused are vindicated. We try to help victims restore their lives, as well as those offenders who are truly deserving of a second chance make the transition back into the community. You learn a lot about humanity in this job."

STING BAIT

Buckner grew up in Chatsworth, Ga., the only child of a cattle rancher and a mother who worked as a machine operator in the carpet industry for 50 years. An uncle served in law enforcement. For Buckner, always a restless dynamo, 1972 was a landmark year.

"That's when the Supreme Court did away with the height requirements for law enforcement, clearing the way for women to join," says the former chairwoman, who stands a petite 4 feet 11 inches tall in flats. "I had been watching a lot of *Police Woman* with Angie Dickinson and *Get Christie Love!* about an undercover female detective. So I was dreaming of a life full of adventure in a career that wasn't the traditional 9-to-5. Boy, did I get that! Of course, it hasn't been as glamorous as I'd imagined then."

She majored in urban studies with a concentration in criminal justice at Georgia State University; held a summer job as a police dispatcher in her hometown; and completed an internship with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in the Calhoun field office. A few days after graduating in 1981, she joined the GBI as a special agent, doing undercover narcotics work at the height of the jittery, high-stakes cocaine boom. As one of only a handful of women, and coincidentally an attractive blonde, she also made handy bait in the occasional vice sting.

"Any time drugs and people on drugs are in the same room, things can get dicey very quickly," she says, shaking her head and recalling a sizable cocaine bust in a motel room on I-20 when another agent ended up shooting and killing the dealer. "What I learned was that, despite the stereotypes people have, drugs and crime are not restricted to any particular environment. One morning, I was wearing a professional, red business suit with a skirt, similar to what I have on now, and went in broad daylight to



Buckner, left, representing the Board of Pardons and Paroles, along with other state criminal justice and social service agency heads, at the Crime Victims' Rights Week Ceremony in April.

a nice home in a respectable-looking, middle-class neighborhood in Atlanta and bought dope – easy!”

HIGH-VISIBILITY CASES

Buckner also participated in some high-profile corruption cases, including a two-year investigation that brought down long-time labor commissioner Sam Caldwell, who sank his yacht in the Atlantic Ocean in 1982 to collect on a \$95,000 insurance policy. He was convicted on eight federal counts of mail and insurance fraud and sent to prison.

“The majority of public servants are dedicated, hard-working people, but a few take advantage of their positions,” says Buckner, who served as assistant special agent-in-charge of the Atlanta field office for death investigations, child abuse, fraud and other criminal activities. “I miss the investigative aspect of the field, that feeling of putting together a puzzle. There was always drama and a wealth of experiences. But I am thankful to be out of it and in my current position.”

Buckner’s ethical reflexes derive from the sort of small farming community where survival depends on the social compact of always doing right by others, or at least trying hard. Beneath her politesse, heard-it-all worldliness, and professional polish, she is what people mean when they say “salt of the earth.” In what seems like a paradox, Buckner’s vocation has made her both tougher (the board OK’d three executions last year) and more compassionate.

“It has been interesting to me to study what forces shape people’s values and, correspondingly, their actions,” she observes. “Just seeing the mind-blowing number of child molestation cases that cross my desk can make you look at the world a little differently. Now, if, say, a store clerk is grumpy toward me, I try not to react angrily because you just never know what kind of

burden someone else is carrying, what that other person has been through.”

NEW DIRECTION

After she earned her master’s degree in public administration from Brenau, she eventually worked as director of legislative and intergovernmental affairs, where she was the liaison to the General Assembly and the U.S. Congress, handling oversight of appropriations and advocating for – or against – the passage of legislation. Later she was executive director of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. When Gov. Sonny Perdue appointed her to the Board of Pardons and Paroles in 2005, she had been deeply influenced by the Victims’ Bill of Rights. She served as vice chair before the full board elected her to a two-year term as chair. On July 1, she became plain “Member” Buckner again.

“She’s definitely our conduit for victims’ right,” says board member Garland Hunt. “It was her personal agenda, and she’s brought all of us along with her. She’s so high-energy, persistent, and concerned; she takes on each individual case with her whole heart, and that helps us make better decisions with more sensitivity.”

‘SWEEPING’ JUSTICE

One service that Buckner launched was Victims Visitors Day, in which she and other board members travel around the state to meet with people like Ronda Phillips.

“We’ve always held visitors days for the families of offenders so they can ask questions about their loved one’s incarceration – how much TV does he get, what does he eat, anything at all,” she says. “I thought, ‘Why don’t we do the same for the survivors of crime and their families and loved ones? Don’t they deserve that much?’ Some of them never want to hear from the offender; others feel a sense of closure if the offender apologizes. We give them as much of our time as they

want and try to answer their questions and help them as much as possible with what they need to heal.”

In one case, a daughter asked for her father’s wallet, which had been confiscated as evidence when he was murdered in a store robbery 20 years earlier.

“It took several months of phone calls, but we finally found the locker that held his personal belongings,” Buckner says. “Something that simple gave that family a little peace.”

Many survivors of crimes committed before the victims registry was instituted are not aware that they have the right to be notified of an offender’s transfer or release. Buckner tries to educate them.

