

**PEOPLE IN BUSINESS**

■ **Mary Jo Abernethy, RN, BSN, MA**, of Burlington, has recently been selected for membership in the international nursing honor society, Sigma Theta Tau, in recognition of her accomplishments as a nurse professional leader. A graduate of UNC-Greensboro School of Nursing and Duke University, she is employed at Alamance Regional Medical Center and serves as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Paul Abernethy, of Burlington.



Abernethy

■ **Jimmy Brumley**, owner of PIP Printing and Marketing Services in Burlington, has been selected as one of the Triad Top Catalyst Entrepreneurs. The honor was announced March 2, 2011 at a gala event hosted by Business Leader Media and is featured in the March issue of Triad Business Leader magazine.



Brumley

■ **Faryl Podelle, RN, BSN, CNIV**, a cardiothoracic nurse at Duke Medicine in Durham, recently received the Nan and Hugh Cullman Heart Center Award for Excellence in Nursing at the Friends of Nursing Gala held at the downtown Marriot.



Podelle

■ **Monecia Rena Kiser Thomas** was sworn in as the Yadkin County Health Director on March 15. Previously, she was program director for two public Health programs and the Senior State Accreditation Coordinator for the N.C. Local Health Department program at N.C. Institute for Public Health at Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Thomas is a former resident of Burlington where she made her home for more than 10 years.



Thomas

■ **Bradley Prentice** of Graham, a Modern Woodmen of America representative, has completed a five-day educational program at the company's home office in Rock Island, Ill.

■ **Dr. Rebecca Benefiel**, assistant professor of Classics at Washington & Lee University in Virginia was honored Feb. 17 with the Outstanding Faculty Award from the State of Virginia Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The award is the highest honor for faculty at Virginia's public and private colleges and universities, recognizing superior accomplishments in teaching, research and public service. She was one of the top two of the 12 recipients. She holds a PhD in classical philology from Harvard and a degree in classics from UNC-CH with additional post graduate study in Rome. Articles about her work have been published in USA Today, Science News and Smithsonian as well as

newspapers abroad. Benefiel is married to Lt. Cmdr. Chris McCrone, a naval aviator, currently serving on the Navy Admiral's Staff in Bahrain. They are parents of a four-month-old daughter, Katherine Arianna McCrone.

