

NAFC
alumni



LEGACY LEDGER

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER OF LEGACY NAFC ALUMNI



A Message from the NAFC Education Foundation

Sherri McKeen, Alumni Coordinator

Happy New Year! Our **2025 Annual Report** is now live, and it captures the heart of the NAFC Education Foundation's work over the past 20 years. Because of this community, students and educators across NAFC Schools have benefited from support that reaches well beyond the classroom, from innovative classroom grants to mental health resources, early literacy, and food security.

To our alumni, thank you for staying connected to this work. Your continued interest and support help keep these efforts strong and moving forward. One way to celebrate this impact together is at our **15th Annual Education Celebration** next month, when we will gather to honor the people and programs that make it possible. Continue reading for more details.

Read the 2025 Annual Report

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Amanda Beam, Guest Contributor

Healing takes many forms—physical, mental and emotional. This month, we highlight two alumni who joined the medical profession not only to help others but also to improve patient care. Their dedication ensures that those they serve are safer, healthier, and truly heard.

At 31, **Dr. Kaylin Batey (NAHS 2013)** has accomplished much in his academic and professional life. Now an otolaryngology resident at the University of Michigan Medical Center, the distinguished surgeon continues to build a career grounded in research, care and health equity.

After a high school sports injury, **Tyler Menne (FCHS 2015)** turned his setback into motivation. At The MVMT Institute, the 29-year-old physical therapist specializing in ACL rehab helps athletes recover with education, guidance and support.

Both Kaylin and Tyler are shaping the future of medicine and rehabilitation through their skills and compassion. We celebrate all doctors, nurses, physical therapists, and other medical professionals who dedicate their lives to healing and care.

Dr. Kaylin Batey (NAHS '13) The surgeon who heals both bodies and communities



Ah, high school. A time of growth, friendship, and writing research papers that will ultimately be published in major scientific journals.

Okay, so the latter might not be a common experience for most high school kids. But Dr. Kaylin Batey has never been an ordinary student. The 2013 New Albany High School grad continues to excel in his professional life while promoting positive change in the communities he calls home.

Home now is Ann Arbor, Michigan, where Kaylin is in his third year of otolaryngology residency at the University of Michigan Medical Center.

“A lot of people would recognize my specialty as ENT, and that’s true. We are ear, nose and throat doctors, but our specialty, more formally, is known as otolaryngology – head and neck surgery,” the 31-year-old said. “What I tell people is it’s everything between the brain and the chest that isn’t the brain, lung and spine.”

Both family and educators have played a role in helping Kaylin navigate his career path. His single mother worked constantly, instilling in him an unwavering work ethic and the need to constantly better himself. Through the influence of his middle school science teacher, Ms. Farnsley, Kaylin learned that science could be a tool for helping others, sparking his interest in the medical field. And at NAHS, Dr. Laura McGuirk, his counselor, advised him on the academic steps and opportunities that allowed him to fulfill his dream of becoming a doctor.

“I think without all of those things, and even moving to New Albany, I don't know if I would honestly be here,” Kaylin said. “I always had that passion, but I don't think I necessarily had a pathway that was visible or palpable, until those years. It's kind of how I ended up where I am today.”

This brings us back to the future doctor's first published study in a major journal, all while still in high school. For two summers, the Brown Cancer Center at the University of Louisville selected Kaylin as a research intern for their competitive scholars' program. The researchers published their findings on the “structure-activity relationship models for rat carcinogenesis and assessing the role mutagens play in model predictivity” in Environmental Research.

Kaylin's interest in research continued throughout his undergraduate studies at Centre College, where he graduated with degrees in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in 2017. While still weighing his career and academic options, the stellar student became a research fellow in the Hematopoiesis and Bone Marrow Failure Laboratory at the National Institutes of Health.

In 2019, Kaylin entered medical school at the University of Kentucky. His passion for research followed him back to the Bluegrass State. In addition to leading a peer-to-peer conflict-resolution program, he helped implement cultural competency training for his fellow doctors. Likewise, he continued to focus on health equity by helping others training medical students recognize and address the social determinants of health.

His personal experiences influenced his passion for this research.

“My mom grew up with an autoimmune condition, and there are times when there were bills from her medical care that we couldn't afford, and that often prevented or delayed some aspects of her care,” Kaylin said. “I just felt that was odd, and I wanted to help figure out ways that science and also the community of medicine can bridge some gaps between those who might be able to afford care and those who need it.”

After his 2023 medical school graduation, Dr. Batey entered his residency. Once completed, he hopes to take a year to further specialize in ENT surgery.

Reflecting on his own path, Kaylin offers several words of advice to students interested in becoming physicians. First, make sure you're passionate about the field.

“I say that because the training is long, but it's so rewarding,” Kaylin said. “And so, when that passion is real, that's where that reward comes in.”

He also advises students to reach out for guidance and resources and to remember that it's okay to be selective and say no when opportunities don't feel like the right fit.

“There will be some opportunities that come up for you that will be for you, and some won't,” Kaylin said. “I think it's okay to say no. Your capacity to take care of yourself is just as important, as well.”