“We were not tracking down the victims of old crimes before she came, and we should have been,” says Shalandra Robertson, director of the Office of Victim Services for the Georgia Corrections and Parole Board. “Plus, if a victim moves, we go the extra mile to find him or her. These new policies have added extra steps to our work, but that’s good. It’s easy to get stuck in a ‘that’s the way we’ve always done it’ mindset, but not only does Ms. Buckner question

things; she inspires you to question them, too, for the better.”

Sometimes a new broom sweeps clean in more ways than one.

“When we would go to different sites and get ready to meet with victims, Chair Buckner made sure that the area was as comfortable for them as possible,” Robertson adds. “Usually, she got there the day before and actually swept, vacuumed and scrubbed counters. It’s highly unusual for an agency head to roll up her sleeves and get down to the nitty-gritty on that level. She never asks anyone to do something that she wouldn’t do herself, and that inspires us to work that much harder.”

As quick with a Kleenex as she was with her Glock pistol, Buckner has, in many ways, lived her girlhood *Police Woman* fantasy.

“When I started, some guys were just never going to accept a woman in this role, so you try not to be bitter about that and just do your job,” she says. “One of those men who 30 years ago told me that women shouldn’t be on the road or out in the field now has a daughter who is a law enforcement official. I’ve never reminded him of his earlier attitudes, but sometimes justice like that can be sweet.”

“I will quit only when the last battle flag has been furled on land and sea.”

On the surface it sounds like the kind of utterance one would expect from a defiant daughter of the Confederacy. Indeed, Helen Dortch Longstreet, the widow of Robert E. Lee’s second in command, Gen. James Longstreet, was that. But in context the remark came at the height of World War II when Helen, then a mere 80 years old, worked as a heralded “Rosie the Riveter” at the Bell bomber plant in Marietta, Ga. Instead of defying the mythical Yankee invaders, she was in the faces of the bosses at the aircraft plant who wanted her to quit because of her age: “I’ve been an assembler and riveter for about two years and have never lost a day from work, or been a single minute late. I will quit only when the last battle flag has been furled on land and sea. ... I am going to assist in building a plane to bomb Hitler to the judgment seat of God.”

Helen Dortch was born in 1863, just a few months before her future husband leapt into fame – or infamy, depending on your point of view – with his role as Robert E. Lee’s top gun at the Battle of Gettysburg. She graduated from what was then Georgia Female Baptist Seminary, now Brenau, and met Longstreet through her roommate, the general’s daughter. When they married the general was 76 and Helen 34. He died

in 1904 and, for the next half century, the widow took on all comers as a journalist, historian, political activist, environmental lobbyist, glass ceiling-breaking postmaster, suffrage advocate (for both women and blacks), Talmadge machine-busting write-in candidate for governor and, yes, riveter. Hers is the first portrait of a woman to be hung in the state Capitol. In short, she’s the quintessential Brenau woman.

Although she was inducted into the Georgia Women of Achievement Hall of Fame years ago, it was only earlier this year that the university and other sponsors collaborated to fund a brief video biography of the Brenau alumna. You can see it now at http://www.georgiawomen.org/honorees_40.aspx.

– David Morrison



Brenau's GREAT 'Green' Hometown

BY FRED BROWN

For many prospective students, a university's hometown is an afterthought. In Brenau's case, it is an outstanding fringe benefit, according to one of the South's premier travel writers. Publisher of the popular travel website BrownsGuides.com and the author, co-author or publisher of a dozen guidebooks about Georgia and the Southeast, Fred Brown and his collaborator Sherri Smith Brown were named Authors of the Year by the Atlanta Press Association for their work on *The Riverkeeper's Guide to the Chattahoochee*. On a special assignment for Brenau Window, Fred Brown takes a close look at a unique locale for a unique university.

OTHER MATERIAL IN THIS SECTION CONTRIBUTED BY
KRISTIN MORALES AND DAVID MORRISON





Granted, when most people hear the name “Gainesville” in connection with a university town, they immediately conjure up images of Tim Tebow in “the Swamp” on Saturday afternoons, weird hats of comic reptilian shapes and seas of bright blue and orange, Gatorade, weekends that begin on Wednesday (according to an account in *USA Today*) and young women drinking for free at many of the dozens of bars and clubs close to the oak- and magnolia-draped campus – in short, they think Gainesville, Fla., home of the University of Florida, a city with an official population of about 130,000 that unofficially jumps 20 or 30 percent when fall classes begin and almost doubles on football game days.

But there is another university town named Gainesville – this one in Georgia, about 50 miles north of Atlanta. It is, as it has been for 132 years, home of what is now Brenau University. Located in Hall County, which has an overall population of about 140,000, this Gainesville accommodates 37,000 residents. That number, however, is a bit of a guess because the population is growing at such a pace that it is difficult for various agencies to keep track.

