

CONNECTION

A Publication of Lindenwood University for the Alumni

Spring **2017**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY



We've got such a great collection of Lindenwood stories in this edition of *Connection*.

I remember talking to Maria Schmitt's husband, Andrew, who told me his wife's amazing tale. I hope you'll read all about how she ascended to a management position at an international company by the age of 23 without the benefit of a bachelor's degree. Now, she is discovering that Lindenwood's online program is the ideal fit for her, where she is on track to earn that bachelor's degree and has her sights on an M.B.A. as well. This is what Lindenwood is all about—providing opportunities for people to achieve their fullest potential, "like no other."

One of our fine alumni from the School of Arts, Media, and Communications, Rafael Quintas ('12), now teaches dance in Hollywood, Calif., and recently returned to Lindenwood to give back to his alma mater in the form of a master class for current Lindenwood ballet students.

And then, there is William Lindman ('09). If you had the opportunity to work for a year

at the South Pole, would you take it? William saw a chance to work for nearly a year at the planet's southernmost point and leapt at it, becoming only the 1,472nd person to live over the long, dark winter there.

I hope you'll read about Stephanie Posey ('09), who rose through the ranks as an administrator in the Belleville public schools and now serves as a principal in Chicago's suburbs in one of the largest school districts in Illinois.

Of course, our cover story is about Nicole Hensley, who served as a stalwart in goal for Lindenwood's Division I women's hockey team and recently received an NCAA award reserved for the top-10 athletes among nearly a half million who compete in all levels of NCAA sports. Now, she has her eyes on the 2018 U.S. Olympic team.

In keeping with the theme of opportunity, I'd like to announce a new initiative called Lions' Reserve, a fund designed to help students stay in college who would otherwise have to leave for financial reasons. Of the students who leave the university before graduating, 9 percent do so because

of finances, and we find that unacceptable. This fund is designed to bridge the gap between their available funds and what they need to pay for school. Please contact our Office of Development and Alumni for information on how to contribute to this fund.

We are also announcing a trip to Ireland for our alumni and friends in the summer of 2019, which is a great opportunity to visit one of the most beautiful places on earth with other members of the Lindenwood family.

Please check out the other great stories in this issue and, of course, Alumni News and Notes to see what your classmates have been up to.

Have a great spring and, as always, keep in touch.

MICHAEL D. SHONROCK, Ph.D.
President, Lindenwood University System

LINDENWOOD CONNECTION

Values-centered liberal arts education—preparing students for life

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ON THE COVER

Women's hockey's **Nicole Hensley** accepted the **NCAA's prestigious Top-10 Award** this winter. She is pictured with Scott Spencer, head coach for women's hockey.

CONNECTION is published by the offices of Marketing and Communications and Development at Lindenwood University. *Connection* is mailed free of charge to Lindenwood alumni. Story ideas are welcome and should be forwarded to Director of Alumni Relations, Lindenwood University, 209 South Kingshighway, St. Charles, MO 63301 or via email at alumni@lindenwood.edu.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS notifications should be sent to the Office of Alumni Relations at the address above. The Alumni Office telephone number is 636.949.4975.

Andrew and Maria Schmitt enjoy a walk on Main Street in St. Charles.



THE WINDING ROAD MARIA SCHMITT TAKES UNCONVENTIONAL PATH TO SUCCESS

by CHRIS DUGGAN

They say the road of progress does not move in a straight line. Maria Schmitt was born in the U.S. to German parents, moved to Germany at age 1 and then back to the U.S. at age 11 and now, at 23, is in a management position at an international company. She is slated to receive her bachelor's in business administration from Lindenwood in December.

Schmitt talked recently of that winding path, her voice betraying not even a hint of a German accent.

"I've worked really hard to lose it," she said. "Sometimes, if I'm agitated about something, it still comes out."

Schmitt's father, who held two master's degrees and a doctorate, was a language teacher, and when the family returned to America from Stuttgart, Schmitt's father taught German at Lutheran High School in St. Peters.

Schmitt was home schooled by her mother, who had hopes she would become a music prodigy.

"I can play the piano, but I'm not Mozart," Schmitt said.

Schmitt's father became ill when she was 14 and passed away four years later, at which point she had to go to work to support the family. At 18, she worked at a Trader Joe's store and volunteered for a school in Downtown St. Louis, where she later got a job as a childcare assistant director, still at the age of 18.

From there, she was recruited to be a program director for a fitness company and was later recruited to a position at a multi-state company. Approximately a year ago, an ad caught her eye for an office manager at a company in St. Louis' Souldard neighborhood. The company, Stars Design Group, designs clothing for commercial brands throughout the world. She interviewed for the job and got it, and within six months, she was promoted to her current position as human resources director and was asked to join the company's Board of Directors as its secretary and as a member of its risk management committee.

Schmitt and her husband, Andrew, now live in St. Charles. They met in a martial arts class.

"That was my outlet," she said, "his, too. We were sparring and I accidentally kicked him in the face. We got to talking and went on a date. We got married in 2012."

Because of her workload and other demands on her time, Schmitt said the traditional daytime college didn't work for her. She attended a couple of institutions and found out about Lindenwood's online program while taking classes at St. Charles Community College. The format, it turned out, was a perfect fit, and she has been able to take part in some of the activities of typical undergrads, such as membership in the Delta Mu Delta business honor society, for which she serves as secretary of Lindenwood's chapter. After graduation, she plans to continue in the online MBA program, perhaps in leadership and/or international business.

"I love the online format. It helps to balance everything in my life, and the instructors are always ready to help."

Maria Schmitt

"I love the online format," Schmitt said. "It helps to balance everything in my life, and the instructors are always ready to help. I feel like I'm more than a number on a screen."

