Honors and Awards April 26

On April 26, Millersville University will hold its 56th annual Undergraduate Honors and Awards Convocation. The ceremony recognizes students who have received scholarships or awards for academic and athletic achievements as well as service involvement. The event will take place at 10:30 a.m. in Marauder Court at the Student Memorial Center (SMC).

In addition to student recognition, the Millersville University Alumni Association will present four awards: the Distinguished Alumni Award, Honorary Alumni Award, Outstanding Volunteer Service Award and the Young Alumni Achievement Award.

The five alumni being honored this year are:

**Hugh Herr** Ph.D. ’90 has been chosen to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award. A rock climber and double amputee, Herr graduated from Millersville with an undergraduate degree in physics. He currently is an associate professor at the Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) division of Health Sciences and Technology. He directs the Biomechatronics group at the MIT Media Lab. Herr founded the company iWalk, Inc., in 2007 and has given lectures at the Fourth World Congress of Biomechanics, the International Conference on Advanced Prosthetics, the National Assembly of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, World Economic Forum, Google Zeitgeist, Digital Life Design and the TEDMED Conference. His work with wearable robotic systems to aid amputees has earned him the Heinz Award for Technology in 2007 and appearances on Scientific American Frontiers, Technology Review, National Geographic, the History Channel and CNN.

**Harvey Owen** will receive the Honorary Alumni Award. Owen was appointed as the first director of the Ware Center in downtown Lancaster in 2011, helping to program the film, music, dance and visual arts performances that draw crowds and make the Ware Center what it is. He will be retiring from this position in July 2014. He has run his consultant business in Lancaster since 1998 and has spent time as a mentor for SCORE Lancaster. He is the president and chief operating officer for NSI IT Software and Services.

**Catherine “Kitty” Glass** ’53 has been named the Outstanding Volunteer Service Award recipient. Glass retired from Millersville in 1996 after serving more than 28 years as an associate professor and catalogue librarian. She has served on various boards, including the Millersville University Alumni Association Board of Directors; Student Services, Inc.; Board of Directors (1972-1996); treasurer of the Association of Pennsylvania College and University Faculties; and the Homecoming Committee. Glass has also volunteered time at events such as the Class of 1953 60th Reunion, Freshman Convocation, Move In Day, Senior Send Off, Alumni Association Events Committee, Alumni Fall Fling,
Commencement, MU After Work events and a host of others. She received her undergraduate degree in library science from Millersville University and a master’s degree in library science from Drexel University.

Patrick Leahy ’97 was selected as one of two recipients of the Young Alumni Achievement Award. Since graduating with degree in political science and history, Leahy has gone on to serve members of Congress, a cabinet secretary and currently the federal government. Leahy, who is blind, created the documentary “Blind Lifter” about his experience as a body builder, which is intended to inspire children with disabilities to participate in sports. Leahy has been featured in the Washington Post and was a guest on NBC’s Today Show. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Millersville University Alumni Association. While attending Millersville University, Leahy wrestled for the school’s nationally recognized Division I program (it is now a Division II program) and served as president of Student Senate.

Thomas Baker ’02 is the second recipient of the Young Alumni Achievement Award. The county councilman previously served as a school director in the North Hills School District before being elected to represent District 1 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County. Baker has written three books and is the founder and chief program officer of Get Involved! Incorporated. While earning his bachelor’s degree in elementary education at Millersville University, he served as president of the Student Senate and president of the Associates for Student Development during his graduate studies in Student Affairs in Higher Education at Indiana University of Pa. The honors he has received include the Distinguished Civic Leadership Award (2009) from Millersville University and Young Business Leader of the Year (2011), given by the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce.

“The Honors and Awards Convocation brings donors, students, family, faculty and staff together to honor those students who have demonstrated academic excellence, alumni who have accomplished so much since graduating from MU and the donors who make all these awards possible,” said Michael Saraka, director of alumni engagement.

The Undergraduate Honors and Awards Committee, chaired by Dr. Jeff Adams, associate provost for academic administration, oversees the planning of the ceremony.

Distinguished Civic Leadership Award Recipients

The Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project (CCERP) presented its annual Distinguished Civic Leadership Awards on April 7. Several awards were presented along with a performance by the regional nonprofit organization, Scaling Walls A Note at a Time (SWAN), which was also recognized for its achievements.
Amanda Walter was the recipient of the Newman Civic Fellow Award. Walter, a junior majoring in business administration, was recognized for her student leadership on campus as well as her efforts in sustainability which included environmental preservation, social justice and economic equality.