Indeed, Gainesville, Ga., has become an attractive destination as a permanent residence for many, many people – artists, writers, musicians, health care professionals, business leaders, educators, people from myriad cultures and religious backgrounds, and others who have bought in to what Gainesville has to offer. Geographically, Gainesville sits along the southeastern fingers of Lake Lanier at the doorstep of the North Georgia mountains. It is a town that glistens in the warm summer sun and enjoys the crisp, clean air of mountain nights – a temperate climate that keeps tennis courts and golf courses busy almost the full year. The area abounds in natural resources and natural beauty, and the call of the outdoors is unmistakable. Add to this wealth of outdoor recreational activities Gainesville’s recent accomplishments in historical preservation and outstanding cultural opportunities, and you have a place that is totally in tune with its environment – a perfect locale for an institution like Brenau that has embraced sustainability as a central mission. Brenau’s being based in Gainesville, makes “going green” a lot easier.

“Historically, Brenau has drawn many of its residential students from North Georgia – and they already knew what the area had to offer,” says Brenau President Ed Schrader. “At the same time, many Brenau students who came to Brenau from other states and other parts of the world discovered its hometown to be an absolute bonus.”

Brenau’s definition of sustainability is enjoying and us-

ing what is available to you in your environment while making certain that you pass on to future generations an equal or better environment. That covers a lot of ground from preserving historical and natural treasures to building on civic, social, economic and cultural assets. Brenau’s hometown is small enough and its advantages broad enough that individuals, even students, can in the words of longtime Brenau Trustee Sidney O. Smith Jr. “really make a difference here.”

The Brenau home campus with its Second Empire architecture nestles in the historic residential section of the city just a few short blocks from the town square. The relatively small footprint of the campus, about 55 acres, includes some of the stately old homes that are now used as offices and for other university functions. For example, the alumni office is located at the corner of Boulevard and Academy, in Walters House, which has been restored to its 1903 grandeur with antique furnishings, stained-glass windows and a grand wrap-around “rocking chair porch” that evokes, and preserves, a slower-paced, gentler time.

The city has its quirks, too, not the least of which, in a public area near the downtown square, is a statue of a chicken on a pedestal, more specifically a rooster, commemorating the poultry industry, which for decades was the economic backbone of the area. That industry is still in the mix, but people – particularly young people – are finding opportunities in leading-edge health care and health services businesses, innovative public and private education programs, financial institutions, regional operations for national and international companies, high tech enterprises and travel and tourism.

“Those businesses and other employees simply would not be here if Gainesville were not a great environment,” says Schrader. “If a student wants the Gainesville, Fla., Athens, Ga., or Oxford, Miss., environment, that’s fine. I’m not knocking it. Brenau has the advantage of enjoying the benefits of a ‘university town’ without most of the aggravations and distractions normally associated with a ‘university town’ or with an academic institution in a big city. We’re close to all of that, if Brenau students want to go to Athens or Atlanta, but we are also away from it if they don’t.”

But the big plus, he says, is the overall environmental mix – natural, cultural, sociological and recreational.

The great outdoors

When you are in Gainesville, you’re technically in the foothills of the North Georgia mountains – one of the best places in the Southeast for outdoor recreation. Combine that with the 39,000-acre Lake Lanier and you have

a recipe for unlimited recreational opportunities.

Believe it or not, there are still plenty of people around who remember when there was no Lake Lanier, including any Brenau alum who has reached “Golden Girl” status. This huge man-made impoundment just recently celebrated its 50th birthday, but now sends its sprawling tentacles along the north-east edge of Gainesville. The earthen Buford Dam on the southern end of the lake impounds the Chattahoochee River to form the vast waters of Lanier, which is sometimes referred to as Georgia’s freshwater ocean. The lake extends 44 miles up the Chattahoochee and about 19 miles up the Chestatee River. Lanier has more than 690 miles of shoreline and over 100 small islands, naturally making it the focal point for much of the area’s outdoor recreational activities.

With that much water, you can expect numerous opportunities for boating on Lake Lanier – and you will find them. Ski boats, runabouts, deck boats, pontoons, houseboats, sailboats, wave runners and jet skis, and canoes and kayaks can all be operated on Lake Lanier and can be rented at a number of rental facilities. Boat owners have access to any of the 76 boat ramps found in day use parks around Lanier’s shoreline. On the lake 10 marinas offer fuel, boat storage, repair services, snacks and supplies. It is not only a destination for vacations and long weekends; plenty of people live around the lake, including a number of Brenau commuter students, faculty, staff and other university family members.

Both the Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club and the Lake Lanier Rowing Club operate from the 1996 Olympic Rowing, Sprint Canoe/Kayak Competition venue on Lake Lanier, one of the most prestigious venues of this type in the country. Both clubs offer recreation memberships that provide access to the facility, boat storage, equipment, novice classes, competitive training programs and boating events. Although some students hit the lake occasionally rowing for personal recreation, Brenau also offers Women’s College students crew as a club sport with participation in competitions with other amateur and varsity clubs. The venue frequently attracts male and female teams from other colleges and universities from



Brenau’s crew club takes advantage of the Olympic rowing venue at Lake Lanier, which attracts teams from colleges and universities all over the United States. At left, sophomore Christina Jundt gets a sailing lesson from Temple University freshman Rob Horner during his visit with relatives who live on the lake. You can find many private and group classes that teach sailing and boat safety in the area. On page 17 Jundt catches a moment of quiet and solitude on one of the many nature and hiking trails near the Brenau campus.



