

Greetings Tigers, and Cheers to a New Year!

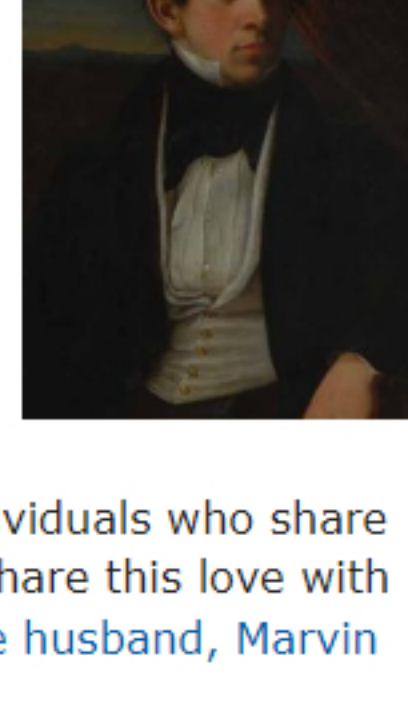
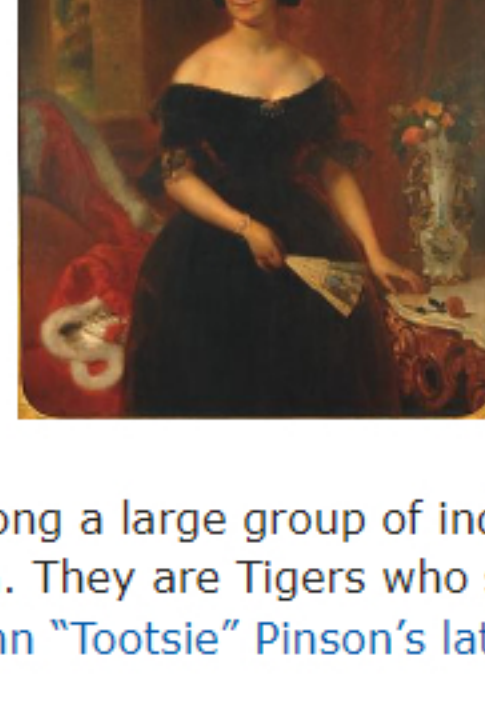
Our students have returned to campus after a long and restful break. With fresh minds and loads of enthusiasm, they are prepared to tackle the Spring semester with a determined Tiger Spirit.



It is difficult to believe that in a few short weeks, we will be celebrating another holiday – Valentine’s Day. Walking through stores recently, I’m sure you have seen heart-shaped candy, Valentine’s cards and red and pink balloons. As the day quickly approaches, I feel compelled to reflect on the love that permeates through the Clemson Family.

Our great University’s beginning can be traced back to an amazing love story. In the spring of 1838, Thomas Clemson met Anna Maria Calhoun in Washington, D.C. She was 21 years old, and he was 10 years her senior.

With a deep love and passion for supporting and lifting up the people of South Carolina, Thomas and Anna envisioned and created what is now our beloved Clemson University. From their union and Clemson’s first gift, a human chain of philanthropy was created among a large group of individuals who share a common passion – Clemson. They are Tigers who share this love with those around them, like Lorynn “Tootsie” Pinson’s late husband, Marvin J. Pinson ‘46.



When she speaks of Marvin, Tootsie is quick to describe him as a well-respected leader who was dedicated to education and helping others. She lights up when talking about what a loving and caring man he was and the special relationship that the two of them shared in their golden years.

Marvin enlisted in the US Army after college, served with distinction during the Korean War, and was chosen for Officer Candidate School, where he excelled in every class.

That servant-minded, mentoring leadership style guided Marvin through a successful career after the Army at Burlington, where he worked for 31 years, retiring in 1986. However, retirement did not slow Marvin down; in fact, after retirement, he was an instructor at Clemson and served on the College of Engineering Advisory Board at the University. He loved tutoring math students at local elementary and middle schools and did so for 18 years, while also working with Habitat for Humanity and serving in numerous leadership roles at the churches he attended throughout his adult life and on multiple charitable boards.

