

VOLUME ONE  
NUMBER TWO

FALL  
2006

# Alumni News & Notes

## COLLEGE ANNOUNCES PLANS, PROGRESS ON \$78-MILLION CAMPAIGN

*Our Window of Opportunity*

During Maryville College's

annual Founder's Day Banquet Oct. 12, board members, volunteers and administrators publicly announced details of the College's "Our Window of Opportunity" campaign, a \$78-million endeavor that focuses on raising money for four initiatives:

- Construction of the Civic Arts Center (CAC), a \$42-million partnership facility with the cities of Maryville and Alcoa;
- Renovation of Anderson Hall (\$6 million);
- Growing the College's endowment (\$20 million);
- Strengthening the Annual Fund (\$10 million).

Banquet attendees cheered at the announcement that nearly \$46 million (or 59 percent) had been already raised or pledged.

Attendees were treated to a screening of a new campaign video and entertainment by international opera singer **Delores Bowen Ziegler '73**; Dr. Robert Bonham, classical pianist and professor emeritus; and student vocalists from the ensemble Off Kilter.

More information on the campaign can be found at [maryvillecollege.edu/ourwindow](http://maryvillecollege.edu/ourwindow).

## MC BESTOWS HONORARY DEGREE ON '29 ALUMNA

Maryville College bestowed an honorary bachelor's degree on **Mary Swain Wood '29** during a ceremony held June 2 at the Dallas Country Club in Dallas, Texas.

President Dr. Gerald W. Gibson, Associate Dean Dr. Martha Craig and Vice President for Development Jason McNeal all spoke at the ceremony, which was attended by Wood and 20 of her close friends and family members.

In welcoming guests to the June 2 ceremony, McNeal explained that honorary degrees awarded by Maryville College's Board of Directors go to "exceptional men or women to recognize and pay respect for outstanding service to education, to society or to the world community."

Despite some strong familial ties to Centre College in Kentucky, Wood chose to enroll at Maryville College. (She has MC ties as well, as a descendant of the Willard family for whom Willard House is named.)

Wood attended MC for three years but left before graduating because of financial strains brought on by the Great Depression. She became a primary school teacher in Eminence, Ky., before beginning a successful 21-year career as an educational consultant for book publishers. From 1937 until 1944, she worked for the American Book Company, and from 1948 until 1958, was employed by the Scott-Foresman Publishing Company. As an educational consultant specializing in reading instruction at Scott-Foresman, Wood was very involved in the publication of the company's popular "Dick and Jane" series.

While working, she continued her education at the University of Kentucky and the University of Chicago.

Despite the professional successes she enjoyed, Wood was always bothered by the fact she never received her degree from Maryville, according to those who know her. But she and her husband, the late Colonel Alfred M. Wood, believed in the transforming power of education and supported their alma maters and other educational institutions for many years.

Since Colonel Wood's death in 1997, Mary has continued to support Maryville College. She is a charter member of the Society of 1819 and a magna cum laude member of the Maryville College Isaac Anderson Society.



Dr. Gerald W. Gibson, president of Maryville College, presents a framed diploma to Mary Swain Wood '29, who was awarded an honorary bachelor's degree June 2 during a ceremony in Dallas, Texas. At left is Dr. Martha Craig, associate dean.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The College received information printed below between Feb. 11, 2007 and Aug. 31, 2006. Notes received after Aug. 31 should appear in the winter issue of FOCUS.

**'31 MEMORIAMs:** Sarah Joe Allen Talley Frier, June 13, in Maryville. Following graduation from the College, she taught high school and elementary school in Blount County, primarily teaching fourth and fifth grades at Alnwick School. She was a life-long Presbyterian and certified member of the First Families of Tennessee. Survivors include husband Maurice, son and daughter-in-law, Don '61 and Louise Lane Talley '62, daughter and son-in-law, Ann and Parks Hitch, Jr.; several

grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

■ **Alice Renegar Porter**, Aug. 2, in Frankfort, Ind. She was a retired teacher at Fern Creek (Ky.) Elementary School, a member of Mt. Washington United Methodist Church and former member of Bullitt County Homemakers. She is survived by two daughters, one son, 16 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, brother **Edward Renegar '47** and niece **Elizabeth Welsh '59**.

■ **Virginia Rose Carter Tiffany**, Jan. 24, 2005. Survivors include husband Raphael, three daughters, **Celia Tiffany '66**, **Virginia Tiffany '69**, and **Jean Tiffany Cloz '74**, and their families.

**'32 MEMORIAM:** Laleah Ball Logan, July 22, in Arlington

Heights, Ill. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona after attending Maryville, and went on to teach in public schools.

**'33 Eunice Grant Walsh** recently moved to Gainesville, Fla., and has been studying Spanish at the University of Florida. She writes: "I have enjoyed traveling this past winter to Alaska and the Panama Canal Zone."

**'36 MEMORIAM:** Edmund Opitz, Feb. 13. Upon graduation from MC, he moved to the west coast to study theology and completed studies for the ministry at Pacific Unitarian School (now Starr King School) in Berkeley, Calif., in 1939. After his ordination, he served churches in Massachusetts and also taught on the high school and collegiate level. During World War II, he served as a Red Cross field director in India. He became part of the staff of the Foundation for Economic Education in 1955, where he would spend the next 37 years. He wrote more than 75 *Free-man* feature articles and was also a book review editor. His first book, *Religion and Capitalism: Allies, Not Enemies*, was published in 1970. In 1994, 20 of his articles were published in an anthology entitled, *Religion: Foundation of the Free Society*. His final book, *The Libertarian Theology of Freedom*, was published in 1999. Survivors include two daughters.

**'38 MEMORIAM:** James Whitt, Aug. 1, in Chapel Hill, N.C. He was a career Air Force officer, serving tours of duty all over the United States and abroad. He undertook a second career with the Texas Employment Commission. He was active in church and community activities, often volunteering as a "greeter" at public events. Survivors include wife Dorothy, one son, one brother and their families.

**'40 MEMORIAM:** Ruth Mack Dennis, Nov. 10, 2004, in Bedford, Ohio. She served as librarian of Carylwood Elementary School in Bedford for 13 years and taught piano to numerous local young people. Survivors include husband John, three children and six grandchildren.

**'42 MEMORIAM:** Bina Ruth Brown, March 13, in Laurel, Miss. She lived in Columbia, Miss., for 28 years retiring from Entex Gas Company in Columbia. She was a member of the Jackson Symphony Orchestra, where she played viola, and the Worldwide Church of God. Survivors include a sister Eleanor, a brother Kenneth, and a number of nieces and nephews.

**'43 Alice Reid** writes she would like to hear from old Maryville College friends. She has recently moved, and her new address is: Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehab, 100 Warren Circle, Storrs, CT 06268. **Marion Avakian Slater** is in her 49th year living on the Jersey

## MC AGAIN RECOGNIZED BY U.S. NEWS, SETS NEW ENROLLMENT RECORD

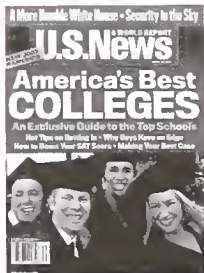
Another academic year began with good news.

In August, the College learned that it was ranked in two categories in U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges" 2007 guidebook. Claiming the No. 3 spot for a second year in a row in the "Best Comprehensive-Bachelor's" category for southern colleges and universities, Maryville College can now state that it has been recognized by the magazine for 10 consecutive years and 12 times since 1994.