Jan Bechtel, currently a graduate student in the social work program, was honored for her civic work as a Millersville University student. Bechtel is a member and active participant on the President’s Commissions on Cultural Diversity and the Women’s Commission on the Status of Women. She is also the founder and director of the Tree House program through Alder Health Services in Harrisburg and promotes LGBT equality in the community.

Bechtel appears in the University’s YouTube video. View it at http://youtu.be/NB1QRI5Xi3w.

Jeri Robinson-Lawrence was honored for her civic work as a Millersville University faculty member. Robinson-Lawrence, an art professor, founded the Red Rose 4-H Fiber Artists Club. The club serves youth in Lancaster and Lebanon County, teaching skills on how to knit, spin, weave and crochet, while bestowing leadership and confidence to the next generation.

Addie Ritenour ’11M was honored for her civic work as a Millersville University alumna. Ritenour, who earned her master’s degree in special education, has spread her passion for supporting children with disabilities by developing Los Amigos, an after-school program. Her efforts have been instrumental in developing a special needs ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lancaster. She is also a head coach and participant for the Girls on the Run Race in Lancaster.

Steve O’Neill ’10, Millersville University alumnus, was honored for his contributions to a nonprofit organization. O’Neill coordinates the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, which provides free tax preparation services to low and moderate-income individuals and families making less than $50,000 a year. He also serves as a member of the Lancaster Money in Your Pocket Coalition.

The Millersville University chapter of Alpha Sigma Alpha was recognized for countless hours of volunteer service projects to the nonprofit organizations Excentia and the S. June Smith Center during the current academic year, raising $10,000 for the projects efforts.

Finally, Dr. Francine G. McNairy received the Lifetime Achievement Award. As 13th president of Millersville University, she championed faculty, student and staff diversity, global education and economic development within the Lancaster region.
If you’re well-versed in the ideas of carbon fiber foam composites and creating nanofibrous carbon components, you will be pleased to know that Millersville University assistant professor Dr. Mark Atwater received a patent for a technology he co-invented in the field. If you’re (understandably) lost, you may want to read on.

“The invention is a process to create bulk components from nanoscale fibers,” said Atwater. If you’re still not following exactly what Atwater’s invention does, consider a comparison to help clear things up a little more.

“The process itself is similar to what happens in your car’s exhaust, specifically the catalytic converter,” said Atwater, assistant professor of applied engineering, safety and technology. “The catalytic converter takes gases coming from the engine that may be harmful and converts them to different gases that are less problematic. The patented process involves flowing a carbon-containing gas over a catalyst, but instead of changing it to another gas, the carbon is deposited in the form of fibers…the carbon is controlled and …the fibers “grow” until they fill the mold. After the mold has been filled and the millions of individual fibers are entangled, the carbon acts a single component, similar to steel wool. No one had yet developed a method for creating bulk (visible and useful) components from these fibers directly during the growth process.”

After spending countless hours in the observation stage while doing graduate work at the University of New Mexico, Atwater worked for four years on growing the nanofibers in hopes of studying their properties. “I figured that if I enclosed them on all sides, they might stick together better,” said Atwater. “I took some discarded equipment in the lab to create a quick, cheap way of testing that hypothesis. It worked!”

He worked alongside his thesis advisor, Dr. Zayd Leseman, and a co-advisor from Los Alamos National Laboratory, Dr. Jonathan Phillips, to develop the technology and get the resulting patent. Atwater and his associates received a notice on March 25 that patent for their technology was approved.
“Honestly, I feel relieved,” said Atwater.

Though the patent itself is quite an accomplishment, Atwater is far from finished with his work on carbon nanofibers.

“Obviously, this has been a long road… [but] this project is not done. The patent is validation that it can be valuable, but making it better is something I am still very active with.”

**Board of Governors Approves New Degrees, Flexible Tuition Plans**

The Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) last week approved new flexible pricing plans for Millersville University and Clarion University. In addition, they approved new graduate degree programs in health science and special education to be offered separately by Lock Haven and Slippery Rock universities.

Millersville University plans to reduce tuition by 10 percent to students who take classes at the PASSHE Center City facility in Philadelphia. The University will begin offering classes at the site this summer.

