



(Front) Lydia Blalock '32, Sarah Burns Brown '34, Liz Singkhonket '26, Anna Singkhonket '32, (back) Ayden Parrott '28, Lydia Leihsing '26 & Addison Carpenter '27.

## Students Shine in Sumter County Fair Art Show

Congratulations to the following students who received blue ribbons in their respective categories in the Sumter County Fair Art Show: **Lydia Blalock '32** (open media 2D), **Sarah Burns Brown '34** (painting), **Addison Carpenter '27** (pottery), **Lydia Leihsing '26** (sculpture), **Ayden Parrott '28** (drawing), **Anna Singkhonket '32** (painting), and **Liz Singkhonket '26** (painting).

In total, Barons brought home 19 ribbons. Receiving second place ribbons were **Millie James '34** (open media 2D), **Gabe Letran '30** (drawing), **Anika Lill '28** (drawing) and **Liz Singkhonket '26** (pottery). The following students received third place ribbons: **Anna Reese Altman '30** (painting), **Cecilia Ayers '30** (painting), **Blake Griffith '30** (drawing), **Audrey Mazur '34** (painting), **Elizabeth Rabon '30** (painting), **Kate Rivers '33** (drawing), **Sutton Shook '30** (drawing) and **Claire Tindal '32** (painting).

These accomplishments reflect the strength of Wilson Hall's fine arts program, guided by dedicated teachers **Mrs. Rachel Jones Brown '00**, **Mrs. Renee Norton**, and **Ms. Tara Breslin-Schumacher**. The program continues to thrive because it gives students a platform to develop creativity, self-expression, and critical thinking. These skills are just as vital to their growth as academics and athletics. The arts at Wilson Hall not only celebrate talent but also nurture confidence and imagination, preparing students to make meaningful contributions in every area of life.

# THE ACCOLADE

WILSON HALL | OCTOBER 2025



Olivia Russell '26

## Russell Earns National Merit Commended Student Honor

We are proud to celebrate **Olivia Russell '26** for being named a Commended Student in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program. Out of more than 1.3 million students nationwide who entered by taking the PSAT, Olivia placed among the top three percent. This impressive accomplishment highlights her hard work and academic talent. She joins about 34,000 students across the country being recognized for their outstanding potential, and this honor is a wonderful reflection of her dedication and achievement.



## PALMETTO ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS MEMBERSHIP

Wilson Hall is now a proud member of the Palmetto Association of Independent Schools (PAIS). Joining PAIS allows us to further strengthen our commitment to excellence in academics and professional growth across the network of excellent independent schools in South Carolina. This new partnership is a wonderful complement to our longstanding membership with the S.C. Independent School Association, which continues to enrich our students' experience through athletics and student activities. Together, these affiliations reflect our dedication to providing Wilson Hall students with the very best opportunities, both in and out of the classroom.





*Lottie Davis '40 works on an art project in Baron Care.*

## Baron Care Provides More Than Childcare

Baron Care is Wilson Hall's after school program, serving 184 students from Preschool 3 - 6th grade. Running from dismissal until 6:00 PM, the program is supported by ten Department of Social Services-licensed staff members and four student helpers who create a safe and engaging environment. Students begin with quiet homework time, daily reading, and a snack before enjoying activities that promote collaboration and play. From time on the playground to indoor games, puzzles, crafts, and movies, Baron Care offers children countless opportunities to learn, connect, and unwind each afternoon. For more information, please contact **Mrs. Brooke Tidwell**, Director of Auxiliary Programs, at [brooketidwell@wilsonhall.org](mailto:brooketidwell@wilsonhall.org).

Curiosity and creativity came alive as Henry Richardson '40 and his classmates explored the letter C through shaving cream sensory play. This STEAM-inspired activity encouraged open-ended discovery while strengthening fine motor skills, turning a simple hands-on experience into a fun and engaging way to learn.