"Running the 'Brenau Mile' is a great after-class stress reliever," says Jundt. "I always admire how beautiful the campus looks along the way."

around the country, some of whom use Brenau facilities. In fact, the head coach of the University of Michigan men's rowing team – who

is also president of the American Collegiate Rowing Association – has proposed that the Brenau campus serve as a sort of "Athlete's Village" for the season-ending championship regatta that will attract some 1,200 college rowers to Lake Lanier May 28-29.

Sophomore Christina Jundt, a theater major from nearby Norcross, Ga., who is a residential Women's College student, took up running the neighborhoods for exercise. "I'm really not a runner," she confesses, so she usually confines her frequent jogs to the "Brenau Mile," roughly a rectangular course on the streets around campus. But you can actually jog or walk to the Lanier shoreline from the Brenau campus. The closest access point, between 1.5 and two miles, depending on the route you take on city streets, is at a lovely city park near Gainesville High School. It is one of many public places in the area on or around the lake, along with 16 beaches, where you can spend a day boating, swimming, fishing or picnicking. All the day-use parks have beautiful views of the lake and surrounding woodlands, picnic tables, large group shelters and boat ramps. Overnight camper types also find plenty of campgrounds nearby.

About 20 miles from campus, you will find the 1,200-acre Lake Lanier Islands resort that is built around water sports and outdoor activities. The main attraction is the Lake Lanier Islands Beach and Water Park, a water-oriented theme park with a sandy beach, water slides, wave pool, boats, miniature golf, volleyball court, video arcade and restaurants. The resort also offers boating, fishing, picnic areas and more. The Equestrian Center at Lake Lanier Island offers riding lessons and trail rides along the lake's shoreline.

During the summer and warmer months, recreational boating consumes the southern end of Lake Lanier, while fishermen head to the north end. In the winter, the fishermen pretty much have the run of the entire lake. You cannot find a better area. Any time of year Lanier is a productive fishing lake. Drop a line anywhere and you will

find bass, sunfish and perch, to name a few. Below Buford Dam the cold waters released from the bottom of the lake support rainbow, brown and brook trout that are stocked in the river by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Numerous outfitters are around the lake and its white water tributaries to teach you all the fly-fishing moves and techniques, just like those Brad Pitt made famous in *A River Runs Through It*.

Whether you are a skilled back-packer or a basic "walker," the North Georgia mountains offer an abundance of beautiful hiking trails. Within an hour's drive of the Brenau campus, you can discover all kinds of day hikes. One is Laurel Ridge Trail located near Buford Dam on the southern end of the lake. This 3.8-mile trail, named for the mature stands of mountain laurel that grow along Lake Lanier's hillsides and burst with color in the spring, winds through several park areas along the lake's shoreline and the banks of the Chattahoochee River. You will see rare wildflowers and a variety of wildlife.

Trail bike enthusiast will find about 21 miles of bike trails, built and maintained by Southern Off-Road Biking Association, at Chicopee Woods Trail System adjacent to the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve. You can also contact SORBA about trail riding events and training courses.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which built Buford Dam and now manages Lake Lanier, also permits "geocaching" on its vast undeveloped wooded property around the shoreline. Geocaching, a sort of high-tech game of hide-and-seek using Global Positioning Systems like those on iPhones and other standard issue equipment for college students today, is a fast-growing outdoor activity for GPS users. There are several geocaches on the lake that stay fairly active.



Photographer J.C. Barger captures a piece of mid-19th century history with this view of the historic grist mill located about nine miles from campus. Although the mill is not regarded as one of the quintessential stops on Gainesville tours, it is one of the hidden north Georgia gems that can be discovered.

... they stayed.

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Dana Miller, WC '85, from Dalton, Ga., vice president for education director for the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce. "I got a job working for the Chamber of Commerce as the festivals director. We have a lot of festivals that students participate in and seem to enjoy. I love the quality of education, parks and recreation, and healthcare systems. It's a very clean city. There's everything to do here from going to the lake to the mountains, and we're so close to Atlanta. This is a fabulous community for Brenau students to get involved in and volunteer – and you can find good jobs here. There are also a lot of opportunities for spiritual life. This is a place where everybody can worship as they see fit."

Anna Jacobs, WC '86, from Charlotte, N.C., executive with the Jacobs Media broadcasting enterprise in Gainesville. "I have to admit I stayed in Gainesville for a man. I met Jay my junior year and he was working in his family business at WDUN. Being a broadcast major, I was drawn to the business and, obviously, him. But Gainesville has been a wonderful home over the years. I love the community of folks here, the great proximity to Atlanta, the great restaurants and shopping that have cropped up over the years, and of course, the lake is awesome."

Kathleen Illges Honeycutt, WC '93, from Columbus, Ga., now director of social services at Lanier Village Estates retirement resort.

"After I got my degree in psychology, I moved back to Columbus and then to Valdosta, but a job offer from Brenau brought me back to Gainesville. My husband and I wanted to be closer to the mountains. There are tons of things to do here – great shopping, great restaurants, the lake. It's close to Atlanta, close to Athens. We love it."

