

Fall 2010

# VISIONS

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF MUW



# V<sup>3</sup>

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MUW Launches V<sup>3</sup>  
Online College



# Calendar of Events



## OCTOBER

### 14 **Welty Gala**



*Matlin*

Actress and author Marlee Matlin will be the guest speaker for this year's event. Matlin received world-wide critical acclaim for her motion picture debut in "Children of a Lesser God," earning her the Academy Award for Best Actress. At age 21, she became the youngest recipient of the Best Actress Oscar, making her one of only four actresses to receive that honor for a film debut. In addition to the Oscar, she was honored by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association with the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Drama. Her book, "I'll Scream Later," takes readers on the journey of her life, from the loss of her hearing to the highs and lows of Hollywood. Gala tickets are sold at different levels and offer opportunities for attendees to enjoy a private reception with the guest speaker along with premium seating during dinner. Proceeds from the Gala benefit the endowment for the Eudora Welty Chair in Humanities. The Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation is a major sponsor of the Welty series. For more information, call the Office of Development at (662) 329-7148.

### 21-23 **Eudora Welty Writers' Symposium**

This annual weekend, which honors the world-renowned alumna Eudora Welty, draws noted authors, journalists, scholars and artists. For more information, visit <http://www.muw.edu/welty/index.html> or call the Department of Languages, Literature and Philosophy at (662) 329-7386.

## DECEMBER

### 3 **MUW December Graduates' Recognition Ceremony**

MUW will hold its annual December Graduates' Recognition Ceremony at 6 p.m. in Whitfield Hall, Rent Auditorium.

## APRIL

### 15-16 **MUW Homecoming**

MUW will welcome alumni and guests back with many events. For more information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at (662) 329-7295.



For MUW news and events:



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FALL 2010



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## 'W' love offers fresh starts, new beginnings

Dear 'W' Friends:

It is absolutely great to be back on the Mississippi University for Women campus. While many things have changed since I left The W in 1988, some aspects of The W will be forever the same – it is an incredibly beautiful, historic campus, offering a comfortable environment for faculty, staff, students and visitors. I truly feel I've come home.

We are excited about beginning a new academic year. New beginnings bring new energy, ideas and opportunities. We can make a fresh start, creating a new chapter in the history of the University we all love and cherish. It's time for all of us — alumni, students, faculty, staff, community and all other stakeholders — to come together to breathe renewed vigor into The W. It's time for all of us to work with purpose to secure the resources to make our MUW soar.

We have much to celebrate this fall. Enrollment is up compared to last year; V3 College has been launched with nearly 60 students enrolled; once again we have been ranked by U.S. News & World Report; residence halls are at capacity; four new grants were awarded to W faculty and programs in July; 100 students are enrolled in the Ina E. Gordy Honors College and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science has 270 students, more than it's had in a decade. Good news abounds!

During these difficult economic times, it is imperative all 'W' constituents work together in harmony for the benefit of this incredibly valuable institution and community resource. Fractured relationships between the University and some alumnae must be reconciled. MUW **needs, must have and requires the full support of ALL alums** and all University stakeholders to perform at peak levels. The



damage done by recent rifts has been devastating, hurting the credibility and integrity of the institution with alums, donors, current and prospective students, faculty and staff, our hometown community leaders, and all its publics. We must put the past behind us and focus on getting a fresh start.

On behalf of the University, public apologies have been made and sincere regrets have been expressed to all 'W' constituencies. Now it is time to move forward, building a brighter future for The W. We must preserve the rich heritage of our beloved college and build upon that foundation. Harmony and friendships must be restored, differences resolved, and all alums must be fully united to build a bold, new future for this institution.

The traditional role of MUW's alumni must be radically changed and must surge to new levels of performance the likes of which our alma mater has never seen. We must take our efforts to new heights in our support of the University through generous financial support, renewed student recruitment and positive public relations, all of which are aligned in harmony with that of University leadership.

The W has to be one of the most resilient universities in America, having survived so many challenges throughout its history. These successes have come because The W's key stakeholders have pulled together – in unity and harmony – to beat the odds.



Today MUW is combating a different enemy – a major lack of appropriated funds to operate as a thriving institution. The funding provided by the state of Mississippi through the Institutions of Higher Learning will see a 25 percent drop from FY'09 to FY'12. That's a loss of major dollars. You and I can make up that difference by giving financial support through the MUW Foundation. With that in mind, the University is working to raise more than \$2 million in general, non-endowed scholarship funds this year to help offset the budget losses for 2012. That means we all must give above and beyond our past giving levels for MUW to truly thrive.

The fact that MUW alumni are not solidly and harmoniously united in spirit and purpose is a huge hindrance to the future viability of the institution we cherish. The lack of alumni unity hinders The W's ability to raise the kind of financial support it needs; it's a problem in student, faculty and staff recruitment; and it poses difficulties in the search for a new president. And, as though that were not enough, those of us who live in Columbus and Lowndes County must face the reality that a surviving institution is not as attractive as a thriving one.