*Field Horton '33 completes an assignment about the Holocaust.*

## Stars Without a Heaven: Children in the Holocaust Exhibit

Wilson Hall was honored to host Stars Without a Heaven: Children in the Holocaust, a moving 27-panel traveling exhibit in September. On loan from the S.C. Council on the Holocaust and coordinated by **Mrs. Hayes Jones**, librarian, the exhibit shared the stories of children who lived through the Holocaust, captured through drawings, poems, letters, and toys. While 5th-grade classes studied it as part of their curriculum, the age-appropriate content offered meaningful insight for middle school, high school, and adult audiences alike.



# BARON GAMES BRING THE SPIRIT

School spirit rang out during the Baron Games pep rally, a decades-old tradition, as students packed the Nash Student Center in class shirts, cheering on their classmates in four rowdy competitions. The noise grew to a roar when the Class of '29 and Class of '31 claimed victory for the high school and middle school, earning bragging rights for the year. Sponsored by the Student Council and energized by President **Walker Wilson '26**, the emcee, the event was loud, raucous, and full of energy. Football player **Benson Elmore '26** and super fan **Austin McLaurin '26** fueled the crowd's excitement, while **Mr. Chuck McCord**, an assistant coach, fired up students with a spirited message. The rally closed with the Alma Mater and fight song led by the cheerleaders, reminding everyone that even after the competitions, all were Barons in the end. It was a true showcase of Baron pride, proving once again that nothing beats the sound of students celebrating together. The event was coordinated by **Mr. Sean Hoskins** who was assisted by **Mrs. Rachel Jones Brown '00** and **Ms. Heather Eldridge '93**.



Caroline Moorman '27 & Cameron Kohl '27 pull a classmate in the Baron Drag Relay.

## United in Prayer Before School

More than 100 students, faculty, and parents gathered reverently around the flagpole for See You at the Pole, a global day of student prayer. What began in 1990 with ten students praying at their school has, over three decades later, become a movement where millions unite in prayer on campuses during late September. This simple yet profound rally is a time for stu-

dents to lift up their friends, families, teachers, schools, and nation to God. Sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, advised by **Mrs. Molly Simpson Matthews '93**, and the First Priority Christian Club, advised by **Ms. Heather Eldridge '93**, the gathering served as a powerful reminder of the enduring call to seek God's presence at the heart of our community.



Students, faculty & parents join in prayer before school.



# Tailgate Party Sets the Stage for a Baron Victory

Baron pride was on full display as more than 500 guests gathered for the Baron Family Tailgate Party in front of the Nash Student Center. Baron Ambassadors greeted guests, served BBQ, and handed out favors, while cheerleaders added flair with face painting. The event was coordinated by **Mrs. Martha Jo Smith Johnson '99** and **Mrs. Caroline Zitzke** of the Development Office. The energy carried onto Spencer Field, where over 1,000 fans filled not only the stands but also the end zone to see the Barons claim a 35-14 victory over Ben Lippen. **Paige Sanders '26** carried the flag as she led the team onto the field as the 12th Player, and **Mary Ellen Thorne '26** set the tone with a heartfelt invocation. With a booming percussion section in the student stands, cheerleaders driving the spirit, and a lively halftime routine, the night was a memorable celebration of the first home game of the season. At the conclusion of the game, the team and fans gathered at the center of the field for a prayer, closing the evening in a true spirit of unity.



*Baron Ambassadors Carson Geddings, Bryce Hanson & Austin McLaurin, Class of '26, welcome guests to the Baron Family Tailgate.*



*Mr. Chris Stelle*

## Stelle Joins Faculty as Director of Security

The school is pleased to welcome Col. (Ret.) **Chris Stelle** as our new Director of Security. After a distinguished 28-year career in the U.S. Army focused on military intelligence and security, he brings a wealth of expertise and leadership to our school community. **Mr. Stelle** holds a Bachelor of Science in political science & history from Austin Peay State University, a Master of Arts in Middle East regional studies from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Master of Arts in national security affairs & strategic studies from the Air War College.