Research Fellow
Howard Wall



Research Fellow
Richard Anderson



CEE Director
Ric Hafer



CENTER FOR ECONOMICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT AMONG WORLD'S BEST

Lindenwood University's Center for Economics and the Environment (CEE) was recently ranked among the top 10 percent of all economics research departments in the world. The center is part of the Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise, which is housed in the university's Robert W. Plaster School of Business & Entrepreneurship.

The list included five other departments in Missouri: the research divisions of the Federal Reserve Banks of Kansas City and St. Louis, the economics departments of Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Missouri, and the Olin School of Business at Washington University.

The ranking is provided by RePEc (Research Papers in Economics) and is based on the research output and citation records of over 48,000 economists representing nearly 7,300 institutions worldwide. RePEc is the primary resource among economists for bibliographic information about economics working papers and journal publications.

Three CEE economists—director Rik Hafer and senior research fellows Howard Wall and Richard Anderson—were ranked by RePEc as being among the world's top 5 percent in several categories.

LINDENWOOD ALUMNI GATHER AT FRIENDSHIP BREWERY

Alumni from the Robert W. Plaster School of Business & Entrepreneurship joined Lindenwood representatives for an evening of hockey, friendship, and networking on Saturday, Jan. 28.

The Lindenwood men's hockey team took on Missouri State at the Lindenwood Ice Arena in Wentzville at 4 p.m. After an 8-1 Lindenwood victory, the group congregated at Wentzville's Friendship Brewing Company, owned by Lindenwood alumnus Mike Wood ('83), for an evening of appetizers and good company.



Roger
Schlueter ('06)
and his brother,
John Schlueter



Dr. Stephen Freund ('13), Mike Wood ('83),
and Dan Grigg, Lindenwood vice president for
development and alumni relations

THE PAPER CHASE WEICH BRINGS DECADES OF EXPERIENCE TO JOURNALISM PROGRAM

by CHRIS DUGGAN

Lindenwood Legacy
Moderator
Susan Weich



Susan Weich knows her way around a newsroom, which is not lost on the student reporters and editors at the *Lindenwood Legacy* student newspaper. Three poked their heads into her office during the course of the interview for this story to ask her questions or seek her advice.

The veteran of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* has been a journalism professor and faculty moderator of the *Legacy* since the fall 2015 semester. Weich holds an M.F.A. in writing from Lindenwood, and her daughter Rachel, who played on the university's Division I women's hockey team, holds an exercise science degree from Lindenwood and is currently working toward a degree in fire science.

Weich's journalism career began with the Suburban Journals in Granite City, and she was hired as a copy editor and page designer in 1986 by the *St. Louis Globe Democrat*, which closed its doors a few months later. Only a handful of people from the *Globe* were hired at the *Post*, and Weich was one of them.

The first half of her 28 years at the *Post* were as an editor.

"I started off on the copy desk filling in for Avis Meyer, who was in Europe," Weich said. "I worked two days a week and eventually went full-time."

The typical trajectory of a journalism career is to start out as a reporter and then move on to editing. Weich did the opposite. When a reporter in the St. Charles bureau went on maternity leave, Weich asked if she could fill in.

"I was already familiar with the area and the politics," she said. "The editor told me, 'We'll give it a one-month trial, then we'll both know if it's working out.' I guess it worked out, because I was there until I retired 14 years later."

Weich said her years as an editor made her a better writer. The Holy Grail of journalism is the Pulitzer Prize, and Weich has been nominated for it twice. The first was for a series of stories published in the *Post's* Sunday magazine that were taken from a journal she kept after being diagnosed with breast cancer in 1996. Published in three parts, the story spawned hundreds of emails from readers, as well as the Pulitzer nomination.

"She is knowledgeable about what it's like to be a reporter and editor, and she is great about working with us to ensure that our content is the best it can be."

Lindenwood *Legacy* Editor in Chief
Kelby Lorenz, senior

"I didn't win, but it was a great honor, because you are nominated by your peers," Weich said.

The second nomination was for a seven-month investigation she and another reporter did on the funding and spending practices of some area fire protection districts.

"A lot of my reputation as a hard-nosed reporter came out of that time," Weich said. "I hope it was also that I was fair. I had a good knack for getting people to open up to me. I had a lot of doors slammed in my face as well. I did have people tell me that they knew they were getting the straight story if my byline was on it." She began thinking about the decision to retire from the *Post* after an incident in which she was covering the on-going protests in Ferguson in the days after the Michael Brown shooting in 2014. She was there the night a police officer was shot and took a photo in the immediate aftermath that she now has framed on her desk.

"I started to think about safety," Weich said. "My friend Tom Petit (former faculty moderator of the *Legacy*) said he was going to retire, and I decided it was time to end my career and show someone else what I know."

Weich is always available to answer student journalists' questions and give advice, including on Sunday nights when they are laying out the paper, for which she brings brownies and helps them make the final decisions as they are putting the paper to bed. In her time as moderator, the *Legacy* has won 10 state awards and one national award.

"Susan is one of the best mentors I have ever had," said *Legacy* Editor in Chief Kelby Lorenz, a senior majoring in advertising/public relations and journalism. "She is knowledgeable about what it's like to be a reporter and editor, and she is great about working with us to ensure that our content is the best it can be. I feel more confident about going out into the workforce because of what I have learned from her."



Rafael Quintas ('12)
recently taught a master
class for current
Lindenwood dance students.



THOSE WHO CAN, TEACH FORMER DANCE STUDENT NOW THE TEACHER

Rafael Quintas ('12), who earned his B.A. in dance from Lindenwood, returned to campus recently to teach a dance master class and spoke to current dance students about his experiences living in Los Angeles.

Quintas, a dance instructor at the EDGE Performing Arts Center in Hollywood, Calif., taught contemporary choreography he created to the 9 a.m. Advanced Ballet and Intermediate Ballet classes. The master class also included some improvisational dance time.