No MUW stakeholder wants a University that is struggling to survive. We all want it to thrive and to have the resources it needs to soar. The W's orchestra of stakeholders must now give full attention to the focus of their love, fine-tune their instruments of love (recruitment, financial support and words of praise) and play in harmony for our University to thrive.

Your love for MUW, as reflected in your efforts to recruit students, give generously to the Foundation and project a positive attitude and comments about The W, make a difference. Your immediate demonstration of support in these areas is critically important.

Demonstrate your love and loyalty to your alma mater. Let us hear from you *today*.

Sincerely,

*Allegra Bringham*

Allegra Bringham  
Interim President  
(662) 329-7100  
abrigham@pres.muw.edu



*Col. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, presents a token of appreciation to MUW Interim President Allegra Bringham and Dr. Gary Bouse, vice president for institutional advancement, at the graduation breakfast for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-11. The plaque was presented in thanks for MUW's support as the class' Pilot Partner over the last year of training. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin).*



## From the Classroom to the Community, Students Learn Valuable Lessons

By *Nikonie Brown*

When they are not in the classroom, Mississippi University for Women students can be found giving back to the community.

The Office of Community Service recorded more than 5,700 hours of community service for the 2009-2010 school year, representing a 167 percent increase from the hours logged by the office the previous year. Since its establishment in 2006, an increase in service hours has been shown each year.

This includes projects organized by the office and other campus groups, as well as the individual efforts of students as they worked with local non-profit agencies.

“We want to give students the opportunity to give of themselves and learn from others in a way that is empowering and assists as they find their passion,” said Jessica Harpole, MUW coordinator of leadership and service.

There were several major service events organized by the office last year.

The Welcome Week Day of Service is an annual event that takes place the day before classes start and is open to all MUW students. Student leaders are paired with a group of eight to 12 incoming students and volunteer at local nonprofit agencies.

Some of the agencies that benefited from this service last year included Baptist Memorial Hospital, Columbus Lowndes Humane Society, local nursing facilities, Salvation Army, Palmer Home for Children and the Lowndes County Public Library. This day helps the students connect with the Columbus community as they get to know others in the MUW family.

Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief organization that coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the world. The benefits of this program are in line with the mission of MUW as it promotes academic advancement of women.

In some of the developing countries where aid has been received, they have seen an increase in the number of female students. Their families know that the children will receive a meal if they attend school so more female children are attending.

The original goal was to raise enough money to feed 20,000 children, but through the selfless giving of students, staff, alumni and the local community in the packaging events from October 2009-April 2010, more than 43,000 meals were packaged. The people of Haiti also benefited from the meals before and after the devastating earthquake in January.

“This project was very rewarding for our students because they not only raised money for the organization, they were able to personally package the meals. It worked well because it only takes 25 cents to feed one child and a quarter is easy for a college student to give,” said Harpole.

The Spring Day of Service is an annual event, which always takes place in the city of Columbus. Last year’s project was done with the help of the United Way of Lowndes County. Students volunteered to renovate a halfway house for women who have been released from prison.

“Renovation of the house is ongoing, and we hope to use this site as part of the Welcome Week Day of Service this fall,” Harpole said.



*Students package meals for Stop Hunger Now, an international hunger relief organization. More than 43,000 meals were packaged between October 2009 and April 2010.*



*Thirty MUW students, including Danielle Stewart and Sherita McGee, worked with Habitat for Humanity and Hero Housing during spring Alternative Break.*



Alternative Break trips, held both in the fall and spring, are programs in which students donate a weekend of their time to do intensive community service. The purpose of these weekends is to give students a way to have a meaningful experience in a short amount of time.

“We want to give students the opportunity to give of themselves and learn from others in a way that is empowering and assists as they find their passion.”

—Jessica Harpole

For the spring Alternative Break, about 30 students worked with Habitat for Humanity and Hero Housing in Greensboro, Ala. They painted, sheet rocked, cleaned, did yard work and applied the finishing touches to a Habitat home so a new family could move into it.

Danielle Stewart, a junior from Sulligent, Ala., participated in the Greensboro project and said she enjoys giving back.

“The friendships you make and knowing you can be a blessing to another is amazing.”

## MUW garners recognition from U.S. News



Once again Mississippi University for Women has garnered recognition by U.S. News & World Report.

The latest rankings place MUW in the top tier of Best Regional Universities and the highest ranked public school from Mississippi in the Southern category.

MUW Interim President Allegra Brigham, said, “For over a decade, MUW has been consistently recognized by U.S. News & World Report for the quality educational experience it offers to its students. We are very proud of the efforts of the entire MUW family that have allowed for the university to continue receiving this national recognition.”