Tyler Menne (FCHS '15)

From injury to impact



With just 15 minutes left at state regionals, Junior Tyler Menne and his Floyd Central High School soccer teammates were pushing to break the 0-0 deadlock and claim the win. But then Tyler got hurt on the field. Standing on the sidelines, his arm wrapped in a scarf sling, the midfielder didn't really understand what was going on. All he wanted was to support his team to another victory.

"I was like, 'Guys, I'm going back in the game. I'm playing this game. We're going to win this.' And then I started getting a little dizzy and lightheaded, and thought maybe I need to go to the hospital," Tyler said.

The doctors would discover the multisport athlete fractured his arm, an injury that would require months of rehab. Tyler would return to captain the FC soccer team in his senior year, but he still has issues from the break more than a decade later.

Yet, this obstacle in the 2015 FCHS grad's life led him to pursue a career as a physical therapist because he knew he could provide better outcomes and care. As a specialist in ACL rehab, he currently helps patients, especially athletes, rebound from their physical setbacks at The MVMT Institute in Floyds Knobs, IN.

"I was a little bit bummed out with how things turned out," Tyler said of his soccer injury. "So, I went into PT and the medical field so that I can do this better. I can improve the system. I can make it so the next kid who's 17 and gets hurt doesn't have issues 10 years down the line and can get back to their sport."

Athletics have always played an important role in Tyler's life. Growing up, he enjoyed competing in almost every sport imaginable. In high school, he concentrated on soccer, noting that his coach focused on building young men rather than just great soccer players. In addition to his role as captain of the soccer team, Tyler served on FC's Dance Marathon executive board, where he developed his leadership skills.

Equally important, his commitment to academics prepared him for success in the classes he would take at Indiana University Bloomington, where he graduated in 2019 with majors in Biology and Chemistry.

“Some of the hardest classes I ever took were actually at Floyd Central,” Tyler said. “They were teaching me how to be a better student, learner, and studier and everything like that. But I definitely think Floyd academically helped me a ton to get where I’m at.”

Speaking to a person working in the same profession as he aspired to also helped guide Tyler’s career path. As a college junior, Tyler sat down with Kevin Lannan, a physical therapist and now owner of The MVMT Institute, and asked him questions about the field. He recommends that those interested in a medical vocation do the same.

“Find someone that does what you enjoy or what you think you might enjoy, and get in with them and shadow. See what it’s like. Get in the trenches. Get your hands dirty a little bit. See if it’s something you can see yourself doing every day for the rest of your life,” the 29-year-old said.

The year 2023 marked several important milestones for the Floyds Knobs native. Not only did he graduate from the University of Evansville with his Doctor of Physical Therapy, but he also married the love of his life, Kylie. Together since high school, the pair now live in Sellersburg with their fluffy pup, Yogi.

On the professional front, the man who once relied on help now guides others through their recoveries. His methodical care is grounded in educating clients about their conditions and setting clear expectations.

“I always say you got to know where you’re at today so that we can plan for the future,” Tyler said. “It wasn’t too, too long ago I was in their shoes.”



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!

Stay updated on your Floyd County classmates, discover thrilling events in your NAFC school community, and learn firsthand about the NAFC Education Foundation by connecting with us at facebook.com/LegacyNAFCAlumni.



Celebrate with Us on Friday, February 20

We're excited to invite you to Education Celebration 2026, the New Albany Floyd County Education Foundation's signature event of the year.

Join us on Friday, February 20, 2026, at 5:30 pm at Huber's Plantation Hall for an evening that brings our community together in support of public education in New Albany Floyd County Schools. This is a night to celebrate the impact made possible by our supporters and to invest in the future of our students and educators.

The evening will include:

- A silent and live auction
- Entertainment
- The Dream Vacation Raffle
- Dinner and program highlights that showcase the Foundation's impact

Why Education Celebration Matters

Since 2005, the NAFC Education Foundation has invested more than \$6 million in programs that support students and educators across all 16 NAFC schools. From Great Classroom Grants and Mental Health Grants to Blessings in a Backpack and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, this support helps meet needs that go beyond public funding.

If you're unable to join us in person, there are still great ways to take part. The **Dream Vacation Raffle** offers a chance to win an unforgettable trip for **\$100 per ticket**, with only 100 tickets available. You do not need to be present to win.

The **silent auction** will go live on **Friday, February 13**, and you do not need to attend the gala to participate. There will be a strong lineup of items and experiences available to bid on from wherever you are.

For tickets, sponsorship opportunities, and event details, visit onecau.se/educationcelebration26

Thank you for supporting the NAFC Education Foundation and the students, teachers, and families of NAFC Schools. We hope you'll join us for a meaningful evening in whatever way works best for you.



The New Albany Floyd County Education Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that works in conjunction with NAFC Schools to provide privately funded supplemental resources and programs to students, teachers, and schools. Legacy NAFC is the official alumni support group of the NAFC Education Foundation and New Albany Floyd County Schools.

For more information, contact Sherri McKeen at smckeen@nafcs.org or 812-542-2242 at the NAFC Education Foundation.

www.NAFCEdFoundation.org/alumni



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