Millersville also is proposing to establish a program-specific instructional fee for high-cost, high-demand undergraduate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs.

The new pricing plans approved are part of the board’s efforts to provide the universities with greater flexibility in a number of operational areas. The universities can submit proposals to adjust their tuition rates and certain fees charged to students under two-year pilots. The proposals also must be approved by the individual university’s Council of Trustees before they can be implemented.

The programs will be evaluated over a two-year period to determine their effectiveness. If successful, the programs could be continued, and even duplicated at other universities.

Clarion University has proposed to charge all undergraduate students on a per-credit basis, effective with the fall 2015 semester. Full-time students currently pay a flat tuition rate for taking from 12 to 18 credits.

Lock Haven University will offer a master’s degree of health science that will include concentrations in health promotion/education and healthcare management. Slippery Rock will offer a Doctorate of Education in special education.
“More than two years ago, the Board of Governors began working to provide the universities with more pricing flexibility,” said, Frank T. Brogan, chandler. “We took a serious first step forward in January when the board approved the first pilot programs, and took another significant step today. This board is serious about being more flexible, collaborative, and student-focused, and proved it yet again today with this action.”

The Board of Governors also approved changes in its policy related to the selection of university presidents to ensure greater input from the universities. By law, the board is responsible for the actual hiring of presidents, but the universities have a major role in the process, including appointing the search committee.

Under the revisions approved by the board, the chairs of both the search committee and the university’s Council of Trustees will be included in the deliberations by the Board of Governors as it considers the final candidates proposed by the university. Other changes would ensure that acting or interim presidents could declare their interest in being a candidate for the permanent position, and would reduce from three to two the number of continuing candidates the university’s Council of Trustees would recommend to the Board of Governors for final consideration.

Three PASSHE universities—California, Kutztown and Shippensburg—will be starting presidential searches in the near future.

The Board also revised a separate policy to allow for the approval of new academic minors and certificates to occur at the university level to assure agility and flexibility. New programs still will be required to meet specific academic criteria before being implemented.

The Board rescinded or revised several other policies whose requirements already are covered in other policies or statutes and were considered unnecessarily burdensome to the universities.

“The State System is evolving and the Board of Governors is leading the way to strike a better balance between system coordination and greater local decision making,” Brogan said. “These important actions empower local university leaders to guide their institutions while helping to shape the future of the whole system.”

Commencement Speakers Announced for Spring 2014

Dr. Deborah Castellucci ’81,’84 will speak at this year’s graduate ceremony at Millersville University on Friday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. in Pucillo Gym. Castellucci is an educator and practitioner with experience in education for more than 30 years. Lieutenant General David L. Mann ’81, a three-star commanding general of the United States Army, will speak at the baccalaureate
Exchange  
April 17, 2014  

Commencement at Millersville University on May 10 at 10 a.m. at Biemesderfer Stadium. He will also be receiving an honorary doctorate of humane letters at the commencement.

Castellucci serves as the Graduate Program Coordinator in nursing at Millersville and also teaches in the graduate nurse practitioner program. She is also employed as a nurse practitioner at the Center for Urologic Care of Berks County. Castellucci has been the recipient of numerous grants and awards. She has served as president of the Reading Hospital Alumni Board. Castellucci’s education includes a diploma in nursing education from The Reading Hospital; two undergraduate degrees from Millersville University (a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing); and a Master of Nursing from University of Pennsylvania.

Mann was a designated Distinguished Military Graduate of Gettysburg College. His post-graduate education includes a Master of Science degree in engineering management from George Washington University and a Master of Arts degree from the U.S. Naval War College.

For more information, visit the commencement website at;  

**Over 700 Social Workers, Including 100 from Millersville, Rally for Change**

The National Association of Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter (NASW-PA) held its annual Legislative Advocacy Day in Harrisburg on April 9. More than 700 social work students, including 100 from Millersville University, visited nearly 200 members of the General Assembly to discuss legislation impacting the social work profession and social service delivery. Legislative visits were followed by a rally on the steps of the Capitol rotunda.