"I want my dancers to experiment and explore their bodies in small ways," Quintas said. "I want them to connect and move each little part."

Born Oct. 1, 1988, in Brasilia, Brazil, Quintas grew up watching American television shows like *Charmed* and *Laguna Beach*, helping him develop his English (and a perfect American accent). As a youth, Quintas dreamed of attending college in the United States. He was drawn to Lindenwood, partially because of the school's proximity to a big city like St. Louis, and pursued a degree in mass communication. However, Quintas found he was drawn to dance performance and musical theater, dancing around his Guffey Hall dorm room when the dance studios were occupied by classes.

"I want my dancers to experiment and explore their bodies in small ways; I want them to connect and move each little part."

Rafael Quintas ('12),
B.A. in dance

"I used to have to kick him out of the studio," said Janet Strzelec, associate professor of dance. "He was here all the time."

After moving to Los Angeles in 2013 to be a professional dancer, Quintas worked various odd jobs to support himself before realizing he enjoyed teaching choreography more than performing it. He began by teaching free classes at EDGE, then worked as a substitute dance teacher, getting paid \$3 per person in the class. Eventually, Quintas suggested to EDGE that he lead his own class, and he now teaches contemporary dance on Friday evenings.

Before landing a position with EDGE, Quintas went through periods where he was low on money and thought about moving back to Brazil.

"I reminded myself that people are around me doing the same thing, trying to make it in a competitive world," Quintas said. "It's important to surround yourself with people who are supportive of your dream."

Lauren Rabenold ('15), a freshman classmate of Quintas in 2011-2012 and current MBA in management student, remembers Quintas being energetic.

"His energy is always really high, and he's positive all of the time," Rabenold said. "He pushes people he doesn't even know to their fullest potential. I was so shy, I didn't even want to move—in a dance class! But he got me moving. He has a way of being motivational and inspiring."

DECEMBER GRADUATION CEREMONIES

Lindenwood Belleville graduate Jose Hernandez shares a smile and a wave.



(from left) Business majors Jose Juan Morantes and Emilio Torres Ozores, both from Spain, Andrea Samayoa and Crhystian Sanchez, both from Honduras, and Diego Aldea Lopera, from Spain, wait for the procession at the St. Charles Family Arena.



More than 200 graduates participated in Lindenwood Belleville's Commencement Ceremony at the Gateway Center in Collinsville, Ill.



Cullen Halpin (above) and Tracy McCune (right) were among the nearly 800 graduates who took part in the St. Charles campus commencement ceremony on December 10.



CAMPUS NEWS

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

UPCOMING EVENTS

LINDENWOOD SPORTS

ALUMNI EVENTS

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

*Mike Posner and
the Legendary
Mike Posner Band*



Johnny Mathis

SUCCESSFUL 2016-17 SEASON TO CLOSE WITH JOHNNY MATHIS

by **CHRIS DUGGAN**

A season that saw a diverse collection of acts including the Blues Brothers, Howie Mandel, Vanessa Williams, Kenny G, and the touring Broadway production of *42nd Street* will conclude with two nights of performances by Johnny Mathis as he visits on his Voice of Romance Tour on May 13 and 14.

Before the 81-year-old music legend takes the stage, however, 29-year-old singer-songwriter Mike Posner will perform with the Legendary Mike Posner Band at 7 p.m. on April 4 in the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts' Lindenwood Theater to coincide with the university's Spring Fling Week festivities. General admission tickets are available to the public for \$15.

Posner achieved fame in 2009 with the hit song "Cooler than Me" at the age of 22 and followed it up with his debut album *31 Minutes to Takeoff*, which included the hits "Please Don't Go" and "Bow Chicka Wow Wow." Posner compiled a string of songwriting credits for hits like "Sugar" and "Boyfriend," recorded by Maroon 5 and Justin Bieber, respectively. His 2015 album *At Night, Alone* (Island Records) includes the hit "I Took a Pill in Ibiza." General admission tickets cost \$15.

Mathis, who is the longest-signed artist at Columbia Records, is celebrating his 61st year in the music industry and will perform at 8 p.m. on May 13 and 7 p.m. on May 14 in the Lindenwood Theater. Known the world over for his unmistakable voice, Mathis has recorded in a variety of genres, including jazz, pop, and holiday music, as well as for the stage and screen.

He has more than 80 albums to his credit, including six Christmas albums, and has sold millions of records worldwide. Among his 50 hits on *Billboard's* contemporary chart are instantly recognizable classics like "Chances Are," "It's Not for Me to Say," and "Misty." In 2003, Mathis was given the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Tickets for either evening range from \$67.50 to \$109.50.

Tickets are available to see Posner or Mathis online at www.luboxoffice.com or by phone at 636.949.4433.

"This has really been an amazing season," said Peter Colombatto, director of marketing and communications for the School of Arts, Media, and Communications. "We strive to provide a series with something for everyone, and as we look back over it, I believe we did that pretty well."

Colombatto said plans are already underway for the 2017-18 season, which will be announced July 10.

Upcoming Performances at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts

Student Theatre

Anton in Show Business
By Jane Martin
Adapted from the
Comedy by Pierre Corneille
March 30-April 1, 7:30 p.m.
April 6-8, 7:30 p.m.

Student Music

Spring Chamber Series
April 26-30
(Please call 636.949.4433 for times)

Student Dance

Spring Dance Concert
April 20-22, 7:30 p.m.

Student Fashion

Spring Fashion Show
May 4, 8 p.m.
(VIP reception at 7:30 p.m.)
Mercedes Benz of St. Louis,
1048 Hampton Ave.,
St. Louis, MO 63139

Art Exhibits (Boyle Family Gallery)

Juried Student Art Exhibition
March 30-April 9
Closing Reception April 9, 11 a.m.

