



Dr. Kathryn D. Gilpatric '01, a veterinarian in Knoxville, Tenn., was killed April 16 by a hit-and-run driver while she was trying to help two dogs that had been hit by a car in the street in front of her home. “She put her own life in harm’s way to help an animal and that’s what most of us get into it for,” said Dr. Matt Brent, an assistant veterinarian at Animal Emergency Critical Care in West Knoxville. Police were seeking the driver of the Isuzu SUV that hit her and left the scene. One of the dogs she was treating died, but the other survived. Gilpatric’s Classmates are working to establish an endowed scholarship fund in her memory.



Max Greiner Jr. '74 with the 77-foot sculpture The Empty Cross (before it was erected).

Max Greiner Jr. '74 is one of the driving forces behind the creation of The Coming King Sculpture Prayer Garden, a 23-acre garden in the heart of Texas Hill Country near Kerrville “where visitors can find peace, solitude and God.” When complete, the garden will include a flower-lined, cross-shaped, 300-foot garden and more than a dozen “Christ-honoring, monumental sculptures.” The item that has attracted the most attention is *The Empty Cross*, a steel cross, more than 77 feet tall, on top of a 1,930-foot hill, where it is easily visible to passing drivers. The Coming King Foundation, established as a nonprofit arts organization, recently reached an amicable legal settlement with some neighboring property owners, allowing construction to move ahead. For more information, visit www.comingkingfoundation.org.

The photo at top right was taken Feb. 5, just outside of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Pictured from left to right are **Ty Taylor '98**, **Adam Dominguez '08** and **Ryan Youngblood '08**. Taylor was in Haiti working with Hydrate Hope, an organization that focuses on clean water projects around the world. Dominguez and Youngblood both were working with Living Water International, drilling new water wells for communities affected by the earthquake. Both organizations were in Haiti to provide much-needed relief in both water well drilling and water filtration projects for the numerous orphanages in the country. In the photo at bottom left is **U.S. Navy Capt. Rodelio “Rudy” Laco '84**, captain of the USNS Comfort. Before the Comfort returned to its homeport in Baltimore, it led the way in the initial Haiti relief effort, receiving injured patients from Haiti. Laco is the commodore of the Combined Task Group 41.8, Comfort Task Group. “This is a mission we can all be proud of,” he said.



PHOTO BY CHIP GILLESPIE



The USNS Comfort



PROFESSIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Edward Louis, Jr. '94 is one of 29 nominees for the Indianapolis Prize. He earned several degrees from Texas A&M between 1984 and 1996, including a bachelor's in marine biology, a doctorate in genetics and a doctorate in veterinary medicine. The biennial \$100,000 Indianapolis Prize represents the largest individual monetary award for animal conservation in the world and is given as an unrestricted gift to the chosen honoree.

Dr. Don Phillips, Chevron Professor in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Texas A&M University, has received the Texas Industrial Engineering Lifetime Achievement Award. Phillips, only the second recipient of the award, was recognized for 43 years of achievement and service in education, specifically in the field of industrial engineering, a field that focuses on maximizing the efficiency of processes and systems. Phillips joined the Texas A&M Engineering faculty in 1975.



Buddy Bradford '61, CEO of NetRouter, reports that his company was awarded one of the 15th annual IBM Lotus Awards, in the Energy and Environment "Green" category. The awards recognize exceptional IBM PartnerWorld members that specialize in Lotus software solutions and have excelled at providing quality products, innovative solutions, and superior services to customers. For the 2009 Lotus Awards, hundreds of applications were received from more than 30 countries around the world.



Vance Riley '83 was named the chair of the Governor's Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Advisory Council. The council



helps federal, state and local agencies develop and implement an integrated, statewide program for emergency medical services and trauma. Riley is the fire chief for the city of Victoria and serves on several different associations, councils and clubs.

Larry M. Barfield '70 was selected as the 2010 Engineer of the Year for the Texas Society of Professional Engineers of Greater Houston. He served as a member of the Texas A&M University Department of Electrical Engineering's External Advisory and Development Council, and the Texas Aggie Band Association board of directors. He serves as chairman of the board and president of Binkley & Barfield Inc. as well as chairman of the board for two BBI subsidiaries and wholly owned companies, Landev Engineers, Inc. and Baseline Corporation.



Fred Heldenfels IV '79 was among several prominent business people inducted in May into the Corpus Christi Business Hall of Fame. According to Junior Achievement of the Coastal Bend, the sponsor of the event, Heldenfels and the other laureates "embody the spirit of the American free enterprise system: excellence, civic responsibility, and community pride."



Eighteen former students were on the Pixar crew that created the Oscar-winning film *Up*—three with "lead" credit, two with "supervisor" credit and one with "lighting director" credit. On March 7, *Up* director Pete



Pixar technical directors **Keith Koln '93** and **Angelique Reich** on a visit to the Texas A&M campus.

Doctor accepted the Academy Award on behalf of the studio and his animation team. Unlike some past years, *Up* was the only computer-generated film nominated for best animated feature. *Up* came out May 2009 in 3D and made more than \$700 million at worldwide box offices. The former students were part of the Texas A&M University Visualization Laboratory.

Dr. Rudy Soliz '97 was commencement speaker at a Saigon Tech graduation ceremony in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Soliz, department chair for business administration at Houston Community College, oversees a partnership between Saigon Tech and HCC. He also spoke in January at a conference in Hanoi, Vietnam, on the role of community colleges in promoting American-style education in Vietnam.

Christian Spilker '95 was elected vice president of environmental policy and permitting at Collier Enterprises for the Friends of Rookery Bay. Spilker graduated from Texas A&M with a double major of marine biology and marine fisheries. FORB connects people with Southwest Florida's dynamic estuarine environment through education, engagement and stewardship by supporting the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve



MulvannyG2 Architecture promoted retail design leader **Randy Sauer '96** to principal. Sauer, has also relocated to MulvannyG2's Southern California office in Irvine from its office in Portland, Ore. Sauer holds a bachelor's degree in environmental design.

