On Thursday, April 30, MTSU’s Office of Development Senior Gift Program, Alumni Relations and the Student Government Association will host the inaugural “Last Senior Tailgate.” Spring commencement is Saturday, May 9. The event will be held for all graduating seniors from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Walnut Grove. It will allow faculty and staff to celebrate with graduating seniors during their last days on campus as students and share with them the importance of continuing to give back to the university.

“We are asking graduating seniors, once they’re alumni, to please stay involved through Alumni Relations and give back to MTSU through monetary donations to ensure that current and future students continue to have the same quality education that they received,” said Meredith Kerr, coordinator of annual giving in the Office of Development.

“We will be highlighting at the event how graduating seniors can give back to the university now through the Senior Gift Program.”

The Senior Gift Program enables graduating seniors to leave their legacy on campus by helping raise money for certain campus initiatives. Each year, the graduating class chooses a project to support. The Class of 2009 is funding a graduate scholarship for a student attending graduate school at MTSU. In recognition of their gifts, graduating seniors will receive a unique lapel pin in recognition of their gifts.

See ‘Celebrate’ page 5

MTSU center tackling cancer in high-risk state

by Tom Tozer

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in Tennessee, which is one reason the Center for Health and Human Services at MTSU has been working with the Tennessee Department of Health the past five years to compile and distribute the state’s first control plan through the Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition.

The CHHS also is assisting with the recently revised and updated 2009-12 cancer plan.

Part of the overall effort has been to establish six regional Cancer Coalitions throughout the state to bring together providers, medical centers, universities, researchers and patient advocates to sponsor educational programs and initiatives and to encourage citizens to undergo cancer screenings.

Tennessee ranks third in the nation in deaths caused by cancer, according to February 2009 figures from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC report also states that Tennessee ranks 21st in the nation in new cases of cancer. The only neighboring state that fares worse is Kentucky, which ranks fourth in new cancer cases and first in national death rates.

Why does Tennessee rank so high in cancer diagnoses and deaths? While agencies are joining forces to find those elusive answers, they also are preaching prevention through personal responsibility.

“The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention tells us that colorectal cancer screening saves lives,” says Dr. Martha Jo Edwards, CHHS director and holder of the interdisciplinary Adams Chair of Excellence in Health Care Services at MTSU. “If everyone 50 years and older were screened regularly, as many as 60 percent of deaths from this cancer could be avoided.”

While deadly, colorectal cancer is one of the most

See ‘Center’ page 5

Inside this edition:

Horse events drawing visitors, competitors, page 2
Blue Raider Golf Scramble planned June 8, page 6
Porlick named new development chief, page 7

Student launches ‘Colleges Against Cancer’

Nichols

MTSU junior Samantha Nichols, an organization-al communication major from Jackson, Tenn., decided to do something positive to fight cancer by starting “Colleges Against Cancer,” an organization that is affiliated nationwide with the American Cancer Society.

Nichols is single-handedly recruiting students, faculty and staff to help educate the campus community about cancer-related issues. For starters, she says plans to push for a tougher policy on campus smoking. Nichols wants to organize regular meetings, develop initiatives and utilize the voices of cancer survivors and those who have lost loved ones to create interest and momentum.

“I really wanted to start this organization because everybody in some way has been affected by cancer,” Nichols says. “I have had an uncle and a grandmother pass away from cancer, and two cousins have fought it and beat it. It has all been on my mom’s side. So I’ve been touched by cancer.”

According to 2007 numbers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4 percent of adults in Tennessee smoke cigarettes compared to the national average of 19 percent. Forty-one percent of students in Tennessee public high schools smoke cigarettes.

The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids reports that smoking kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders and suicides combined.

Nichols says she also plans to organize a mini-relay event in the fall on the MTSU campus. She can be reached for more information at snt26@mtsu.edu.

—Tom Tozer
H as the U.S. Constitution been interpreted over time in a way that has stripped individual liberties from its citizens? Has the burden of proof shifted away from the government’s responsibility to protect its people’s unenumerated natural rights to the citizenry’s need to prove that its enumerated constitutional rights have been violated? So goes the argument of law professor Randy Barnett in Restoring the Lost Constitution: The Presumption of Liberty ( prv 2004). Last month, I participated in a two-day Socratic seminar on this book that was hosted by the Liberty Fund, a nonprofit organization committed to exploring issues of liberty and responsibility, at its Indianapolis headquarters. While I may not agree with the book’s arguments, I found the breadth of the seminar’s discussions exhilarating.