*Laughter and play fill the playground as preschool through 4th grade students enjoy daily recess, a time that reinforces social skills and builds friendships. Running, climbing, and exploring outdoors gives children a healthy break from academics and helps them return to the classroom energized and ready to learn. Pictured: Carmen Thomas, Kennedy Raybon, Millie James, Sarah Burns Brown, Grace Locklear, Tindal Kate Anderson & Savannah Duncan, Class of '34.*





*Fox Furse '39 proudly displays the creation he made in the LEGO Enrichment Program.*

## EXPLORING INTERESTS AFTER SCHOOL

Students had a blast in dance and LEGO enrichment camps, two of the many hands-on activities offered through the Enrichment Activities Program. Designed for Preschool 3-5th grade, the program gives students the chance to try something new each month, with options ranging from art and ceramics to cooking, robotics, 3-D printing, and more. With four week-long activities offered monthly, there's always something exciting to discover after school. For more information, please contact *Mrs. Brooke Tidwell*, Director of Auxiliary Programs, at [brooketidwell@wilsonhall.org](mailto:brooketidwell@wilsonhall.org).

## Pickleball Pep Rally Serves Up School Spirit

The first home football game of the year got an energetic kickoff with the Pickleball Pep Rally in the Nash Student Center, where deafening cheers echoed off the walls as students from grades 6-12 battled it out on the court. The championship match came down to the wire, with *Banks Smith '26* and *Ella Sill '26* narrowly edging out the duo of *Cecelia Ayres '30* and *Shreyas Bijjala '30* in a nail-biter finale. Adding to the excitement, *Olivia Russell '26* spoke from a fan's perspective, *Michael Thorne '26* brought the player's voice as a member of the football team, and *Mr. Chuck McCord*, an assistant coach, rallied the crowd with his own remarks. The spirited event closed on a high note as the cheerleaders led everyone in the Alma Mater and fight song, sending the crowd out ready to cheer on the Barons under the Friday night lights. The event was coordinated by the varsity cheerleaders who are led by Capt. *Bowen Zitzke '26* & Co-Capt. *Madison Grace Hansen '26* and advised by *Mrs. Frances James*.



*Ella Sill '26 & Banks Smith '26 compete in, and win, the Pickleball Tournament Pep Rally.*



*Ben McLaurin, Mary Carter Smith & Austin McLaurin, Class of '26, cool off in Lake Marion during the mini-retreat.*

## Senior Class Mini-Retreat: Fun & Reflection

The Class of '26 began its year with a meaningful mini-retreat to Camp Bob Cooper on the shores of Lake Marion in Summerton. The day started with group activities such as an autograph hunt, followed by a time of prayer and devotion. *Dr. Milt Lowder '90*, a licensed counseling psychologist, built on his earlier keynote "Defining Success," encouraging students to look inward and embrace their own paths to purpose. After lunch, students enjoyed waterfront activities that brought plenty of fun and camaraderie. Coordinated by *Mrs. Martha Jo Smith Johnson '99* and *Mr. Glen Rector*, the retreat blended reflection, fellowship, and adventure, offering seniors a memorable way to launch their year.



# Baron Media Day Brings Spirit to the Lower School

Excitement filled the halls as the 35 senior fall athletes, dressed in their team jerseys, celebrated the tradition of Baron Media Day by visiting grades 1-5 during lunch to hand out autographed photos. The event gave our eldest students the chance to connect with some of our youngest, sparking conversations and encouragement that strengthened school spirit. It was an exciting day for the lower school community! The event was organized by **Mr. Rip Ripley**, Assistant Athletic Director.



*Ellie Sommerville, Robert Duke, Evelyn Rutledge & Jarrett Hawkins, Class of '37, welcome Emma Corrigan, Paige Sanders & Benson Elmore, Class of '26, to their classroom during Baron Media Day.*



To help transition into the new school year, the Class of '38 read *Boomer Goes to School* by Constance W. McGeorge. For a fun activity, they held a lively dog show, proudly presenting their favorite stuffed dogs, each one earning a playful blue ribbon for special characteristics like Happiest Dog, Fluffiest Dog, and more. Pictured is Monroe Huckleba with her dog that won the Best Dressed award.