In addition to being consistently ranked by U.S. News & World Report, MUW has been prominently ranked in other leading publications such as Kiplinger’s Personal Finance and Consumer’s Digest magazines.

## CHAMPS Project Receives \$1.5 Million Grant

By Nikonie Brown



Katie Gilleylan and Amy Smith-Clark '96, both teachers at Franklin Academy Elementary School; Carl Robinson, math specialist from the Mississippi Department of Education; and Stacy Dewberry '00, Immanuel Center for Christian Education, participate in a mathematical exercise.

The Roger F. Wicker Center for Creative Learning CHAMPS Project at Mississippi University for Women was awarded a \$1,538,574 grant for three years through the Mississippi Department of Education’s Mathematics and Science Partnership 2009-2010 Program.

This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education under Title II, Part B of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Now in its sixth successful year, the CHAMPS (Creating High Achievement in Mathematics and Problem Solving) Project has immersed more than 600 Mississippi fourth through eighth grade teachers from 17 high-need districts in research-based mathematics frameworks, high quality professional development and educational activities that are aligned with state curriculum standards.

“The ultimate goal of the CHAMPS Project is to improve overall student achievement, and we hope to accomplish this by creating confident, effective teachers who are well versed in the area of mathematics” said Sarah Summers, project director.

Summers estimates that these high quality teachers, who also serve as peer educators and role models in their home districts, have directly taught at least 3,000 students.

For more information about the CHAMPS Project, contact Summers at 662-241-6088 or ssummers@ccl.muw.edu. Additional information is also available at the following website: [www.muw.edu/ccl/champs](http://www.muw.edu/ccl/champs).



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I am truly honored to serve in this new role as chairman of the MUW Foundation's Board of Directors, and am grateful to the Foundation Board for giving me the opportunity to serve in this capacity during a time of great importance for our university.

A well deserved appreciation should be extended to Dr. Eddie Betcher for his work and leadership as our immediate past chairman. One noteworthy aspect of Eddie's leadership was his ability to mobilize the Foundation Board and to bring a more business-centered culture to our work. During Eddie's tenure, he spent countless hours leading the Foundation resulting in tremendous strides in the areas of financial reporting, investment management and governance, and all in a time in which all non-profit organizations were significantly challenged with a world wide recession.

As we look to the future, we are reenergized by the appointment of Allegra Brigham as interim president of MUW. We are delighted to have someone of her caliber, experience and institutional knowledge to fill this role during this important time of growth and innovation at MUW. I am looking forward to working with her and the leadership of the Foundation to implement our vision for the Foundation and to advance the strategic directions of the university.

The ongoing work of the Foundation in providing support to the University, students, faculty, staff and programs is extremely important, and I am pleased that we have a new group of talented individuals who have agreed to serve on the Foundation's Board of Directors. I also want to thank those individuals who recently rotated off the board or graciously accepted emeriti status.

As a loyal daughter of the "W" and your new Foundation Board chairman, I look forward to giving back to the university who prepared me for my life's work, not only academically, but in leadership and relationship skills as well. Just as I "served" my fellow classmates as a monitor in our family-style dining hall in the late 50s, I plan to once again "serve" you, the alumni, as Foundation Board chairman.



All of you can contribute in many ways, but right now, one of the most important ways is financially. I realize that we all have relationships with other institutions and organizations and are called upon to support them financially also. However, I would hope that you will reexamine your past relationship with our beloved MUW and find a way to support her at an increased level of giving when asked to do so by the university. If we make it a priority and do it now, it will be a very positive way to show that we all are committed to keeping the "W" strong and viable. Without scholarships, I could not have attended the "W." Please help to make a current or potential student's dream a reality. The time is now!

Sincerely,

Jo Anne Arnold Reid, Class of 1960  
Chairman  
MUW Foundation Board of Directors



# Substantial Military History Collection Donated to Fant Memorial Library

By Anika Mitchell Perkins



*Dr. Claudia A. Limbert, president emeritus; Cathy Young, reference/information literacy librarian and assistant professor; and Gail Gunter, dean of library services, stand in front of boxes of a military history collection donated to the university.*


**A**n extensive military history collection has been donated to Fant Memorial Library at Mississippi University for Women.

The gift consists primarily of military books and military unit histories from World War I and World War II made possible through Andy Murray Coffey and his wife Katherine and son Glenn H. Coffey, all of Lafayette, La.

Cathy Young, MUW reference/information literacy librarian and assistant professor, said, "The Coffey's generosity has touched the Fant Memorial Library once again by the donation of an extensive military collection that will be much sought after by researchers, students and patrons. Because Mr. Murray wanted people to be able to access this information, he chose to put it where it would be cataloged to be available and utilized by the public."