Tsitsi Masviba, WC '04, from Zimbabwe, health care worker and tennis pro. "I came to Brenau on a tennis scholarship as a pre-med student studying biology. I began working at the Northeast Georgia Health Systems in the pre-surgical testing department. It was patient-care experience, and I liked the small community and the very friendly people. I also like that it is not too far from Atlanta – but I'm not in the big city."

Diana Cardenas, WC '2009, from Colombia, South America. "When I first moved to the United States, I attended Georgia State University in Atlanta for two years, and then I heard about Brenau. I played for the tennis team and majored in business management. In my senior year, I did my internship for two semesters with Red Clay Interactive, a very good, well-respected Web development and marketing company. When I graduated, the firm offered me a job. I love living here, especially in the summertime. I love the lake. Gainesville is a very calm, no-stress city, and the people are very friendly. Brenau is great, and I love how the international community has grown."



Dana Miller



Anna Jacobs



Kathleen Honeycutt



Tsitsi Masviba



Diana Cardenas

They came; they conquered; ...



Mary Helen Hosch



Betty Norton



Betty Ann Chambers



Kit Dunlap

Mary Helen Roop Hosch, WC '35, from Carrollton, Ga. "I majored in French, and then I went back home to Carrollton and stayed with my mother for three years. Then I married a Gainesville man. Gainesville was like home, a wonderful town. And Brenau's being here helps it so much, particularly on the things it brings to the auditorium." [The modern Hosch Theatre, named for the trustee emeritus, is a main arena for high-level theatrical and music performances that are well attended by students and neighbors.]

Betty Norton, WC '52, from Havana, Cuba, 40 years as a realtor and community activist, including service on the university Board of Trustees. "I chose Brenau because of the curriculum for women. After graduation, I worked for Time-Life magazines in New York, but I didn't like the commute. Two years later, there was an opening for a Spanish and French teacher at Brenau Academy. I have been here ever since. I like the atmosphere of a small Southern town. I had travelled a good bit, but I fell in love with this area. The quality of life is extraordinary — mild, temperate

climate, beautiful area close to the mountains, close to Lake Lanier, close to Atlanta, but not in Atlanta. This area has grown economically because many of the people in the organizations who have expanded here wanted to live here."

Betty Ann Chambers, WC '52, from Greenville, S.C. "Gainesville is a very nice place. I can't think of another place I'd rather live. I like the climate. I like the people. I married a Gainesvillian."

Kit Long Dunlap, WC '64, from Jasper, Ala., president and CEO of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce and a Brenau trustee. "I taught physical education at Brenau the year after I graduated, so I stayed in Gainesville. I enjoy Lake Lanier, the close proximity to the North Georgia mountains, the arts and education opportunities – including everything at Brenau, Quinlan Art Center, the Northeast Georgia History Center, great theater and music, Elachee Nature Science Center – it's a pretty long list. Also, there is a great healthcare system in the community and plenty of good job opportunities."

... continued on page 21



Gainesville is the crossroads for a lot of action-packed events, like the Georgia Cup bicycle race, for professionals, hard-core enthusiasts, amateurs, novices or spectators. Brenau students frequently participate in events like these.

Gainesville area parks also offer a wealth of athletic amenities, including tennis courts and ball playing fields. The 89-acre Allen Creek Soccer Complex, where the Brenau Golden Tigers intercollegiate team plays its home games, is recognized as one of the finest soccer facilities in the Southeast. You will find all levels of play, including adult soccer leagues.

Just south of town is the 1,500-acre Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve with the Elachee Nature Science Center and the Chicopee Lake Elachee Aquatic Studies Center. With its rolling terrain and four diverse habitats – woodland, lake, stream and wetland – this nature preserve is one of the largest green spaces in Georgia. A legally protected wilderness area, Chicopee Woods, harbors an abundance of plants and animals. Thirteen miles of hiking trails throughout the woods enable you to discover its beauty. In the Elachee Nature Science Center you can see interactive discovery areas investigating astronomy, native wildlife and local archaeological history as well as a live animal display. Elachee hosts numerous events, including First Saturday Hikes, Stars Over Elachee (monthly programs for aspiring astronomers), and Backyard Conservation Workshops. From the nature center,

you can hike 2.5 miles to Chicopee Lake and the aquatic studies center. This area has a lake boardwalk and is a good place for birding.

Living in the Past - the Modern Way

You will find the word “historic” affixed quite often to things in and around Gainesville – as in Brenau’s historic Pearce Auditorium. But as far as the history of sustainability and environmental protection goes, it has long been entwined with Brenau and the overall history of the region. Exhibit A – one of the first highly successful environmental lobbyists was Brenau alum Helen Dortch Longstreet (you can read more about her on page 15 of this magazine). She’s credited with saving and preserving in a state we enjoy today enormous treasures in the Georgia mountains – in addition to being the widow of the famous Confederate general who is buried in Gainesville. She also probably had a lot to do with evolution of the ethic of “living green” in Gainesville and passing on those values that have encouraged the town to work very hard at preserving historical and cultural assets.