As a surprise, Mr. Shep Sublette '74, grandfather of Banks Timmons '38, stepped into the classroom as the Mystery Reader. He brought the story *Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses* to life, reminding everyone about the power of looking at things with a positive perspective. To make the lesson even more special, he handed out a pair of "magic glasses" to each student to take home.



# BARON PRIDE ON PARADE



The school celebrated its 50th Homecoming Parade with every student in grades 6-12 riding the four-mile route with a Sumter City Police escort through the neighborhood. Floats featured themes from the Wild West and Wizard of Oz to Top Gun, Carnival, and Outer Space. The Class of '30 showed their support for classmate Sammy Welch with their "Sammy Strong" float, while the varsity cheerleaders, football team, and Homecoming Court in convertibles led the way. With hundreds of elementary students cheering from campus and community members lining the streets, it was a true celebration of Baron pride. The Student Council sponsored the parade which was coordinated by *Mr. Sean Hoskins* who was assisted by *Ms. Heather Eldridge '93*.



**Top:** The Class of '31 wave from their float which had the theme of Catch of the Day. **Middle:** The Class of '28 rides in their Barons Under the Big Top themed float. **Bottom Left:** Varsity football players enjoy the cheers of the crowd along the route of the parade. **Bottom Right:** The Homecoming Court waves from convertibles as they travel down Wise Drive in the Homecoming Parade.



# Parent Series Launches with Dr. Milt Lowder

Wilson Hall welcomed *Dr. Milt Lowder '90* for the first session of the new Parent Series, a three-part program designed to inspire and equip families. He spoke on the powerful topic, "God is not going to ask whether or not your children liked you!" This parenting series encouraged parents to embrace the calling to be the parent God intended. *Dr. Lowder* shared Biblically grounded, scientifically supported strategies to help parents lead with confidence and clarity. Rather than striving to be their child's friend, the class guided participants in teaching obedience to God and creating a game plan to

shepherd their children into the people God created them to be. *Dr. Lowder*, a sport psychologist for the Clemson Athletic Department and a licensed counseling psychologist with AMPLOS, brought his expertise from a practice dedicated to helping individuals, teams, and organizations maximize their potential. Please stay tuned for information about his next visit to our campus for the Parent Series.



*Dr. Milt Lowder '90*

## BUILDING WILSON HALL'S NEW ARCHIVE

As Wilson Hall looks ahead to its 60th anniversary next year, new volunteer school archivists, *Mrs. Meg Price Creech '86* and *Mrs. Katherine Williams*, are helping preserve the school's history. They are thoughtfully organizing and collecting treasured artifacts in the Archival Room of the Moulton Center, from publications and handbooks to newspaper clippings and memorabilia that capture decades of Baron history. Alumni and friends of the school are invited to share items, which may be dropped off at the main office or mailed to 520 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150.



*Left: Members of the Class of '32 enjoy rafting at the U.S. National Whitewater Center. Right: Luca Hill '32 celebrates making it to the platform in the high ropes course.*

## 6TH GRADE ADVENTURE BUILDS BONDS

Climbing higher, paddling stronger, and soaring through the trees, the Class of '32 turned every challenge at the U.S. National Whitewater Center in Charlotte, N.C., into a lesson in teamwork. From scaling the rock climbing wall to tackling the high ropes course, zip lining through the treetops, and paddling together on a whitewater rafting adventure, students discovered the value of collaboration and trust. The outdoor setting gave them a chance to step out of the classroom, breathe fresh air, and build stronger bonds while laughing and learning side by side. The trip was coordinated by *Mrs. Laura Burleson*, a history teacher.



# BARONS BRING THE ENERGY TO SPIRIT WEEK

Barons showed off their creativity and school pride during Spirit Week leading up to Homecoming, with themes ranging from USA and Dress Like a Celebrity to Country vs. Country Club, Group Costume, and Extreme Blue & White. Group Costume day proved to be the fan favorite, and faculty joined students in the fun, with even our youngest Barons in the Lower School participating on designated days to make it a week full of laughter, energy, and Baron spirit.