Tootsie and Marvin met late in life: she was 88 and he was 91 when they married. “We were two very happy people who enjoyed each other’s company. We could sit on the sofa, holding hands, and the world had nothing else to offer us,” Tootsie fondly recalls. The couple met as residents of Well Spring Retirement Community in Greensboro, North Carolina where Marvin had lived for 21 years. “I knew when I moved there and met him that he was one of the most special people I had ever met,” she said. “After going on several dinner dates, I knew he was someone I wanted to share the rest of my life with. We were never apart after that until the day he died,” Tootsie added.

Theirs is a love story for the ages, and Tootsie said they made the very most of every day spent together.

Even as Marvin’s health declined, they still had a wonderful life together, Tootsie said. Sadly, Marvin passed away in January of 2022. Tootsie said that the years with Marvin were some of the happiest of her life, and she cherishes those memories.

Tootsie said that Marvin was constantly recruiting promising students for Clemson, always encouraging them to look at what Clemson had to offer. “Marvin would encourage the high school students who worked at Wellspring to check out programs at his alma mater, and if staff members had children who were looking at colleges, you had better believe that he was telling them all about Clemson,” she said.

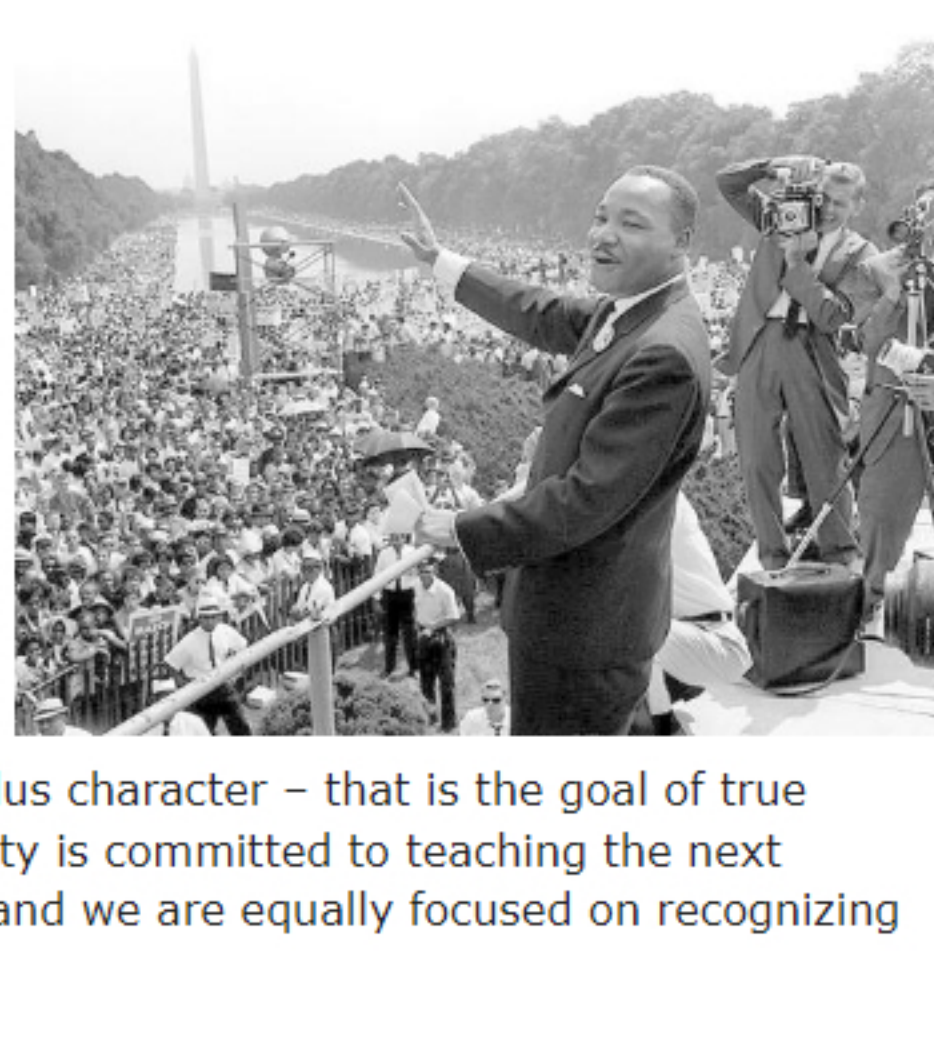


Marvin had long supported Clemson through the establishment of an endowed scholarship and an endowed professorship, believing that education was the pathway to success. So, as Tootsie began to ponder how best to honor her late husband, she decided to make a significant commitment to further Clemson’s efforts to give the best and brightest students an opportunity to work with professors who can inspire and challenge those young minds. This was Marvin’s passion, Tootsie said, “and I know that this would please him very much.”

