Furman Alumni News

Furman University
LOOKING AHEAD: SUMMER OFFERINGS FOR ALL AGES

Although many might think that the pace at Furman eases during the summer, the truth is that the campus barely has time to catch its breath between the end of school and the start of the “summer programs” season.

From music and sports camps to special seminars and activities, the Office of Camps and Conferences brings as many as 10,000 visitors to Furman each summer.

This year, the Alumni and Admissions offices are doing their part to keep the summer busy by offering several programs that we believe will be of interest to Furman graduates and/or their children. Quick synopses of these programs follow.

> WHAT’S CALLING YOU NOW?
The Lilly Center for Theological Exploration of Vocation and the Alumni Association are offering the second Lilly Alumni Retreat July 24–27. The retreat’s theme will once again be “What’s Calling You Now?”

This weekend event, for alumni who graduated between 1975 and 2000, is an invitation to revisit important dreams, explore the realities of adult life that get in the way of true calling, and share with others life’s wisdom accrued across several decades of experiences.

James Mason ’86, a school district administrator in Raymond, Miss., attended the first “What’s Calling You Now” retreat in the summer of 2006. He writes that it provided him “the opportunity to step off the often relentless treadmill of life and reconsider what really matters most. I found it amazing how the retreat helped to awaken some of my deepest passions about life, family and faith.

> SUMMER SCHOLARS
Alumni with rising juniors or seniors in high school, take note: Furman offers a Summer Scholars program of one-week enrichment classes for your students.

The courses are taught by Furman faculty and staff and typically include a variety of learning experiences, ranging from lectures and small-group discussions to debates, laboratory work, field trips, group and individual projects, and other activities. This year’s programs are scheduled July 15–21 and 22–28.

Cost for the one-week courses is $800, which covers room, board, field trips and other fees. Students may participate for two weeks; those taking two classes receive a discount of $300.

Summer Scholars live in Lakeside (women’s) Housing and have access to all university facilities. They also receive group and individual counseling from Admissions representatives and students.

This year’s classes will include such topics as global information systems, ecology and environmentalism, languages (French and Spanish), leadership, acting, writing about films and advertising design. For the full list, visit www.furman.edu/summerscholars.

Deadline for applications is June 15. For additional information, e-mail jean.adams@furman.edu or call Jean at (864) 294-3231.

> PLANNING FOR COLLEGE
The Admissions Office is developing a free “Planning for College” seminar for alumni and prospective students on Friday, June 20.

The program will include a primer on selecting a college and will feature tips for students and parents about various aspects of the college search, from what to look for during campus visits to how to build a list of potential colleges. It will also offer advice about preparing applications and helpful instruction on paying for college, including how to search for financial aid and scholarships. A panel of Furman students will be on hand to offer their perspectives about college life.

For those who are considering applying to Furman, there will be an opportunity to learn about the university’s programs. More information is available by e-mailing lauraisimmons@furman.edu or by calling the Alumni Office (1-800-PURPLE3) or the Admissions Office, (864) 294-2034.

— TOM TRIPPLETT ’76
CLASS NOTES, WINTER 2008

29
The Greenville County school board has named one of its administrative centers in honor of M.T. Anderson, a longtime educator and superintendent of county schools from 1960-70. During his decade as superintendent he coordinated integration of the state’s largest school district, and the county also added programs in special education and kindergarten. He celebrated his 100th birthday November 13.

57
Jeffrey R. Willis, archivist and Andrew Helmus Professor of History Emeritus at Converse College in Spartanburg, S.C., joined former U.S. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings as one of two recipients of the 2007 South Carolina Governor’s Awards in the Humanities for contributions to humanities scholarship and public humanities programs. Jeff holds a doctorate in British history from the University of Virginia and has worked at Converse for more than 40 years. He is the author of three books and numerous articles and essays on local history and is past president of the South Carolina Historical Association and the Spartanburg County Historical Association. He has also served on the boards of the Greenville Historical Society and Historic Greenville Foundation.

62
Larry Jepson, a former star football player at Ashtabula (Ohio) High School and at Furman, was inducted into the Ashtabula County Football Hall of Fame during an awards banquet in December. He joined 14 other inductees. Now retired after a career in banking, he and his wife, Cilla (M.A. ’71), live in Kearney, Neb.

63
**THIS YEAR IS REUNION!**

Henry Spencer King of Spartanburg, S.C., a partner in the Ward Law Firm, P.A., has been named a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. The ACTL is composed of the best members of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Fellowship is extended by invitation only to lawyers having a minimum of 15 years of trial experience. Spencer is president of the Spartanburg County Bar Association.

69
Linda Friddle Hardin, an English as a Second Language teacher at Tanglewood Middle School in Greenville, received National History Day’s Richard T. Farrell Teacher of Merit Award in recognition of her dedication to the National History Day program and her success with students. She has twice been named South Carolina National History Day Teacher of the Year.

70
Mary Jae Abbitt recently returned from a year in Baghdad, Iraq, where she worked with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) at the Baghdad Provincial Reconstruction Team. She provided training in conflict resolution and implemented town hall-style meetings between members of the newly elected Baghdad Provincial Council and citizens.

71
Kelly Henson has been named executive secretary of the Professional Standards Commission for the state of Georgia. The commission is responsible for the certification, preparation and conduct of certified, licensed or permitted personnel employed in the Georgia public schools. Kelly has been superintendent of Floyd County Schools since 2001.

72
Carole Clarke Boyce, a member of the Gwinnett County (Ga.) Board of Education, was included in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution’s list of the county’s most influential women.

73
**THIS YEAR IS REUNION!**

Atlanta attorney Ken Shigley has been elected to the executive committee of the State Bar of Georgia.

75
Brenda Pruitt has been named executive director of the Atlanta Gay Men’s Chorus. She has been active in the Atlanta arts community as an administrator, teacher and music therapist. Richard Wedemeyer was recently named professor of psychology at Rose State College in Midwest City, Okla., where he had been an adjunct professor. He also continues to write and maintains a private practice. He specializes in adaptation to chronic illnesses, sexual dysfunctions and relationship dynamics.

76
Paul Carapelliotti (M.B.A. ’78) of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been appointed to the board of Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. He is an officer, director and shareholder in Anthony Mining Company, Jeffco Resources, Richmond Mill and Fort Steuben Management and is also a board member and director of the Ohio Valley region’s division of Sky Bank.

77
Glen and Olista Adkins are Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries in Pecs, Hungary, working at a school for Roma (gypsy) children. Glen was formerly music minister at Greenville’s First Baptist Church.

78
**THIS YEAR IS REUNION!**

Beach Foster has become a financial advisor in the Greenville office of Morgan Keegan & Co., a full-service brokerage and investment banking firm. He was previously a vice president and financial advisor with Smith Barney.

80
Paul Ryan has joined the Atlanta office of the Thompson Hine LLP law firm as counsel in the employee benefits executive compensation practice group. He previously was a partner with Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC.

81
Craig Schoen has become a financial advisor in the Greenville office of Morgan Keegan & Co., a full-service brokerage and investment banking firm. He was previously a first vice president and financial advisor with Smith Barney.

82
Timothy Brown of Charleston, S.C., recently earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in education from Capella University.
Kevin Dunlap, a partner in the Spartanburg, S.C., office of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP, has been selected by his peers to be included in the 2008 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation.