*Adelaide McElveen, Camden Reese Horton, Giuliana Santos, Sully Andrews, Mary Evans Mims, Vaeda Escatel & Lydia Blalock, Class of 32, join for a colorful group costume.*



*Marymae Lampron, Liz Singkhonket, Campbell Cromer, Ella Dixon & Olivia Russell, Class of '26, are Christmas elves for their group costume.*



*Bowen Zitzke '26 & Walker Wilson '26*



*Millie Huckeba '35 & Martha Kate Skinner '37 enjoy Spirit Week.*



DUE TO THE WEATHER,  
THE PRESENTATION OF  
THE HOMECOMING  
COURT WAS POSTPONED.



## WILSON HALL GOES RED, WHITE & BLUE FOR HOMECOMING

The varsity cheerleaders gave the high school a dazzling "Baron Americana" makeover, filling every hallway and corner with patriotic themes, clever designs, and larger-than-life displays. The entrance became the White House, while inside featured a cruise ship of football players, a beach scene of cheerleaders, and the main office turned into a fireworks stand. Hallways glowed with Cape Canaveral under black lights, murals of landmarks like

CONTINUED



*TOP: The varsity cheerleading squad poses in front of the high school building the morning of Homecoming: (front) Livie Pedersen '27, Amelie Lucas '28, Emma Corrigan '26, Peyton Naylor '27, Madison Grace Hansen '26, (back) Ella Sill '26, McClain Segars '26, Bowen Zitzke '26, Morgan Aycock '26, Ava Bukauskas '27, Adelaide Eaddy '27, Sanders Warrick '26 & Anne McCrae Williams '27.*

*Middle: Kate-Austen Kaneft '30 & Emmerson Kaneft '33 are photographed with the Wild West banner depicting members of the administration team.*

*Bottom: Lydia Blalock '32 & Anna Blalock '36 pause in front of the Mt. Rushmore banner.*







## CONTINUED

the Grand Canyon and Golden Gate Bridge, and doors decorated with iconic American companies. Cutout photos of faculty and coaches were superimposed on painted characters, while banners featured cheerleaders and football players to make the scenes even more personal. Other highlights included New York City, Hollywood, Cinderella's Castle on Spencer Field, a Wild West adventure, and even Old Faithful erupting from the drinking fountain. Guided by Mrs. Frances James, advisor, and with leadership from captain Bowen Zitzke '26 and co-captain Madison Grace Hansen '26, the squad filled the school with energy, creativity, and community spirit, making this Homecoming one to remember.



*Top: Ford Wilder '26 & Milling Galloway '26 in the foyer by the banner featuring members of the varsity football team.*

*Bottom: Sam Leard '26 & Stirling Tindal '26 pose in front of the Walt Disney World banner featuring the coaching staff as Disney princesses.*

*With the spirit theme of Hawaiian, fans pack the Student Section of Spencer Field to cheer for the varsity Barons.*





# Semiformal Magic

## FILLS THE NASH CENTER

Dancing, laughing, and celebrating together, nearly 260 students packed the Nash Student Center for the Homecoming Semiformal sponsored by the Student Council. A giant blue and white balloon archway created by *Katherine Brogdon '08* and floral arrangements at the entrance set the scene, while chaperones welcomed guests inside. Senior Class President *Bowen Zitzke '26* not only designed the banner that became the night's favorite photo backdrop but also provided the refreshments. A DJ from PartyTime Entertainment in Columbia kept the crowd on their feet with music all evening. The event was organized by *Mr. Sean Hoskins* who was assisted by *Mrs. Rachel Jones Brown '00*.



Top Left: *Mattalyn Shirey '26* & *Andrew Howle '26* arrive at the Nash Student Center. Top Right: *Tatiana Erichsen*, *Leland Jones*, *Grace Stewart*, *Makaela Bolton*, *Ady Bradford*, *Ashley Carter* & *Mina Hunt*, Class of '29, pause for a photo before the dance. Bottom Left: *Savannah Wells*, *Ava Bukauskus* & *Livie Pedersen*, Class of '27, lead the "Cha Cha Slide." Bottom Right: *Lilly Grace Przybyla '28* & *Nehemiah Dinkins '28* are ready to hit the dance floor.