“As a life-long learner, igniting the flame for others is what Marvin was all about,” Tootsie said. “And ensuring that his legacy continues is my priority. In the end, it is what you do for others that matters most in life.” You can read their full story [here](#).

This week, we celebrated the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., recognizing his leadership in the American civil rights movement. King sought equality and human rights for African Americans and all victims of injustice. Through peaceful protests, King was instrumental in bringing about landmark legislation, including the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act.

Martin Luther King, Jr., would have turned 94 years young on Sunday, January 15, and though he was taken from this world far too soon, through his powerful deeds and words, he still inspires us today. He said, “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” Clemson University is committed to teaching the next generation of great leaders, and we are equally focused on recognizing and building their character.



My grandmother always reminded us: “Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved. When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, all is lost.”

Thank you for investing in Clemson so we can continue to fill the minds, hearts and souls of our students with great intellect, compassion for others, and great character.

We are here to assist you and your family as you explore the many ways in which you can give back to Clemson through current and future gifts. Please visit our [website](#) or send a personal email to us at giving@clemson.edu. You can find information about IRA Charitable Qualified Distribution (QCD) benefits [here](#). And for more information about general estate planning, please download our [free Wills Guide](#), which is designed to help you navigate your thoughts and plans before you visit with your attorney and/or financial advisors.

We sincerely hope 2023 is off to a great start for you and your family! Please make plans to join us for a Clemson event in your area, and we hope to see you on campus soon.

We are so VERY proud of our Clemson Tiger Basketball Team - GO Tigers!

Gratefully yours,



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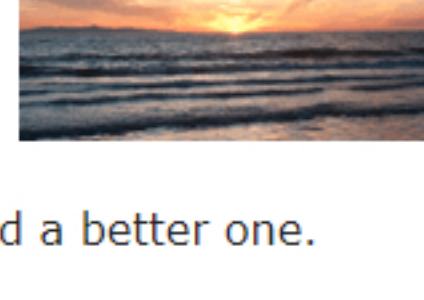


Savvy Living

[Mobility Tool Tips](#)

What should I look for in a mobility tool? I have back and hip problems, so I often need help picking things up off the ground. I bought an inexpensive grabbing tool a few months ago that does not work very well but would like to find a better one.

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Washington News

[Free File Launch on January 13](#)

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced that its Free File tax software is available for taxpayers starting January 13. The Free File programs allow taxpayers to enter their data and file their tax returns online for free.

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Personal Planner

[Trusts for Surviving Spouse](#)

There are three different basic types of trusts for a surviving spouse: a qualified terminable interest property trust (QTIP), a qualified domestic trust (QDOT) or a charitable remainder trust (CRT).

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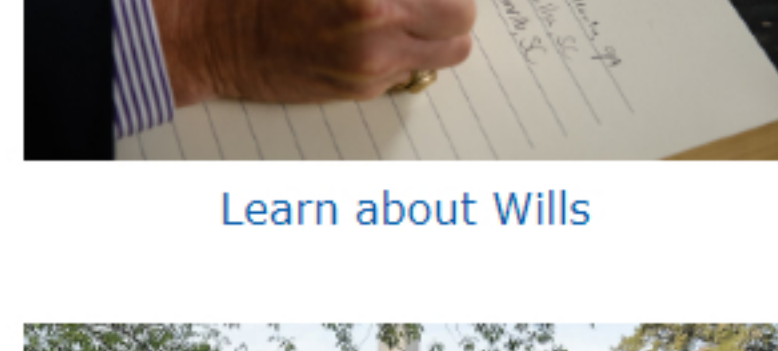
Learn how others have made an impact at Clemson through their acts of giving.