The book raises important questions regarding the relation of liberty rights to government authority and on the viability of the founding fathers’ vision over the course of American history up to our present. As the only representative of an English department among the 15 participants, I could not claim anywhere near the degree of constitutional expertise that the political scientists, law school faculty, economists, historians and other members of their ilk could. I was, however, happy to find that a broadly humanist perspective on the book was welcome, as the nearly universal conflicts between individual rights and collective authority of private facts and public conduct is a subject of inquiry that unites several otherwise disparate fields. Nor should one overlook everyday matters of university administration. Indeed, the constitutional safeguards that Barnett defends reminded me of my experience several years ago on MTSU’s Institutional Review Board, which required at least one representative of the humanitarians to ensure that the rights of those who consented to be subjects of experimental science by social sciences and medical faculties would be protected.

As vigorous as the discussion of constitutional interpretation and construction could become during the seminar, the tensions between individual freedoms and government responsibilities can never be completely resolved and thus were the central focus. My background in 18th-century philosophy and politics taught me to apply this principle to the everyday matters of fact governance on campus, I can appreciate its implications. For a law to be “binding in conscience,” it must respect the beliefs and values of those in the community who may not assent to, and indeed may dissent from, the established policies of the authority that implements it. What better way can there be during these times of sometimes contradictory forces of our nation that have depended on the Constitution to maintain their rights for over two centuries can equally energize the life of the campus community?

Questions of liberty, responsibility can unite disparate fields

by Dr. William Levine
ulevine@mtsu.edu

MTSU and the Tennessee Miller Coliseum will observe as host of the first national Festival, which will be held Friday through Sunday, May 1-3. As the only representative of an English department among the 15 participants, I could not claim anywhere near the degree of constitutional expertise that the political scientists, law school faculty, economists, historians and other members of their ilk could. I was, however, happy to find that a broadly humanist perspective on the book was welcome, as the nearly universal conflicts between individual rights and collective authority of private facts and public conduct is a subject of inquiry that unites several otherwise disparate fields. Nor should one overlook everyday matters of university administration. Indeed, the constitutional safeguards that Barnett defends reminded me of my experience several years ago on MTSU’s Institutional Review Board, which required at least one representative of the humanitarians to ensure that the rights of those who consented to be subjects of experimental science by social sciences and medical faculties would be protected.

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Questions of liberty, responsibility can unite disparate fields
Flying High

Professor takes ride of a lifetime

by Erin Bridges
news@mtsu.edu

ACH year the U.S. Navy Blue Angels stun spectators at air shows across the country, and every year they select a few people to fly with them.

Dr. Wayne Dornan, chair of the Department of Aerospace at MTSU, was honored to be one of those chosen for the 2009 season. He strapped himself in and took flight April 1, just before the Blue Angels air show in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The Blue Angels selected him in honor of MTSU’s nationally recognized aerospace department, the high caliber of students produced by the program and the department’s many contributions to the military. Dornan’s pilot was Blue Angel Lt. Ben Walborn.

“To me, it’s quite an honor to be invited to do this,” Dornan said. “You’d never dream you would even have this opportunity unless you were a Blue Angels pilot. So for me to experience this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“They rarely choose from school programs,” he added. “Normally celebrities or university presidents are chosen.”

Dr. Dornan was the first to take off. Dornan underwent medical tests to ensure that he could handle the physical stress of the flight. The F/A-18 Hornet can travel faster than the speed of sound and reaches heights resulting in weightless flying.

The Blue Angels were created in 1946 to keep the public interested in naval aviation. Since then, they have captivated growing audiences, drawing more than 13 million spectators to last season’s shows.

Dornan came to MTSU in 2003.

WMOT celebrating 40 years on air

The 89.5 FM frequency in mid-

dle Tennessee went on the air in April 1969, and now WMOT-JAZZ 89 is celebrating 40 years of providing award-winning local news, features, commentary and, of course, great jazz.

The National Public Radio-member station also will conduct its spring fundraiser April 20-29.