# 1998

**Dave Reames** was selected for the 2025 list of Best of Savannah Doctors-Neurosurgeon by Savannah Magazine. A neurosurgeon with The Neurological Institute of Savannah, Georgia, he earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from The Citadel and a Doctor of Medicine from the Medical University of South Carolina. **Dave** completed his general surgery internship and neurosurgery residency through the University of Virginia, spent a year participating in specialized training in Auckland, New Zealand, and completed a fellowship in complex and minimally invasive spine surgery at Semmes-Murphey Clinic with the University of Tennessee in Memphis. He and his wife, Alexa, live in Savannah with their children, Rowan and Cort.

# ALUMNI

## 2009

**Gusta Ellison** lives in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she is the digital marketing manager for The Jim Allen Group, the top Coldwell Banker Real Estate team in the nation. She graduated from the College of Charleston with a Bachelor of Science in marketing.

## 2007



**Collin Powell '07**

**Collin Powell** is the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Commercialization Officer of The Powell Firm and Associates. The firm specializes in hospital and healthcare data appraisal and monetization, and commercialization to support state, federal and private sector compensated research initiatives. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in public health from the University of South Carolina and a Healthcare Master of Business Administration from Belmont University of Tennessee.

**Matt Talley** and his wife, Laura, announce the birth of their son, Gray McAllister Talley, on September 5. They have two other children, **Anne Thomas '38** and Jack.

## 2011

**Caroline Simpson Sirigano** and her husband, Kyle, announce the birth of their son, Crew Simpson Sirigano, on August 30.

## 2012

**Jordan Lay** works as a technology team leader for One Real Mortgage. He graduated from the College of William & Mary with a Bachelor of Arts in economics and the University of South Carolina with a Master of Business Administration. **Jordan** and his wife, Alisa, live in Charlotte, North Carolina, with their children Rebecca and Jonathan.

## 2008

**Katherine Brogdon** lives in Sumter where she is a registered nurse for Colonial Healthcare. She also works for Miss Libby's School of Dance and has her own balloon decor business. As a member of the Sumter Junior Welfare League, Katherine works in the Wishing Well, the gift shop located inside Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital. She graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in psychology and Central Carolina Technical College with an Associate Degree in nursing.

**Courtney Minto Catoe** and her husband, B.J., announce the birth of their son, Collier David Catoe, on September 2. They have two other sons, McTeer and Beau.

**Tyler Simpson** lives in Alexandria, Virginia, and works as a communications strategist for the Army Communications and Outreach Office of Words Warrior, a national public relations and communications firm. He graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts in mass communications and Georgetown University with a Master of Arts in public relations.



As "Amazing Grace" plays over the new loudspeakers on Spencer Field, the varsity Barons run through a tunnel of cheering fans.



# 2013

**LeAnne Amick**, who graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Arts in communications, is pursuing a Master of Arts in clinical mental health counseling through the Liberty University online program. She lives in Greenville where she works as a nanny.

**Ashton Knowlton** and his wife, Jesse, announce the birth of their son, Richard Fields Knowlton, on October 2.

**Will Young** and Jennifer Somelofski were married on September 13 at the Heath Pavilion in Swan Lake Iris Gardens with a reception following. **Jeff Young '73**, Will's father, served as the best man and the groomsmen included **Greyson Young '17** and **Robert Young '15**. **Will**, who graduated from The Citadel with a Bachelor of Science in financial planning, works for Herald Office Solutions, one of the largest independent office supply and solutions companies in the Southeast. He and Jennifer live in Sumter.



**Will Young '13 and his wife, Jennifer.**

# 2014

**Mary Copeland Heath Jones** and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of their daughter, Harper Lee Jones, on September 18. **Mary Copeland** is the daughter of **Jim Heath '85**.

