



Inside Track

Find Out Who's Making News In Columbia

Katie Harris has been elected chair of the **Commission on Cultural Affairs**. The 12-member commission acts in an advisory capacity in all matters pertaining to the arts and cultural environment of the city and makes recommendations on city funding of arts programs and services. Harris will serve on the executive committee for the next year, along with **Andrea Jira**, vice chair, **Addison Myers**, secretary, and **Dan Kerner**, immediate past chair. Harris serves as director of communications strategy for **Knorr Marketing Communications**.



>>> **Dave Griggs'** **Flooring America** has welcomed **Rebecca Null** to the Columbia team. As a sales/interior design professional for Dave Griggs' Flooring

America, she will help clients select materials that best suit their lifestyle and needs.

George Justice, associate dean of the **University of Missouri Graduate School**, has been named interim vice provost for advanced studies and dean of the Graduate School. Justice's service as the associate dean included responsibility for the Preparing Future Faculty Program, the Graduate Studies Network, the

International Teaching Assistant Program, Graduate School Fellowships and Awards, and other student and academic concerns. He specializes in 18th-century British literature and is the author of a number of articles and books on 18th-century writers, publishers and the literary world.



>>> **Bryan D. Ethridge** has been promoted to assistant vice president, commercial banking, for Commerce Bank, Central Missouri

Region. In his position, Ethridge is responsible for business development and relationship management for Commerce's full line of banking, borrowing and treasury management solutions for commercial clients.

Former Missouri Tiger basketball player **DeMarre Carroll** was selected in the first round of the 2009 NBA Draft (No. 27 overall) by the Memphis Grizzlies. Carroll became Missouri's 13th all-time first-round draft pick and was the first Tiger selected in the NBA Draft since Linas Kleiza in 2005. Kleiza was also drafted No. 27 overall by the Portland Trailblazers and was traded to the Denver Nuggets on draft night.

Michele Cropp has been named general manager for the Columbia-Jefferson City market of **OnMedia**, the advertising division of **Mediacom**. Cropp joined OnMedia's Columbia-Jefferson City team in 2007 as director of sales.

Stephens College has announced **Margaret Ledda** as the interim director of the Health Information Administration program, which offers a Bachelor of Science degree and a postbaccalaureate certificate.

TimeLine Recruiting, a health care recruiting firm, has hired **Martin Rodamaker** as a marketer. **Chris Miller** has been promoted to recruiting manager from physician recruiter with the organization.

Boone County National Bank has appointed **Kerry White** as mortgage loan closing coordinator at the Downtown Bank at Eighth and Broadway. White has been in financial services for 22 years, 11 of those with BCNB. She assists the mortgage department by preparing loan closings.

Central Banccompany, a Missouri-based bank holding company, was recently named one of the Top 25 Performers of 2008 in the June issue of *American Bankers Association Banking Journal*. To determine the rankings, the American Bankers Association studied the performance of domestic, publicly held depository institutions with assets of more than \$3 billion as of December 31, 2008. The banks, thrift institutions and bank holding companies were ranked by return on average equity for 2008. The ABA found

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> KOMU-TV 8 News Honored With Awards From The Missouri Broadcasters Association

The Missouri Broadcasters Association honored **KOMU-TV 8 News** with awards in numerous categories at its annual awards banquet in June. "*KOMU 8 News Today*" weathercaster **Eric Aldrich** won for Best Weathercast for mid-Missouri and all other medium-sized television stations in the state and "*KOMU 8 News Today*" anchor **Lauren Whitney** won Best Feature Reporting overall for her "*KOMU School Report*" story, "PET Project for Rock Bridge." Chief photographer **Scott Schaefer** did the camera work and editing for the piece. News anchor **Sarah Hill** and Schaefer were both honored again this year with awards in two categories: Best News Series and Best Special Program. Both wins came from stories Hill and Schaefer covered on the Honor Flight program, an

organization that sends aging and terminally ill veterans to Washington, D.C., to see their memorials. Sports reporter **Eric Blumberg** also received an award for Best Sports Story for his "*Blumberg Off The Bench*" story, "51: One Number, Two Meanings," about a 51-year-old man living out his dream to play college football. The station also received an award for its 2008 promotion of KOMU 8 News and Weather in High Definition and certificates of merit in the categories of Best Website, Best Documentary/Public Affairs Piece and Best Newscast. News anchor **Jim Riek** received the public affairs certificate of merit for his "*Follow Up Files*" story on the 1962 airliner crash in Unionville. "*KOMU 8 News at Five*" was also recognized with a certificate of merit in the Best Newscast category.