“This is the perfect opportunity for the community to show MTSU administration the importance of having WMOT on the air, as the station serves as a recruiting tool for the university and mentor students, promote the university and to provide news, arts and culture for the community as a whole,” said Keith Palmer, WMOT development manager. “Every dollar raised means a dollar less the station has to rely on university funding, which, as we’ve seen recently, has become very precarious.”

Discussions of closing or reor-

ganizing the station to help meet MTSU’s ongoing financial cutbacks have resulted in an outpouring of support from listeners all over the world, thanks to the station’s international reach via live stream-

by Erin Bridges
news@mtsu.edu

eighty percent of behavioral problems come from 20 percent of students, says Dr. Zaf Khan, assistant professor of elementary and special education at MTSU, which is why he has invited Dr. Mel Levine to talk about working with the “misunderstood child.”

Khan is encouraging teachers, parents and MTSU students of all majors to attend because he says the conference will create a good dynamic for understanding human behavior.

Registration forms as well as an agenda for the conference can be found at www.mtsu.edu/pbsi. For more information about PBSI and the conference, contact Khan at zkhan@mtsu.edu.

WMOT celebrating 40 years on air

up and away—MTSU Aerospace Chair Wayne Dornan gives a thumbs-up from the cockpit just before taking off in an F/A-18 Hornet jet with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels.
Wednesday, April 22
Employee of the Year/Secretarial/Clerical Award Reception
sponsored by the MTSU Employee Recognition Committee
9 a.m.-10:30 a.m., Tennessee Room, James Union Building
For information, contact: 615-898-5344.

April 23

April 23-26
International Horse Show Association Nationals
Tennessee Miller Coliseum
For information, contact: 615-904-8481.

Thursday, April 23
Military Science Spring Awards Ceremony
11:30 a.m., Keathley University Center Theater
For information, contact: 615-898-2470.

MTSU Wind Ensemble
7:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church (265 W. Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro)
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

MTSU Osterfield Composition Studio
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Friday, April 24
String Chamber Recital
3 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Saturday, April 25
Phi Mu Alpha Small Group Concert
7 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Wednesday, April 29
MTSU Commercial Music Ensemble
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 26

Sunday, April 26
“MTSU On the Record—Liberty Fund Seminar”
English professor Dr. William Levine speaks on his participation in the Liberty Fund Socratic Seminar, a discussion of the Constitution’s basis in 18th-century natural-rights theory and how it’s evolved over time.
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM

April 27

Monday, April 27
College of Mass Communication “Wall of Fame” and Student Awards Ceremony
4 p.m., Cantrell Hall, Tom Jackson Building
For information, contact: 615-898-5872.

Accompanying Class Recital
5 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Faculty Recital:
H. Stephen Smith, tenor; Angela DeBoer, horn; and Paul Osterfield, composer
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 28

Tuesday, April 28
MTSU Symphonic Band and Symphonic Brass Ensemble
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 29

Wednesday, April 29
Last day of classes

Submit Campus Calendar items to gflanr@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, for publication in the May 4 Record or 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, for the May 18 Record. Don’t forget to include the specifics—who, what, where, when and why, plus contact information—with your submission!
Accounting Alumni Appreciation Day planned April 30

T he 18th annual Accounting Alumni Appreciation Day at MTSU will be held Thursday, April 30, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business and Aerospace Building, Room 101.

The event targets those interested in accounting, auditing, taxation and computer training. The fee will be $100 for MTSU alumni and $135 for all others. Net proceeds will be earmarked for accounting scholarships.

Lunch will be provided. Participants will earn eight hours of CPE credit and have the opportunity to visit with alumni and former professors and see how the campus configuration is changing.

Alicia Posta, executive director of the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Council, will open the conference with a session on international financial reporting standards.

MTSU accounting professors Bill Mooningham and Dr. Tammy Bahmanziari will present concurrent sessions on risk-assessment standards and XBRL. Additional breakout sessions are scheduled.

Seating is limited, so participants should register early at www.mtsu.edu/accdept. For more information, call the Department of Accounting at 615-898-5306.

Celebrate from page 1

pin to wear on their graduation gowns. The pins will only be available to graduating seniors who contribute to the Senior Gift Program. The students also will be acknowledged at graduation as donors to this initiative.

Seniors who give to the program and enter graduate school the following fall are given preference when applying for the scholarship.