Graphic Design BFA Exhibition
April 13-23
Opening reception, April 13, 6:30 p.m.

Fashion Design Exhibition
April 26-May 3
Opening reception April 27, 6:30 p.m.

BELLEVILLE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ALUMNUS LAUNCHES CAREER WITH ST. LOUIS COUNTY POLICE

by JENNIFER FERGUSON



Like many young men heading to college, Ty Matzenbacher ('16) wasn't sure what major to study or what career he wanted to pursue. Upon graduating from Belleville West High School, however, he was certain about one thing—he wanted to play baseball in college—and it was his hometown university that gave him the opportunity to do just that.

"I wanted to continue to play baseball after high school, and I was able to be a pitcher for Lindenwood Belleville for three years, but as a freshman, I was an undecided major," said Matzenbacher. "At the end of my freshman year, I declared biology as my major, and over the summer after my freshman year, I changed my major to criminal justice."

In a surprising turn of events, Matzenbacher passed up the opportunity to pitch his senior year at the university in order to focus on a career in law enforcement.

In just four short years, that once undecided freshman is well on his way to reaching his career goals, as he was not only accepted to the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy upon graduating with his bachelor's degree in criminal justice with an emphasis in law enforcement, but he has since graduated the academy and is an officer for the St. Louis County Police Department. He is the first student from Lindenwood Belleville to do so.

"I took my senior year off from baseball to apply to police departments to have a job lined up for after graduation, which was a fairly stressful process," said Matzenbacher.

The nine-step application process included a physical training test, a written test,

a personality test, a background check, a polygraph test, two interviews, and a physical health and psychological test. As each step was successfully completed, Matzenbacher was cleared to move on to the next.

During this time, Matzenbacher said that several professors at the university helped him manage the stress of the application process in tandem with his senior-level classes.

"I was extremely stressed out about graduation; I was in the application process for St. Louis County Police Department, and I was working both on and off campus," said Matzenbacher. "I averaged six hours of sleep a night."

"The academic components were easier for me during my time at the academy, and I credit that to the preparation and education I received at Lindenwood."

Ty Matzenbacher

Matzenbacher said his criminal justice instructors, Dr. Shauntey James, Dr. Joe Zlatic, and Dr. Andrea Boyles, along with his history professor, Dr. Amy Gangloff, made a major impact on him, offering support and guidance as he transitioned from a college senior to the professional world of work.

During his time at the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy, Matzenbacher studied constitutional law, traffic law, human behavior, patrol, and Missouri Statutory Law. He also completed work in criminal investigation, crash reconstruction and investigation,

traffic stops, and juvenile law. His education at the academy comprised 917 hours over 25 weeks with 70 percent of that time spent in academics, 10 percent in physical training, 10 percent in defensive tactics, and 10 percent at the shooting range.

Upon his graduation from the academy in December, Matzenbacher completed 15 weeks of in-field training and now patrols one of St. Louis County's eight precincts. As his young career grows, he aspires to ultimately be part of a tactical operations unit or an investigations unit.

"I want to investigate crimes and piece together a puzzle until the evidence points to the guilty individual," he said. "I feel that people need to be held accountable for the crimes they commit, so tracking them down and bringing them before a judge would bring me a great sense of relief that a criminal is off the streets."

Matzenbacher said that the education he received at Lindenwood University-Belleville prepared him fully for the rigors of the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy.

"The academic components were easier for me during my time at the academy, and I credit that to the preparation and education I received at Lindenwood," said Matzenbacher. "I feel grateful to have the opportunity to be part of my hometown university, while at the same time receiving an education that boosted me into the career I aimed for."

To learn more about the Criminal Justice Department at Lindenwood University-Belleville, contact Dr. Andrea Boyles, division chair of Social and Behavioral Sciences, at (618) 239-6152 or ABoyles@lindenwood.edu.

A YEAR ON ICE WILLIAM LINDMAN SPENDS 2016 AT SOUTH POLE

by CHRIS DUGGAN

In the 106 years since the first explorers made their way to the South Pole, fewer than 1,500 people have spent the winter there, and Lindenwood alumnus William Lindman ('09) is one of them. He was the 1,472nd, to be exact, a distinction he achieved in 2016 after working at the pole's Amundson-Scott Station from January through mid-November.

The criminal justice major came to Lindenwood from his home in Cape Girardeau, partly because of its location.

"I wanted to go away to school but not too far away," he said. "Lindenwood helped me to find myself and show me that I enjoy traveling."

Initially, he planned on going to officer candidate school for the U.S. Marine Corps after graduation, but his plans changed and instead he joined the Peace Corps and worked for 27 months in the African nation of Uganda. It was there that he first began thinking about the South Pole.

After returning home from Uganda, however, he put the idea aside and began working at a water treatment plant in his home town of Cape Girardeau. Eventually, though, he began to feel those stirrings again.

"I wanted to get back to my adventurous spirit, and I thought, 'Why not go to one of the most extreme places on earth,'" he said.

Lindman had seen the documentary *Antarctica: A Year on Ice*, did some research, and found out there is a need for water treatment professionals at the research facilities there. He filled out

an application in November 2015, did some interviews, went through a medical screening in December, and left Missouri in mid-January.

"It was a fairly quick process," he said. "The seasons are opposite in the southern hemisphere, so it is summertime in November, December, and January. The rest of the year is winter."

Summertime doesn't mean warmth the way it does in most of the rest of the world. When he arrived, the temperature was 40 degrees below zero and the sun was in the sky 24 hours a day, as it is for about four months.

"Before and after that, for a month or so, is a twilight period, which is absolutely beautiful," Lindman said. "Imagine a sunset that lasts for a month and a half."