# 2015

**Chase Belk** and Hattie Crosby were married on September 13 at St. Christopher Episcopal Church on Cape Cod in Chatham, Massachusetts, with a reception at Eastward Ho Country Club. **Mary Paisley Belk '16** was a bridesmaid. **Chase** is a senior investment analyst for Twickenham Advisors,



**Chase Belk '15 and his wife, Hattie.**

a registered investment advisor firm. He graduated from Furman University with a Bachelor of Science in business administration and from the Vanderbilt University Owen Graduate School of Management with a Master of Accountancy. **Chase** and Hattie live in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Simmons deHoll** is a consultant for Bain and Company, one of the world's largest management consulting firms, in San Francisco, California. She serves on the board of directors for Justice at Last, Inc., a nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services to survivors of human trafficking. **Simmons** earned a Bachelor of Science in human and organizational development from Vanderbilt University and a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

**Hayley Smoak Gibbons** and her husband, Nick, announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte James Smoak, on September 4. Hayley is the daughter of **Lisa Phillips Smoak '88**.



# 2016

**Leah Barwick**, a State Farm Agent, leads her own agency in Sumter, providing insurance and financial services. She graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in economics.

**Rhett Howell** works as a sales team lead for JEAR Logistics, a truck transportation company in Charleston. He graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in business administration.

**Caroline Rogers**, who graduated from Anderson University with a Bachelor of Science in special education, earned a Master of Education in curriculum and instruction from Louisiana State University. She works as a teacher of students with moderate intellectual disabilities at Hillcrest Middle School in Sumter School District.

**Nick Sersun** works as a wealth management advisor for Northwestern Mutual in Orlando, Florida. He graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in financial management.



**Leah Barwick '16**

Students strengthen friendships by gathering before and after school and during breaks, turning unstructured time into moments of connection. In the mornings, middle school boys bring energy to the yard with a lively game of keeping a small football from hitting the ground, filling the start of the day with laughter and camaraderie. WH encourages this kind of socializing, helping students develop skills that last well beyond the school day.



2017

**Madeleine Maury Shuler**, who earned a Bachelor of Arts in English language and literature from the College of Charleston, is pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina.

2018

**Madison Reaves Elmore** works as an academic associate for Capella University. She graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Arts in English. **Madison** and her husband, **Troy Elmore '18**, live in Gainesville, Florida.

**Jarett King** is a special agent for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He graduated from The Citadel with a Bachelor of Arts in intelligence and security.

**Breland Land** works as an architectural designer for JKRP Architects in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Arts in architecture and the University of Pennsylvania with a Master of Architecture.

2019

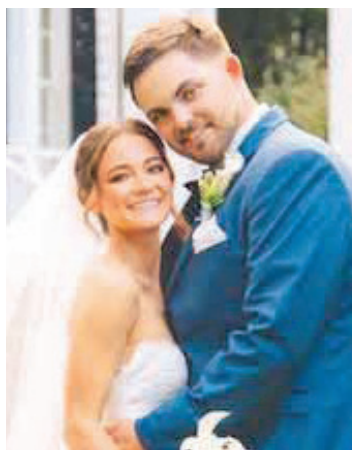
**Natalie Jackson** lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she works as a bioprocess engineer for Kystal Biotech, Inc., a biotechnology company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of genetic medicines. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Science in bioengineering and is pursuing a Master of Public Health through the Boston University online program. **Natalie** is a member of the Pittsburgh Forge Women's Rugby Club.

**Liza Segars** works as a law clerk for The Brooks Law Firm in Columbia. A graduate of Clemson University Honors College with a Bachelor of Science in political science and government, she attends the University of South Carolina Rice School of Law.

2020

**Amanda Kimbrell** and **Hunter Watt '18** were married on September 27 at Tanglewood Plantation in Lynchburg with a reception following. **Caroline Kimbrell Ward '17** was the Maid of Honor, and the bridal party included **Madeline Owens '20** and **Isabelle Weston '20**. **Jacob Watt '21** was the Best Man and the groomsmen included **William Kimbrell '18** and **Walker Knowlton '20**. **Amanda** is the daughter of **Rebecca Smith Kimbrell '86** and **Hunter** is the son of the late **John Watt '85**.

