

TC News

Arlene Barte-Lowe, TC '00, was selected as Teacher of the Year from Montgomery County where she teaches sixth grade reading and English at Takoma Park Middle School. Congratulations, Arlene!

Karen Bartlow, TC '02, is very proud of her students who won prizes for their essays submitted to the Associated of Retarded Citizens essay competition.

Amberly Bentzley, TC '02, had a baby boy August 31, 2002. His name is Trevor Patrick. Amberley and Rob are delighted.

An essay written by **Barbara Bass, TC '88**, appeared in the Travel Section of the Sunday Baltimore *Sun*. The essay, entitled "An Urban Sanctuary," focuses on an experience she and her granddaughter had in Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia.

Katie Bull, TC '98, has been accepted into the Instructional Technology Distance Education Doctoral Program at Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She expects to graduate in 2005.

Diane Curry, TC '99, published a piece on life as haiku in *The Washington Post* in January.

Linda De La Ysla, TC '94, published her short story, "Floyd," in the Plymouth Writers Group Anthology.

Colleen Ebacher, '01, and her husband welcomed a new member to their family January 31, 2001. Nathan David is their fourth child and first boy.

Beth Edelstein, TC '00, became editor of the MWP newsletter, *Writing Works*.

Robyn Jackson, TC '94, is now a National Board Certified Teacher. Congratulations, Robyn!

Sarah Jones, TC '96, had a baby girl January 7. Helen Isabel Quast greeted the world at 8 pounds and 5 ounces. Three-year-old Sophia is learning to be an older sister. Sarah reports that parenthood is much easier the second time around. She expects to return to her sixth grade classroom after spring break.



Baby Alana Marie with her parents Leslie and Tim Julian.

Leslie Verzi Julian, TC '95, adopted a baby girl from Russia December 2002. Alana Marie, born April 28, 2002, is a much-welcomed addition to the family.

Sally McNelis, TC '81, is planning on retiring this year. Sally tells us, "After a wonderful career in teaching with 33 years in K-12 and five very inspiring and challenging years in higher education, I am planning to retire to a part-time position, perhaps in a small book store. The Maryland Writing Project was my inspiration, when, after 20 years of teaching, I was considering a career change. However, in 1981, the year Maryland gave birth to the MWP, I was rejuvenated, and continued to teach, and have established new objectives for working toward recruitment and retention of teachers in Maryland." We wish Sally well and look forward to hearing about her further adventures beyond the classroom.

Leigh Ann Miller-Johnson, TC '01, gave birth February 19, 2003 to Ian Miles Johnson who weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces and was 21" long. Leigh Ann is planning to return to the classroom at the end of April.

Pam Morgan, TC '88, was appointed to the Standing Committee on Teacher Preparation and Certification of the National Council of Teachers of English. In this capacity she will offer advice on upholding the standards for teacher certification on ensuring high-quality teacher training education

programs. Pam is now a visiting assistant professor of elementary education at Towson University.

Cheryl North-Coleman, TC '97, was married January 23, 2003 to Rick Coleman in Las Vegas in a ceremony befitting a motorcycling teacher with a grand flair for the tacky.



A wedding on wheels for Cheryl North-Coleman.

Aldema Ridge, TC '92, retired February 1 after 32 years of teaching. She is going to follow her lifelong dream and relocate out West this summer. Currently, she is exploring teaching options. However, she plans to leave plenty of time for writing, quilting and hiking.

Rus VanWestervelt, TC '89, produced a new book entitled *September Eleven: Maryland Voices*, published by the Baltimore Writers' Alliance.

We do not have current phone numbers for **Constance Lofton** and **Erica McCullough**. If anyone has that information, please let us know.

Remember we can't tell folks your news if you don't first tell us. Let us know what's happening and we'll pass the word along.

Enticing Job Opportunity: MWP office needs help compiling TC directory. If you are interested in this desperately needed job, please contact Linda De La Ysla at 410-704-4094 or delaysla.towson.edu