“The Senior Gift Program is something that both Vice President (of Development and University Relations) Joe Balles and President Sidney McPhee see as both extremely important and necessary for MTSU,” Kerr said. “It ensures that students start as graduating seniors seeing the value and importance of giving back to MTSU. Both Joe and Dr. McPhee plan to be in attendance at the event.”

“We’d like to invite all of our faculty and staff to stop by the event to congratulate all of the seniors with us,” she continued. “We are also inviting all of our faculty and staff to stop by and eat with us. We will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs courtesy of Aramark. I hope everyone can make it!”

For more information about the program or the Last Senior Tailgate, contact Kerr at 615-898-2728 or mkerr@mtsu.edu.

Collaboration from page 1


The TCCW subcontracts with TSVEC members to implement regional learning centers that provide professional training programs for DCS staff in the state’s 13 regions. The center also has pioneered a corps of supervisory specialists who support direct-service supervisors across the state.

The center recently established the Tennessee Child Welfare Learning Collaborative—a partnership of TCCW, the consortium, DCS and private-provider staff—in developing a statewide training system that promotes practice excellence.

“The Tennessee Department of Children’s Services has made great strides to reform public child welfare,” said DCS Commissioner Viola Miller, who nominated MTSU for the award. “Without the strong support of MTSU, we could not have achieved so much so quickly.”

Spring tour

BIG WELCOME—MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee, center, and former state Rep. John Hood of the university’s Office of Community Engagement and Support, right, join State Sen. Dolores Gresham, R-Somerville, left, and State Rep. Harry Brooks, R-Knoxville, during an informal April 2 visit to campus to learn more about Tennessee’s fastest-growing university. Following lunch, the president took the legislators, who chair their respective education committees in the state Legislature, on a driving tour of campus. They saw the new Health and Wellness Center and pharmacy, took a turn on the new roundabout and viewed the sites of the future Student Union, College of Education Building and the proposed Science Building.

photo by J. Intintoli

Get noticed in MTSU’s official university publication! Check The Record’s 2009 deadline schedule at http://frank.mtsu.edu/~prjflc/rec_deadlines.htm.
37 area schools invited to state math contest

Thirty-seven middle Tennessee schools have been invited to compete in the 53rd annual Statewide High School Mathematics Contest. MTSU’s Department of Mathematical Sciences again will serve as a regional host for the contest, which will begin at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 21, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

Dr. Jinjia Li, an assistant professor, is the test center chair. Invited schools include Bartfield Elementary, Blackman High and Middle Schools; Buchanan Elementary; Cannon County High; Cedar Hill School; Central Middle; Christiana Elementary; Coffee County Central High; Eagleville High; East and West Middle (Tullahoma); Heart & Hearth Home Educational Support Group; Harris Middle (Shelbyville); Holloway High; Kittrell Elementary; La Vergne High and Middle Schools; McFadden School of Excellence; Oakland High; Riverdale High; Rock Springs Middle; Rockvale Elementary; Roy Waldron; Saint Paul the Apostle School (Tullahoma); Shelbyville Central High; Siegel High and Middle Schools; Smyrna High and Middle Schools; Stewart’s Creek Middle; Thurmans Francis Arts Academy; Tullahoma High; Waterfront; The Webb School; and Westwood Junior High (Manchester). For more information, call 615-898-2669.

Aiding the arts

NATIONAL HONOR—Lori Kissinger, center, executive director of VSA arts Tennessee, delivers the national organization’s Outstanding Community Partner Award to Speech and Theatre Chair Dr. Rebecca Fischer, left, and former chair Dr. Russell Church to acknowledge the department’s role in supporting VSA arts, which provides opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in the arts and arts education. Kissinger, who also is an MTSU speech and theatre instructor, nominated the university for serving as a fiscal agent to found VSA arts of Tennessee in 2001 and for partnering on programs, recognizing the work of artists, assisting with publicity and providing volunteers and financial assistance.

Blue Raider Golf Scramble planned June 8

The sixth annual Greater Nashville Blue Raider Golf Scramble, presented by Atmos Energy, has been set for Monday, June 8, at Temple Hills Golf Club in Franklin, Tenn.

The Blue Raider Athletic Association sponsors the annual event in an effort to reach out to MT alumni in the Greater Nashville area and encourage members to become involved with the BRAA to help fund MT athletic scholarships and development of facilities.