Empowering the Next Generation

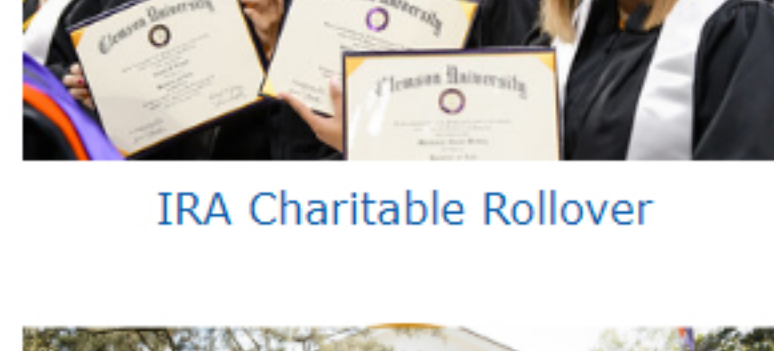
Four years can feel like a small blip on life’s radar; however, for Belva White ‘87, and many others like her, the four years spent on the Clemson campus was life changing. It is her Clemson Experience that inspired Belva to make an impact on the lives of others and empower them to become stronger and more confident in their lives.



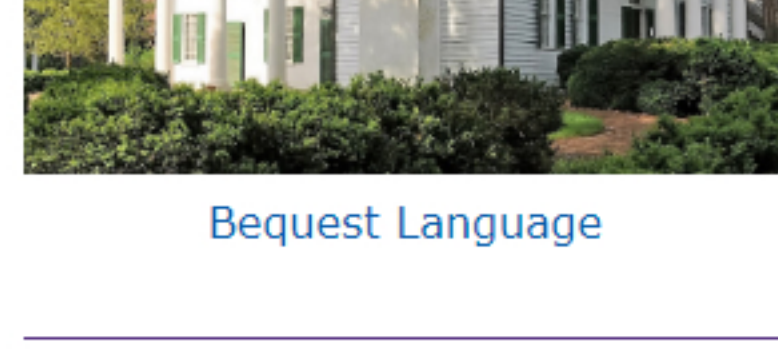
Thank you for your interest in planned giving. To access any of our resources, please go to our [website](#).



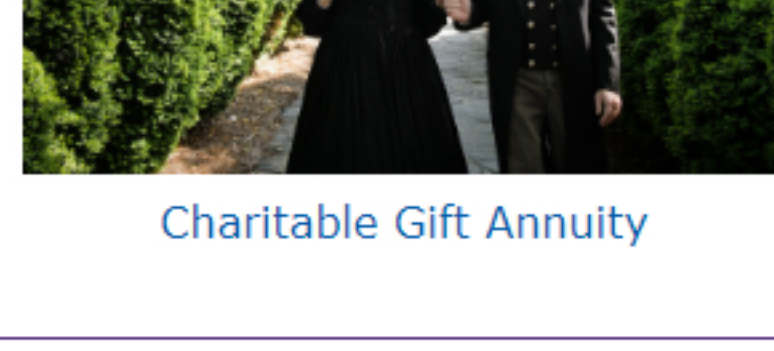
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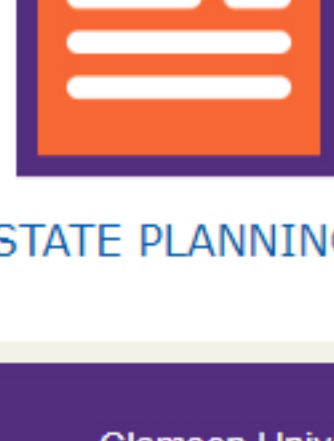
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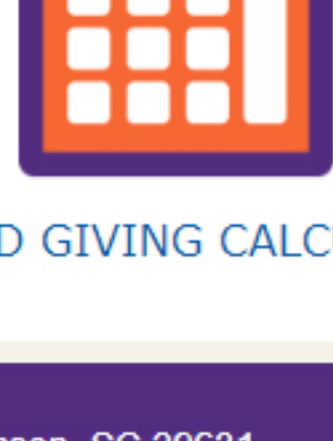
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