Two other collections were recently donated to MUW by the family, including a large assemblage of works by alumna Eudora Welty and a portion of William Faulkner's collection.

According to Young, the military collection by far is Andy Murray Coffey's largest, which he has been amassing since he was a little boy.

Former MUW President Claudia A. Limbert said, "We are excited to be receiving this gift from the same donors as the Welty and Faulkner collections. This valuable collection will be of great use to military scholars or anyone interested in military history." 

STRENGTHENING THE LONG BLUE LINE



## MUW Foundation Announces its Board of Directors

**T**he Mississippi University for Women Foundation announced its 2010-2011 Board of Directors.

Jo Anne Arnold Reid from Ackerman currently serves as chairman. She is a 1960 graduate. The other officers are Vice Chairman Renee Nick Flynt '81 from Jackson, Secretary Dr. Barbara A. Garrett '58 from Columbus, Treasurer Shay Eubanks '93 from Mableton, Ga., Immediate Past Chairman Dr. R. Edward Betcher '88 from Columbus and President Dr. Gary A. Bouse from Columbus.

Directors include Dr. Patricia Ainsworth '70 from Brandon; Ellen Thompson Black '99 from Franklin, Tenn.; Ann Eason Brent '52 from Greenville; Henry Brevard Jr. from Tupelo; Allegra Cope Brigham '69 from Columbus; Dr. Dorothy Burdeshaw from Columbus; Robert E. Clark Jr. from Louisville; John Correnti from Columbus; Maj. Junie M. Coursey '51 from Millport, Ala.; Sally Burchfield Doty '88 from Brookhaven; Adelaide Williams Fletcher '62 from Indianola; Mary Lib Barrett Francis '56 from Amory; Dr. Mitzi Chandler Green '77 from Columbus; Elizabeth Smith Gwin '30 from Starkville; Caroline Bryan Harrell '60 from West Point; Susan George Hedges '80 from McComb; Juanita McCown Hight '34 from Louisville; Helen Byars Jenkins '54 from Indianola; Betty Clyde Ratcliff Jones '61 from Columbus; Ruth Pettey Jones '76 from Cookeville, Tenn.; J. H. (Ken) Kennedy Jr. from Columbus; Connie Sills Kossen '64 from Clinton; Ralph W. McLain from Columbus; Pat Stone Meiners '59 from Jackson; Andrea Godwin Overby '68 from Brentwood, Tenn.; Dr. R. Jayne Perkins-Brown '77 from Chelsea, Ala.; Corrine Williford Pierce '52 from Corinth; Dr. Della R. Posey '77 from Jackson; The Honorable Lenore Loving Prather '53 from Columbus; Carolyn Smithson Ritter '57 and Charles W. (Tex) Ritter Jr., both from Kosciusko; Dr. Sarah Pearce Sanders '64 from Columbus; William S. Sanders '92 from Dallas, Texas; Dr. Harry L. Sherman from Columbus; Donald Spaulding '86 from Eagle Pass, Texas; Betty Boyls Stone '51 from Columbus; Dr. Eugenia Summer '45 from Columbus; Elizabeth Gaither Thisted '54 from Huson, Mont.; Edith Ruff Thomas '41 from Tupelo; Dr. Teresa E. Thompson from Statesboro, Ga.; William J. Threadgill from Columbus; Dr. Alma Ross Turner '81 From Columbus; Betty Pope Waters '75 and Mike Waters, both from Columbus, and Barbara Oliver White '60 from Dallas, Texas.

The MUW Foundation is a non-profit Mississippi corporation organized to foster, encourage and promote the educational purposes of the university. In providing its important services through the pursuit of endowments and other gifts, the Foundation enriches and embraces the academic quality and reputation of MUW.

For more information about the MUW Foundation, call (662) 329-7148 or visit [www.muwfoundation.org](http://www.muwfoundation.org). 



# MUW Launches V<sup>3</sup> Online College

*By Anika Mitchell Perkins*

Mississippi University for Women has enrolled nearly 60 students into its new online college, V3 College, which offers degree completion programs to students nationwide.

V3 College was launched this summer and its name comes from the Latin phrase, “veni, vidi, vici,” meaning, “I came, I saw, I conquered.” According to Dr. William “Bill” Mayfield, director of V3 College, the name reflects what the new college offers – an accelerated degree program that allows students to set their own schedules.

Mayfield says they had to differentiate V3 College from the other online colleges and universities first by acknowledging

that each student has a different learning style and then utilizing every aspect and nuance of the power of digital media.

“In fact, we are taking lessons from the video gaming industry in which the players are totally engaged with every muscle in their bodies, utilizing their brains to think strategically and act tactically,” he said. “This is something we strive for in education, and the video gaming industry has found the solution. We will also bring in lessons from the film, television and theatre industries, as well as the advertising industry. They have the knowledge base by which to engage people. After all, they have been doing that for years.”