Steve Faucette of Williamston, S.C., operates a photography business and produces matted prints, inspirational notecards and postcards of upstate South Carolina sites. View his work, which has appeared in Sandlapper magazine and other publications, at www.faucettephotography.com.

Lisa Horne Stevens of Greenville has been elected to a third term as board chair of Langston Charter Middle School, the only co-ed public middle school in South Carolina teaching all-single gender classes.

MARRIAGE: Anne Allgood and William Peria, August 25. She is an actress and teacher in Seattle and he is a research scientist at the University of Washington.

83
THIS YEAR IS REUNION!
Chuck Ambrose, president of Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, N.C., is the recipient of the national Division II Conference Commissioner’s Association 2008 Award of Merit for his leadership of the “I Chose Division II” campaign that significantly increased awareness of Division II athletics. He is completing his second term as chair of the NCAA Division II Presidents Council.

85
Stephen Leist of Lexington, Ky., has earned a Master of Library/Information Science degree from the University of Kentucky.

86
Charles Davis of Burlington, N.C., senior director of individual giving at Elon University for four years, has been named the university’s assistant vice president for development. Chuck previously worked as interim president of the Medical Foundation in the Division of Health Sciences at East Carolina University and as the director of development for ECU’s Brody School of Medicine.

Shari Bailey Harvey of Alpharetta, Ga., has joined Diversified Trust Company as a principal. Diversified Trust provides comprehensive wealth management services to families and business owners and investment management services to endowments, foundations and employee benefit plans.

Glenda Elmore Inabinet of Goose Creek, S.C., has been appointed director of Trident One Stop Career System. The company helps employers and job seekers meet their workforce development needs. She was most recently vice president of human resources for Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union in Summerville, S.C.

Susan Mangels earned a Ph.D. in policy studies in education from the University of Illinois-Chicago. Her dissertation was on work-life balance and executive success. For the past 11 years she has been president of Lexington College.

Donna “Shelly” Moore has earned a Doctor of Education degree from the University of South Carolina. She is an administrator at USC-Bluffton.

BIRTHS: Blair and Teresa Bass, twin daughters, Abigail Graham and Graceyln Neal, July 5. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

87
Scott Donald of Ewing, N.J., ran the New York City Marathon November 2 on behalf of Fred’s Team, a cancer research fund-raising group associated with Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital. He also ran the New York City Half-Marathon during the summer.

Austin Fleming earned a Master of Health Science degree from Armstrong Atlantic State University and was selected for a post-graduate administrative fellowship with the Veteran’s Administration Health Care System in Augusta, Ga. Last February he was part of an Armstrong Atlantic team that received the Innovation Award at the University of Alabama-Birmingham’s Healthcare Administration Competition.

Robert Mingus is a partner with Anesthesiologists Associated in Chattanooga, Tenn. He competed in the 2007 Leadville Trail 100, a 100-mile mountain bike race in the Colorado Rockies.

Tod Taylor of Dyersburg, Tenn., has been elected to the board of the Tennessee Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

88
THIS YEAR IS REUNION!
J. Scott Derrick, director of student activities and the University Center at Furman, has been elected to a two-year term as regional director of the Association of College Unions International Region 5. He is spending this year as regional director-elect.

John Payne joined the Piedmont Reproductive Endocrinology Group in Greenville in September. He is board-certified in general OB/GYN and reproductive endocrinology and infertility and most recently served as chief of the reproductive and infertility division of OB/GYN at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

89
Greg and Samantha Reed Hathorn have opened Sam & Greg’s Gelato Cafe in Huntsville, Ala.

George Quarles, football coach at Maryville (Tenn.) High School, led his 2007 team to its fourth consecutive Class 4A state championship and seventh state title in eight years. His teams have won 60 consecutive games, 99 of their last 100 and 113 of their last 115. Quarles was invited to serve on the coaching staff for the East squad at the U.S. Army All-American high school game, played in January in San Antonio.

90
Edwin Beckham is a senior in the Master of Divinity program at the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. He was scheduled to be ordained a transitional deacon on December 21 at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. Upon graduation from seminary, he will be ordained an Episcopal priest.

After spending the last 12 years working with Presbyterian churches in Kansas City, Kan., and St. Louis, Mo., Scott Sauls has accepted the position of senior director of community formation at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City.

91
Eric Walter of Mableton, Ga., has been named vice president of financial planning and analysis for Unisource Worldwide, Inc., one of the leading distributors of paper, packaging and facility supplies in North America.

BIRTHS: Craig and Lori Huffman, a son, Christopher Robert, October 23. They live in Mount Kisco, N.Y.

Tim and Dawn Vorel, a daughter, Clara Marie, October 4, Rincon, Ga.

92
David Bokowy is the Greenville area director for Young Life ministries. He joined the Young Life staff 15 years ago and served eight years in North Carolina and five in Columbia, S.C., before becoming area director in Greenville.

Jill Boggs Denton has earned a doctorate in education from Nova Southeastern University. She teaches honors biology, anatomy and physiology and chairs the science department at Pickens (S.C.) High School.

Scott Frein recently earned his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of California-Davis. He is an assistant professor at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va.
Becky Haus (M.A. ’93) has been named Teacher of the Year at Hurst Elementary School in Daytona Beach, Fla., where she is in her second year of teaching physical education. She previously taught kindergarten for 12 years. The Carolinas Hospital System of Florence, S.C., has announced that Evan Lee has joined the Anesthesiology Consultants practice. He became a board-certified anesthesiologist after completing his internship at Eisenhower Army Medical Center and his residency in anesthesiology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He served three years as chief of the Department of Anesthesia at Fort Stewart, Ga., and was deployed for a time to Iraq.

Teresa Skinner has become project manager with the Shafer & Hugley Marketing Communications firm in Greenville. Her responsibilities include project management for local, regional, national and international consumer and trade accounts.

BIRTHS: Jim and Elizabeth Foster Bloodworth, a son, Benjamin Foster Bloodworth, October 9, Greenville. Christopher and Caryn McMahon Hammond, a daughter, Meagan Riley, March 27, 2007. They live in Greer, S.C.

Derrick and Jewell Stanley, a daughter, Peyton Rebecca, August 15. They live in Lugoff, S.C.

John and Sandy Upchurch, a son, Austin Blase, October 3. John practices law in Daytona Beach, Fla., and was recently elected president of the Volusia County Bar.

93

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

BIRTHS: Brian and Anna Christopher Johnson, a daughter, Hope Elizabeth, March 6, 2007. They live in Anderson, S.C.

Leland and Melanie Vaughn Powell, a daughter, Ansley Elizabeth, October 12, Charlotte, N.C.

94

Robbie Higdon is employed as magnet program coordinator at Hughes Academy of Science and Technology in Greenville.

Scott Wild of Flowery Branch, Ga., earned his Master of Education degree from the University of Alabama.


BIRTHS: Jim and Burch Barger, a son, James Fredrick III, May 25, Birmingham, Ala.

Michael and Jennifer Frankenberg Parker, twins, a daughter, Ella Jayne, and a son, Aidan Foster, May 8, Charlotte, N.C.

95

Virginia Gaylor is managing editor for Vitality Communications in Greensboro, N.C. She oversees two publications, LUNGhealth and MedlinePlus.

BIRTHS: William and Michelle Ferguson, a daughter, Grace Anna, June 2, Black Mountain, N.C.