William Lindman ('09) takes some readings at the water treatment equipment (above) on which he worked at the Amundson-Scott Base and poses (right) at the geographic South Pole.

“The lowest it got was negative 108 with a wind chill of negative 150-160. At negative 100, it’s pretty miserable outside.”
 William Lindman ('09)



The rest of the year, it is night. In the winter, the temperature drops to an average of negative 75 and the wind picks up.

“The lowest it got was negative 108 with a wind chill of negative 150-160,” Lindman said. “At negative 100, it’s pretty miserable outside.”

The population at the base also drops in the winter months from 150 to about 50. A dozen or so of the winter crew are scientists and researchers, and the rest are people doing typical infrastructure jobs for the station: carpenters, electricians, IT, water, power, kitchen, and that sort of thing.

The base is named for Roald Amundson and Robert Scott, the leaders of two expeditions in 1911 that were the first to reach the pole. Amundson, a Norwegian, got there first and achieved worldwide acclaim. Scott, from England, arrived a month later, and he and his five-man crew died on the way back, too frostbitten to press further, a mere 20 kilometers from the next supply depot.

Lindman worked sometimes as much as 70 hours a week, eating when he was hungry, rather than at typical mealtimes, which posed a bit of an adjustment when he returned home. In his off hours, he kept busy with the base’s two libraries, TV/movie rooms, games, music, and small gym.

“It was easy for me to adjust to the constant nighttime,” Lindman said. “Everyone is different. They board up the windows to cut light pollution for some outdoor experiments. I would go outside once a day to remind myself there was a world out there.”

Eventually, the long polar twilight returned and then the constant sunlight. During this time, flights come and go every day with the summer crew coming in and the winter crew leaving.

“We all wanted to get home, see the world again,” Lindman said. “When I returned home it was 40 degrees. I was outside in shorts, a t-shirt, and sandals. People thought I was crazy. I just wanted to feel the sun on my skin.”

Lindman now works in water treatment in Manitowoc, Wis., a city on Lake Michigan that he’s quickly grown to love. He was approached about returning to the South Pole for another stint, but he turned it down.

“I’m happy I did it, and I’m extremely proud of the time I spent there,” Lindman said. “Once was enough. I missed an entire year away from the world: weddings, babies, doing things with family and friends. I don’t want to sacrifice another year.”



BELLEVILLE CAMPUS LAUNCHES MAJOR GIFT INITIATIVE

Lindenwood University-Belleville campus leaders recently launched Pathways to the Future, a major gift initiative for the campus. The initiative has a working goal of \$1,545,000 over a three-year period and focuses on four project areas in keeping with the university's culture of continuous improvement: (1) expansion of laboratory facilities and the addition of a greenhouse, (2) acquisition of land for future athletic fields/complex, (3) a film series, and (4) a new alumni garden.

Campus President Dr. Brett Barger says Pathways to the Future comes at a vital time in the history of Lindenwood University-Belleville.

"The university continues to grow at a time when many other institutions of higher education are strategizing how to manage declining enrollment," said Barger. "For this reason, Lindenwood University-Belleville must expand facilities and programming to meet the needs of a growing and diverse student body. This initiative will enable the university to manage new opportunities and continue on a positive trajectory of growth and improvement."

EXPANSIONS OF LABORATORY FACILITIES, A MAKER SPACE, AND NEW GREENHOUSE (\$750,000)

The campus' Science Division has grown consistently as more students pursue degrees and careers within this sector. To accommodate this growth, the university must plan for additional facility space. Many professional industries in the St. Louis metropolitan area with concentrations in the life sciences are experiencing rapid innovation and growth, and the region is becoming a major biotechnology hub. Expanding and enhancing current facilities to include academic classrooms, laboratories, a greenhouse, and a "maker space," where students will learn through practice and collaboration with their peers, will help the university produce graduates who are ready to contribute to this growing and vital sector of the economy. The new lab spaces will also serve as a way for academic divisions to collaborate on projects between programs of study.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR FUTURE ATHLETIC FIELDS/COMPLEX (\$450,000)

Athletics are a big draw for potential students and community supporters, with more than 80 percent of the student body participating in university sports. Many of the university's sports programs practice and play at off-campus facilities. Purchasing land adjacent to campus dedicated to sports programming would bring athletics teams back to campus and provide for future growth. Additionally, by relocating the current fields to this new larger space, the existing sports facilities can be repurposed for the expansion of new academic programs and facilities.

LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY-BELLEVILLE FILM SERIES (\$245,000)

As a liberal arts institution, Lindenwood University-Belleville seeks to offer all students the opportunity to expand the breadth of their knowledge through multidisciplinary pursuits. Establishing a campus film series will fuse together social and educational opportunities for students in order to share and explain various points of view and cultures. The film series will also enrich the community at large, as it will be open to the public. To make this film series possible, the Lindenwood Auditorium requires a significant equipment upgrade, which will also strengthen all of the events and presentations hosted in the Lindenwood Auditorium.

ALUMNI GARDEN (\$100,000)

Located on the former Belleville Township High School campus, the Lindenwood Belleville campus is home to many high school and university alumni events and other community activities. The proposed Alumni Garden would commemorate and celebrate high school and university alumni alike, creating a gathering space for current students, alumni, and community members in a currently unused section of the campus, which will also contribute to campus beautification efforts. Additionally, the garden will serve as a living laboratory for students studying biology or horticulture, as those students and instructors will not only help create the garden but will also maintain it.

To learn more, or to give your gift today, visit www.lindenwood.edu/bv/pathwaysToTheFuture/.

Stephanie Posey ('09)



POSEY GLAD SHE'S A LYNX

by **SCOTT WUERZ**

Lindenwood University-Belleville graduate Stephanie Posey ('09) said she's proud of her education, not only because of what it's done for her but also because of what the university has grown to mean to the Belleville community.

