As well as advanced placement and immediately saw the Kent State turned a corner onto Via Cavour State Florence campus. As we returned from a 17-day trip to MDCPS Senior High School Math Public Schools. In 1998-1999, I was statistics at Miami Dade County mathematics in the gifted program, 1970-2006, I taught high school Cummins was a mentor to me. From great teaching career. The illustrious mathematics professor Dr. Kenneth Giorgio represented many great values, making academic and social interactions, and leading me into a part of my life in developing my mathematics in the gifted program, values that Kent State traditions have developed, especially respectfulness to other individuals. Coincidentally, I just received the fall/winter 2022-23 Kent State Magazine, which has an article, "50 Years of Florence." We loved Florence. I am thankful for a great college education and a lifetime of continual connections around the world with Kent State University. JOEL SCHACKNE, BBA '69, BSE '70 Davie, FL

We want to hear from you! Respond to magazine content or comment on topics related to Kent State by writing: Kent State Magazine P.O. Box 5390 Kent, Ohio 44206-5390 or magazine@kent.edu. Responses may be edited for style, length, clarity and civility.

FEELING PROUD
Thank you for a great magazine. So much in here to feel pride about.
CHRISTINA KUKUK, BA '00 Ashland, OH

AND THE WINNER IS . . .
Congratulations to Dale Walter, BS '73, MA '85, San Diego, CA, the lucky winner of the random-generated drawing from correct submissions to the magazine’s Squirrel Search contest. He received a box of black-squirrel-themed swag from Black Squirrel Gifts in downtown Kent. The black squirrels can be found in the fall/winter 2022-23 print edition on page 15 (on the Piazza del Duomo, listening to Fabrizio Ricciardelli, PhD, director of the Kent State University Florence Center), page 25 (in a tree overlooking sponsored students from Rwanda) and page 42 (hanging out with the Grand Marshals of the 2022 Homecoming Parade).

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Working It
Commencement is my favorite time of the year. I have the best seat in the house to watch our amazing students celebrate their successes with friends and family. After each ceremony, Provost Tankersley and I revel in the opportunity to meet graduates individually and to take impromptu photos with them in and around Risman Plaza. Each year, Kent State graduates more than 10,000 students with degrees that empower them to become productive members of the workforce or find career enhancement with an advanced degree. More than 63% of our graduates remain in Ohio and throughout their lifetimes will be strong contributors to the state’s economy. Annually, Kent State University operations and alumni in Ohio generate $4.9 billion in economic impact.

We address areas where jobs are in critical demand, our graduates fill those roles, and collectively our alumni become productive citizens for the state. Along the way, we offer services such as our Rising Scholars Program to help provide a path to a brighter future for some of the most underserved rural Ohioans. Our College of Nursing produces more Bachelor of Science in Nursing graduates than any other university in Ohio, and an impressive 99.6% of those students have nursing jobs upon graduation. Our graduates fill vital jobs in hospital systems throughout Northeast Ohio—in places like Cleveland Clinic, which employs more than 2,300 Kent State graduates, about half of which came from our College of Nursing. Our graduates fill critical roles that help make Northeast Ohio a hub for some of the highest-quality healthcare in the nation. Most recently, our Board of Trustees approved the creation of five new bachelor’s degrees within our College of Aeronautics and Engineering. They address the ongoing pilot shortage and speak to the growing need for well-trained employees within the aerospace industry.

One of our new majors, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Flight Operations, will offer a bachelor’s degree for professional drone pilots. It will ensure that Ohio is not just the birthplace of aviation (home to Wilbur and Orville Wright, who invented and flew the first aircraft), but will remain on the forefront of aviation technology.

Kent State research labs give birth to innovations that fuel future generations of business, industry and technology and will solve problems to make the world a better place. This includes the work being done by Kent State researchers from our College of Architecture and Environmental Design to design safer, more efficient trauma rooms within hospital emergency rooms that facilitate better patient care and save lives. At Kent State, we leverage every dollar we receive from the state of Ohio into $10 for the state’s economy. That is an impressive return on investment by any calculation. We deliver a system of higher education that is working. Kent State graduates are working. To put it simply, Kent State works.

Todd Diacon | President
Email: president@kent.edu
Instagram: @ksupresdiacon

Annually, Kent State University operations and alumni in Ohio generate $4.9 billion in economic impact.

GIFTS OF FLORENCE
From 1965-1970, I attended Kent State University on a tennis scholarship, recruited by Karl Chesnutt. I was also a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity. I was at the May 4, 1970, rally with my girlfriend, Sandy Scheuer, one of the four students killed that day. Kent State was an important part of my life in developing my values, making academic and social interactions, and leading me into a great teaching career. The illustrious mathematics professor Dr. Kenneth Cummins was a mentor to me. From 1970-2006, I taught high school mathematics in the gifted program, values that Kent State traditions have developed, especially respectfulness to other individuals. Coincidentally, I just received the fall/winter 2022-23 Kent State Magazine, which has an article, "50 Years of Florence." We loved Florence.