Jeff and Julie Simon Fries, a son, Adam Wesley, June 24, Asheville, N.C. Julie was recently promoted to news director at WLOS-TV.


96

Matt Good of Greenville, a senior vice president and shareholder of Professional Mortgage Company, is one of six new board members of Community Bank.


Donna-Leigh Eichor Harmon recently started teaching auditorium field trip classes at Greenville’s Roper Mountain Science Center.

Sean and Leslie Coates ’99 Rogers live in Athens, Ga., where Sean was recently promoted to director of capital budgeting at the University of Georgia. Leslie teaches Latin and is chair of the foreign languages department at Oconee County High School.

Keith Walters, a chemistry professor at Northern Kentucky University, was honored in the fall with the College of Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Award.

MARRIAGE: Brandon Barron and Lindsey Wheeler, June 30. They live in Atlanta.

A BLOG FOR FURMAN TRADITIONS

Do you recognize this little girl? She was evidently a majorette during Homecoming in 1957, but that’s about all we know!

The Department of Special Collections and Archives in the James B. Duke Library would love your help in identifying this and many other pictures now available on-line at the Furman Traditions Weblog (http://furmantraditions.blogspot.com).

The blog features a collection of pictures, videos and stories from Furman’s past. Who knows, you might see yourself there!

You can also use the blog to share stories from your Furman days. After all, college campuses change and traditions come and go, but memories endure. If you have a story to tell, visit the blog and leave a comment.

And if you would like to contribute photos or other memorabilia to the archives, e-mail Elizabeth McSherry ’07 at liz.mcsherry@furman.edu or call her at (864) 294-2194. She’s the blog coordinator, and she’s waiting to hear from you.

BIRTHS: Micah and Kristen Burns ’98 Chaneyworth, a daughter, Sarah Brooke, August 15, Columbia, S.C.

Brad and Jennifer Buttrum Hanchey, a son, Charlie James, October 10, Franklin, Tenn.

Daniel and Cari Williams ’97 Hicks, a son, Jonah Herrin, July 26, Greenville.

Deon and Patrise Runnels Miles, a son, Noah Alexander, July 7, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Matt and Maryanne Rule Purcell, a daughter, Sydney Elizabeth, August 22, Richmond, Va.

John ’95 and Mikki Streight Ramey, a daughter, Kaithlin Grace, September 30, Charleston, S.C. Mikki is a realtor with Palmetto Realty Group.
2007-08 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harriett Arnold Wilburn ’74, president; Randolph W. Blackwell ’63, president-elect; Clare Folio Morris ’83, vice president; James H. Simkins, Jr. ’78, past president; Rebecca Ann Armacost ’89, Lynn Neely Bailey ’78, Venita Tyus Billingslea ’81, Frank W. Blackwell ’90, John M. Block ’63, J. Chris Brown ’89, Mary Lou Walsh Cagle ’69; H. Furman Cantrell ’61; Bobby E. Church ’78; David S. Cobb ’90, Paul D. Goebel ’63, Vicki Bieksha Johnson ’93; L. Yates Johnson, Jr. ’59, William A. Lampley ’41; J. Cordell Maddox ’54; Joseph C. Moon, Jr. ’76; Ellison L. Smith ’89, Cynthia Black Sparks ’80; Heyward M. Sullivan ’59, William N. Turrentine ’64, Daniel R. Varat ’88, Connie Gartrell Williams ’74

Ex-Officio and Other Members: David Shi ’73, president; Michael Gatchell ’91, vice president for development; Tom Trippitt ’76, director of Alumni Association; Jane Duncan, associate director of Alumni Association; Tina Hayes Ballew ’78, associate director of Alumni Association; Cari Williams Hicks ’97, president, Young Alumni Council; Frances Flowers ’09, president, Student Alumni Council; Christina Henderson ’08, president, Association of Furman Students; Brad Cake ’08, president, Senior Class

Jeff and Catherine Mabry Shoaf, a son, Davis Alexander, August 7, Houston, Texas. Thomas and Silvia Heise Sims, a daughter, Ashlyn Elizabeth Alida, November 1. Silvia is in her second year with the Memphis (Tenn.) Children’s Clinic and Thomas is completing his research at St. Jude Hospital before returning to his surgery residency program.

Jeff and Nicole Ukrop, a son, Joseph Riggs, September 20, Richmond, Va.

97

Bill Hayden has been named chief executive officer of FacilitySource, a facility maintenance and management service provider based in Westerville, Ohio. Adam Lively is a founding partner and chair of the board of directors of Little Steps in Greenville. For the past eight years he has worked with AT&T (formerly BellSouth).

John Paul and Lisa Jeffcoat ’95 McNeal have moved to Valle Crucis, N.C. John Paul is assistant director at Camp Broadstone, and an adjunct instructor at Appalachian State University. Lisa is training liaison and events coordinator at the Original Mast General Store.


Jerry and Heather Griffin Kanipe, a son, Joshua Garrison, September 14, Boiling Springs, S.C.

Jim and Amy Pattiillo, a son, Matthew Sheldon, August 14, Birmingham, Ala.

Hank and Whitney Reynolds Yarborough, a son, Blake Samuel, April 5. They live in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

98

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Kiana Matthews Dezelon of Cary, N.C., is user experience designer for CC Intelligent Solutions. She volunteers with a therapeutic riding program for physically, mentally and/or emotionally disabled persons.

The Carolinas Hospital System of Florence, S.C., has announced that Thomas Phillips has joined the Anesthesiology Consultants practice. He did his residency at the Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans, La., where he was chief resident, and then completed a fellowship in cardiothoracic anesthesiology at Emory University in Atlanta.

MARRIAGES: Arch Bell and Sylvia Pin, October 20. They live in Austin, Texas, where he works for ROC Software and she works for JP Morgan.

Peyton Suzanne Burke and Donald Blake Lewis, July 27. They live in Greenville where she is an account supervisor at Erwin-Penland and he owns Concierge on Call.


Trent Reece and Kristina Marie Gaither, August 19. He is sales manager at Toyota of Greenville, and she is with the Department of Health and Human Services.

BIRTHS: Keith and Tracy Carson, a son, Owen Alexander, August 7. They live in Scottsdale, Ariz., where Keith is a regional sales manager with Aspen Medical Products.

Travis and Amy Lang Johnson, a son, Patton Lang, September 29, 2006. They are currently in Honduras where Travis is working on child health projects with Shoulder to Shoulder, Inc.

Ford and Allison Peck Lankford, a daughter, Catherine Carter, October 14. They live in Lexington, Ky., where Allison is an attorney for the Blue Grass Community Foundation.

Chris and Katie Hankinson McGaha, a daughter, Madeline Talley, September 2, Birmingham, Ala.

Matt and Ashley Phillips Severance, a son, Sutton, October 29, Charleston, S.C. Matt is chief executive officer of Roper Hospital and Ashley owns Atlantic Properties, a real estate company.

Adam ’96 and Caroline Simpson Whaley, a son, Miles William, May 25, Marietta, Ga.

99

Cameron Runyan is a candidate for an at-large seat on the Columbia (S.C.) City Council. A Democrat, he is director of development and public information for Richland County Court Appointed Special Advocates, which works for the interests of abused and neglected children.