For the fifth consecutive year, Maryville College also was recognized as one of the best values among peer institutions.

And for the fourth consecutive year, the College broke previous enrollment numbers. Registering for the fall 2006 semester were 1,155 students – the largest student body ever in the College's history.

Last fall, 1,146 undergraduates were enrolled; total headcount for the fall 2004 semester was 1,080.



shore and is happily living in the Tinton Falls Erickson Retirement Community of Seabrook.

**MEMORIAMS:** **Margaret McKirdy Sherman**, Aug. 27, in Sackets Harbor, N.Y. Upon graduation from MC, she completed graduate work at Syracuse University and went on to teach history, English and Latin at Ft. Covington, Tully and Albion Central School before

retiring in 1975. She wrote poetry and was a published author of *Pastor to the Outposts*, the story of her father's life. A member of Stone Presbyterian Church of Watertown, her hobbies were music and her church work. Survivors include three children, five grandchildren and several cousins.

■ **Edward C. Vaughn**, March 2,

in Chapel Hill, N.C. A WWII veteran, he served in Germany and India, then served in the U.S. Army Reserve during the Korean Conflict. His career encompassed theatre and television lighting and design. An active member of New Hope Presbyterian Church, he sang in the church choir. Survivors include wife Anna, two daughters, three grandsons and one nephew.

'44 **Victoria Hoole Doane** writes that she and four classmates – **Meriam McGaha Anderson**, **Marion Schanck Houser**, **Betty Jane Miller** and **Cordelia Dellinger Kidder** – have met for 62 years to reminisce about Maryville College. The last reunion was in October 2005 in North Carolina.

**MEMORIAM:** **Mary Waisman Van Der Hoven**, June 28, in

## Twelve among new-student ranks make MC a family tradition

**LEGACIES**, the children and grandchildren of Maryville College alumni, continue to enroll in high numbers. This year, 12 first-year students chose the alma mater of their parents or grandparents. They include:



Melissa Andes, daughter of **Melinda O'Connor Andes '79**;



Marshall Flora, son of **Mary Kemp Flora '80** and grandson of **W. Abbott Kemp '47**;

Michael "Tristen" Garner-Maddox, son of **Tracee Garner '88**;



Lauren Harper, granddaughter of **Dick '54** and **Peggy Evans Abbott '54**;



Kelli Ierulli, right, daughter of **Tony '80** and **Carol Hurst Ierulli '80**;



Sierra Kiernan, daughter of **Heather Farrar Kiernan '88**;



Hanna Lewis, daughter of **Connie Wheeler Lewis '82**;



Matthew Limone, son of **Jane Jafvert Limone-Rollins '83** and the late **Andrew Limone '83**;



Nathan Neal, son of **Freda Swabe Neal '78**;

Leah Scheafnocker, daughter of **Bradley Scheafnocker '72**;

Natalie Silva, granddaughter of **Owen '47** and **Lois Thomas McGarity '48**;



and **Mollie Teaster**, daughter of **Neena Stallings Teaster '76**.

Though not technically considered legacies, approximately 10 more first-year students this fall are following their siblings' path to the College. In addition to being a legacy, Kelli Ierulli, whose name is listed above, is joining sister Katie, a senior at MC.

Legacies may qualify for the Maryville College Legacy Award, which is worth up to \$2,500 per academic year. For more information on the award, visit the financial aid pages of the Maryville College web site.

Williston, Vt. During WWII, she worked for the Signal Corps in Washington, D.C., decoding Japanese communications, and at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, working on the Manhattan Project. She then went to work at Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York, where she was in charge of the classified documents section. A conservationist and social activist, she was a very active member of St. Mark Presbyterian in Bethesda, Md., and Williston Federated Church in Vermont. She was a longtime member and officer of the League of Women Voters in Maryland. Survivors include two daughters, two sons, two brothers and their families.

**'45 Dorothy Brown DiStefano** writes she is "thrilled to have four new great grandchildren added to the family." One is the grandchild of **David '71** and **Christine Van Sant Gritzmacher '70**. **Martha Jeane Shaw Oldman** donated a copy of her autobiography, *Aurora Lea: Beautiful Lights on Entering an Open Place*, to the College. The book includes stories and photographs of her time as a medical missionary to Tanzania with the Africa Inland Mission, International. She now lives in Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

**'47 Owen and Lois Thomas McGarity '48** are enjoying living in a great home at Westminster Manor in Austin, Texas, near family. They write that they're "proud to have another grandchild" (**Natalie Silva '09**,

**Fred Morrison '61** has been appointed and commissioned a "Tennessee Ambassador of Goodwill" by Gov. Phil Bredesen. His mission is to carry best wishes and the message of Tennessee's hospitality to all people of other states and other lands. He and wife Carolyn reside in Raleigh, N.C.



sister of **Kellie Silva-Noah '02**) at Maryville.

**'49 Margaret Weaver** is living in a handicapped-accessible home she had built in 2004 following an amputation of her right leg in 2000 and amputation of her left toes and part of her foot in 2003. She is still active in her church and community activities in Martin, Tenn. **MEMORIAM: Donald Kribbs**, May 9, in Nashville, Tenn. He graduated from Vanderbilt University School of Divinity after MC and served Methodist churches in Tennessee and Florida. Later in his career, he entered the field of addiction counseling and management, working with regional alcoholism councils in Nashville; Cleveland, Ohio; Hartford, Conn.; and for the state of Florida. Survivors include wife Harriett; one son; one daughter; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; three brothers, including **Kenneth Kribbs '48**, and one sister. Memorials may be made to the Maryville College Development Office.

**'50 Stuart and Sarah Brown McNiell '53** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 2 with a luncheon at Downtown Sullivan's restaurant in

Maryville with members of their original wedding party. Later that month, they enjoyed a trip to the beach with their children and grandchildren. **Lambert Stewart** has completed a year and a half at Bradenton, Fla., Presbyterian Retirement Community as a permanent resident. He writes that he appreciates receiving the College's publications.

**MEMORIAM: Charles Parvin**, July 29, in Tampa, Fla. Upon graduation from the College, he went to work for Maryville's *Daily Times* newspaper, and in 1956 he was hired as an editor for the *Chicago Tribune*. He remained there for 29 years, serving as the night news editor and night national/foreign editor, among other positions. A devoted family man, he worked two or three jobs during a period of time to pay medical expenses incurred when his wife was diagnosed with a terminal muscle and skin disease. When she was healed, the two spent a year as missionaries in South Korea. He was an active member of First Presbyterian Church in Bradenton, Fla. Survivors include wife **Lois "Debbie" Deobler Parvin '50**, two sons, one daughter and six grandchildren.

**'51 David** and wife **Sue Summers Grubbs '53** toured Israel,

Egypt and Jordan in May. David writes: "It was truly an in-depth, post-graduate learning experience." Highlights from their trip included the pyramids and the Sphinx, Abu Simbol, Petra, and the major religious sites in Jerusalem, Galilee and surrounding areas.

**MEMORIAM: Elmer Keller**, July 1, in Oak Ridge. Following graduation from the College, he did graduate work in chemistry and management at University of Tennessee. In 1956, he joined the AEC, a predecessor agency of the Department of Energy, where he rose to division director involved in plant operations, research and development and operations analysis. Over 30 years, his work took him to plants in Ohio, New York and Oklahoma. He also managed a nationwide program to recover uranium from manufacturing scrap. Survivors include wife Betty; three daughters and their husbands, including **Nancy Keller Feist '76** and **Rich Feist '74**, two stepchildren; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; three brothers; and two sisters.