Second, Mayfield explains that students are viewed as clients.

“We believe that there is a long-term relationship that can be developed, since we live in the age of continuous and lifelong learning. We want to be there when the clients want to learn.”

V3 College is designed more specifically for completion degrees and, therefore, much of the concentration will be on the nation’s community colleges.

“There are approximately 1,300 community colleges in this country with an approximate total enrollment of 11,720,000 students. An estimated 7,020,000 fit our parameters,” said Mayfield. “If I can get a fourth of 1 percent, we will have an estimated 17,255 students.”

Mayfield is already making grounds in his backyard. V3 College has signed agreements with Mississippi Delta Community College, East Mississippi Community College, Jones County Junior College, Holmes Community College, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Eastern Central Community College, Northeast Mississippi Community College, Northwest Mississippi Community College, Pearl River Community College, Southwest Mississippi Community College, Itawamba Community College and Hinds Community College.

EMCC President Dr. Rick Young is excited about the new relationship and the possibilities that V3 College has now opened to his students.

“We’re so pleased to be forging new partnerships with V3. At EMCC, we talk about knocking down the barriers that stand between people and opportunity, and this new, seamless transition from community college to V3 will be of great assistance to our students,” Young said. “We appreciate V3’s initiative and look forward to working ever more closely in the future.”

Mayfield said they are seeking individuals with an associate’s degree in science, arts and applied sciences. Students may complete their bachelor’s degrees in as few as 18 months.

“I’ll be very honest – the accelerated nature of what we are providing is like drinking from a fire hose,” said Mayfield.

Mayfield is working to make sure that students have all the tools they need to excel. Students will participate in an orientation geared toward helping them succeed which will include a Client Wiki, an orientation course and a survival guide. The Client Wiki gives students an opportunity to form an online community. The survival guide is offered to each client through their personal website.

“The significance of V3 is that it is a tool, or if you will, a distribution channel for MUW to be a player in the state of Mississippi and the region. We have good faculty, good administrators and great clients. There is a tremendously great opportunity to develop the skill sets of the citizens of the state,” said Mayfield. “The paradigm of higher education has changed. We now must seek the demand and create those programs that satiate that demand.”

For more information, visit [www.V3college.org](http://www.V3college.org) or call (662) 329-7152. 📞



*MUW signed its first memorandum of agreement with Mississippi Delta Community College in regard to the new online college. Various MDCC and MUW officials participated in the signing ceremony, including MDCC President Larry Bailey and Dr. Claudia A. Limbert, president emeritus.*



*Dr. William “Bill” Mayfield, director of the V3 College, has been traveling throughout the state to spread the word about the new online college.*



Hello!

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to share information about the MUW Alumni Association's work and to encourage your support as the 2010-2011 school year begins.

We consider the education of our MUW students, both new and returning, as our number one priority. As you likely know from recent university events, several strong initiatives are under way in student recruitment including the new, dynamic e-college, the partnerships with MSU and community colleges and the exchange agreements with colleges in China.

We ask that you all consider ways you can help MUW as progress continues with a stronger than ever university that will serve the educational needs of students in our surrounding community as well as the state, the nation and literally around the globe with the new e-college. A huge way that you can help is with spreading the word about all of the positive points about MUW's high quality education—including:

- THE "BEST OF THE BEST" FACULTY who teach on campus and online and who provide personalized education that so many students need to stay in school and to make progress with degree completion.
- THE WELL-KNOWN, HIGHLY-RANKED AND UNIQUE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS that are offered in the College of Business and Legal Studies, the College of Education and Human Sciences, the College of Nursing and Speech-Language Pathology, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Culinary Arts Institute, the Graduate Studies, the Executive Certificates and the Life-Long Learner.
- THE BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS FACILITIES AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY for residential, commuting, and online students who will benefit from a smaller and personalized learning environment that provides outstanding campus resources.



We are extremely fortunate to have Allegra Brigham as interim president during this time. As an MUW alumna and community leader, she is the perfect person to lead us. She needs our encouragement and support as she represents our best interests during the state-wide budget challenges. All of us can be a part of MUW's future with our continued support. We can spread the word in our communities, we can individually talk to prospective students and we can pledge financial support. We can most of all be strong advocates for MUW providing education to students who can greatly benefit from their experience as we did in our years here.

Sincerely,  
Mitzi Chandler Green, Class of 1977  
President, MUW Alumni Association Board

P.S. Please visit our MUW Alumni Association website at [www.muwaa.org](http://www.muwaa.org), and we hope you will join our membership! We welcome your participation and support.



# Classnotes

## 1960s

**Jane Moore Middleton '68** was named Columbia Academy's 2010 Teacher of the Year.

## 1980s

**Virginia Overman '82** retired from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson after 26 years of employment. She also earned a Ph.D. in healthcare administration in Dec. 2009.