MARRIAGES: Alison Cunnold and Christopher Boivin, June 30. Alison teaches fourth grade in Alpharetta, Ga., and Chris is a broker for Integra Logistics.

Sarah Thomas and Charles Clemmons, August 25. They live in Greenville.

Paige Thurmond and Evan Bass, September 15. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

BIRTHS: Ed and Allison Farnell, a daughter, Clara Grace, November 22, 2006. Both Ed and Allison completed their residencies in family medicine in July 2006. Ed is currently deployed with Operation Enduring Freedom.

Brian and Megan Fauber Klakring, a son, Cole Steven, July 14. Megan completed her pediatric residency in June 2007 and
work part time at All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla.
Jim and Kerri Carter Porter, a son, Gavin
Alistair Brooks, June 10. They recently
moved from London, England, to
Charlotte, N.C., where Kerri is vice
president of Pavilion Development and Jim
is a senior vice president with Mesirov
Financial.
Win and Stephanie McClelland Walstad,
a daughter, Taylor Elizabeth, May 26,
Santa Barbara, Calif.

00
Anne-Marie Honeycutt has joined
Edward Jones investment firm in
Tullahoma, Tenn., as a financial advisor.
Peter King of Alexandria, Va., owns the
Hauswiesner King LLP firm and focuses
his practice on estate planning, business
and immigration. He is pursuing an LLM.
degree in taxation at Georgetown
University.
Brian Reinhardt completed his degree
from the Medical University of South
Carolina in May 2007 and is in the family
medicine residency program at Self
Regional Hospital in Greenwood, S.C.
Jordan Tidrick earned a Master of Science
degree in forensic science last spring from
Virginia Commonwealth University. She
began work in July at the Virginia Depart-
ment of Forensic Science as a trainee in
the firearms and toolmarks section.
MARRIAGES: Chris Colvin and Megan
Elizabeth Pinniger, September 15. Megan
is employed at NV Salon and is attending
the University of South Carolina-Upstate,
majoring in early childhood education.
Chris is an associate director of athletics
at Furman.
Francis “Brink” Hinson and Meghan
Kinnard, October 13. They live in
Columbia, S.C. Brink is an attorney with
Janet, Jenner & Suggs and Meghan is a
reporter with the Associated Press.
BIRTHS: Don and Ellen Culbertson
Abramo, a son, Justus Michael, September
29, 2006. Don works for Merck and Co.,
Inc., and has been promoted to market
analyst for Zetia and Vytorin. Ellen works
from their home in Gilbertsville, Pa.,
as a portraitist.
Jonathan and Allison Easley ’01 Hall,
a son, Zachary Ray, June 26, Alpharetta, Ga.
Robert and Sara Rosenblum James,
a daughter, Autumn Elizabeth, May 14.
Robert is in the U.S. Marine Corps sta-
tioned at Quantico, Va., and Sara owns
a small business.
Stephen and Eden Martin, a son,
Chappell, February 14, 2007, Charleston,
S.C. Steve is a student at the Medical
University of South Carolina.

01
Sarah Lyman completed her Master of
Architecture degree at Clemson University
and has relocated to Boston, Mass., where
she is an architect for Arrowstreet, Inc.
Christine Daniel Morgan has been
named marketing director for the Coldwell
Banker Cane real estate firm in Greenville.
Ryan Smith recently earned a Master of
Music degree in piano performance from
the University of South Carolina.
Julie Taft Spearman and her husband,
Will, have moved to Durham, N.C., where
she is a physical therapist at Pettigrew
Rehabilitation. He is a software engineer
with Network Appliance.
After two years as a federal court clerk
focusing on patent laws, Ashley Summer
has returned to the Greenville firm of
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
in the area of intellectual property law.
MARRIAGES: Steven “Goose” Burdine
and Laura Davis, July 14. They live in
Anderson, S.C., where Steve is in the
second year of a family medicine residency.
Laura is a chemist for Perrigo Company.
Margaret Bandy Mynatt and Patrick
Ryan Mohan, November 3. They live in
Hoboken, N.J. Patrick works as an asso-
ciate with the law firm of White & Case,
LLP, in Manhattan.
Dana Smith and Benjamin Nemec, July 7.
They live in Louisia, Va.
Claire Traylor and Mark Haden, December
16. Claire spent a year as a university
English teacher in St. Petersburg, Russia,
before returning to the States to work in
alumni relations at Vanderbilt University
in Nashville, Tenn.
BIRTHS: Brandon ’05 and Nicole
Malseed Berry, a daughter, Ella Christine,
August 5. They live in Greenville where
Brandon is assistant director of outreach
at Redemption World Outreach Center.
Nicole has completed a master’s degree in
cross-cultural studies and leadership
development at Fuller Theological
Seminary.
Jason and Marie Spalding Richards,
a son, Maxwell Daniel, November 17,
Greenville.

02
Erin Lyttle Do’s report titled “Mothers
and Babies: The Health of Tennessee’s
Future” won the 2007 Impact Award from
the National Legislative Program Evaluation
Society. In October she presented findings
from the report at a Congressional briefing
on infant mortality. Erin lives in Antioch
and is a research analyst with the
Tennessee Offices of Research and
Education Accountability.
April Neslund Mucci recently received
a Master of Arts degree in political science
from Florida State University.
Lauren Myers of Philadelphia, Pa.,
has earned a doctorate in developmental
psychology from Pennsylvania State
University. She teaches at Bryn Mawr
College.
MARRIAGES: Dorothy Elizabeth Coker
and James Bradley Hamlett ’04, September
22. They live in Greenville. She is the curator of collections at the Pendleton
District Commission and he is in the U.S.
Army.
Elisabeth Fisher and Joshua Mark,
October 20. They live in Bradenton, Fla.
Joy Heffernan and Anthony Wayne
Henderson, May 18. They live in Meridian,
Idaho.
Andrew MacLeod and Jennifer Ross,
August 4. They live in Washington, D.C.,
where she is in tax school at Georgetown
University. He is a contract associate with
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP.
Eileen Turalba and Dan Williams ’03,
June 2. They live in Charleston, S.C., where
Dan is a resident physician at the Medical
University of South Carolina Children’s
Hospital and Eileen is a registered nurse at
Roper Rehabilitation Hospital, working
with spinal cord and stroke injury patients.
Sara Watts and Erick Nicholas Miller,
September 8. She is the bridal manager for
Berk, Inc., in Charlotte, N.C., and he
is an independent consultant in the real
estate industry.
BIRTHS: Wes and Lauren Heath Bryant,
a daughter, Campbell Sage, September 14,
Greenville.
Jude and Laura Anthony Linz, a son,
Jackson True, July 18, Greenville.

03
THIS YEAR IS REUNION!
Steven Buckingham has joined Nelson
Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP in Green-
villle as an associate practicing in the areas
of business litigation and product liability.
He previously clerked for the Hon. James
R. Spencer, Chief United States District
Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.
Matthew Dobbs has graduated from the
University of Alabama with a Doctor of
Medicine degree
B2B Media, formerly Bumper2Bumper
Media, Inc., of Greenville, has announced
the transfer of Rachelle Berube Foster
from graphic artist to account executive
and the promotion of Nat Shane from
graphic artist to creative production
director.
CAPITOL IDEAS: WALSTRUM STEPS UP FOR GEORGIA’S TOURISM INDUSTRY

In a world that’s been the domain of white men from rural Georgia for more than a century, Joy Spears Walstrum has shown that a woman can hold her own in the game of politics — and even stand up to one of the titans of Georgia’s political history.