Posey was enthusiastic about enhancing her undergraduate education by studying at Lindenwood Belleville. She was among the first students to sign up for graduate education classes there, enrolling in 2005 at about the same time she became an assistant principal at Belleville East High School.

She was promoted to principal at the school in 2010, shortly after her graduation, a position she held until 2015. Posey currently serves as principal of Naperville North High School in the western Chicago suburbs. Naperville North is in District 203, one of the largest school districts in the State of Illinois.

"When I started at Lindenwood, I was excited by the unique opportunity to learn from professors who were retired superintendents," said Posey. "That made the experience very authentic as opposed to philosophical. It was also very exciting then to join what was a then a brand new fledgling university on the ground floor. It's amazing to see how much it's grown in a few short years."

Posey quickly rose through the ranks to be promoted to principal at Belleville East shortly after her graduation. In that role, she began to see how much Lindenwood Belleville means to the metro-east.

"It was inspiring to see how much Lindenwood Belleville was interested in interacting with the local public school system," Posey said. "It's a great asset to the community that lifts up the area high schools and grade schools."

Posey said the school not only gave her the education she needed to advance her career. It inspired her to be the best educator and leader that she can be. She said she was impressed with the way Lindenwood Belleville leaders reached out to area schools to help prepare and inspire grade school and high school students to make the most of their opportunities for education.

"When you learn from people who have made such a difference in the lives of young people, it makes you want to do everything you can to make a difference, too," Posey said. "It's a challenging career. But it's extremely rewarding."

"It was inspiring to see how much Lindenwood Belleville was interested in interacting with the local public school system."

Stephanie Posey ('09)

Nicole Hensley, at right, is helping coach Scott Spencer as an assistant coach. They are pictured with Ally Larson making between-period adjustments at a recent game.



BEST OF THE BEST HOCKEY'S HENSLEY EARNS NCAA TOP-10 AWARD

by **DANIEL NEWTON**

Lindenwood alumna Nicole Hensley ('16) earned one of the most prestigious awards given out by the NCAA this winter when she was named a winner of the organization's Top 10 Award, which is given each year to just 10 of the NCAA's 460,000 student-athletes across every division and sport. It honors the very best student-athletes academically, athletically, and in the community.

Hensley formally received the award at the NCAA Convention in Nashville, Tenn. Lindenwood Women's Hockey Head Coach Scott Spencer presented the award to her in front of some of the biggest names in NCAA athletics, including Lindenwood Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Brad Wachler and Associate Athletics Director Betsy Feutz.

"It was an incredible experience to see all of the accomplishments of the award winners, not just in their respective sports, but in the classroom and community as well," said Hensley. "Every single athlete had a unique impact on their school and community. I was so humbled to be included in such an ambitious group of individuals."

In the classroom, Hensley graduated with a perfect 4.00 GPA in exercise science. She was the first three-time Academic All-American in Lindenwood history, and she earned first-team Academic All-American honors in 2016. She was also a four-time CHA Student-Athlete of the Year and a four-time member of the CHA (College Hockey America) conference all-academic team.

Hensley singled out two professors that helped her during her days as a student: Dr. Paul Wright and Lori Crow in the Exercise Science Department.

"Dr. Wright helped me tremendously in the classroom and helped improve my on-ice game," said Hensley. "His classes were always an engaging environment that made me want to learn. On top of that, he did some one-on-one sessions with me which helped me focus better on the ice."

Hensley praised Crow for making her class interactive and fun, which made learning easy.

"She was always so approachable and took an interest in each student," said Hensley. "I can remember staying after class numerous times just to ask questions and learn all I could."

On the ice, Hensley was a star goalie for a Lindenwood hockey team that was making the transition from a club team to an NCAA Division I program. The program's youth at the NCAA level and Hensley's talents created a perfect storm for college hockey history. Over four seasons, Hensley recorded 4,094 career saves, and she became the first women's goalie at the college level to hit the 4,000-save plateau.

Hensley was a four-time all-CHA selection, including a two-time first-team pick. As a freshman, she was named the CHA Rookie of the Year and the National Rookie Goalie of the Year. While these accomplishments helped her make a name in the collegiate hockey world, it was one game in particular that put her and Lindenwood hockey on the map.

In the first-round of the 2013 CHA Tournament, Lindenwood traveled to Robert Morris University for a best-of-three series. Hensley stopped the first 37

shots she saw, and the Lady Lions led 1-0 early in the third period. The Colonials finally got a shot past her just seconds after a power play ended, but neither team scored before the overtime periods.

Since it was a playoff game, there were no ties and the two teams were to keep playing until someone scored. The Colonials continued to pepper Hensley with shots, but she went over 63 minutes, over a full regulation game, without allowing a goal. Finally, in the 109th minute, Robert Morris got a shot past Hensley, but not before Hensley made 90 saves, 12 more than anyone else has collected in a game at that level.

"We always play a close game against Robert Morris, and we went into the playoffs that year knowing it would be a battle," said Hensley. "I was just trying to make the next save to give my team a chance to win."

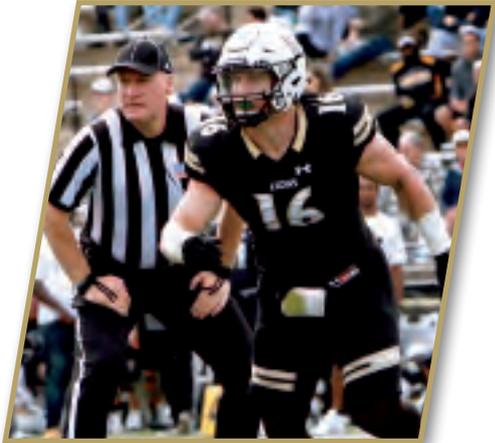
Throughout her college career, Hensley caught the attention of the United States National Team, for which she now plays. Her new goal is to represent the U.S. on an even larger stage.