## 2000s

**Jeff Mitchell '00** recently joined the Doctors Clinic.

**Kiane Harrington Hunt '01** was recently named assistant vice president-branch manager in Starkville.

**Conner Anderson Cochran '03** graduated in December 2009 with a master's in theological studies from Covenant Theological Seminary.

**Marsha Jenkins Mitchell '05** is the new physical education teacher at Annunciation Catholic School.

**Susie Baker '06** graduated from Mississippi State College of Veterinary Medicine in April 2010.

## Class of 1947



*Members of the class of 1947 reunited for their spring luncheon at Lake Tiak-O'Khata in Louisville.*

**Alshaunta Butler '06** was recently selected as Noxubee County's new county administrator.

**Hunter Harris '10** won the Henry Whitfield Man of the Year Award at MUW.

## Weddings

### 1980s

**Sue Simmons '80** of Ridgeland and Tommy Freeman were married June 5, 2010.

### 2000s

**Ashley Nicole Thomas '06** of Philadelphia and Christopher Gordon Davis of Louisville were married June 5, 2010.

**Cassandra Danielle Pritchard '08** and Joshua Nicholas Riley, both of Chipley, Fla., were married June 5, 2010.

**Kasandra Cole '08** of Mathiston and Robert Richardson of Columbus were married June 19, 2008.

## Atlanta Picnic



*MUW alumni and friends enjoy the Mississippi Picnic in Atlanta.*



**Kate Chamblee '10** of Fulton and Travis Neal of Columbus Air Force Base were married May 22, 2010.

**Andrea Kaelyn Hawkins '10** of Booneville and Daniel Brett Rakestraw of Ingomar were married May 22, 2010.

### Lifetime Achievement Award



*The Honorable Lenore Loving Prather '53 of Columbus accepts The Mississippi Bar 2009-2010 Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Bar President George Fair during the awards program brunch of The Mississippi Bar's 2010 annual meeting. The Mississippi Bar presents the Lifetime Achievement Award to those individuals who have devoted service to the public, profession and the administration of justice over the span of a professional career. Only individuals who have contributed significantly to the system of justice and/or to the legal profession are qualified to receive this award.*

### Class of 1949



*Members of the class of 1949 met for their annual luncheon at the Old Capitol Inn in Jackson during the summer.*

## Tell Us Your News or News About a Friend!

Have you been promoted? Earned another degree?

Have you married or had an addition to the family?

Send us your news, comments and suggestions to

Alumni Relations, Mississippi University for Women,

1100 College St., MUW-10, Columbus, MS 39701-5800.

Please circle the line that tells us what has changed - such as your name, address, etc. Use an additional sheet to tell us your news.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year \_\_\_\_\_ College \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_



# Clardys Building The American Dream

By Nikonie Brown



Chris and Heather Clardy, both MUW graduates, and their daughter Michaela are pictured in front of a home in the Rivendale subdivision.

**H**ome is where the heart is. Just ask Chris Clardy, a 2002 graduate of Mississippi University for Women, who owns Rivendale subdivision, located in Columbus near the Alabama state line.

Real estate is nothing new to Clardy, who built his own home in 2003. He, his wife Heather, who also graduated from MUW in 2001, and their 3-year-old daughter Michaela have built and sold two houses and are now living in their third.

“Building my own houses is what opened the door for me

to start a career in it. It didn’t take long before I realized how much I enjoyed contracting and wanted to do it all the time. Several doors opened up which allowed me to purchase a 52-acre parcel of land where I am currently building the Rivendale subdivision,” Clardy explained.

Rivendale is currently in phase two and has a total of 19 lots. Clardy’s business, Clardy Home Development, which was founded in March 2005, will be breaking ground on phase three this fall. This will add another 14 lots, which will bring a total of 33 lots to the subdivision.

“My time at The W gave me a strong basic knowledge of how businesses operate. It gave me a mindset of how businesses should be structured and what to focus on and how to react to different economical environments,” said Clardy, who majored in business. “I learned a great deal about time management also. When I was attending The W, I was always impressed at the connection between the professors and students. I really felt that the professors had a strong desire to help students get prepared for the business world. It was evident they all were on my side and wanted the best for me.”

Clardy takes pride in his work.

“I have absolutely been blessed with many opportunities in my life so far. I have been raised to believe that having a good word and others knowing you are an honest person will take you a long way. In my line of work, and many others, your reputation will make you or break you.” 🗣️

## Births

### 1990s

**Mr. and Mrs. Carter Farley (Lee Hamlin ‘97)**, announce the birth of their son, Landon Cole Farley, May 26, 2010.

### 2000s

**Mr. and Mrs. Reed Long (Jessica Burns ‘01)** announce the birth of their son, Tyler Reed Long, June 10, 2010.

**Mr. and Mrs. Jason Cochran (Conner Anderson ‘03)** announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Catherine “Ellie Cate” Cochran, March 9, 2010.

**Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kelly (Brian Kelly ‘09)** announce the birth of their daughter, Lila Belle Kelly, June 3, 2010.

## Deaths

### 1930s

**Maude Brown Knust ‘31** of Boca Raton, Fla.

**Ruth Evelyn Cain Stewart ‘32** of Jackson, April 21, 2010.

**Mary Nichols Gaston ‘34** of Starkville, May 29, 2010.

**Peggy Cassibry Hinds ‘36** of Ocean Springs. (no date provided)

**Gertrude Askew Graver ‘36** of Columbia, Mo., Sept. 30, 2009.

**Betty Swayze McInnis ‘36** of Marion, April 9, 2010.

**Elizabeth Browne Pyle ‘39** of Jackson, May 6, 2010.

### 1940s

**Virginia Ruth Livingston Kittle ‘41** of Magnolia, Aug. 18, 2009.

**Betty Lester Page Pryor ‘41** of Buda, Texas, April 7, 2010.

**Margaret Miller Beard ‘41** of Meridian, April 21, 2010.

**Alie McDuffie Imholte ‘43** of Pensacola, Fla., Feb. 21, 2010.

**Rachel Rowland Henson ‘43** of Charleston, May 5, 2010.

**Hortense Spann Whittington ‘44** of Greenwood, May 22, 2010.

**Margaret Stokes Hanson ‘45** of Tupelo, May 31, 2010.



**Nell Breyer Watts '45** of Ocean Springs, April 11, 2010.

**1950s**

**Carolyn Byrd Ellis '51** of Clinton, Feb. 10, 2009.

**Martha Beaty Madison '53** of Columbus, June 29, 2010.

**June Rowzee Addy '56** of Decatur, April 22, 2010.

**Patricia Ann Souter '59** of Chappell Hill, Texas, April 25, 2010.

**1960s**

**Marynell Shumaker Perkins '62** of Mobile, Ala., Oct. 30, 2009.

**Jan Lee Arnold '69** of Jackson, June 8, 2010.

**Sandra Kay Adams Smith '69** of Southern Pines, N.C., June 15, 2010.

**Dorothy Nina Tapscott '69** of Baton Rouge, La., June 27, 2010.

**1970s**

**Barbara Ellen Jennings Black '71** of Kosciusko, June 6, 2010.

**Eloise Catledge '73** of Houston, March 22, 2010.

**FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS**

**Becky Mitchell**, retired MUW post master, of Eupora, April 24, 2010.

**Correction**

**Martha Wheeler** from the class of '77 should not have been included in the obituary section of the classnotes. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.



Keep up with MUW electronically! Have you registered with MUWired and submitted your current e-mail address to receive MUW news via e-mail? Become a part of MUWired here: <http://muw.edu/alumni/connect.php>

You also may follow alumni news on the MUW Alumni Association's Facebook page. Join us online!



# Thank You!

Thank you to all alumni and friends who participated in the **MUW 125 Years- A Legacy of Light Challenge**. Your support allows the MUW Annual Fund to continue to provide much needed support to the university and its students.

We are counting on all our loyal supporters during fiscal year 2010-2011. We hope you are looking forward to the Telefund Ambassadors phone call during the fall and spring semesters. When you receive that call, please take a moment to enjoy speaking with the Telefund Ambassador for the latest campus updates and take advantage of the opportunity to support the MUW Annual Fund.

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## Mayo Clinic Hires Recent Graduate



Richardson

Recent Mississippi University for Women graduate Joy Richardson of Jackson has started her new job as a registered nurse at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Richardson was introduced to the Mayo Clinic while visiting a nursing convention in Biloxi in 2008. She applied for their 10-week summer internship program and was accepted as one of the 140 nursing students accepted nationwide.

After graduating in May, she applied for a full-time position with the clinic, only to be hired to work on the same orthopedic unit she worked on as an intern. As an orthopedic nurse, Richardson will work with mostly knee and hip replacement patients as well as some elbow/shoulder/amputee/and bone cancer patients.

“I am very proud of the education provided by MUW’s Ina E. Gordy Honors College and the nursing program. I would recommend the program for any student interested in the field. The curriculum is very challenging, but the professors’ encouragement and guidance is exemplary. The training allowed me to pass the licensure examination the first time and prepared me to join the healthcare team of one of the finest hospitals,” said Richardson.

The Mayo Clinic is the first and largest integrated, not-for-profit group practice in the world. According to its website, doctors from every medical specialty work together to care for patients, joined by common systems and a philosophy of “the needs of the patient come first.” Mayo Clinic is governed by a 33-member Board of Trustees. 🏥

## Alumna Elected into National Academy of Sciences



Golden

Mississippi University for Women alumna Susan Stephens Golden was elected into the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in April.