On Brenau’s campus, you will also find the Northeast Georgia History Center, which maintains a unique collection of the region’s history, including exhibits on the land, people and culture of the area. Next to the modern building sits the restored 17th century log home of Chief White Path, who was removed to the west during the infamous “Trail of Tears” Cherokee Indian diaspora in the early 1800s.

Before Gainesville was Gainesville, it was known as Mule Camp Springs, and the Mule Camp Market festival on the town square pays homage to that history. Originally a farmer’s curb market near the downtown square about 20 years ago, the Mule Camp Market today is a three-day weekend event sponsored by a local civic organization and the city government, this year scheduled Oct. 8 – 10, which showcases Appalachian Mountain arts and crafts, such great music, and good food.



Scott’s on the Square, Spinach and Pear Salad

Scott Dixon, proprietor and chef at Scott’s on the Square, offered up a refreshing, receptive sample from the moderately priced items on his menu:

8 oz stemmed baby spinach
8 slices of bacon cooked and chopped
¼ C pistachios roughly chopped
1 Asian pear or Apple Pear sliced
4 oz of Brie
dressing to taste (recipe below)

Wash and stem and dry baby spinach, put in a large mixing bowl and toss with dressing to desired covering. Arrange spinach on plate or bowl. Sprinkle with chopped bacon and pistachios. Thinly slice pear and fan out. Melt brie cheese in microwave for 15–20 seconds. Pour over the top of each serving.

Blueberry Balsamic Vinegar:
4 C fresh blueberries or frozen thawed
1 quart balsamic vinegar
¼ C granulated sugar
Zest of 1 Lime

In a large non-reactive saucepan, crush blueberries with a potato masher or back of heavy spoon. Add vinegar, sugar, and lime zest; bring to a boil. Reduce heat. Simmer, covered, for 20 minutes. Cool slightly. Cover and refrigerate for at least 12 hours to allow flavors to blend. Strain mixture through fine strainer and/or cheesecloth. Ladle mixture into strainer and squeeze out as much liquid as possible. Discard solids. Pour vinegar into glass bottle or jar; refrigerate. Makes about 5½ cups of dressing and will keep in the refrigerator for several weeks.

Over the last few years, downtown Gainesville has transformed itself by carefully preserving its architecture through careful restoration. Although there is plenty of modern shopping around, including the vast Mall of Georgia just 20 miles away from campus via Interstate 985, today more than 35 interesting businesses operate on the downtown square with dozens more in the surrounding blocks. For instance, Gainesville’s Main Street Market on the square is located in a 100-year-old building that was carefully restored in 2002 to house unique shops, boutiques and restaurants. A few steps in either direction on Main Street will lead you to the doors of two fine restaurants, Scott’s on the Square and Luna’s. Joined by reCess a half-block away, the three offer reasonably priced items on their interesting and enticing menus.

Take a walk through Gainesville’s historic neighborhoods, especially Green Street Historical District. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this lovely, in-town neighborhood is lined with the late 19th- and early 20th-century Victorian and Neoclassical architecture of some of the town’s most appealing homes and businesses.

Art and Life

There’s probably no better example anywhere of a well-working “town-and-gown” relationship than that Brenau enjoys with the Gainesville arts community, which includes public and private arts organizations, professional

Pizza before partying?

By most accounts of students – and those who recently were – any great night out in Gainesville starts with pizza.

Several near-campus choices await, including Mellow Mushroom located in one of the state-ly, Victorian-era homes on Green Street. On Washington Street, which borders Gainesville’s charming town square, complete there’s also Atlas Pizza and The Monkey Barrel. Not too far away from campus on Riverside Drive is Little Italy. Each has different

ambiance – and a unique style for dishing out the ‘za. Try a dusting of Parmesan cheese at the Mushroom or dunking Monkey Barrel’s whole wheat crust into honey. But the best, according to Danielle DiFede, EWC ‘08, assistant to the Brenau Undergraduate School dean, is Little Italy. Her credentials: Mother’s family from Napoli. Sicilian father. Relatives owned a Brooklyn pizzeria.

The lady knows a good slice of pepperoni pizza when it’s placed before her.

The Monkey Barrel, a favorite watering hole for locals, also features live music. Singer-songwriter Kimberly Clark, WC ‘06, assistant to Brenau’s Graduate School dean, occasionally performs there. TMB’s a favorite stop for Colombia native Diana Cardenas, WC ‘09. “It’s a hanging-out place for just sitting and talking,” she says.

Across the square Wild Wing Cafe offers music and events throughout the week. The club Blonde, just off the square, usually fields a deejay on week-ends. There you might find Brenau senior Jalisa Harris and her Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sisters on nights out. Those seeking the quieter scene decamp to Inman Perk for coffees, teas and a Wi-Fi connection – just in case you want to, you know, study.



April 21, 1821 – The town formerly known as Mule Camp Springs is chartered as Gainesville.



1851 – Fire destroys much of Gainesville.



1828 – The Gold Rush frenzy begins in nearby Lumpkin County bringing an influx of new settlers and the beginnings of a business community.



1900 – 22-year-old Georgia Baptist Female Seminary becomes Brenau College.