"Right now, my main focus and goal is to make the 2018 Olympic team," said Hensley. "It has been a dream of mine since I was a kid."

Hensley has already had success with the national team, including winning a gold medal at the World Championships and recording shutouts in her first two career starts. If she achieves her goal and marches in the opening ceremonies in South Korea, Lindenwood will have played a big part in the journey that got her to that moment.

"Attending Lindenwood prepared me to believe I can go out and accomplish anything I set my mind to," said Hensley.

NFL BOUND? HARRIS HOPES TO JOIN DESIR AS SECOND LION DRAFTED



For the second time in four years, a Lindenwood football player is going down the path towards the National Football League. Connor Harris hopes to join Pierre Desir as the second Lion selected in the NFL's annual draft late this April.

The two players have made similar journeys following their Lindenwood careers. Both were named winners of the Cliff Harris Award, given to the top defensive player

in the country among NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, and NAIA programs. Both participated in the Senior Bowl, making Lindenwood the only MIAA program with multiple participants in that event, and both tested at the NFL Combine.

The similarities end there, however, as the two had different playing styles in their collegiate careers. Desir was one of the most feared cornerbacks in the NCAA and rarely saw the ball thrown in his direction. Harris, a linebacker, was in on nearly every defensive play over his career. He set an NCAA all-division record with 633

career tackles and averaged over 13 tackles a game in his career. Harris was a three-time All-American and four-time all-MIAA selection while making the case to be considered the best football player to go through the Lindenwood program.

Harris will learn his future employer on April 27-29 when the NFL Draft is held in Philadelphia, Penn. One interesting landing spot would be the Seattle Seahawks, where Desir is currently playing.

JED STUGART TO LEAD LION FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Jed Stugart and Lindenwood University Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Brad Wachler.



Last offseason, Jed Stugart was asked if he would ever consider leaving his position as head football coach at the University of Sioux Falls for another NCAA Division II job. One of the few places that he said would tempt him was Lindenwood University. In December, Stugart was named the sixth head coach in the football program's history.

The hire was a touchdown for first-year Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Brad Wachler.

"The great part of the coaching search was that from day one, I knew who I wanted our next head coach to be, and that's Jed," said Wachler.

A look at Stugart's resume shows why he is so highly regarded. He was the coach at Sioux Falls from 2010 to 2016 and had a record of 65-17. After leading the Cougars to the NAIA National Championship game in 2010, Stugart led Sioux Falls through the transition to the NCAA level. Over the last three years, Sioux Falls compiled a record of 32-5 and made three postseason appearances. Last year's squad went 11-0 in the regular season, won the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference title, and won the first NCAA tournament game in program history.

Stugart was also the head coach from 2006 to 2008 at former Lindenwood rival MidAmerica Nazarene. He won 26 games there, made two postseason appearances, and won one conference title.

"I became familiar with Lindenwood while I was at MidAmerica Nazarene and recognized that they have the facilities and support to be a football powerhouse," said Stugart. "I look forward to the opportunity to lead and build this program into a conference and national championship contender."

NEW COACH TURCO HOPES TO BUILD FOOTBALL PROGRAM



New Lindenwood University-Belleville Head Football Coach **Kevin Turco**.

Since new Lindenwood University-Belleville Head Football Coach Kevin Turco arrived on campus in January, he's hit the ground running and brought new life to the Lynx football program.

"Our vision from a football standpoint is to carry out our mission statement, which is we want to earn the respect and credibility that is associated with success so that we can uplift and help others," Turco said. "The sick child in the hospital doesn't want the 5-6 team to visit; that child wants the championship team to visit. The team that

has overcome great odds and found success will be the team that inspires that child."

One thing that Turco has been a big fan of since coming to Belleville is the city itself.

"I absolutely love the campus and the city of Belleville," Turco said. "The city of Belleville was named by George Blair in 1814 after he donated an acre of land for the Town Square, and it amazes me how it has grown so much from such small beginning."

He added, "I'm hopeful that one day the Lynx Football team can grow in the same type of fashion. We are the city of Belleville's college football program, and we are proud of that."

Coach Turco also wants the football alumni to know that the program is home to them still, despite a new coaching regime having taken over.

"Our doors are open to the alumni," he said. "This is still home to them and always will be. Things have been hectic here lately, but soon I'll be reaching out to them to invite them to link arms with us as we drive this program forward. This dream of being the best that we can possibly be must be a total team effort, which includes our proud alumni."

"Our goal is to make them proud as we build on of the foundation they've built."

SLS PROGRAMS EARN HARDWARE

Several Student Life Sports programs earned hardware with team or individual national championships over the past few months.

Men's water polo made history by capturing a third straight title with a 9-5 victory over Long Beach State at the 2016 Collegiate Water Polo Association Men's Division I Club Championship in Notre Dame, Ind. last November. The Lions became the first team to win three consecutive Division I club crowns and the fifth to win three or more overall, joining Cal Poly, Michigan, Michigan State, and UCLA.

All seven starters on the team received All-American recognition, with **Toni Storic** named the Player of the Year, the first ever for Lindenwood. The Croatian graduate student was also named to the All-America First Team. Seniors **Javier Platero** and **Diego Aldea**, along with junior goalie **Mario Caballero**, earned second team honors while **Nikola Nasev**, **Andrew Rabe**, and **Marc Tahull** were among those receiving honorable mention status. Lindenwood finished with an overall record of 19-1 for the season.

The **Lion Line dance team** won its seventh national championship in program history by winning the Open Jazz division at the UDA College Dance Team National Championships January 14-15 in Orlando,

Fla. The Lady Lions sat in first place out of 33 squads after the semifinals, then emerged on top out of 17 advancing teams in the finals.