Established by an Act of Congress signed by President Abraham Lincoln on March 3, 1863, the purpose of the NAS is to investigate, examine, experiment and report upon any subject of science or art whenever called upon to do so by any department of the government.

“It’s the ‘Hall of Fame’ for U.S. scientists. For example, research universities are ranked in part based on how many academy members they have. This is the pinnacle of achievement one can reach in U.S. science,” said Golden.

According to the NAS website, “Members and foreign associates of the NAS are elected in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research; election to the Academy

is considered one of the highest honors that can be accorded a scientist or engineer.”

Golden, who graduated from MUW in 1978, swiftly moved into a Ph.D. program that fall at the University of Missouri–Columbia as a fellow in the National Institute of Health (NIH) training in molecular genetics. After finishing her Ph.D. in 1983, she moved to the University of Chicago to conduct postdoctoral research, for which she received an NIH individual fellowship.

Starting as assistant professor at Texas A&M University in 1986, Golden continued to move through the ranks being promoted to distinguished professor, a rank that had previously been achieved by only one other woman in Texas A&M history.

Golden said, “It is an extraordinary honor and much more than I ever expected to achieve when I was an undergraduate biology major at MUW. One can be a very successful scientist without being elected to the academy. I am humbled to think of many extraordinary scientists who have not yet been elected.” 🏥



## HGTV Show to Feature Alumna's Designs



Bowen

**B**ella Interiors of Columbus teamed up with HGTV to showcase store owner and alumna Penny Bowen's designs in an open house at 208 High Street in Aberdeen.

Bowen and fellow designers of Bella Interiors, Terri McKissack, Nikki Wiygul and Lori Lumsden, were selected by HGTV along with the experts at Lighting Plus and The Granite Guys. All provided their expertise to transform the home of celebrity makeup artist and Aberdeen native Billy Brasfield.

Brasfield has worked with Lady Gaga, Beyonce Knowles, Mariah Carey, Sharon Stone, the Dixie Chicks, Miranda Lambert, Kellie Pickler and many more celebrities.

The program, titled "Hometown Renovations," is scheduled

to air in January 2011. It documents the process of renovating, designing and selling the house, while showcasing the broader efforts of some of Mississippi's finest creative talent to help beautify the city of Aberdeen. Final filming took place in July on the day of the open house.

Bowen, who graduated from MUW with a B.A. in interior design in 1991, has owned Bella Interiors for four years and Penny Bowen Designs for 12 years. The idea of Bella Interiors came to her when she dreamed of a place that could be a one-stop design shop.

"I am proud to have this opportunity to work with Billy B and HGTV on this fabulous house renovation and staging. It is wonderful to show the world what great things Mississippians are capable of," she said. 📍

### In the Big Apple



Emily Hobbs '06, Chad Fortenberry '05 and Meagan Vaughn '06 were among MUW alumni present at the Mississippi Picnic in New York.

### Distinguished Faculty Award



Candace Warner, third from left, was accompanied by MUW alumni at the ceremony where she received the Distinguished Faculty Award at Columbia State Community College. They are Stacey Lee '98, Angela Cain DeBoer '99, Amy Harris Hennington '98, Renie Baya '99 and Ellen Thompson Black '99 with Harrison Black. Warner, a 1999 graduate of MUW, was recently honored at Columbia State Community College's annual Employee Awards Convocation with the 2009-2010 Distinguished Faculty Award. The Distinguished Faculty Award is the most prestigious award a faculty member can receive at Columbia State. Candidates for this award are nominated by their faculty peers based upon their work in three areas: (1) contributions to instruction at the college, (2) contributions to their teaching discipline and (3) service to their division, the college and the community. The recipient is then elected by vote of the previous Distinguished Faculty Award winners still teaching for the college. Warner, assistant professor and lead faculty for sociology, was presented the award in the presence of her colleagues, family members and a group of MUW friends who traveled to Columbia State for the event. Columbia State Community College, Tennessee's first community college, serves nine counties in southern middle Tennessee.

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Through our Discount Benefit Plan choices, the MUW Association Advantage program is bringing you tangible savings on a wide array of products and services including dental and vision, legal and roadside assistance and identity theft protection. For more details on each specific discount benefit, visit our website at <http://www.muwaa.org/news/benefits>.

One valuable benefit offered is LifeLock, a personal information security service. LifeLock is the industry leader in proactive identity theft protection and offers a proven solution that helps protect you and your families' identities from being stolen before it happens. As a LifeLock member, if you become a victim of identity theft because of a failure in LifeLock's service, LifeLock will help fix it at LifeLock's expense, up to \$1,000,000 in damages.

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For questions or concerns, contact MUW alumni Vint Ferguson '87 and Johnny Wierengo '87 for additional information.

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