December 19, 1902 – Gainesville glows as the first city south of Baltimore to have street lights.



August 10, 1910 – The Gainesville post office opens.



1928 – Brenau Academy, Georgia’s oldest continuously operating girl’s residential prep school, enrolls first students.

1927 – H. J. Pearce transfers Brenau ownership to an independent board of trustees.



1915-45 – Brenau campus grows to 300 acres, including two small lakes, nature trails and Japanese gardens.

April 6, 1936 – Gainesville’s downtown is struck by a second deadly tornado in 33 years.



1937 and 1939 – President Franklin D. Roosevelt visits Gainesville



Look good, do good

It's not often you can spend an afternoon shopping for clothes and come home having helped others, too. Just steps from the Brenau campus, however, purchases of handmade dresses, bags and jewelry are helping women in India who have been rescued from the human trafficking trade.

There are malls aplenty within driving distance of campus, but closer by you will find some unique shopping that both recalls the relaxed pace of an older southern town and connects you to the rest of the world.

Rahab's Rope on Bradford Street is a nonprofit organization with a shop on the downtown Gainesville square that sells unique clothing, necklaces, *pashminas* and sorority-themed items. Each purchase directly supports women who are learning new skills and a new way of life.

Other clothing boutiques just blocks from Brenau include Carole's Closet on Washington Street. The store sells party dresses, jackets, shoes and accessories;

or, if you need a sparkly formal dress, the local standard is Christopher's on Washington. Just a few steps around the corner on Main Street you will find Saul's on the Square. Definitely more conservative than The Gap, Saul's is a great clothing and shoe store that reeks with southern charm and hospitality and a special hometown feel. Employees are always friendly and helpful – if they don't have what you're looking for, they can probably tell you where to find it. The owner, Lorry Schrage, is a Brenau trustee, so there's always a "Students Welcome" mat at the door.

Another boutique a short drive from campus lets customers practice a little recycling. Next-to-New Resale Boutique on Cleveland Highway resells "gently used" designer clothes at a fraction of what you would find in the original store. Styles include bathing suits, Capri pants and dresses, and weekly specials drive the recycled discounts even deeper.

That's something all shoppers can feel good about.

and amateur artists, and even other educational institutions in the area. In other cities, turf wars, politics and hubris often create chasms between such entities. But in Gainesville, the lines blur and often disappear, providing unique cultural, educational and recreational experiences for Brenau students.

A prime example is the Gainesville Theatre Alliance, a consortium that comprises Brenau, Gainesville State College, local amateurs and professionals. Using modern theater facilities at Brenau and Gainesville State and drawing from the reservoir of theater and non-theater majors at both institutions, GTA puts on a number of high-production-value performances each year that almost always fill the houses with paying customers from the community and students. The university dance department puts on its own recitals and productions each year, but Brenau students and faculty also participate in the Gainesville Ballet – which offers some of its performances on the Brenau campus.

The 75-member Gainesville Symphony Orchestra, a professional regional orchestra that features both clas-



Ashley Warmack, a junior majoring in theater and conflict resolution, and sophomore Leah Smith, also a theater major, take a break at Inman Perk, one of Brenau students' favorite haunts for socializing of study.

sical and pop music, performs four times a year in Pearce Auditorium and does other concerts in the Brenau Amphitheatre. The orchestra opens its 2010-11 season at Pearce on Oct. 16 with a program entitled *A Night at the Movies*. As a bonus, theater students will perform scenes from *The Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter*. As if that's not enough to prove the point of how entwined GSO is with Brenau, GSO Executive Director Candace Monnerie is a recent Brenau Women's College graduate.

The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center, also known as the Arts Council Depot, is a restored 1914 train station that is the home of the Arts Council, an umbrella organization for the community's more than 25 arts and arts-related organizations. (Unlike other cities and towns in the South where passenger train service really is an invisible relic of the past, you can still catch the Southern Crescent, Amtrak's daily service between New York and New Orleans via Atlanta, at the modern train station a mile and a half from campus).

The old depot sits on 2.5 acres in not far from the Gainesville square. It houses a permanent art gallery. During the summer, it is the scene of the "Summer MusicFest" series of outdoor dinner concerts as well as movies and other events. It also hosts the "Evening of Intimate Jazz" series, which features nationally recognized jazz artists in a quaint, intimate setting.

In addition to Brenau's three art galleries, host of several shows each year with the works of artists from around the world as well as exhibits of the work of Brenau students, there is the Quinlan Visual Arts Center,

The Second Empire architecture, in vogue in the late 19th century, landed Brenau's 123-year-old Pearce Auditorium on the National Register of Historic Places. But the 710-seat venue is used throughout the year for university and community events.

located on Green Street, an easy walk from the Brenau campus. Galleries here display rotating exhibitions of original art works by local, regional and internationally known artists.

"Gainesville is a great place to go to school," says sophomore Jundt. "You can always find something to do. I'm really enjoying my time here."



x



After World War II –

A visionary named Jesse Jewell starts what was to become the state's largest agricultural crop – poultry. The \$1-billion-a-year industry gives Gainesville the title "Poultry Capital of the World."



acres and is the most visited Corps lake in the nation with an economic impact of more than \$2 Billion annually.