**Madeline Owens**, who graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts in English, works as a real estate agent for Carolina One Real Estate Services in Mount Pleasant. She is also a social media content creator for BASH Markets, a regional wholesale market.



**Amanda Kimbrell Watt '20**  
& **Hunter Watt '18**



**Duncan James '22**

2022

**Duncan James**, a landscape architecture major at Clemson University, completed an internship with Progressive Companies, a multi-disciplinary design firm in Charlotte, North Carolina. He has accepted a position as a landscape designer for the firm upon graduating in May.

2024

**Ben Reynolds**, a construction science and management major at Clemson University, is completing a project internship with Thompson Turner Construction in Clemson.

2025

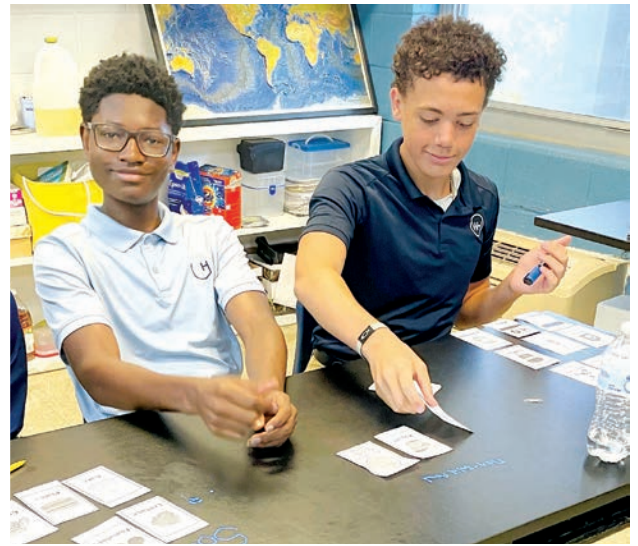
**Josie Jackson** is an economics major at Georgetown University where she is a member of the university's equestrian team and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.



*Under the oak trees beneath a bright South Carolina sky, students enjoy lunch together. With enough outdoor seating for every middle and high school student, the school provides the perfect setting to relax, recharge, and connect with friends while enjoying the beautiful weather.*



Walking along a floor number line, Walt Aronson, Olsen Franks & Liza Gooch, Class of '31, plot positive and negative rational numbers with accuracy and collaboration in their Pre-Algebra I Plus class. The hands-on activity transformed abstract ideas into tangible learning, helping students visualize numerical relationships while strengthening their problem-solving skills. Multimodal learning and teamwork made the lesson, taught by Mrs. Teresa O'Hare Alexander '98, an engaging and effective STEAM experience.



Sorting, debating, and organizing turned into a hands-on way for students in Mrs. Ashley Morris' Introduction to Physical Science class to dive into matter classification. Armed with 30 cards, each group was challenged to invent its own system for classifying the substances. The activity sparked plenty of creativity and discussion, helping students see how scientists break down and organize the building blocks of matter. Pictured are Geo Alston '29 & Ted Wilson '29.



Conducting hands-on experiments, Brayden Trueblood, Ayden Burleson & Watts Atkinson, Class of '34, and their classmates explored the exciting world of energy through engaging science activities. From testing the transfer of energy to investigating the effects of collisions, the classroom buzzed with curiosity and discovery. The STEAM-focused lesson, taught by Mrs. Megan Zimmerman, not only deepened their understanding of science but also encouraged collaboration as students worked together to test ideas, share observations, and learn from one another.



Collaboration and creativity took center stage as students in Mr. Sean Hoskins' government class acted out skits to bring the Bill of Rights to life. Using what they had learned in class as a review for an upcoming test, students worked in small groups to pantomime three assigned rights without saying a word. The other groups then guessed the amendment and the right being performed, turning review time into a lively mix of learning, teamwork, and laughter. Pictured are Owen Barkley, Abel Ayres & Land Stevens, Class of '27, acting out freedom of the press.

Michael Thorne '26, a member of the varsity football team, addresses the crowd about an upcoming game during a pep rally in the Nash Student Center.