One of Walstrum’s duties as managing director of the Tourism Development Alliance of Georgia is to lobby the state legislature and the governor’s office on behalf of golf resorts, hotels and chambers of commerce. Even though Georgia’s General Assembly meets only about three months each year, hers is a year-round job that requires travel to every corner of the state. She does everything from meeting with mayors in the towns along the route of the Tour De Georgia bicycle race to co-hosting a meeting of the Senate Republican Caucus at Element, a new restaurant on the main street of the south Georgia town of Lyons.

The most challenging aspect of her job, however, is being the sole lobbyist at the State Capitol for tourism interests. As such, her work requires a diverse range of skills.

Walstrum must understand complex policy ideas, such as a proposal to simplify the law that allows local governments to charge an excise tax on hotel rooms. She has to possess loads of personal charm, for the times when she asks a lawmaker to sponsor a bill. She has to understand how to play the game of politics and how to cut back-room deals.

And she must walk a fine line between being an information resource to lawmakers and being a nuisance. Georgia’s legislators typically don’t have their own staffs, so they rely heavily on lobbyists to provide information. Sometimes lawmakers want a brief explanation of a complicated topic, rather than aggressive advocacy. At least one legislator thinks nobody in Atlanta handles that aspect of the lobbyist’s role better than Walstrum.

“When you talk to someone, she’ll always suggest a bill that you believe in, the strategy of the story. That’s very unusual for a lobbyist,” says Ron Stephens of Savannah, who chairs the legislative committee that oversees the tourism industry.

This wasn’t the career path Walstrum had planned for herself at Furman. The 1995 graduate initially intended to go to law school, but eventually majored in sociology. She cites former sociology professor Bart Dredge’s “poverty tour” of Greenville neighborhoods as helping her develop an interest in becoming an advocate.

Her father’s business interests also helped steer her professional life. In 1991 David Spears acquired the Sky Valley ski resort in northeast Georgia. After graduating from Furman, Joy went to work for her father, handling the daily operations of the resort, including marketing and promotions.

Her entry into politics came when Walstrum and her father realized the state legislature needed to revise the laws concerning a ski resort’s liability for the safety of skiers. Getting such a law passed would be tricky, however, because Sky Valley is the lone ski resort in Georgia and it would mean passing a law for the benefit of only one company.

Walstrum approached the longtime representative from her northeastern Georgia district, the late Ralph Twiggs, and, somewhat fearfully, asked him to sponsor a bill to change the law. Twiggs enthusiastically agreed, even though it meant going against the most powerful man in the State Capitol: former House Speaker Tom Murphy.

As the bill made its way through the legislative process, it became clear that Murphy was going to draw a line in the sand. Murphy withdrew the skiing bill from the agenda of a legislative committee about five minutes before the committee’s meeting was to begin.

“Murphy said that if Sky Valley got this bill passed for them, then every other tourist attraction in the state would be at his door next year wanting the same treatment,” Walstrum says.

But Twiggs, who was on good terms with Murphy, a fellow Democrat, secured a meeting between Murphy and Walstrum later that morning. Walstrum was able to persuade Murphy to put the bill back on the agenda. It later passed unanimously and eventually became law.

Not long after, the state’s tourism interest groups decided they wanted to inject new life into the Tourism Development Alliance, which had become somewhat inactive over the years. In no small part because of her success with Murphy, the groups picked Walstrum to lead their effort.

Walstrum thanks Twiggs for helping her realize that in politics, it’s important not to wear your feelings on your sleeve. “He taught me to not take things personally,” she says. “But, he said, if it’s really important and you really believe in it, then stand up for it.”

— ANDY PETERS ’92

The author is a reporter for the Fulton County Daily Report.
Erik Huffman, who was featured in the Fall 2007 issue of Furman for his appearance on the CBS television program “Survivor: China,” lasted until the final six before being voted off the show. Erik is a musician and model based in Nashville, Tenn.

Mary Reames Rinehart has accepted a position in the marketing department of Greenville’s Tekgraf Corp., a national distributor of quality digital color solutions.

Kristin Sullivan of Huntsville, Ala., has earned a Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Alabama.

Justin Traunero of Winston-Salem, N.C., recently earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from Wake Forest University.

MARRIAGES: Steven Baxter Cain and Jessica Marie Gilbert, October 13. They science from Florida State University. She earned a master's degree in library and information science from Wake Forest University.

Isaiah Ryan Fincher is an associate in the Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library. University in Nashville, Tenn.

Jessica Catherine Yanulavich, a dentist.

Jessica works in a dental practice with her father and James Allen Barker, Jr., October 27. Jessica works as a recreation supervisor for the city of Roswell, Ga.

04

Lindsey Bowen has earned her law degree from Vanderbilt University and is an associate with Troutman Sanders LLP in Atlanta.

Eric Cain is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University in Atlanta. He is also director of youth ministries at Northside Drive Baptist Church.

Elisabeth Douglas of Duluth, Ga., earned a master’s degree in library and information science from Florida State University. She is an associate in the Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library.

Matthew Heathman, currently a student at Erskine Theological Seminary, was commissioned in the U.S. Navy on December 14, 2006, as a chaplain candidate.

Kevin Majeska is an assistant district attorney in the six-county Toombs Judicial Circuit of Georgia.

David Nischwitz is public relations coordinator with the Phoenix (Ariz.) Symphony.

Courtney Erin Schinke of Cambridge, Mass., received a Master of Arts degree in writing and publishing from Emerson College in May 2007. She is an editorial assistant with Addison Wesley, working on economics textbooks.

Adam Schultz has begun graduate work on a Master of Nonprofit Management degree at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Candii Woodson of Clarkston, Ga., recently earned a Master of Business Administration degree in marketing from Mercer University.

MARRIAGES: Collins Culbreth and Jared Zimmer, September 22. They were scheduled to move to China from Sarasota, Fla., early this year to pursue opportunities in international business.

Ann Claire Felts and Scott Hoch, June 30. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

Lindsey Mecca and Ben Nicely II, July 28. They live in Richmond, Va., where Lindsey is a metrics analyst at MeadWestvaco Corporation and Ben teaches U.S. history and government in the Henrico County Public Schools.

Anna Elizabeth Nissen (M.A. ’06) and Bradley Carl Doyle, September 1. He is director of business development for Earth Source Water in Greenville and she teaches at Anderson Mill Elementary School.

05

Lauren Fincher completed her master's degree in nursing last August at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

Keith Johnson is in his third year at Michigan State University College of Law. Among his honors are the Raymond Burr Award, given to the top first-year criminal law student academically, and the Jurisprudence Award in Criminal Law. He is notes and comments editor of the Michigan State Journal of Gender Law and is a member of the Black Law Students Association.

Nancy Kuhne Melton serves as associate director of leadership giving at Furman.

Anna Kirby Ottosen of Bloomington, Ind., recently earned her Master of Arts degree in Spanish from Indiana University.

Dan Schmidt of Silver Spring, Md., has completed a master’s degree in social psychology. He is the Advanced Placement coordinator at Kennedy High School, where he teaches AP world history.

MARRIAGES: Rebecca Bulkeley and Derek Norman ’04, September 8. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where Becca is a senior investment performance analyst for Evergreen Investments and Derek is an account manager for TEKsystems.