1957 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructs Lake Sidney Lanier which currently covers more than 38,000

1964 – President Lyndon Johnson visits, heralds Gainesville progress as a "Great Society" change.



1978 – Brenau campus joins the National Register of Historic Places.



July 1996 – Gainesville serves as the Rowing/Kayaking Venue for the 1996 Olympics. During the Olympics Gainesville was named Hospitality Capital of the World by an NBC Broadcaster.

January 2000

– Gainesville is named City of Excellence by the Georgia Municipal Association and *Georgia Trend* magazine.



High Times: Brenau partners with world-class art museum

In October Brenau's Board of Trustees meets at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. In August faculty and staff had their back-to-school gathering there. A few days later, first-year Women's College students boarded buses for a trip to the High. And in the next three years you can expect more and more activities there. If you have a cryptic thought that Brenau's so entwined with the High that the museum is becoming virtually a branch campus, you would not be far off the mark.

"Consider this your new home," said the museum's professorial director, Michael Shapiro, as he greeted a group of Brenau students and faculty there this May. Then he escorted them and other representatives from Brenau administration and the Board of Trustees on a walking tour that included an unprecedented backstage peek at the new Salvador Dali exhibit that would open four months later – an area where all the students said they hoped they could study. All that happened because Brenau accepted the museum's invitation to be its first academic partner ever – an arrangement that will involve cross programming and marketing, internships, faculty-staff discounts

and many other things that will materialize, according to Brenau President Ed Schrader, as the relationship invents itself.

On paper it probably would seem that such a relationship would be reserved for a larger, more prestigious university than Brenau. Indeed, others were on the High's short list when it began baiting its hook for potential academic partners. Brenau bit, while none of the others did. And that kind of art-influenced esprit and entrepreneurial flexibility is precisely what makes Brenau the best fit, Schrader and Shapiro both agree. "Brenau is the pre-eminent private art collector among the universities in the Southeast, and it is in our mission statement to pursue the artistic and creative components of education," says Schrader. "But the benefits of the relationship between the High and Brenau go far beyond the letter of our mission statement. This is exactly the type of thing that Brenau needs to be doing. We're committed to taking the level of academic reputation and achievement at Brenau to ever-increasing recognition and performance."

—David Morrison

Do it. Do it right. Do it right now.

A little more than a year ago John W. Jacobs Jr. walked into our office with a manuscript in hand that his kids had urged him to write about his growing up in Gainesville and all the things he'd done in the community, in business and in the world in his lifetime. Although Jacobs' career was "broadcast" and mine was "print," we share a mutual respect as brother journalists – both educated in, by our accounts, superior institutions of higher learning in the Big 12 conference. This was to be merely a conversation among journalists over a piece of writing.

Neither Jacobs, nor any of the other Brenau trustees, had any idea that we had been gathering information about university book publishing as a possible tactic in fulfilling the university's strategy to become a full doctoral degree-granting institution. In short, Brenau University Press was then a file folder, not even a gleam in our eye.

But the gleam immediately appeared in the eye of John Wesley Jacobs Jr., media mogul, entrepreneur, promoter and "visioneer" of Brenau University's possibilities. He got it: An author needs a publisher and a publisher needs something to publish and the wherewithal to do it. Jacobs not only agreed to underwrite the cost of publishing his autobiography, *The Longer You Live*, he also proposed that all proceeds from the sale of his book accrue to scholarships for the university.

There was one hitch. The information in that file folder indicated that the normal book publishing project takes at least two or three years. By the end of that first meeting, it was clear that Brenau University Press would have *The Longer You Live* on the bookshelves before Christmas 2009.

Do it. Do it right. Do it right now. That's more than motto or mantra for Jacobs. Candidly, that book would not have been published had he not waded in from day one and helped make it happen. Now, less than a year after its official launch on Nov. 22, 2009, we have only a few dozen copies of the book left for sale – and a substantial contribution to scholarships.



If you've read *The Longer You Live*, you probably deduced that Jacobs applies that same sort of drive, zeal and relentless persistence to everything. His wife, Martha, can verify (one of the best chapters in the book is about Jacobs' courtship of her that started aboard the *Queen Mary*). That's the way it has always been – from his days as the "youngest newspaper publisher in Gainesville," to heroic service as an artillery officer in World War II to entrepreneurial business initiatives that caught the crest of every wave in the communications and media industry of the last half century to public service, including 53 years on the Brenau Board of Trustees and more than 25 of those as chairman. He got us (and I include Martha and the other Jacobs' family members drafted into service) to work hard on the book because he worked harder.

This column started quite by accident when three years ago we wrote about another Brenau trustee from the "Greatest Generation," Dick Leet, who'd given his collection of rare books to the university library. The title of that article stuck as a standing head for this column, which celebrates unusual ways people contribute to Brenau. For the Jacobs part of that story it takes not just a column but a book.

And, with that perfect promotional lead-in (Mr. Jacobs, the promoter, would purely kill me if I didn't do this), there are still a few copies available. Go to www.brenau.edu/brenaubooks for details.

– David Morrison