The event gives individuals the opportunity to meet MT coaches and administrators as well as enjoy a great day of golf and fun. Last year, the golf scramble drew a record 216 participants and raised more than $25,000 for the BRAA.

As part of the entry fee, each participant will receive a round of golf, use of a golf cart, range balls, a goody bag of special items and a player’s gift, such as a golf shirt, wind shirt or other golf item. The entry fee also includes lunch, all beverages at the event and sandwiches after the scramble.

Entry fees are $150 per person or $600 per team if paid by Monday, May 25. Fees are $165 per person or $700 per team after that date.

Two mulligans will be allowed per person for a $25 charge, which includes a chance to win a set of golf irons. Individual prizes will be offered for many contests on the course, including the long drive, longest putt, etc., and team prizes will be offered for the team winner in several flights.

Door prizes also will be available for some individuals, and a silent auction will be conducted on approximately 20 items.

Sponsorships include the silver package for $3,250, which includes foursome play and tee/green signage, and the gold sponsorship for $2,500, which includes all elements of the silver package plus tournament signage. Individual hole sponsorships for a tee or green are available for $125 each.

For more information and to register, contact the BAA at 615-898-2210.

Blue Raider Athletic Association goblueraiders.com
New development director brings ‘diversity of experiences’

by Randy Weiler
jweiler@mtsu.edu

After conducting an eight-month national search, MTSU found new Director of Development Nick Perlick right in its back yard.

Perlick, 31, a Pittsburgh, Pa., native and former development director and officer at Ohio State University from 2003 to 2005, moves to MTSU after serving as the Middle Tennessee Medical Center Foundation’s executive director since December 2006.

“I’m very excited to be here,” said Perlick, who started March 23. “Most of my previous experience has been in higher education at large state universities. I’m hopeful that some of the things I learned at those institutions we can bring here to help MTSU.

“In the first few weeks,” he added, “I have found the staff in development and university relations to be a wonderful group of people. They have been great to work with so far.”

In his position, Perlick will oversee an office of 10 people, which includes development directors who work with the Colleges of Basic and Applied Sciences, Business, Education/Distance Learning, Liberal Arts and Mass Communications; an assistant director and coordinator for annual giving; an executive aide; and a secretary.

Joe Bales, vice president for development and university relations, said he is pleased with the selection of Perlick and his decision to accept the job’s challenges.

“We’re extremely excited to have Nick here,” Bales said. “The diversity of experiences he brings, having worked at two major institutions (Ohio State and Florida State universities) and the hospital, is an added dimension.

“He will bring new ideas and perspectives to our program and help provide the highest service to our donors and alumni. He will be a great fit for us.”

Perlick said development’s “primary job is to raise private funding for a wide variety of university needs.”

In light of current economic times, Perlick said he knows the challenge will be great.

“Clearly, the great challenge the university is facing now is similar for us in development,” he said. “The alumni and donor prospects we will be engaging are facing the same economic difficulties the university is facing.

“Interestingly, what we’re going through provides a unique opportunity to strengthen our case for support. … Never before have we needed philanthropy to be such a major part of the university’s funding.”

The new development director said he “hopes the dollars the development office is able to raise can help significantly in the continued transformation of the university.”

At the MTMC Foundation, Perlick led the oversight and management of all fundraising efforts. In his role there, his personal cultivation and solicitation of individual, corporate and foundation gifts ranged from $100 to $10 million. When he left, the MTMC Foundation was in the midst of planning and coordinating a $20 million capital campaign.

Perlick replaces Kirk Purdon, who left MTSU in July 2008 to become vice president of advancement at Kentucky Wesleyan College in his hometown of Owensboro.

Perlick and his wife, Erin, a native of Crossville, live in Murfreesboro. They have a 7-month-old son, Ross.

Faculty from page 8


Dr. Debra Rose Wilson (nursing) has published “Memory repression in adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse” in The Journal of Community and Health Sciences, Issue 4, March 2009.

Workshops

Mary Ellen Pozzebon and Mayo Taylor (Walker Library) presented a half-day workshop on “Electronic Management in Today’s Library” at the 14th Biennial Conference of the Association for College and Research Libraries March 12-15 in Seattle, Wash. The workshop covered legal, financial and technical aspects of managing online resources.
by Claire Rogers
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B y the age of 80, most people have lived a life full of memorable experiences. Lorraine Guth, however, may have set a record. Guth has done more in her 80 years than the average person could accomplish in 100, due to her persistence and unwavering positive attitude. As she approaches her 81st birthday, Guth is pursuing a master’s degree in criminal justice at MTSU. “Life’s short,” says Guth. “I simply can’t wait for tomorrow to do what I should today.”

