Recreation Area, and had the foresight to push to have the Presidio, a nearly 1,500-acre former military base at the foot of the bridge, added in time.

Her father also influenced her decision to transfer to Harvard, “because he had such a wonderful time there,” she explains. Yet Wayburn says she felt like a foreigner in Cambridge and gravitated toward the international students. That eventually led her to work on environmental issues in Africa for the United Nations after graduation. In Kenya, she realized two things: that the working environment—when integrated into the real lives of real people—is not “about a pretty postcard or a pristine landscape”; and that the goal of environmental sustainability should be to work with what exists already. “That means, for example, not necessarily bringing in sheep, goats, and cattle, which come from a European context,” she explains, “but working with what’s native, with whatever natural grains can grow in small patches with less water. Environmentalism is about looking at the natural diversity and developing solutions within an existing context.”

This thinking is evident throughout one of PFT’s most recent conservation initiatives, for the Klamath-Cascade region, which runs from northern California across the slopes of Mount Shasta and into Oregon. These 9.8 million acres, half publicly owned, “contain the most biodiverse conifer forest in the world,” Wayburn says. “The region is the source of two-thirds of California’s drinking water—and most people don’t even know it exists.” This valuable “wood basket” also produces up to 75 percent of the timber harvested in California annually. “This is a prime opportunity to knit together different aspects of conservation,” she reports: “a functional landscape in which we can grow a natural resource and sustain the economy—in an area that still has large ownership on the private side, as well as relatively low population and nice weather—which means it is under huge development pressures.” The region is still fairly intact, but PFT is working closely with stakeholders and affected communities, seeking to create a “greenprint” to guide a truly viable future.

The Presidio, where Wayburn works every day, would not have become a federal park had others before her not had the same foresight to develop it responsibly. Five minutes’ walk from her office is a stand of 30-foot coastal redwood sequoias known as the Wayburn Grove, dedicated to her parents; to celebrate her father’s hundredth birthday, her son, Elliott, helped plant another one. Wayburn sees her own work as carrying on not so much his legacy but his spirit. “Perhaps his greatest gift was showing that if you have a vision, pursue it—it’s possible to make it happen,” she says. “He was a marvelous man who seized the opportunities of his time, just as we have to seize them relative to ours.”

WAYBURN CARRIES ON THE SPIRIT OF HER LATE FATHER, THE CONSERVATIONIST EDGAR WAYBURN.

For Overseer

Cheryl Dorsey
David Tang
Walter Isaacson
Diana Nelson

David Heyman
Karen Nelson Moore
Joseph Fuller
Nicholas Kristof

Cast Your Vote

THIS SPRING, alumni can choose five new Harvard Overseers and six new directors for the Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) board. The candidates’ names appear in ballot order below, as determined by lot. Ballots should arrive in the mail by April 15 and are due back in Cambridge by noon on May 21 to be counted. Election results will be announced at the HAA’s annual meeting on May 27, on the afternoon of Commencement day. All holders of Harvard degrees, except Corporation members and officers of instruction and government, are entitled to vote for Overseer candidates. The election for HAA directors is open to all Harvard degree-holders.

For Overseer (six-year term), the candidates are:

Cheryl Dorsey ’85, M.D. ’91, M.P.P. ’92, New York City. President, Echoing Green.
Walter Isaacson ’74, Washington, D.C.
For Director

Irene Wu
Roger Fairfax Jr.
Lindsay Hyde
George Newhouse Jr.
Reynaldo Valencia
M. Margaret Kemeny
Kenneth Bartels
Mark Fusco
Victoria Wells Wulsin

CEOs, The Aspen Institute.
Diana Nelson ’84, San Francisco. Director, Carlson Companies, Inc.
Nicholas Kristof ’82, New York City. Columnist, the New York Times.

For Elected Director (three-year term), the candidates are:
Irene Wu ’91, Washington, D.C. Director of international research, U.S. Federal Communications Commission; adjunct professor, Georgetown University.
Lindsay Hyde ‘04, Boston. Founder and president, Strong Women, Strong Girls.
Reynaldo Valencia, J.D. ’90, San Antonio. Associate dean for administration and finance; professor of corporate and securities law, St. Mary’s University School of Law.
M. Margaret Kemeny ’68, New York City. Professor of surgery, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, chief of surgical oncology, and director of the Queens Cancer Center.
Kenneth Bartels ’73, M.B.A. ’76, New York City. President and CEO, Paxton Properties, Inc.
Mark Fusco ’83, M.B.A. ’90, Westwood, Massachusetts. CEO, Aspen Tech.

On May 19, Marshall Goldman, senior scholar at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, talks about “Putin, Petroleum, Power, and Patronage” at the Harvard Club of Minnesota. Also on May 20, senior admissions officer Dwight Miller reveals “Perspectives on New Jersey Admissions” for the Harvard Club of New Jersey. Miller then meets with members of the Harvard Club of Phoenix on June 7 to discuss “A Three-Decimal Harvard Admissions Window on Arizona.”


On June 2, the Harvard Club of Fairfield County hosts William Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aid, for a look at “New Frontiers in College Admissions and Financial Aid.” And on June 6, the Harvard Club of Saint Louis learns about “Heeding the Call to Service” with Timothy McCarthy, lecturer on history and literature and public policy director of the Human Rights and Social Movements Program at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy.

CEO, The Aspen Institute.
Diana Nelson ’84, San Francisco. Director, Carlson Companies, Inc.
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Harvard Alumni Association launched its first Global Month of Service in April; now the University is continuing that initiative by hosting a beta “Public Service on the Map” website where alumni, students, and faculty and staff members can report on their current service projects and publicize additional opportunities to help those in need. The site’s goal is to connect Harvard volunteers throughout the world. For additional details, visit http://onthemap.harvard.edu.

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