**'52** In May, **Marsha Beebe Green** wrote that she and husband Gordon planned to move in June into a Portland, Ore., retirement community with "many stimulating activities to keep us busy."

**MARRIAGE: Jim Callaway** to Van Harwell, June 3.

**MEMORIAM: Shirley Schue Pettit**, Jan. 21, in San Clemente, Calif. A native Hoosier, her 35-

year career as a teacher began in South Bend, Ind. She also taught in schools in Utah and California, where she moved in 1956. She earned a master's degree in education in 1978 from the University of Redlands. Survivors include husband Richard, one son, sister **Sarajune Schue Owen '67** and their families.

**'53 Florence Clark Raynal** is living in Harrisonburg, Va., and has two grandsons, ages 3 and 1. **MEMORIAM: F. Conrad Eaddy**, April 19, in Winter Haven, Fla. A gifted vocalist and minister of music, he served churches in Maryville; Charleston, W.Va.; Kissimmee, Fla.; St. Petersburg, Fla.; and Winter Haven. He was also an active member of the symphonies and orchestras in the cities he resided, serving as director of the Charleston Civic Chorus from 1967 until 1972. Survivors include wife Ruth Ann; one daughter; one son; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and brother **John Eaddy '62**.

**'54 MEMORIAM: Kenneth E. Shepard**, May 7, in Maryville. After graduating from MC, he worked as assistant football coach at MC while working on a master's degree from University of Tennessee-Knoxville. He held numerous positions as teacher, coach, athletic director and principal in several schools, including Maryville High School, Valley Point High School (Dalton, Ga.) and Lanier High School. He completed his career with the Blount County school system as supervisor in

1990. In 2002, MC honored him with induction into the Maryville College Athletic Wall of Fame. Survivors include wife Jan, three sons, one daughter, one brother, one sister, and several nieces and nephews.

**'55 Mary Ann Thompson** wrote that her mother, Irene Cates Thompson, passed away Nov. 29, 2005, in Arvada, Colo. She served as the weekend secretary for New Providence Presbyterian Church for several years, aided by Ms. Jane Mook, another longtime resident of Maryville.

**MEMORIAM: Robert Sangster**, Jan. 27, in Annapolis, Md. He was a retired naval officer. Survivors include wife **Dixie Conner Sangster '55** and two daughters.

**'56 Marcia Williams Kling** was recognized in May with the 2006 Mary Lou Wojcik Memorial Angel of Giving Award. Given by the Partnership for Families, Children and Adults at its annual fundraiser, Market Basket, the award is given to those individuals who have "given time and energy to make a difference in the lives of people in the Tennessee Valley."

**'58 Bill Wallace** and wife Alice Ann celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 11 with a reception in the ballroom at Maryville's Regal Towers, where they live.

**'60** In December 2005, **Ralph Ayers** and wife Donna opened

a second art gallery, "The Light House Art Space" in Port Isabel, Texas, and are now renting exhibit space to local artists. Ralph is

beginning his second year as chair of El Paseo Arts Foundation for the Laguna Madre area of the Rio Grande Valley.

## COLLEGE MOURNS PASSING OF TWO FORMER STAFF MEMBERS



**MARGARET L. SHURPP**, professor of education at Maryville College from 1966 until 1983, passed away Aug. 18 in Maryville. She was 88.

A native of Oklahoma, she graduated from Oklahoma A&M with a bachelor's degree in art education in 1945. Following a move to Maryville, she taught elementary school in at Fort Craig West Side School and Sam Houston Elementary. She earned a master's degree in 1953 from the University of Tennessee and a doctorate in 1967, also from UT. As chair of the department for several years, she organized classes for community children in the College and is a "School of Whys" project.

A member Delta Kappa Gamma, she held local, state- and national-level offices in the honorary teaching society and received the state's "Achievement Award." She was a long time member of New Providence Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include daughter Gave Goiner, two grandsons and one sister and one cousin.

**TOM CRONAN**, head of the College's physical education department from 1984 until 1986, died Aug. 18. He was 69.

A 1965 graduate of Louisiana State University, he earned a master's degree from Northwestern State College of Louisiana in 1968 and a doctorate in exercise physiology from the University of Tennessee in 1972.

Before joining the faculty at Maryville, he taught at the Cradell in Charleston, S.C., and at UT. In 2004, he retired from Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn.

Diagnosed with pancreatic cancer 20 days after his retirement, he continued to be an avid athlete and outdoorsman. In April, he rode across the country on a motorcycle to raise awareness about cancer and the support networks for its victims and survivors.

Survivors include wife Joist and two daughters.

## COLLEGE LOSES SARAH JANE HARDRATH KRAMER, ART HISTORY INSTRUCTOR AND ACTIVE ALUMNA

**SARAH JANE HARDRATH KRAMER '74**, an art history instructor at the College and former president of the executive board of the Maryville College Alumni Association, died Sept. 2 in Knoxville. She was 54. Her life was a remarkable journey.

Following graduation from MC, she studied at Northwestern University and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, where she earned a master's degree in art education in 1980. She served for 17 years as the curator of education at the Knoxville Museum of Art. After leaving her position in 1997, she continued to serve on the museum's board of trustees.

Active in civic and community groups and at First Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, she served on numerous boards and advisory councils, including the Community School for the Arts, the Knoxville Junior League and the Tennessee Arts Commission. Honors include the YWCA Tribute to Women in the Arts, a Presidential Citation from the American Institute of Architects/Tennessee Society and the Arts in Education Award from the Arts Council of Greater Knoxville.

Sarah brought a smile to every event and a special brightness to all the people with whom she worked. Above all, she was dedicated to her family, who loved her as dearly as she loved them.

Survivors include husband **Wayne Russell Kramer '74**, (for whom Sarah was the joy and love of his life) grandson of longtime MC president **Ralph W. Lloyd '15**, and sons Russell Reitan Kramer and John Reed Kramer; parents Halbert and Marjorie Hardrath; sister **Sue Hardrath '73** and brother-in-law Sam Troutman; brother-in-law **Lloyd Kramer '71** and sisters-in-law Gwynne Pomeroy and Alice Hood. Knoxville-area survivors include **Sara Hellums Kramer '40**, **Roy '51** and **Sara Jo Emert Kramer '51**, Jackson and Elizabeth Kramer, Steven and Tina Kramer, Sara Gray Kramer and their families, as well as many other aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws.

Memorial gifts may be given to the Sarah Jane Hardrath Kramer Fund at Maryville College.

### '61 Dyrk and Carolyn Hill

**Couser '63** write their oldest son Ryan is doing well at the Naval Academy after serving time in Iraq. His brother, Nick, also a Marine, has applied to the Academy also. They were excited to welcome their 15th grandchild, Kendell Alexandra Couser, into the world on April 11. **Eugenia Durham** is still serving two Episcopal congregations in south-east Arizona. She received a doctorate of ministry degree in congregational development in June from Seabury Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill.

### '62 Virginia Pratt Casl

lives in Sacramento, Calif., and is hoping to retire this year or early next year. She writes that she is interested in her class' 45th reunion. **Clyde Flanagan** writes that he has a new grandson, Conor Ross, born Nov. 11, 2005. In May, it was announced that **Roger Nooe** had been appointed to implement a joint Knoxville-Knox County (Tenn.) plan to end chronic homelessness. He is a professor and former associate dean of the University of Tennessee's College of Social Work and has conducted numerous studies on the number of homeless people in Knoxville as well as the underlying causes.