Jessalyn Ruth Davis was recently promoted to franchise general manager for Pizza Hut Corporation in Syracuse, N.Y.

Charon Haynesworth of Knoxville, Tenn., recently earned a Master of Accountancy degree from the University of Tennessee.

Matt Jernigan, who is employed by Childress Klein Properties in Charlotte, N.C., was promoted to property manager for Wachovia’s Leased Properties and The Green Uptown. He is also responsible for sustainable building initiatives for Wachovia’s new Charlotte office tower.

Ian Philips is pursuing a master's degree in agency counseling at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

Baritone Joshua Taylor was one of the featured soloists for the Boston Pops 2007 Holiday Concert. Josh is studying for a master’s degree at Boston University.

MARRIAGES: Carolyn Caldwell and Robert Craig Peters, June 23. Carolyn teaches in Spartanburg County (S.C) School District 6 and Craig is a writer/copy editor at the Spartanburg Herald-Journal.

Amanda Lynn Jones and Chad Michael Phillips, September 22. They live in Greenville where she is the Upstate team leader with the Disability Action Center and he is a bulk route delivery driver with Pepsi Corporation.


Lauren Vann and Caleb Coker ’07, June 23. Lauren is pursuing her law degree at Georgia State College of Law and Caleb is a research analyst for SeedAmerica in Atlanta.

07

Bonnie Baird has joined Commercial Carolina Corporation/Cushman & Wakefield in Charlotte, N.C., as a commercial real estate broker.

Emmanuel Chandler is pursuing a medical degree at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Brian Landoe has been hired by the Erwin-Perland agency in Greenville as a public relations account manager on the Firehouse Subs, Southern Exposure and Greenville Humane Society accounts.

Thomas Louie is an underwriter with Canal Insurance Co. in Greenville.

Diana Maley is a development associate with the Peace Center for the Performing Arts in Greenville.

Cailin McDuff works with Teach for America in New York City.

Paul Ortenzo has become corporate marketing manager with the Greenville Drive baseball organization.
Elizabeth Wetmore is a technical associate with Milliken & Co. in Spartanburg, S.C.

MARRIAGE: Todd Arant and Allison Blackwell, June 16. They live in Decatur, Ga. Todd is pursuing a Master of Sacred Music degree in choral conducting at Emory University, and Allison is a marketing manager with MRI and Imaging of Georgia (MedQuest Associates).

DEATHS

Mary Ellen Woodside Wallace ’25, September 23, Greenville. She was a member of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America and was active in community work.

Hollie Johnson Souther ’30, August 24, Spartanburg, S.C.

Helen Brabham Smith ’30, September 27, Barnwell, S.C. Her husband, Herman Edward “Red” Smith, was head football coach at Furman in 1948-49. After his retirement they moved to Manning, S.C., to manage the family farm.

Marguerite Scurry Moseley ’33, October 31, White Rock, S.C. She retired from Shandon United Methodist Church in Columbia, S.C., after 27 years as the church visitor. She was a charter member of the Governor Robert Gibbs Chapter of the South Carolina Society of the Colonial Dames of the XVII Century.

Archie Thomas “A.T” Usher ’33, November 10, Charleston, S.C. He was a Southern Baptist minister at several churches in the Carolinas. He was director of missions for Union County (S.C.) Baptist Association and served as president of the South Carolina Pastors Conference, chair of the trustees of the South Carolina Baptist Hospital and trustee of the Connie Maxwell Children’s Home.

Marjorie Barr O’Steen Webb ’37, October 18, Greenville. She was a lab technician for Greenville General Hospital and an active member of the Greenville County Medical Auxiliary. She was a past board member of Camp WaBak and North Greenville Hospital, a leader in the local Girl Scouts of America, and a volunteer with St. Francis Hospice and Meals on Wheels.

Robert Gordon Owens, Jr. ’38, October 31, Boulder, Colo. Following graduation from Furman, he began a distinguished 33-year military career in the U.S. Marine Corps, during which time he received numerous medals and decorations, including the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross with four Gold Stars, and the Air Medal with two Silver Stars. Although injured while on a flight in the South Pacific in January 1944, he successfully landed his crippled plane in the ocean and was rescued. As a result, he received the Purple Heart. He was designated a Marine Corps ace after shooting down seven enemy planes during World War II. In August 1964 he was assigned to the Joint Staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he was awarded the first of his five Legions of Merit. In 1969 he was an honorary pallbearer at the funeral of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Upon retirement from the military in 1972, he and his wife settled in Newport Beach, Calif., where he pursued a career in real estate. He received Furman’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 1968.

Winifred Bahan Peters ’39, July 29, Charleston, S.C. She did post-graduate study in organ at Juilliard School of Music in New York and later served as vice president of Bahan Textile Machinery Co. in Greenville. A portrait and seascape artist, she was owner of Winifred’s Studio. She was a member of the Art Students League of New York, the Greenville Artists Guild and the South Carolina Artists Portrait Society of America.

Lucie Anne Cuttino Eldridge ’40, September 30, Sumter, S.C. She retired as the first costumer for the Southern Yosemite Theatre and the Hendersonville Youth Theater, working with a total of more than 500 productions. A popular lecturer, she was the first costumer for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre at Mars Hill (N.C.) College, where the Sara Stewart Scholarship in Theater Arts was established in her honor. She was instrumental in organizing the Hendersonville Children’s Theater and the Hendersonville Youth Theater.

Eleanor Bolt Hunter ’42, November 16, Greenville. She taught in various Greenville County elementary schools, including Summit Drive and Trinity Lutheran Day schools. She was a member and past president of the Delta Kappa Gamma teaching society, past president of the Fountain Inn Music Club and a member of the Greenville Music Club.

Ann Cochran Kolb ’42, October 11, Jackson, Miss. In 1944 she and her husband, Raymond, were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention as missionaries to Brazil. There she worked in several capacities, including elementary school director, music teacher and choir director. She and her husband retired from the mission field in 1988.

Caroline Martin ’42, October 18, Sumter, S.C. She retired as a teacher from Sumter School District 17 after 38 years, mainly teaching at Crosswell Elementary School. She was a former member of the Sumter County Historical Society.

James Lamar Milford ’40, October 21, Anderson, S.C. As a member of the U.S. Air Force, he served as a flight instructor during World War II and flew C-47’s in the China-Burma-India Theater. He retired from the Air Force Reserve as a lieutenant colonel and went on to be postmaster of Townville (S.C.). He was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels.

William Kirk Allen, Jr. ’41, September 3, River Landing, N.C. He began his ministerial career as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy during World War II. An ordained Presbyterian minister, he served churches in West Virginia, Texas and Tennessee before being called to serve First Presbyterian Church in High Point, N.C., from which he retired and was named pastor emeritus.

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Aileen Scism Stokes ’42, October 2, Myrtle Beach, S.C. She taught in the Horry County (S.C.) School District for 26 years and was a member of the Horry County Library Board and the Order of the Eastern Star.

