Grand Marshall of the Colt and Filly parade here in Georgetown connected with the Festival of the Horse.

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\*What I remember best about my Ward-Belmont days...I recall an excellent beginning to my academic life of course, but my most poignant memories are of being a boarding student — having the bell on the tower remind me I had 30 minutes to get dressed for dinner (in heels and hose, of course) and our family style dining service. Taking turns acting as hostess. And the delirious memory of playing "St. Louis Blues" on the grand piano in Acklen Hall (Belmont Mansion)!!

\*Where my life has taken me...
I transferred to UT Knoxville,
receiving graduate and BS degrees.
Taught a year and returned to UTK
for a Masters in clinical work.
Worked for 31 years in that field
as a psycho-therapist in four
divisions of TN State Govt. —
Dept. of Edu, Dept. of Human
Services (in Warren and Gibson

Co, TN) Higher Education (UT Memphis) Dept of Mental Health, Memphis Mental Health Institute, plus private practice. One adorable daughter. Thirty years as wife of a Presbyterian Minister. Have stayed in touch with 2 W-B alums. W-B started me on an interesting life!!

9.

## College Class of 1950

Norma McKean Norma McKean Sessions 5226 16<sup>th</sup> Ave Meridian, MS 39305 (601) 485-8555

\*What I remember best about my Ward-Belmont days... At the time I was with Stephanie Courtright at W-B, little did I know where her influence would lead me. Stephanie lived all over



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Europe because her husband was associated with Hilton Hotels. When the Paris Hilton was under construction, Stephanie invited me to visit her in Paris. This was 1965. I spent 10 days there and it was like I had caught a virus. When I got back home all I could do was think of how I was going to get back to Europe. That led me to get information about taking student groups to Europe in the summers ... even though I was not a teacher. I took groups large and small for 23 years. How lucky I have been to have been associated with so many young people here in Meridian and around the country. Through the years I took a total of 220 students from 15 states and 1 from England. I am still in touch with many of the out-of-town ones. I see the local ones all the time ... some of them are doctors, lawyers, and they talk about wanting me to take their children! I would have to do that in a motorized wheelchair!! I took my last student group in 1999. Now I take small groups of ladies to England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and Europe. I have a young Welshman, a travel agent from Cambridge, England that I am associated with. Stuart has a sixteen-seater bus and we tool around the countryside ... stopping when we want to. Soo ... life is good.

\*Where my life has taken me... I've lived in Meridian since 1961. My husband had a building materials business and built homes. I have been widowed for 14 years. I have two sons and they live in Meridian. Way back, when I was involved in cultural doings in Meridian, I was able to get Vincent Price to come for our museum. That was indeed a proud moment for me. He lectured and we had a reception for him after the lecture at the museum. We served only recipes from his famous cook book. He also judged the local Annual Children's Show at the museum. We had the names of all the children and we were able to get the winners out of school to come and meet Mr. Price and get their blue ribbons.

Joan Weingarten
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## High School Class of 1951

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