**MEMORIAM: John Mitchell**, Aug. 19, in Minneapolis, Minn. Upon graduating from MC, he went on to earn his master's degree in English from the University of Tennessee and also joined the Peace Corps, serving in Liberia. Passionate about

poetry, writing and film, he began as an English professor in 1968 at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minn., and later took a two-year sabbatical to study film at San Francisco State University. He returned to Augsburg and continued to be an English professor until his death. In 1995, he helped open the Oak Street Cinema, a Minneapolis theater that showed classic films. Survivors include wife Jean, one daughter, one son and one sister.

### '63 Ann Kuykendall Gillespie

writes that she is enjoying retirement and her new home in the mountains of North Georgia. **J. Fred Kren** and wife Sandy visited the College in May to hear his "best man," **Robert Mahley**, give the commencement address. The couple also enjoyed a mini reunion with Fred's classmate, **G. Scott Bucher**, and Fred's brother and wife **James '52** and **Patricia Love Kren '51**.

### '64 MEMORIAM: Charles R.

**Thomas**, Aug. 4, in Maryville. He was a lifelong farmer, an avid golfer and had retired from Rohm & Haas Company of Knoxville with 35 years of service. A stand-out college athlete and captain of the 1963-1964 football team, he was inducted into the MC Wall of Fame and later served on the Wall's selection committee. Survivors include wife Brenda; one son, one daughter, and their spouses; five grandchildren; and sister **Carolyn Thomas Bair '60**.





## Charlotte Sherrod Coppin '68

(second from left) was recently treated to a surprise birthday party in Chicago

when former classmates (l-r) **Denise Meruy Rose '68**, **Susan Rowley '68** and **Kathy Bishop Burrow '68** all met there. It was the first time that all four college friends had been together since 1966!

'66 For their 40th wedding anniversary, **Eric and Sue Halde- man Bergman** were treated to a trip to Rome by their children and Sue's mom. Sue retired from her position as executive director of South Bethlehem (Pa.) Neighborhood Center on June 30. The Bergmans are enjoying time with their five children and 20 grandchildren. **Stanford Long** has just accepted a position with Warwick Mills Corporation, marketing safety gloves in North America. Wife Sally is recovering from successful colon cancer surgery. They have eight grandchildren and live in New Hampshire.

'67 **Fred and Francine Resnick Abramoff** have been in private business for 26 years. He joined the Miami-Dade Police Department over five years ago as administrator in capital inventory and quartermaster. She is presently a comptroller at an architectural firm in Coral Cables, Fla. They have one grandchild. **David Berry** retired as principal from Maryville's Foothills Elementary School in May. The students and faculty

feted him with gifts, including a television and framed Terry Chandler print. Music students performed an original song, "Dr. Berry Is Our Principal," at the celebration.

'68 **Vicki Madsen Lang** is living in Denmark and writes that she is interested in getting in touch with **Sally Bradshaw**, **Sandi Combs**, and all other friends from her class. **Linda Giesselmann Driver-Machen** is an editor for the U.S. Department of Energy in Oak Ridge. She and her husband now live in Maryville. **Randall Smith** was voted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Membership is limited to 500, and he is only one of two members in his state of Maine, reports proud father **E.B. Smith '40**.

'69 **K. Ann Bridges** still works for the U.S. Postal Service as a bulk mail technician, and husband William works for Blount County maintenance. They both look forward to retirement and travel. **Brian Childs** spent two weeks with the Red Cross in Gulfport and Pass Christian,

Miss., serving as a mental health worker following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

**MARRIAGE: K. Ann Bridges** to William Walker, October 2005.

'70 **Barbara Fritz Baker** is living in Sinclairville, N.Y., and has established a digital conversion business, Baker Productions, LLC. **Emmy Marian Ezzell** was named assistant director for production at the University of Oklahoma Press in December. This closes a circle that began with her first publishing job at the same press in 1976, took her to the University of New Mexico Press for 19 years, and then to Indiana University Press for the past six years. **Jennifer Blair Wetter** is a teacher at Mother of Good Counsel School in Louisville, Ky.

'71 In January, **R. Dana Paul** was named dean of admissions and financial aid at Berry College in Georgia. For the last eight years, he served as vice president for enrollment and dean of admissions at Presbyterian College in South Carolina.

'72 **Caroline Munn Best** was one of six persons from five churches in East Tennessee Presbytery who participated in Steps Toward Peace, an educational event in Israel and Palestine from April 5 until May 25. The program convened 97 people from 31 presbyteries to embark on an important faith journey together to Bethlehem. **Richard Boyle** is living in Albuquerque, N.M., and working as

a medical inspector for the U.S. Air Force.

'73 **Kent Smith** is currently the lead Java architect for the National Ground Command Intelligence Center in Charlottesville, Va. Additionally, he owns Augusta Gunworks and operates a working blacksmith forge in central Virginia.

**Delores Bowen Ziegler** recently received a promotion to full professor of voice at the University of Maryland.

'74 **Terry Holley**, the East Tennessee Foundation's senior vice president for programs and regional development, was one of 10 recognized at an Honoring TEN Tribute Dinner in Atlanta, hosted by the Southern Rural Development Initiative in May. Honorees were selected for their "notable service and significant contribution to rural communities." **Leanne Moore** received a master's degree in management in June. She lives in Alexandria, Va., and is a management analyst for Defense Threat Reduction Agency. **Thomas Radice** reports that his consulting firm, Guttman Development Strategies, is successful and growing, internationally. He and his wife are having renovations done on their 1895 New Jersey home. Two years ago, he completed a CD of poetry accompanied by cello and other instruments.

'75 **Stephen Ayers** has four films getting ready for release, including projects with Kevin Costner, Demi Moore, Malcolm

McDowell and Haley Joel Osment. From July 27 through most of August, he starred live at the Cumberland County (Tenn.) Playhouse in director Abigail Crabtree's stage production of the stirring drama, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.

**Barbara Strong Ellis** is now the director of library services at the Hershey Public Library in Hershey, Pa. She and husband Gene, who were married at MC in 1974, continue acting and directing in community theatres in Lancaster County, Pa. In June, **Steven Yuhasz** directed a concert reading of a new musical revue that he conceived called

"*Lover, Liar, Lady...the women of Kander and Ebb*" at the Stamford Center for the Arts in Stamford, Conn. He began with a cannon of 85 songs with music and lyrics by John Kander and Fred Ebb and selected 32 songs representing the complicated characters who inhabited their Broadway shows. The show was performed at the Provincetown Theatre in Massachusetts Aug. 22 through Sept. 3.

**BIRTH: Charles Alsmeyer** and wife Sharon, a son, Dylan Bennett, Dec. 30, 2005.

**'76 Susan Coram Hind** still owns and operates the Rich-

mont Inn in Townsend, Tenn., and just celebrated 15 years there. She has finished championship on five West Highland White Terriers, "true to the Scottish tradition," and plans to have a sixth champion soon from the latest litter of five pups.

**'77 E. Keith Goodwin** is now an assistant principal in Oglethorpe County (Ga.) Middle School, while wife **Lisa Mongoven Goodwin '79** is an India adoption coordinator for "HOPE for Children" in Atlanta. They have two sons enrolled at the University of Georgia, a third son who's in seventh

grade, and one daughter, who's in third grade.

