The work of Rev. Felix Miles was the subject of an April 29, 2005, feature article in The Huntsville (Ala.) Times entitled “Speaking as one: ‘Out of diversity comes great strength.’” Miles, who is priest at Holy Cross-Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Huntsville, serves a congregation with members from nearly 20 countries.

Dr. Melinda Marsh Lalor ‘78 has been elected president of the American Water Resources Association, a national professional association of water resource experts including engineers, scientists, policy makers, and educators. Lalor is associate dean in the UAB School of Engineering and also holds an appointment at the University of Alabama School of Medicine in May. In this role, Kinney oversees the interface between School of Medicine faculty and UAB’s clinical partners, including the VA Hospital, Children’s Hospital, Cooper Green Hospital, and UAB Medical West. Kinney also has been appointed to the board of directors of Baptist Health in Montgomery.

“Kathryn: The Story of a Teller,” from Birmingham filmmaker Norton Dill and producer Anne Wheeler ’69, a featured presentation at the last BSC Alumni Reunion, has won awards at film festivals around the country, including the Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival in Birmingham, the Golden International Film Festival in Golden, Colo., the George Lindsey/UNA Television and Film Festival in Florence, and the River Run International Film Festival in Winston-Salem, N.C.

In July 2005, Judge Sandra Hendrickson Storm of Birmingham retired from the Jefferson County Family Court, after serving for more than 16 years. At the time of her initial appointment to the bench by former Alabama governor Fob James, she was the first female state court judge to serve in Jefferson County since the 1920s. Storm holds the BSC Distinguished Alumni Award.

In May 2005, Audrey Ann Prude Wilson, education director of the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, received the Elizabeth Abernathy Hull Scholarship Award from the Garden Club of America for her service in environmental education. The five Discovery Field Trips she’s designed during her seven years at the BBG were presented last year to more than 7,000 area school children. Wilson, who previously taught for 30 years in the Vestavia Hills school district, was named 2003 Nature Educator of the Year by the Alabama Environmental Council.

C. Dowd Ritter, chairman, president, and CEO of AmSouth Bancorporation, headquartered in Birmingham, has joined the board of directors of Protective Life Corp.

Larry W. Jones has joined Xcitek in New York, as senior vice president of XSP’s product management group. Xcitek is a global provider of corporate actions automation, market data, and operational staffing services.

Showing just how far you can take a love of learning from its starting point on the Hilltop, educator Dr. John A. Davis has spent 22 of the last 30 years living and working in a remote Alaskan landscape. He says, “I tell people that I really do not live at the end of the world, but I can see it.” Davis is superintendent of the Bering Strait School District, an area so vast it stretches from the Yukon River to the Arctic Circle to the edge of Siberia (50,000 square miles). The district serves primarily Central Yupik, Siberian Yupik, and Inupiaq children in 15 isolated communities, where a subsistence lifestyle and indigenous language is common.

To cover the vast distances, Davis and a professional pilot spend a great deal of time in the district’s plane, traveling from school to school to visit and work with students, staff, and communities. One such community, Davis says, is Diomede, “a brief 1.5 miles from Siberia.” During winter travel, he notes, “… the plane lands on the ice, which often straddles the international dateline. … Most land travel is by ATV or snow machine.”

Davis came to Alaska following graduation from BSC and has served as a teacher, Bering Sea fisherman, principal, and superintendent. He is president of the Alaska School Administrators Association and is an education and civil liberties activist. “My professional journey has been to help create and build high schools in a part of the country where they did not exist when I finished college. Today our schools both struggle and thrive. We struggle to make education relevant and we thrive as student achievement inches forward,” he says.

In August 2005, Davis hosted a visit to this extraordinary educational setting by BSC Chancellor Dr. Neal Berte and wife Anne. Berte’s long career at Birmingham-Southern began just as his own student career there was ending, Davis notes, and “his example of service to the community fits well with what I learned as a BSC student and has served as a guiding principle in my career and life’s journey.”