In Pennsylvania, a doctor is required to obtain a professional license to provide medical services, just as a nail technician must be licensed to paint nails at the mall. However, social workers are allowed to practice in Pennsylvania without a license. Social work students and professionals met with their legislators yesterday to advocate for House Bill 1640, creating limited practice protection for social work professionals across the Commonwealth; and Senate Bill 807, establishing licensure for bachelor-level social workers.
State Senator John Blake (D-Lackawanna), Rep. Dan Frankel (D-Allegheny), Rep. Mike Sturla and former Rep. Tim Seip attended the rally in the rotunda. They each highlighted the critical role social workers play in our communities and how House Bill 1640 and Senate Bill 807 would enhance the profession and protect the public.

“Today, social workers from across the Commonwealth have come to the capitol to advocate for our proud profession,” Ron Simon, NASW-PA executive director stated. “Change is needed to further protect the public and assist social workers as they help others in their moments of need. The legislation that we are advocating for today would create such a change.”

Get Ready to Ride for a Good Cause

The wheels are turning to take Millersville’s American Dream Scholarship Fund to the next level. Millersville University is teaming up with Dream Ride Lancaster 2014 to fundraise for the scholarship announced at President John Anderson’s inaugural last autumn. Dream Ride Lancaster is one of Lancaster County’s premiere fundraising events where bicyclists ride to benefit local nonprofits and charities.

Scheduled for Saturday, September 20, the Dream Ride Lancaster offers the choice of six different mapped and signed routes between 10 and 100 miles. One of the rides will loop through Millersville’s campus and the Borough. The bike ride, not a race, seems tailor-made as Anderson is a bike enthusiast and advocate for sustainability. One hundred percent of the donations and sponsorships will go toward the American Dream Scholarship Fund. All skills levels and ages are welcome to register. More information will be coming; meanwhile, starting pedaling and get ready to ride.

Drug Drop-off Site Provides Environment-Friendly Method to Dispose of Medications

If you or someone you know is looking to dispose of their unwanted or unused prescription drugs, look no further. The Millersville University Police Department (MUPD) is offering free drug drop-offs at their office on North George Street.

For years, proper drug-disposal methods have been tossed around and debated by the FDA and environmental groups alike. Throwing unwanted or unneeded prescription medication pills in the
trash can harm the environment and puts children and pets at risk. Flushing pills keeps them out of reach of children, but can potentially pollute water supplies.

The FDA’s website states that “medicine take-back programs for disposal are a good way to remove expired, unwanted or unused medicines from the home and reduce the chance that others may accidentally take the medicine.”

However, not everything is accepted at the drug drop-off site at the Millersville Police Station, however. Prescriptions, prescription patches, medications, prescription ointments, vitamins, samples and pet medication are all acceptable. Intravenous solutions, injectables, needles, hydrogen peroxide, inhalers, aerosol cans, thermometers and ointments, lotions and liquids are not, and will not be accepted.

Though Police Chief Pete Anders credits the drop-off box in Millersville to Lancaster County District Attorney Craig Stedman and Assistant District Attorney Bob Smulktis, Smulktis deflected all credit back to Anders.

“Anders deserves all the credit for bringing the prescription drop box program to Millersville University,” said Smulktis. “He heard about our program and saw an opportunity to help the University community address the serious dangers associated with prescription drug abuse.”

Dropping off medications at the drop-box is as easy as could be. Simply stop by the police station between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on any weekday, approach the (pictured) drop box just inside the lobby, and put your medications inside. No questions, no forms and no meetings with any officers or staff.

“The drop-off site has to be at a secure police facility,” said Anders. “We are accessible to students and our neighboring community after hours by calling for an officer to meet at the station.”

According to Anders, the drop-off box helps provide a safe, environmentally friendly way to dispose of medications that otherwise could end up in our water supply.

“I think this is a really neat way change a habit that we may not even think about,” said Anders.

**Community Partner Seizes the Opportunity**

One of Millersville University’s community partners, the School District of Lancaster, has recently seized the opportunity once again by being named to the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation’s list of Best Communities for Music Education in 2014.
“This award recognizes the significant partnerships that exist between Millersville University’s Department of Music with the School District of Lancaster and Music For Everyone,” said Dr. Micheal Houlahan, Department of Music chair and professor at Millersville.

The School District of Lancaster was one of 376 school districts awarded the designation out of more than 2,000 applicants. The School District of Lancaster thanked their community partners including Millersville University and Music For Everyone along with their dedicated music teachers, administration, school board, students and families.