**'78 Betty Carol Zinavage** has been principal keyboardist with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra for 21 years. She has worked with Henry Mancini, Marvin Hamlisch, Doc Severinsen, the Moody Blues and last year, was onstage with Martin Short. She also teaches piano at the Community School for the Arts, an after-school arts program aimed for lower-income kids, where she founded the "Keys for Kids" program, which seeks out good quality, used upright pianos and delivers them to students'

## Lloyd-Sidle '74 selected to edit book celebrating women's ordination

IN THE PREFACE of *Celebrating Our Call: Ordination Stories of Presbyterian Women* (Geneva Press 2006), **Patricia Lloyd-Sidle '74** shares a memory of her own ordination at Maryville's New Providence Church in 1980 – and of seeing her grandfather, alumnus and longtime MC president, **Ralph W. Lloyd '15**, crying.

"What depth of gratitude and sorrow did those tears at my ordination service reflect?" wrote Lloyd-Sidle, who served as volume editor for the publication. "He was proud of course. Was he also remembering the many women he had accompanied as they struggled to serve God in a church that blocked or belittled them?"

"Certainly he knew how very fortunate I was to have a family of strong women and loving men, to have wise mentors and multiple role models of women leaders, and to be educated in institutions that encourage women in leadership," she continued.

Lloyd-Sidle was recruited to serve as volume editor of *Celebrating Our Call* after it was suggested that the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC) publish a book commemorating, in 2005-2006, the three-fold anniversary celebration of women's ordination: 100 years as deacons, 75 years as elders

and 50 years as Ministers of the Word and Sacrament.

The co-editor of *Teaching Mission in a Global Context* (Westminster John Knox Press 2001), Lloyd-Sidle, a mission coworker in the PC(USA)'s Worldwide Ministries Division, was already well-known in PPC circles and had also contributed several articles to *Horizons*, the magazine for Presbyterian women.

"PPC Acquisitions Editor David Maxwell and I ... started out thinking about essays that would be more theological in the academic sense," she explained. "But when the energy really started bubbling with the idea of women telling their stories, we knew that was the right approach."

They sought out autobiographical stories that would "illustrate the changing attitudes about women in leadership, the obstacles faced by women but also the many wonderful mentors, friends and supporters along the way," Lloyd-Sidle





homes. She and partner Emily Schoen live in an arts and crafts bungalow in Knoxville. They have three cats and one dog and enjoy traveling and camping in their popup camper.

**'80 Peter Gardzina**, a lieutenant colonel in the United States Air Force, was deployed to northern Iraq from April to September 2005 and was awarded the Bronze Star for action.

**'81 Catherine Carter-Stiles** and husband John found their dream mini-farm of six acres: in Kingston Springs, Tenn., outside of Nashville. Catherine writes

that she is the business manager of her family's golf course, is doing freelance stained glass work and Border collie rescue work and "supporting husband John in his attempt to learn how to live with Parkinson's disease."

**'82 Tim Fitzgerald** and family are living in Cumming, Ga.,. They are in their third year running their own public relations business, Fitzgerald PR.

**'83 Susan Spence Hill** was recently named the athletic director at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind in St. August-

tine, where she has been working since 1995. **Bryan McFarland** wrote and performed his song, "Lyrical Freedom Riders," in Birmingham in June at a campus ministry for the Presbyterian Church (USA). The song can be heard at [www.folkalley.com](http://www.folkalley.com). In May, **Mike Wortman**, a science teacher at Maryville Middle School, was selected as one of 16 educators from across the U.S. for teacher development in July at the Keystone Center's Key Issues Institute in Colorado. He was nominated for the program by ALCOA, Inc.'s Tennessee Operations and received a \$3,000 grant.

**'85 Kevin O'Reilly** is the clinical educator/nursing supervisor at Peninsula Psychiatric Hospital in Louisville, Tenn., and was recently awarded the American Psychiatric Nurses Association's "Nurse of the Year" award for the state of Tennessee. After working as a visiting faculty member for a year, **Mack Paschall** has accepted a continuing contract with Florida Gulf Coast University as an assistant professor of assessment and research method classes in both the undergraduate and graduate programs in the university's College of Education. **Melissa Walker** recently co-edited a

said. Church leaders who were invited to share their stories were elders as well as ministers of various ages, races and ethnicities and were serving the church in various parts of the country and world.

As editor, Lloyd-Sidle said she communicated with the authors and served as a "sounding board" as they shaped their stories. Once completed, she edited each chapter for length, clarity, consistency, accuracy and flow.

*Celebrating Our Call* has been called "historically significant" and "hard-to-put-down" in reviews. For Lloyd-Sidle, the project was insightful. "Women are creative and gutsy," she said, reflecting on what she learned. "They have always found ways to serve God and their communities in spite of the limitations placed on them."

The paperback book, which retails for \$19.95, can be purchased through the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation or [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).

## SEVERAL MC ALUMNAE ORDAINED AS MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

In 1955, the General Assembly of the PC(USA) voted to approve the ordination of women to the office of Word and Sacrament. It was approved by the presbyteries and, in 1956, the first woman was ordained in the tradition that is now the PC(USA). This year, the church celebrates the 50th anniversary of women ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Below is a listing of Maryville College alumnae who have been, according to our records, ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. This listing may be incomplete. If you are an alumna and minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) but do not see your name listed below, please contact Rebecca Davis in the Office of Church Relations at 865.981.8209 or [rebecca.davis@maryvillecollege.edu](mailto:rebecca.davis@maryvillecollege.edu).

Anna Baker '63  
Linda Messer Burger '60  
Betty Goshorn Dax '73  
Ellen Dozier '62  
Susan Guyer-Birch '78  
Elizabeth Brown Hale '59  
Deborah Kirk '78  
Elizabeth Knott '57  
Genie Varker Martin '79  
Susan Sterling Montgomery '74

Donna Laubach Moros '61  
Margaret Wilkinson Muir '57  
Barbara Coates Rooker '59  
Patricia Lloyd-Sidle '74  
Janet Schmitt Snow '71  
E. Gayle Walker '68  
Rachel Winter '95  
Judith Martin Wrought '65  
Sharon Youngs '79

book published by the University of Missouri Press entitled *Work, Family, and Faith: Rural Southern Women in the Twentieth Century*. A collection of essays covering the full scope of southern rural women's lives, "the book will be of particular value to anyone interested in sociology, women's studies or southern history," a release from the Missouri Press read.

**'86** In May, **Amy Ralston Vagnier** was named principal of Foothills Elementary School in Maryville. She had been the school's assistant principal.

**'87 MARRIAGE:** **Lori Suggs** to James Martin, Nov. 26, 2005.

**'88 Eric Bollman** transitioned to John Wieland Homes & Neighborhoods in late spring and is enjoying "building homes with a great company." His wife Ginger continues to grow her stained glass business, "A Touch of Glass." They live in Rolesville, N.C. **Lisa Harvey Burkett** is now unit chief of training and oversight in the FBI's Directorate of Intelligence. **Craig Hurst**, a music instructor at Mary Blount Elementary School, was selected to attend the 2006 Tennessee Arts Academy in July on the Belmont University campus in Nashville.

**'90 Neal Atchley** joined Blount Memorial Hospital's active medical staff and is practicing with the East Tennessee Medical Group in Alcoa. Previously, he worked as a missionary physician

with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, serving in the Republic of Niger, West Africa.

**'91 Scott Snyder** was recently recognized as the "NSCAA 2006 Coach of the Year" for the state of Georgia. He led the Westminster Schools soccer program to the 2005-2006 AAA State Championship in Georgia. **BIRTH: Kathleen Anderson Dudinsky** and husband Michael, a daughter, Kayla Nicole, May 5.