Guth has a long-term relationship with the justice system, having worked off and on as a legal secretary for 30 years since age 17. Her accomplishments are certainly not limited to criminal justice, however.

She has worked as a real estate agent, owned a chemical company with her husband, prepared advertising for a New York magazine, worked for RCA on the Apollo space program, pursued a career as a painter, recorded and released seven country and gospel CDs, and been named Entertainer of the Year by the Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame, among her myriad achievements.

The remarkable things Guth has done in her life are especially staggering in the face of all she has had to overcome. She was adopted at 18 months and both her biological parents died. Guth says she has a disease that paralyzed her with fear, forcing her to put off attending college because she worried about leaving her adoptive family.

(Over) Guth worked several jobs to support her six children and was simply too busy to go back to school. After the death of her husband in 1990 and one of her sons shortly after, Guth went to college for the first time and earned a certificate as a private investigator from Gwinnett County Technical College at age 66. She says she was driven to become a P.I. after escaping from an ex-boyfriend who kidnapped her at kneepoint. Guth helped the police catch and prosecute her attacker by tracking him through his friends and known hangouts. Once he was released from prison, Guth also sued him for damages in civil court.

“There isn’t a day in my life I don’t use my investigative skills,” Guth says.

After six years of work as a private investigator, Guth decided she wanted to attend law school, and she enrolled in Georgia State University to earn her bachelor’s degree. While at Georgia State, she received many academic honors, including scholarships, and made the dean’s list several times.

In 2003, at age 74, she graduated with a degree in criminal justice and moved from Georgia to middle Tennessee to enroll in the Nashville School of Law and to be closer to her family. She left law school after two years and filed a complaint with the U.S. Justice Department because she says the school refused to accommodate her needs, such as a front-row seat in classes so she could hear better. (The complaint is pending; NSL now has a three-page policy addressing accommodations for students with disabilities.)

Despite backlash, Guth says she was determined to continue her education.

“I don’t let anything put me down. I’m like a dandelion, I get right back up,” she says, so she decided to come to MTSU because of its location and criminal justice program.

“I just wanted to be in school. I said I would audit classes, not take classes for credit, just to be there,” Guth says.

MTSU has supported Guth’s ambition, and she now takes classes part-time while working toward her master’s and preparing her eighth album.

“When you have a passion you are more driven,” Guth says. “I’ve been over 80 years old and I’m not ready to stop.”

Dr. Anne T. Sloan (provost’s office), 59, passed away April 4. Dr. Sloan had worked at MTSU since August 1993 and was currently employed as the special assistant to the provost for international education. She is survived by her husband, Steve Saunders; daughter, Samantha T. Saunders, a freshman at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, Va.; brothers Gene Sloan of Murfreesboro; Joe Sloan and his wife, Janet, of Nashville; and Bill Sloan and his wife, Sharon, of Murfreesboro. Dr. Sloan attended Campus School and was a 1967 graduate of Central High School. She earned her bachelor’s degree from MTSU in 1971, her master’s degree from Louisiana State University in 1974 and her doctorate from the Ohio State University in 1982. Before coming to MTSU, she taught at the University of South Carolina and the State University of New York at Albany. While at MTSU, she held several positions, including associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and associate professor of political science, before assuming the provost’s assistantship full-time in January 2006. She will be remembered for her curricular innovations, which included the creation of courses on U.S. national security policy and comparative international politics. In addition to her academic achievements, she was a member of North Boulevard Church of Christ and the Col. Hardy Murfree Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Memorials in honor of Dr. Sloan may be made to the Middle Tennessee State University Foundation, P.O. Box 109, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 37132.

There are a lot of brilliant people who don’t keep their minds active.”

The MTSU student’s story also is included in a new book, You-Turn: Changing Direction in Midlife, by Dr. Nancy Irwin, available at local bookstores. Guth encourages anyone considering going back to school to take those first steps. While you may run into hurdles, she says, “don’t let it discourage you. “You’ve got to think positive!”

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