“This award is significant because cognitive research has increasingly demonstrated that music develops the human brain and increases levels of creativity,” said Houlahan. “These collaborations remind us that music is an integral part of the human experience and all of these initiatives bring the magic of music to Lancaster. “

Richard Khuu—A Natural Role Model

When Richard Khuu took the job as student manager at Millersville University’s Center for Health Education & Promotion (CHEP), a campus program that facilitates workshops and organizes events to educate students on health concerns, he understood the importance of his position. He oversees peer educators, a group of students who provide education and awareness to other students in areas such as substance use, mental health, nutrition and physical activity, sexual responsibility and healthy relationships, and sexual violence.

Khuu, a senior graduating in May with a bachelor’s degree in psychology, is doing what he loves best—helping others. His commitment of time and energy makes a difference in the lives of students who participate in CHEP’s programs. And Khuu has a great deal of energy to spare. In addition to his job with CHEP, he interns at Compass Mark, a Lancaster nonprofit prevention program that works within schools to help area youth.

“Similar to CHEP, Compass Mark workshops are used to teach children and adolescents about substance use and mental health, diversity and gambling prevention. Compass Mark also organizes several afterschool programs. My role is to facilitate extracurricular activities, assist as a group leader and be a role model,” Khuu said.
The MU student will volunteer at Compass Mark’s annual Riddle Quest, a fundraising scavenger hunt event in downtown Lancaster in May that benefits the organization’s Future Generations Youth Leadership.

Khuu is also the treasurer for MU Habitat for Humanity, a student-run initiative that helps build and repair houses for those in need, and is treasurer of MU’s Helping Paws, a program whose mission is to improve the quality of life for homeless and needy animals in the community.

On spring break, March 15 – 22, Khuu traveled to Mississippi with Habitat for Humanity to help the elderly, veterans and people with disabilities with home repairs. Past spring break initiatives Khuu has participated in have included visits to South Carolina (roofing and paneling a home), North Carolina (building a shed and detailing a home) and New Jersey (helping to clean up following Hurricane Sandy).

“I enjoy being able to participate in so many great opportunities. I like getting to connect with people who have similar interests as me and want to help out in the community. Having been a boy scout, I have grown up learning how to give back to my community in any way I can,” Khuu said.

“I have been going through a lot of different emotions as a senior. It is exciting because I am finally graduating, but nerve-wrecking because I still do not have a concrete plan for after graduation. It is sad because all of my work and involvement on campus is coming to an end, but rewarding because I have learned so much about myself from all I have been involved in. Preparing to leave is definitely a bitter-sweet experience,” Khuu said.

Need to Know

To: Faculty and Staff
From: Employee Wellness Committee
Date: April 14, 2014
Re: Spring “May Day” Walk for Wellness

Spring “May Day” Walk for Wellness
MU Garden Tour
    Thursday, May 1, 2014
    11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.*
*The extended timeframe is designed to accommodate different lunch break times and schedules. Please participate for the length of your normal lunch break.

Enjoy our blossoming campus while visiting the following stations:
- Linda Caputo Garden
- Diana Lin Durand Spirit Garden
- Aggie’s Garden, Dr. Syd Radinovsky Butterfly Garden, Ruthie’s Place
- Doug Herr Garden

**LUNCH will be provided at Duncan House for registered participants who get a card punch at each of the four stations.**

A map of the gardens and further details will follow. For reservations, click [human.resources@millersville.edu](mailto:human.resources@millersville.edu)

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**Need to Know**

Communication from the Borough of Millersville notes that the proposed construction project on West Frederick Street, scheduled to begin on April 28, has been delayed. The e-communication from the Borough Manager read:

“Weather permitting, the contractor has stated that road closure for the West Frederick Street Phase 2 project (South Prince Street to South Duke Street) will not be until May 16; however, some work will be performed prior to that date.”

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**4/17/14 Activities**

**Here are the faculty and staff activities for April 17, 2014.**
Faculty and Staff Activities

Lori Austin, judicial affairs and president of the Millersville Lions Club, was presented with several awards in February. On the 11th of that month, she received three different membership awards from Lions Club International, awarding her efforts at increasing membership in the Club.

On February 25, the Immediate Past District Governor came to the Millersville Lions Club meeting to present Austin with a Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation Fellowship Award. Fellowships are awarded to a club member from each region who increased club membership from the previous year.

Dr. Robert Carballo, English, has had an essay accepted for publication in the forthcoming critical edition of Shakespeare’s “Othello” to be edited by Joseph Pearce and published by Ignatius Press (San Francisco). Its title is “A ‘Monstrous Birth Brought to the World’s Light’: The Assault on Authority and the Darkening of the Soul in Othello.” The book should be available in the early part of 2015.