**'92 Kipp Martines** has accepted a position as the director of human resources at Elm Creek Nursing Home in West Carrollton, Ohio. **Kelly Smelser** graduated *magna cum laude* from East Tennessee State University and with a 4.0 GPA from Chattanooga State with a degree in radiation therapy. She is employed as a radiation therapist at Emory's Winship Cancer Institute in Atlanta, Ga. After his fourth season at Notre Dame High School, **Charles Wiggins**, head coach of the Notre Dame High School (Chattanooga) football team, was named the Stump on Sports "Pete Potter Coach of the Year," the Region 3-3A Coach of the Year and the Chattanooga Times Free Press "Coach of the Year (for the second year in a row). He writes that his greatest honor from 2005, however, was being named "The Heart of Notre Dame." The award recognizes a Notre Dame employee who most represents the values

embraced by Notre Dame, a person who exhibits leadership, excellence, service and reverence within the Notre Dame community.

**'93 Laura Stephens Shockley** and her family have moved to Knoxville. In August 2005, **Michelle Snyder-Williams** was named director of education and volunteer services at the Norfolk (Va.) Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. **BIRTHS: Melissa Suder Arp** and husband John, a son, Matthew, April 22, 2005. **Elizabeth Steverson Mattingly** and husband Charles, a daughter, Brittain Elizabeth, June 15. **Laura Stephens Shockley** and husband Brian, a daughter, Ainsley Danielle, Dec. 14, 2005. **MEMORIAM: Charles Bedoian**, Aug. 24, in Marysville, Ohio. Survivors include wife Toko.

**'94 April Millsaps Gonzalez** was recently named the associate director of employer connection programs with the career center at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. **Jeff Rosa** was one of three Collier County (Fla.) High School coaches honored with the 2006 State Farm Good Neighbor Coaches Sportsmanship Award. The honor came with a \$1,000 stipend. He coaches volleyball and baseball at the school. **Lori Schirmer** is an assistant professor in the pharmacy practice department at the College of Pharmacy at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. She also has a clinical practice in surgery/

trauma at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

**'95 BIRTH: John Nichols** and wife Audrey, a daughter, Hannah Grace, Feb. 7.

**'96 Terri Dean** is a training specialist at Compass Bank in Hartselle, Ala. **Kelli Jackson Graham** and her family recently relocated to Augusta, Ga., from Poughkeepsie, N.Y. She accepted a position as Baby Signs program coordinator. In July, she was interviewed by CNN's Paula Zahn about the research and benefits of signing with infants.

**'97 Thad** and **Monica Blackburn Alsup** have recently moved to Baton Rouge, La., where Thad has been named operations manager for the Louisiana regional office of Safety and Ecology Corporation. He received his professional engineering certificate in July 2005. Monica owns her own Premier Designs Jewelry business and is able to stay at home with their two children during the day. **Dee Bell** resigned as MC women's basketball coach in July to accept a position at NAIA Reinhardt College in Georgia. He amassed a 107-37 overall record and an impressive 59-3 conference mark over his five seasons as coach at MC. **Kathryn McDonald Devine** was recently hired as a genealogy and local history reference librarian with the Washington State Library in Olympia, Wash. **Kyle Duke** recently moved to

Nashville and has taken a new job as an accountant with Frasier, Dean & Howard, PLLC. **Tiffany Rudicil Greer** and husband Thomas taught for three years in Kuwait and have moved to Jordan to teach for two years. **Chee Hill** is an analyst with the Michael Baker Corporation, an Atlanta-based engineering firm dedicated to modernization of FEMA's floodplain maps and protection. She has one dog, one cat and has gone back to school for a degree in civil engineering.

**BIRTHS:** **Thad and Monica Blackburn Alsup**, a daughter, Natalie Elizabeth, June 1, 2005. **Joey Cody** and husband Zak Weisfeld, a daughter, Beatrice Louise, Oct. 9, 2005. **Kyle Duke** and wife Allison, a son, Nicholas Burgess, May 23. **Sarah Stevenson Hatfield** and husband Scott, a son, Elias Anderson, Feb. 2. **Jason Lay** and wife **Katie Brehmer Lay '99**, a son, Joshua Miller, Jan. 18. **Jason Thompson** and wife Alisha, a son, Samuel Baine, March 10.

**'98 Andrew Ballou** completed a master's degree in American history at the University of Colorado and recently enrolled in a Ph.D. program in American history at Boston University. **Dara Di Giacomo Case** was named a candidate for the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards by Prince George's County (Md.). The year-long process involves self-examination and critique of her teaching style and effectiveness. She was also named choir director at

**SCOTTY HERRELL '01**, a teacher and coach at Clinton (Tenn.) Middle School, was pleasantly surprised during a school assembly Sept. 7, when he learned that he was the grand-prize winner of ING's Unsung Heroes awards program.

The award, for which more than 1,100 educators across the country applied, carried with it a \$25,000 check. One of 100 initial \$2,000 award winners, Herrell's total \$27,000 prize money will fund his 2-year-old "Extreme Makeover: Middle School Education" service program.

According to a press release issued by ING, Herrell's program will teach students how to use engineering principles for civic purposes in their community and beyond.

"The project will help improve the homes of those touched by tragedy through the application of carpentry, landscaping and design skills by his students," the release reads. "Participating students will complete projects after school, on weekends and on breaks. Students will also aid in the selection of makeover applicants, showing their involvement throughout the entire process. Key learning skills will be addressed over the course of the program as students apply math, science, and pre-engineering principles to their

design and construction ideas.

"In the future, Herrell would like to expand the program so they can purchase a dilapidated house and fix it up from start to finish and then sell it to a low-income family for a reasonable amount," the release continues. "He then wants to

donate the proceeds to continue training centers in the area. Not only will Herrell's program redesign homes for those in need, it will redesign students into community change-agents ready to makeover the world."

Sue Voskamp, principal of Clinton Middle School, said Herrell's service program has boosted students' excitement and motivation for learning.

"His dedication and excitement about the program provides our students the opportunity to experience the excitement of learning and service and has a lasting

impact on the community," she said. "Scotty sets high standards for his students, and works very hard to see that they are met. I have never known a finer and more dedicated teacher than Scotty Herrell."

ING is a global financial institution of Dutch origin offering banking, insurance and asset management to over 60 million private, corporate and institutional clients in over 50 countries.



*"His dedication and excitement about the program provides our students the opportunity to experience the excitement of learning and service and has a lasting impact on the community."*

— PRINCIPAL SUE VOSKAMP



**Clay '98 and Staci Kerr Stalcup '98**, triplets, Holland Olivia, Seth Eugene and Aiden Claire, April 17. (Sadly, they lost Holland Olivia at 6 weeks of age.)

Northminster Presbyterian Church in Reisterstown, Md. **Mitsunobu Hanyu** is living in Tokyo, Japan and working as a researcher with Toshiba. He is currently working on a new hard disk drive that will go into the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's smallest HDD. **David McGreal** was hired July 13 as head boys' basketball coach and junior varsity volleyball coach at Gulf Breeze High School in Florida. **Clay and Staci Kerr Stalcup** are both family practice physicians with Cherokee Health Systems in Seymour, Tenn. After earning a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Tennessee, **Sarah Wagner** went to work as a community planner

for the Department of the Navy in Charleston, S.C. Instrumental in the rebuilding of damaged military installations following hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, she received numerous awards as a first responder. Recently, she was selected as base planner for 30th Civil Engineering Squadron, 30th Space Missile Wing, at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

**MARRIAGE:** **Nikolai Curtis** to Rachael Knupp, July 27.

**BIRTHS:** **Mitsunobu Hanyu** and wife Akemi Carina, a son, Keisuke, Feb. 3. **John and Wendy Wimbrow LaForest**, a son, William John, Sept. 24, 2005.