Sara Gatlin Stewart ’44, September 21, Hendersonville, N.C. She taught English at Hendersonville High School for two years and was chair of the Department of Speech and Drama at Anderson (S.C.) College (now University) for three years. She also taught junior high school English and drama for more than 30 years. She served as a costumer at the University of North Carolina, The Lost Colony at Roanoke Island, the University of North Carolina-Asheville and the Hendersonville Little Theater, working with a total of more than 500 productions. A popular lecturer, she was the first costumer for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre at Mars Hill (N.C.) College, where the Sara Stewart Scholarship in Theater Arts was established in her honor. She was instrumental in organizing the Hendersonville Children’s Theater and the Hendersonville Youth Theater.

Glady Sue Coggin Brock ‘45, November 25, Belmont, N.C.

William Melmoth McMillan ’47, November 18, Greenville. He was a partner in the CPA firm of Harris, McMillan and Hudgens for 36 years. He served as president of the South Carolina Chapter of CPAs and the South Carolina CPA Association and was secretary-treasurer of the Executive Sertoma Club of Greenville. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

William Richmond Turpin ’47, October 20, 2006, Austin, Texas. He served in the Army Air Force during World War II, piloting supplies and paratroopers in the Pacific Theater, serving in New Guinea and flying missions in the Philippines campaign. He was awarded the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf...
clusters. He went on to medical school, after which he practiced neurosurgery for six years for the Air Force. He went into the private practice of neurosurgery in Austin in 1962 and continued until 2004. He was an officer of the Austin Doctors Building Corporation and helped develop programs at Brackenridge Hospital.

Mary Spears Elrod Lee '48, October 19, Greenville. She was retired from the Greenville County School System as an elementary school librarian.

Patricia Ann Brown Oster '48, October 3, Summerfield, Fla.

Sylvia Jane Fowls Wood '49, September 17, Columbia, S.C. She was actively involved in the Girl Scouts of America for 15 years, serving as leader and coordinator for the state of South Carolina. She also served as secretary to three Presbyterian churches in the Columbia area for a total of 23 years.

Lois Whately Beard '50, September 4, Buies Creek, N.C.

Jack Ruhl '50, September 7, Fort Wayne, Ind. After serving as a chaplain's assistant in the U.S. Navy, he joined the staff at First Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne in 1951 and was staff organist and church theatre manager until his retirement in 1991. He also edited the church's newsletter, taught piano and organ, was pianist for the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and performed recitals throughout the country. After retirement he remained an active member of the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists and edited and designed the chapter's monthly newsletter. He helped establish an annual National Organ Playing Competition and a series of organ recitals and choral concerts.

Nancy Eugenia Benton '52, October 6, Florence, S.C. She taught in the Sumter (S.C.) city schools for many years.

Winona Burton Bradham '52, November 11, Camden, S.C. She was a retired registered nurse.

Paul Marshall Hart '52, October 7, Hudson, N.C. He was a retired United Methodist minister and had served a number of North Carolina pastorates. Robert Long '52, October 8, Columbia, S.C. He served in the U.S. Navy for 20 years as a chaplain and retired as a commander. He went on to be pastor of North Trenholm Baptist Church in Columbia for 13 years and Pine Belt Baptist Church for 10 years.

Arlene Whitfield Blakely '53, October 14, Greenville. She was a retired teacher from the Oconee County (S.C.) School System.

Charles Jerry Canupp '54, October 3, Anderson, S.C. He was a retired chiropractor who in later years was president of Allenwood Plastics and was a sales manager for American Sentry. He was a former Mason and had been active in the Jaycees, Lions Club and Rotary Club of Anderson.

James Irvine Ransbotham '54, August 21, Fayetteville, N.C. He was a decorated U.S. Army officer who flew helicopters and fixed wing aircraft during three tours in Viet Nam. He was named an honorary crew chief for the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds in 1997.

Dorothy Jean Manly Tripp '54, November 15, Charlotte, N.C. She retired from the City of Charlotte in 1997. She also spent 25 years with Bank of America.

Robert Adair Williamson, Sr. '54, October 30, Anderson, S.C. Following service in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, he was minister of music at First Baptist Church of Lancaster, S.C., for eight years and then spent 31 years as minister of music at Northgate Baptist Church in Greenville.

Joseph Earl Crook, Sr. '55, October 2, Inman, S.C. He became associate pastor at First Baptist Church of Spartanburg, S.C., in 1959 and later served churches in Woodruff, S.C., and again in Spartanburg.

He was also director of the Vera Parsons Adult Center at the Charles Lea Center in Spartanburg. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving in Japan. Hugh Chandler Fortson '55, October 29, Greenwood, S.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and a Baptist minister. He retired from Victory Baptist Church in Moncks Corner, S.C., in 1986 and then served as interim pastor of several churches and as senior adult minister at West Side Baptist Church in Greenwood. He also volunteered with the Faith Home.

Eunice Farmer Gaines '55, November 19, Camopello, S.C. She was a retired teacher from Spartanburg County (S.C.) District I.

Julian Milford "Juby" McKinley '55, November 16, Anderson, S.C. He was a retired pastor, school principal and farmer.

Fred Eugene Robinson '55, September 10, Greenville. He was a U.S. Army veteran, having retired as a colonel after serving during the Cold War. He was also retired from Leon H. Robinson and Son Insurance, Inc.

Viola Taylor Lang '56, September 23, Slater, S.C. She was retired from Greenville County Schools, where she taught from 1939 to 1979.

SARAH MANLY, 1927-2007

Sarah Gillespie Manly '48, longtime educator and civic leader in Greenville, died December 20 in New Delhi, India.

She had been visiting a mission and school for widows and children in Ranchi in association with a group called Dining for Women when she suffered a heart attack, from which she did not recover. She was 80.

A cum laude graduate of Furman with a degree in biology, she later earned a master's degree from Clemson University. She taught chemistry and physics at two local high schools for 12 years and taught physics at Clemson for four years. She also worked as an ophthalmic photographer and retinal angiographer with her husband, ophthalmologist Basil Manly IV '47, from 1976-96.

She was elected to three terms on the Greenville County School Board, serving from 1976-88, and from 1988-92 she was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives. In 1991 she was named state Legislator of the Year by the South Carolina School Boards Association.

Active in Greenville’s First Baptist Church, she was a founding member of the Alliance for Quality Education, a tutor with the Greenville County Literacy Association and a longtime volunteer with Meals on Wheels and the Guardian Ad Litem program, which helps protect children in the court system.

In 1994 Furman inducted her into its chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the academic honorary society, and she served on the advisory board for the university's Richard W. Riley Institute.

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CLASS NOTES POLICY

Because of the large number of submissions and clippings Furman receives for the magazine’s class notes section and the time needed to review, compile and edit so much information, news items frequently are not published until five or six months after they are submitted.

Furman magazine does not publish dated items (anything more than 18 months old at time of publication) or engagement announcements. Birth and marriage announcements for alumni couples who graduated in different years are included under the earliest graduation date (except if requested otherwise); they are not listed under both classes. When submitting items, please include your spouse’s or child’s name, whether your spouse is a Furman graduate, and the date and city where the birth or marriage occurred.

Send news to the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or e-mail to alumni@furman.edu. Selected information submitted to the on-line alumni registry (http://alumni.furman.edu) is included in class notes.

John Andrew Boudoucies ’60, November 20, Taylors, S.C. He was employed with Xpedix for 25 years and retired from Cyrovac for 2 years and retired from Xpedix. He was a U.S. Army veteran, having served two years on active duty and more than 20 years in the Army Reserve, from which he retired with the rank of colonel.

