

# Vote for Frye Regional Medical Center's 2006 Marvelous Mom



## #1 - TRACY GEORGE

**Nominated by: Laura Faruque, M.D., physician**

As an obstetrician who has delivered thousands of babies, I have learned that giving birth to a child does not make a person a mother. Motherhood is about love and nurturing. The woman I am nominating for Marvelous Mom is more than marvelous; she is a beautiful example of motherhood. I first met Tracy George 13 years ago when she became my patient. She was unable to have her own children by the time I met her, but she had a tremendous amount of love to give. She jumped into motherhood head first by adopting three boys, ages 2, 4 and 6. These were siblings that Social Services hoped they could find one family to adopt. They found the Georges, and it seemed to be a perfect fit. That would be more than most mothers could handle, but within two years they had adopted two more children. They are now a beautiful family of seven. The children adopted by Tracy and her husband, are not the typical newborns that most adoptive parents desire. They are children with special needs or a different race or various ages. Tracy meets all of these needs with patience and love. She has always been a family oriented person. She is very close with her own immediate family. Tracy and her sister Gina recently opened a cafe and catering service in Hildebran. This is truly a family run business with various relatives helping out in many ways.



## #2 - CATHY MURDOCK

**Nominated by: Bruce Murdock, husband**

I am positive that there are many Marvelous Moms in Catawba County, but I want to nominate a marvelous, a marvelous wife and a marvelous person: Cathy Murdock. Cathy is the hardest working and most dedicated person I have known. She possesses strong family and Christian values and lives her life by them. She has dedicated her life to her family, her church and her jobs. Cathy is the marketing manager for a furniture company and the music director for our church. She practically works seven days a week, and although she takes no time for herself, she finds time for cleaning, cooking, being a wife and a mom. She has raised two children and has done a lot of usual "motherly" duties over the years: rocking, feeding, holding, disciplining, encouraging, but she has had to do much more. David, her son, has Tourettes' Syndrome, ADHD and possesses obsessive compulsive traits. David was first diagnosed with the symptoms in kindergarten. She showed such dedication in learning all she could about these problems and in her ongoing struggle to fight for David's rights granted by the American Disabilities Act. She had regular meetings with all of David's teachers and principals over his twelve years of school and helped educate many of those same people in recognizing these types of problems in other students. She went to bed many nights sobbing about the struggles that her son was going through, but she has never given up on him and still encourages

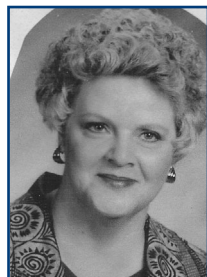
him today. In addition to dealing with two jobs and the problems that David possessed, she had to deal with another problem in 2001. I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. She has been my "rock," always encouraging, supporting, understanding and staying on my case to take my shots every day. Cathy has been a wonderful influence, not only to her children, but to the many children that she has had in youth and handbell choirs over the years at church. Through her gift of teaching music to these children, she has tried to instill in them Christian values, commitment and cooperation. Yes, Cathy Murdock is a marvelous wife, a marvelous person and a Marvelous Mom.



## #3 - DANA RHONEY

**Nominated by: Lois Roseman, employer**

Dana came to work at our office back in November 2005. She has been a vital part of helping us improve our company. We appreciate the effort she has given the company while finishing her schooling at CVCC. Dana is graduating on May 5, 2006, with high honors in Accounting. Our company was in need of an accountant to help get the company back on track. She has been an answer to our prayers. Dana's personal life is filled with challenges. She is the mother of a handicapped 17 year-old daughter, Samantha, who is severely mentally retarded. Samantha is non-verbal and is very self-abusive. This puts a big strain on her parents and family. Dana also has a 14 year-old son, Aaron. Dana helps to take care of her handicapped brother, Gene, who still lives with her parents. In the past, her brother had a couple of surgeries to which she stayed at the hospital the biggest part of the day and night to help her family. While she stayed at the hospital with her brother, she did her schoolwork on her laptop computer, which her husband got her for this very reason. She is very supportive of her parents who depend on her greatly. Dana is very active in her church as a deacon, a Sunday school teacher for special needs children, which she established while attending school, and was an active leader in Bible Study Fellowship for eight years. I think Dana is one of the most courageous mothers, especially due to all the difficulties she faces each day and her zeal to succeed. She radiates happiness and love to all the people she meets. She does not mind to share her love for Christ.