'99 **John Chiles** is a revenue assurance analyst for Cingular

Wireless in Greenville, S.C. **Sam King** is a process manager for Woodbridge Group in Chattanooga. **Wendy Wimbrow LaForest** earned a master's degree in nursing from the University of Tennessee in December 2004. She is now a registered nurse and certified pediatric nurse practitioner.

**Rachel Roe-Dale** was hired as an assistant professor of mathematics at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. **Gabe Whittenburg** is employed as a senior manager, benefits administration, of Convergys Corporation's Employee Care Division. Serving as the North American Benefits Tower Lead, he supports the Global Functional Process Lead for Benefits Administration. In May, he wrote that he was involved in "the largest implementation in the history of the HR business process outsourcing industry," which is estimated to be worth over \$1.1 billion and will provide a comprehensive suite of HR transactional services for more than 60,000 employees and 102,000 retirees in 70 countries.

**MARRIAGE:** **Joel Shields** to Julie Seligson, Aug. 20, 2005.

**BIRTHS:** **Michael Clark** and wife Michele, a son, Brandon Michael, May 26. **Rachel Howard Cloud** and husband Jamie, a son, Michael Anthony, May 13. **Lucretia Sleeper Myers** and husband Matt, a son, Landon Scout, May 21.

'00 **Andy and Casey Anderson Bartow** recently moved to Tampa, Fla., with their family.

**Andy** is self-employed, running Black Dog Mastering Studio, and **Casey** is a contracts analyst with Tech Data Corporation.

**Clinton James** works in the development and research department at Jewelry Television in Knoxville. **Tim LeRoy** graduated from the Eastern Carolina School of Medicine in May and has started residency at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla., in the surgical specialty of urology. **David Moss** was presented with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal while deployed to the Detention Hospital, Joint Medical Group, Joint Task Force, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The medal, the third-highest peacetime defense award, is specifically intended to recognize exceptionally meritorious service performance and to honor an individual's accomplishments over a sustained period.

**Melanie Shepherd** finished her master's in school counseling from Lincoln Memorial University and is currently working as a career tech counselor for Loudon County and Greenback high schools in Tennessee. **Anuj Suri** finished medical school in May and is pursuing a career in gynecological oncology at the University of Texas in Houston. **Melissa Wright Reyes** was recently promoted to order settlement analyst with Kimberly-Clark in Knoxville. She and her husband live in Kingston.

**MARRIAGES:** **Tim LeRoy** to Kimberly White, March 18.

**Melissa Wright** to Carlos Reyes, June 11.



On July 28, **Andrew J. "A.J." Ballou '98** married Angela Menke in Evergreen, Colo. Groomsmen included (l-r) **Paul Weaver '97, Mark Hatfield '97** and **Eric Obermiller '97**.



**Sarah Bozeman Lewis '00** graduated with honors from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine with the degree of doctor of osteopathic medicine on May 27. While attending WVSOM, she received the Glasgow-Rubin Achievement Citation from the American Medical Women's Association and the Southern Medical Association Scholarship. She plans to intern at Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pa., in internal medicine.

**BIRTHS:** Daren Cox and wife Hope, a daughter, Emily Grace, June 24, 2005. **Melissa Walker-Perry** and husband Paul, a son, Lane Edward, Nov. 8, 2004. **Paige Morefield Wright** and husband Pete, a son, Hayden Eli, March 15.

**'01 Katrina Atchley** passed the Tennessee Bar Exam and is now working as an associate at Ogle, Gass, & Richardson, PC, in Sevierville. **Brandi Grimes Magee** is a first grade teacher at Highland Park Elementary in Lenoir City. She is also currently pursuing her master's degree in instructional leadership from Tennessee Technological University. **MARRIAGE:** Jesse LaPrees to Lindsey Tyre, Oct. 22, 2005. **BIRTH:** Valerie Malyvanh Jansen and husband Timothy, a daughter, Hannah Laura, May 5, 2005.

**'02 Sarah Berkemeier** is studying for a master's degree in counseling psychology at Lewis & Clark College and is working as a co-apartment manager with her husband in Portland, Ore. She recently

completed an Olympic triathlon in partnership with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. **Rachel Bowman** graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis, receiving an M.D. She has begun her three-year residency in family medicine at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. **Heather Hendricks Byrd** was named "Teacher of the Year" at Northwest Elementary School and was nominated for "Teacher of the Year" for Murray County Schools and the state of Georgia. **Kelly Cannon** graduated from the University of Tennessee's College of Veterinary Medicine and is now working in Atlanta as a veterinarian. **Sarah Stutzman** is working on her master's degree in choral conducting at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

**MARRIAGE:** BreAnn Daniel to Justin Kidd '04, June 24.

**BIRTH:** James Dunbar and wife Allyson Pierce Dunbar, a daughter, Rachel Elizabeth, Oct. 13, 2005.

**'03 Megan Cheatham Coates** completed her post-baccalaure-

ate work to receive her teaching certification in biology for grades 7-12 in May. She is now teaching science at Gibbs High School in Knoxville. **Rachel Garza** is an ESOL teacher for the Albemarle County (Va.) schools. **Kenneth Kirby** graduated from Duke University's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program in May and is currently an employee of Carolina Physical Therapy Associates, Inc. **David Kirkland** is an investment representative with Edward Jones and is living in Maryville. **Jessica Kone** graduated from the University of Florida-Levin College of Law in December 2005 and passed the state's bar exam. She was sworn in as a member of the Florida Bar on April 21 and is now practicing as a corporate attorney in Miami, Fla. **Jennifer LeBar** is a kindergarten teacher in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System in



**Louis Belva '00** and wife **Kasey Ellen Belva '02**, a son, William Louis, Nov. 15, 2005.

Charlotte, N.C. **Christina Fisher Ragain** received her master's of science from Yale University in May and will be starting as a lecturer of chemistry at University of Texas at Tyler. **Misti Reagan** has joined the technical team of Materials and Chemistry Laboratory Inc., in Oak Ridge, Tenn., as a specialist in sample preparation. Her experience includes sample preparation for organic, inorganic, and



**Christopher McCarty '01**, right, graduated from the UT College of Law and was voted to speak on behalf of the graduating class during its hooding ceremony on May 11 at the Knoxville Convention Center. In March, he and his trial team partner won the UT Ray Jenkins Intramural Moot Court Competition. He was nominated by law faculty to the Order of Barristers, a national honorary organization that recognizes graduating law students. He has accepted a position at Lewis, King, Krieg & Waldrop in Knoxville.

radioactivity analyses. **Heather Everett Shamblin** is a registered nurse at Blount Memorial Hospital.

**MARRIAGE:** **Lindsey Blair** to Aaron Woods, March 20, 2004.

**Kathy Braden** to Mike Jones, April 29. **Jessica Trent** to Edward Pierce, Oct. 22, 2005.

**BIRTH:** **Danielle Williamson Hope** and husband Wes, a daughter, Madilynn Rebecca, Aug. 16, 2005. **David Kirkland** and wife Nychole, a son, Zachary David, July 25.