Gerald Wood Crawford ’60, November 23, Laurens, S.C. A Baptist minister, he served as pastor and interim pastor of several churches in the Laurens area and retired from Laurens School District 55 after 33 years of service. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Korean War.

Joanne Edens Gorbandt ’60, October 9, Atlanta. She was self-employed as a certified public accountant and was a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Joseph Paul Barone, M.A. ’61, September 3, Blythe Island, Ga. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. After his military tour, he taught mechanical drawing in Greenville and at Glynn Academy in Glynn County, Ga. He was an assistant middle school principal and later a principal at two elementary schools until his retirement in 1976.

Neigel O’Neil Gillespie ’61, September 24, Simpsonville, S.C. He had served in the U.S. Army and was retired from Binswanger Glass.

Margaret Anne Bradley Simmons ’62, October 21, West Pelzer, S.C. She retired from Anderson (S.C.) County School District 1, where she was a teacher. She was a member of the National Education Association.

Peter Allen Horne ’65, May 16, Marietta, Ga. After Furman, he attended C.W. Post College in Long Island, N.Y., and while there served as head baseball coach at the Buckley School, a boys’ preparatory school. He also attended Valley Forge Military Academy and later returned there to be an instructor in history, head baseball coach and backfield coach for the academy’s football team. He owned an office supply store in Allentown, Pa., with his father, then moved to Florida where he was an independent insurance agent.

Charles F. Youmans, Jr. ’69, October 2, Florence, S.C. He was a past member of the Florence Harmony Chorus and the Columbia Chapter. He was also lead singer in a quartet called Night Sounds.

Richard Crittenden ’77, September 9, Greer, S.C. As a saxophonist, his work ranged from gigs with the Temptations and the Four Tops to classical concerts with the Greenville Symphony. He later taught music on every level from middle school to college. He also pursued a career in information technology and spent 21 years in that field at Liberty Life Insurance and then at Metlife, where he was chief architect and assistant vice president.

Dorothy Robinson Barnes ’78, October 27, 2006, Clinton, S.C. She worked in the family business until her retirement.

Doris Langford ’81, September 26, Dallas, Texas.

Judi Wages Jackson, M.A. ’82, October 31, New Smyrna Beach, Fla. She had a 15-year teaching career in Dacula, S.C., and in Atlanta.

Robert E. McNair, November 17, Columbia, S.C. As governor of South Carolina from 1965 to 1970 he was regarded as a visionary leader who guided the state wisely and pragmatically during the civil rights era. A lifelong champion of education, he was a two-term member of the Furman board of trustees and received an honorary degree from Furman in 1969.

Elizabeth S. “Lib” Nanney, November 27, Greenville. She worked at Furman for 34 years, the last 29 as secretary in the psychology department. In 1999 she received the Chiles-Harrill Award, given annually to a member of the faculty or staff who demonstrates special concern and devotion to students. Upon her retirement in 2001, family and friends established the Lib Nanney Fund to assist students in the psychology department. She was the wife of T. Ray Nanney, professor emeritus of computer science.

Margaret Edwards Abercrombie, December 3, Aiken, S.C. She served as supervisor of student accounts in the Furman business office from 1966 to 1991. With her quick wit and generous nature, she endeared herself to many students as “Mrs. A.”

Alma Geraldine “Jerry” Coggins, December 3, Greenville. She had been a member of the Furman development staff since 1970, serving first as a secretary and later as a development systems specialist.
MARS ILL: HIP-HOP MUSIC WITH A FAITH-BASED BEAT

While a degree in business administration from Furman is certainly something to be proud of, it's not exactly news. Putting that degree on the backburner to pursue a career in faith-based hip-hop, however — now that's a story you don't hear every day.

Chances are, you haven't listened to a lot of faith-based hip-hop. But in that small but growing world, there aren't many names bigger than Mars ILL, which probably makes Greg Owens '97 — also known as manCHILD — the most successful Christian rapper in Furman history.

Owens is the voice behind the two-man group. He and his collaborator, DJ Dust (Nathan Corrona), have sold more than 60,000 albums, and their videos have been viewed tens of thousands of times on YouTube.

In a genre that operates on the fringes of even the indie music scene, that's a dizzying amount of success. So much, in fact, that Owens has had a chance to call on his diploma after all.

"It's bigger than I ever thought it could be, to be honest," he says. "[My degree] is something I actually have used. From 1999 to 2005, I managed us and did the whole thing, procured record deals, negotiated with labels."

So time at Furman wasn't wasted, after all. But Owens, who is married to Mary Palmer '98 and is a father of five, laughs when asked if his classmates would have predicted where he is today.

"You might have a few surprised people," he says. "There are a lot of people who know what I do, and it's just second nature. But when you first meet people they're like, 'Oh, get a life.'"

"It's always an interesting thing to see them at first. They don't believe you. I don't usually volunteer the information. I just say I'm in music."

Don't take that to mean that Owens isn't proud of what he does, however. Mars ILL's three albums have been positively received by mainstream music critics, and while Owens doesn't deny that religion plays a prominent role in the lyrics he writes, he insists that it's not all the duo is about.

"We wanted to be a good influence and try to touch some peoples' lives," he says. "Our faith is something that has always been very important to us, but we didn't get out and try to break into the Christian industry. Believe it or not, Christian publications would question us because we didn't say Jesus enough or use Christian terms enough."

So is Mars ILL Christian music or not? Owens doesn't think the label is even relevant.

"We make hip-hop music. You could describe it any number of ways," he says. "Some people call it true school hip-hop, some people call it underground, but ultimately you have to listen to it yourself and decide what it is."

Owens fell in love with rap in the 1980s, pointing to groups like Run DMC and Public Enemy as influences. Their courage as rappers told him it was OK to express ideas that he felt were important. But it wasn't until he met Joe Brewer '97 at Furman that he really began to think he could create that music himself.

Owens and Brewer shared a love of hip-hop that made them fast friends even though Owens hailed from tiny Ridgeland, S.C., and Brewer was from Baltimore. They formed their own group, The Pride, and released two albums of their own before graduation sent Brewer to law school and Owens to Atlanta to keep pursuing his dream.

Now a lawyer in Greenville, Brewer still counts Owens as one of his best friends. And he's one of Mars ILL's biggest fans.

"There was a big part of me for a long time that wished I could be out there with him," Brewer says. "I've got all of their albums, and I'm obviously not an unbiased source, but I think that both of them are near the genius level in this genre of art. Both of them have found a special voice that's uniquely theirs."

Not to mention a fan base. Brewer admits that once music is labeled "Christian" it often loses the respect of critics, but he thinks Mars ILL successfully shares its message while creating legitimate art.

"There are kids all over this country that, really, their lives were changed because they realized that they could be a person of faith and still be unique to their interests," Brewer says of Mars ILL's influence. "The general perception is that Christian music is corny, and I think that's what most people think, even Christians themselves."

In Brewer's view, what Mars ILL does — and what it represents — is to say, "Look, you can be a person of faith and still be able to pursue and create things that are important to you and what you love. . . . You don't have to compromise on the quality. Those things can co-exist."

Mars ILL performs regularly and plans to continue making music. Or, perhaps more accurately, adding to its legacy.

"People should appreciate how successful Mars ILL is," Brewer says. "They've done some really special things."

To learn more, visit www.marsill.com.

— RON WAGNER '93