"I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

(Fortner Awards Cont. from page 1)

Grimes, in preparing for the 40th anniversary edition of the Barton College Crucible literary magazine, discovered that The Crucible has published works by 11 of the last 48 Fortner Award recipients.
"Editors must be able to identify quality work when they see it, but they must have quality work submitted or they can't publish it," he said. "I am fortunate to be in a state where quality writers live and submit for publication."

As editor and Vice President at New Directions Publishing, Epler was deeply honored by the recognition for the long work of the company from an institution that is so supportive of literary works.
"I want to thank the whole St. Andrews community for this award and thank St. Andrews for its commitment to liberal arts, that is pretty rare these days," she said. "The liberal arts creates a lifelong love of books that helps small, independent publishers like us. (New Directions founder) James Laughlin looked up to and respected St. Andrews and I accept this award on behalf of the whole company as we are standing on the shoulders of a giant."

Robeson County native Regan was awarded for her more than 30 years working with the North Carolina Arts Council. Like her fellow recipients, Regan gave credit to others in receiving the award.
"I feel like an interloper as a person in management at events like this," she said. "I am nervous looking at the list of writers who have received this award. Those of us in management are in awe of the creative side of artists." Regan shared the results of a recent economic impact study that showed one in every eight North Carolinians are involved with an arts organization in the state.

"No one in the state has fully identified or recognized the depth of the arts here," she said. "We can't think of ourselves as fringes any more. People like you are really changing the way North Carolina thinks about itself."

The Awards

The Ethel N. Fortner Writer and Community Awards were instituted in 1986 to honor a friend of writers and frequent contributor to the St. Andrews Review. Ethel Fortner earned a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in New York. After a career teaching at the Oregon School of the Blind, she and her husband moved to Estacada, Ore. She committed herself to writing and became editor of Human Voice Quarterly. A frequent contributor to the St. Andrews Review, she was the earliest benefactor of the St. Andrews Press. She believed that a full community embraced and encouraged the craft of writing.

(Forum Cont. from page 1)

contact information from them so that Congressman Hayes could respond to them personally.

Beth Troutman had a tremendous presence at the Political Forum. Many people were hesitant about her running for Congress, because of her limited experience in politics, but she addressed issues about the outsourcing of jobs and social security with concrete ideas and plans for improving the future circumstances. She answered student's questions about her involvement in the television show, *The West Wing*, and stayed afterwards to answer additional questions and encourage student to vote.
There was great support from students, faculty, staff, and community members. President John Deegan Jr. said he was pleased with the event's turn out and encourages the students to reproduce the event on an annual basis. Speak Out! has expressed the possibility of a Spring Political Event as well in order for students to gain familiarity with their elected officials and better understand their connection with their community on campus and in Scotland County.

Many students expressed how informative they felt the Forum was and thanked members of Speak Out! for requesting that the representatives come because they felt that they gained not only familiarity with the candidates, but also a better understanding of the issues. Students asked relevant questions because they were truly interested in what the candidates had to say and mentioned how much more confidently they felt voting now that they have heard a little from each candidate.

This was a major event for St. Andrews and Speak Out! hopes to continue to promote this type of political forum in the future. It is important for students to gain familiarity with their representatives so they will be interested in the issues and how each representative attempts to solve those problems. This has encouraged students to vote not only in the Presidential election, but for the other elected offices and many students were then excited to participate in the St. Andrews poll (see sidebar).

This was a historical marker for St. Andrews' students and for Speak Out! in achieving its goals of informing the students of political issues as well as facilitating activism on campus.

Election Results Box
Rachel Lea Hunter did not win
Senator Purcell won*
Representative Yongue won*
Congressman Hayes won*
Beth Troutman did not win
*won the Scotland County election

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