'04 **Stacey Blevins** graduated from the University of Alabama

at Birmingham School of Nursing in May and has accepted a position as registered nurse in the Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at University Hospital.

**Gary Drinnen** lost his bid for the Republican nomination for Tennessee's 18th House District seat, but along the way, he picked up endorsements from business owners, former state senator Ben Atchley and Knoxville's *Metro Pulse*. **Meredith Elliott** received her master's degree in foreign language-ESL education from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and is currently teaching English as a second language at Lenoir City Elementary School. **Andrea Frazier Heaton** is a graduate student in nursing at UT-K. **Kristin Johnston Reed** was the primary assistant for Dr. John D. Sterrett's research on the root surfaces of teeth. Their results were accepted for publication in the *Journal of Adhesive Dentistry*. Their study took about six months to complete, and it served as a senior study for Reed, who is now a third-year dental student at the University of Tennessee Dental School in Memphis. **Michael Rickman** was an assistant hall director at UT-K for the past two years and is now working as an area coordinator in the Residence Life and Housing Department at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. In May, he wrote that he was planning to graduate with a master's degree in Deaf education at the end of the summer term. He is also working as a freelance interpreter for the deaf.

**MARRIAGES:** **Brandon Blackburn** to Katherine Findley, May 20. **Abby Guider** to Samuel Thomas, June 24. **James Hayes** to Sarah Phillips, Oct. 1, 2005. **Andrea Frazier** to Josh Heaton, May 14, 2005. **Christie Latimer** to **Wade Knapper '05**, Aug. 26. **Mary Rose Linker** to Timothy Williams, Jr., May 13.

'05 **Amanda Brown** completed her master's degree in sports studies in May and has accepted an assistant volleyball coaching position at Webb High School in Knoxville. **Darren Dachelet** completed his requirements for a bachelor's degree in engineering from Auburn University in August 2006. He is now pursuing a master's degree at Auburn. **K. Amanda Davis** is a graphic designer for Ruby Tuesday, Inc., in Maryville. **Melinda Stewart** is the administrative manager at Sea Ray of Knoxville. **MARRIAGES:** **Stephanie Bumbalough** to William Sweet, June 10. **Elizabeth Davis** to **Morgan Smith**, June 17. **Rachel Huffines** to John Goode, June 18, 2005. **Michael Wilhoit** to **Loren Rion '06**, June 10.

'06 **Robert Floyd** is a botany student and teaching assistant at Jacksonville State University in Alabama. **Nicole Geerlof Robinson** is living in Collegedale, Tenn., and working with AmeriCorps for one year. She is currently a volunteer coordinator for the Area Agency on Aging and Disability. **MARRIAGE:** **Nicole Geerlof** to Trevor Robinson, May 24. **MC**

## Marriage proposal enlivens soccer matches

Soccer brought them both to Maryville College and subsequently brought them together, so it seemed fitting to **Nick Bradford '06** that he should propose to sweetheart **Elizabeth Rushworth '05** on the MC soccer field.

On Aug. 26, the



College invited alumni players back to compete against the current squads. In between the

women's and men's games, Rushworth was called to the center of the field, where Bradford

met her, falling to one knee for the proposal.

Few people knew of Bradford's plan prior to Aug. 26, but he did share it with his former coach, Pepe Fernandez. "I asked him: 'Nick, what are you going to do if she says 'No?'" Fernandez said. "He said, 'Coach, I'm just going to turn and sprint for the woods.'"

Bradford was able to save his energy for the game; Rushworth's answer was "yes." And although she couldn't believe he had chosen such a public venue for such an intimate moment, she wasn't upset.

"It was really fun to share the experience with my family, coaches and all the soccer alumni," Rushworth said.

The couple is planning a June wedding. She is currently enrolled in the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga's doctor of physical therapy program. He is student teaching.

## ELIZABETH S. "LIBBY" WELSH, LONGTIME MC EMPLOYEE, RETIRES AFTER 47 YEARS

IN THE SPRING OF 1959, with her Maryville College graduation date looming before her, Elizabeth S. "Libby" Welsh '59 had no employment plans, no personal goals, no particular direction. Forty-seven years later, her retirement is following a similar pattern.

That isn't to say her life between 1959 and 2006 went without purpose. Quite the opposite.

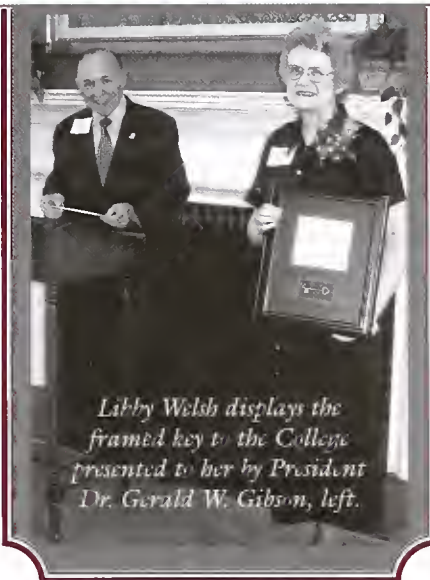
Welsh found meaningful work – and great satisfaction – holding various positions in Maryville College's admissions, alumni, advancement and development offices, and the College celebrated her accomplishments and dedication during a luncheon and reception held in her honor June 23.

Maryville College President Dr. Gerald Gibson presented Welsh with a key to the College – the first he said he'd ever given – and \$500 to use for travel expenses. He went on to announce that a student award at the College was being established in Welsh's name. Welsh, who said she was "stunned" by many of the arrangements that were made without her knowledge, was feted by a crowd of alumni, friends, family and current and former faculty and staff members.

Speaking at the luncheon, four administrators at the College praised their colleague's work ethic, perseverance, exceptional writing and editing skills and sense of humor; they also shared stories of working with her and "Libby-isms."

### NO REGRETS

An English major who came to Maryville College from Louisville, Ky., in 1955 because her grandparents and parents were alumni ("It never dawned on me to consider another school"), Welsh today has no regrets about



*Libby Welsh displays the framed key to the College presented to her by President Dr. Gerald W. Gibson, left.*

her choice for higher education, her saying "yes" to the employment offer Raymond I. "Brick" Brahams '49 made to her back in 1959 or working four years past her 65th birthday.

"Just like the rest of my life, I really hadn't made any plans [to retire]," Welsh explained. "And being diagnosed with cancer years ago, I didn't really think I'd live to see 65. When I heard 'cancer,' I thought I'd be gone in six months. But surviving that, my outlook changed and I realized, 'Hey, I'm likely to live to 65. What

am I going to do?'

"As I approached that year, I realized that I didn't want to leave," she continued. "I liked my job, liked the people and thought I could still be a worthwhile contributor. And I didn't have any plans for what I was going to do after retiring, so I didn't."

Eventually, other health issues played a factor in Welsh deciding to finally hang it up this summer. She believes she's leaving the work in good hands.

"Most of the staff are young enough to be my grandchildren. They all get along so well and are so strong in what they do," she said. "I thought this was a good time to retire. And I wanted to leave at a time of year before the staff and department put together annual plans."

As someone who began working full-time during the summers of her high-school years, Welsh said curiosity also got the better of her.

"I decided that I want to find out what it's like not to get up and go to work at 8 o'clock every morning."

*To read the entire story, which includes Libby's memories of the early years of the Admissions and Advancement programs and her thoughts on the Maryville College of 2006, visit [maryvillecollege.edu](http://maryvillecollege.edu) and search on "Welsh."*