## #4 - DONNA WHITENER

**Nominated by: Karla Whitener, daughter**

My mother is the most Marvelous Mom. She has been a mother now for 26 years. She has faced many obstacles in her life but has still maintained her faith in God and devotion and love to her children. Ten years ago, our family was faced with an unexpected turn when my father was diagnosed with cancer. She stayed by his side for the remaining year of his life and was there when he took his last breath. She spent time at the hospital caring for my father while tending to both my brother's and my needs. The hardest day in my mom's life was when she had to bury my father. She now had to be the roles of father and mother of our household. She had the responsibilities to tend to outside yard work along with the inside chores. The headaches of finances and managing to make ends meet always seemed to be around. Two years after my father died, my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. Throughout her pain and suffering, she managed to put her needs aside once again to find a way to take care of her children. If I had to be somewhere, she was waiting in the car with no complaints even if she was in pain from her chemotherapy. A year after a battle with breast cancer, she had to face a new battle. The cancer had spread to her left lung and, once again, she had to spend her days in the hospital. She has worked so hard to support her children and even at times she had to take on multiple jobs to pay bills and college tuitions. She would sacrifice her needs and wants in order to meet her children's. My mother has taught both my brother and me the values of life. She has taught us to be loyal, kind, family-oriented and

most importantly to always maintain our relationship with God no matter what we're faced with. She has always inspired us to be anything we wanted. I have looked up to her as a role model. I have never met anyone so full of life in spite of everything she has gone through. No matter if she isn't picked as the most Marvelous Mom, she is and always will live up to that title to both my brother and me.



## #5 - TERESA WHITMAN

**Nominated by: Michele Kirby, daughter-in-law**

I would like to nominate Teresa Whitman for the Marvelous Mom Contest. I think Teresa is a well-deserving mom for this contest. She is my children's grandmother and a mom to me. I say this because my mom was never around for me, and my grandmother helped my father raise me. My grandmother passed away in November of 1998 on my birthday, and if I could nominate her, I would. Since my grandmother passed away, Teresa stepped in to fill that spot and that hole I had in my heart. My grandmother was not only my grandmother, but she was my mom, my best friend and the woman I ran to when I needed sweet loving hugs. So, now I not only have Teresa as my children's grandmother, but I also have her as my mom, my best friend and my sister in Christ. Teresa has helped me out so much with raising my children and giving me the motherly advice when I needed it the most in my life. Teresa is also a wonderful woman to our community. She delivers Meals on Wheels to the people that are homebound. She works at the Soup Kitchen to serve meals to the people who do not have a home or do not have food in their home. She serves on several committees at her church. She worked this past Christmas at Operation Christmas Child, helping the low income families find gifts for their children. This is one of the most God given women I have ever known. Teresa is dealing with some illness herself, yet she never lets her illness get in the way of the work she does for the Lord. She has told all of us that if God gives her enough strength, she will do anything that God has set forth for her to do at

that appointed time. This is such a beautiful woman, and she does not even look her age. She has raised four beautiful children of her own and is now helping me and my sister-in-law raise our children. I think this woman, Teresa Whitman, is such a well-deserving Marvelous Mom!

Voting ballot available at [www.fryemedctr.com](http://www.fryemedctr.com).

The winner will be announced Friday, May 12, 2006, at 11:00am during a press conference in Frye's main campus lobby.