Drs. Timothy Mahoney & John Ward, educational foundations, presented a paper in April at the annual conference of the American Educational Researchers Association called “Seeking balance: Rethinking who decides the role of dispositions in teacher evaluation.” This paper made the case that the definition and description of dispositions is an essential question to ask all accountability models of teacher effectiveness and that all teachers are affected by the shift in the accountability systems, and removing teachers from deciding how their work is defined, supervised and evaluated can lead to limitations on the success of all teachers in the new accountability systems.

Dr. M. P. A. Sheaffer, English, sang as an alto ringer in the spring concert by the Richmond Hill Sacred Music Chorale, Queens, New York, featuring Mozart’s “Kyrie in ‘D’Minor,” “Ave Verum” and the Requiem on March 30 at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Richmond, Queens.


Dr. Tiffany Wright, educational foundations, recently (April) presented a paper at the annual conference of the American Educational Researchers Association called,"The workplace climate for LGBT educators: Has it improved?" within a Symposium session titled: Does It Get Better? The Climate for LGBT People in Schools and Communities over Time. This paper provided information about whether or not the workplace climate for LGBT educators has improved since 2004. Findings show that LGBT educators of younger students seems to fear job loss if out to students and that professional development on LGBT issues is sorely lacking in schools.

Obituary

Katherine M. "Kitty" Johns, age 93, of Quarryville, Pa., died April 3. She had been a housekeeper in the residence halls at Millersville University.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of Who Makes Millersville Special features Leroy McQueen Sr., a custodian with Millersville’s housekeeping staff for the past 18 years.

Q: Tell us about your position at Millersville?
A: I’m in housekeeping and have worked at every dorm on campus. Right now I’m in Bard and have been for the last 14 years.

Q: Has your job changed at Millersville over the years?
A: Not really; the job has been pretty much the same. When I first came, I went from dorm to dorm. Now I just stay in Bard.
Q: Have you always lived in Pennsylvania? Where else have you lived? Where did you grow up?

A: I’m originally from Fayetteville, North Carolina. I was born and raised there. My father brought us to Pennsylvania. After I came, I got married and settled down, and I’ve been here 40 years now.

Q: What is the favorite part of your job?

A: Everything. I like it all. I have a good boss, and it’s a nice job.

Q: What is the worst part of your job?

A: When someone doesn’t show up for work to help out.

Q: How does your job change in the summer?

A: During the summer, when the kids go home, we do extra cleaning on the buildings. We also deal with the camps that use the facilities—we have to get ready for them. There is a large camp coming in, the Baptist church right after the kids go home this year, so we’ll be busy. They’ll be staying in Bard, Gilbert and Gaige.

Q: The new residence hall project will eventually replace all of the old residence halls. Would you like to be in a new building?

A: I wouldn’t mind trying.

Q: Do you have any hobbies or sports you participate in?

A: I played a lot of basketball when I was younger. I still play, but not like I used to. Now I go bowling. I want to learn golf, and my son has tried to teach me, but I can’t hit that little ball. He took me to the driving range, and I swung hard and couldn’t see the ball—and there it was, still sitting there.

Q: Do you enjoy watching sports?

A: My son was an athlete and was in baseball, football and track, and I didn’t miss one game or one meet. I was able to make arrangement to see them all.

Q: Do you have a favorite movie or TV show?


Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Fish. And beef stew.
Q: Have you had a mentor or hero that you’ve looked up to over the years? Could you tell us about that person and why they are special to you?

A: I always admired Michael Jordan, and I loved to watch him play basketball. He was always a good sportsman and a good person. He didn’t come across as if he was better than anybody else and treated everyone the same.

Q: Tell us about your family.

A: I have five children. My oldest son is a security officer in Florida; my oldest daughter is in N.C.; and my youngest son, Leroy Jr., and my youngest daughter live in Lancaster. Leroy Jr. has a local landscape business, and my daughter works for a doctor’s office in York. We lost one child, who died at birth. My mother is still living, and she and my sister still live in North Carolina, so we visit there frequently—at holidays and family reunions.

Q: Where is your favorite place to vacation?

A: Myrtle Beach is my favorite vacation spot. I go down and play in the sand, lay back. I love it.