Not to be outdone, two weeks earlier, **Hannah Finchamp** captured the women's individual title at the 2017 USA Cycling Collegiate Cyclocross Nationals in Hartford, Conn. The California native posted a time of 41:03 for the four-lap race to finish 89 seconds ahead of the second-place rider, despite suffering a mechanical issue in the second lap that forced her to change bikes. It was the third individual title for Finchamp this season after winning two others at the Collegiate Mountain Bike National Championships last October.



Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations

The Lindenwood Sports Hall of Fame is now accepting nominations for its 2017 class. If you know of a Lion great that should be inducted into the Hall of Fame, you can go to www.lindenwoodlions.com/halloffame and fill out a nomination form located at the bottom of the page. **All nominations and supporting material must be turned in by May 1.**

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES SPRING 2017

Submit your alumni news and notes to alumni@lindenwood.edu**'70s**

Robyn Leigh Muncy ('77) returned to Lindenwood on February 9 to present *The 2016 Presidential Election and Media Representation of the U.S. "Working Class."* Much of her research focuses on political activism and reform movements in 20th-century America. Her books include *Creating a Female Dominion in American Reform 1890-1935* and *Engendering America*. She has appeared in numerous documentaries including *The Sixties*, *Fire at Triangle*, *The First Measured Century*, and *The Women of Hull House*. Muncy is a professor of history and interim chair of the Department of Women's Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park. She received her B.A. from Lindenwood in 1977 and was awarded the Alumni Merit Award for Professional Accomplishment in 1992.

**'80s**

Daniel Korte ('88) was recently appointed to the Woodward, Inc. Board of Directors. He will also serve of the Audit Committee of the board. Korte joined St. Louis, Mo.-based LMI Aerospace in 2014, where he serves as CEO. Prior to joining LMI, he was the president of the Rolls Royce Defense Group in Washington, D.C., and London, U.K. He holds a B.A. in electrical engineering from Southern Illinois University and received his M.B.A. in management from Lindenwood University.

**'90s**

Orinthia Montague ('98) is one of three finalists for the position of president of Tompkins Cortland Community College. Montague is currently the vice president of student affairs and chief diversity officer at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, Minn., where she previously served as dean of students. Prior to that, she served as assistant provost and associate provost at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

**'00s**

Ryan Froehlich ('00) is a senior account executive with Bradford and Galt, an IT consulting firm, and lives in St. Louis with his wife, Angel, and their three children. He loves spending most of his free time coaching his kids' sports teams. While at Lindenwood, he played baseball from 1996-1999. He was second team all-conference in 1998 and a member of the 1999 HAAC Conference champion baseball team. He also was a graduate assistant baseball coach from 2000 to 2002. He received a B.A. in communications in 2000 and a master's in sports administration in 2002.



Charlie McFail ('00) has been named head football coach at Smith-Cotton High School after serving as defensive coordinator since 2009. McFail played football at Missouri Valley College. He served as a teacher and assistant football coach at Smith-Cotton and at high schools in Plattsburg, Mo., and Clinton, Iowa. He earned a master's degree in education administration from Lindenwood in 2000 and returned to Smith-Cotton in 2008.



Chris Martin ('03), director of corporate and governmental relations and associate director of development at Southeast Missouri State University, has been named chief of staff and assistant to the president for strategy and government relations at Southeast. He has been employed by Southeast since May 2013, managing the University's St. Louis Outreach Office. He also identified, cultivated, and solicited donors for the Southeast Missouri University Foundation and assisted alumni relations. Martin received his B.A. in political science and public management from Lindenwood in 2003.

Ben Tipton ('03) was recently named Phelps County Bank's chief lending officer. He will continue to work with the customers at Phelps County bank, in addition to assuming a new oversight role in the loan department until the end of 2017. Tipton received his degree in finance with a minor in criminal justice from Lindenwood in 2003 and is a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking in Colorado. He lives in Rolla with his wife, Cathy, and their two children.

Alumni News & Notes continues on next page...

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES SPRING 2017 continued



Frank McGinty ('04), director of marketing and culinary development for Kaldi's Coffee, recently spoke at Southeast Missouri State University's Catapult Creative House, to discuss the growth of Kaldi's Coffee over the past decade. McGinty received a B.A. in business administration from Lindenwood University.

Nikki Lawrence Brown ('08) recently completed a new home in Wentzville, Mo., where she lives with her husband, Sam, and 2-year-old son Max. She has been employed at Boeing for the past 10 years, where she works as a human resources generalist.



'10s

Ta'Keshia Parker ('11) has been named principal of Sappington Elementary School for the 2017-18 school year. Parker, who joined Lindbergh Schools in 2015, currently serves as assistant principal at Sappington. She has 11 years of education experience in the Kirkwood and Lindbergh school districts and was selected as

the 2015 Kirkwood School District Teacher of the Year for her work as a third-grade teacher at Keysor Elementary School. She earned a doctorate in educational leadership from Maryville University. She has a Master of Arts in school administration from Lindenwood University and also holds a bachelor's in English and a master's in teaching.



Emeka Jackson-Hicks ('11), East St. Louis mayor, recently participated in a presentation to SIUE East St. Louis Charter High School students to offer inspiration during Black History Month. The "I Am in the Struggle with You" black history program brought in young leaders in the community to offer encouragement and support. Jackson-Hicks received a B.A. in accounting from the University of Illinois and a master's in professional counseling from Lindenwood University.

Dr. Michael Hepner ('12) recently relocated to South Bend, Ind., after accepting a position with Vincennes University as the assistant dean of instruction. Prior to this position, he served as the criminal justice program coordinator at St. Louis Community College. Hepner received his Doctor of Education degree in instructional leadership with emphasis in higher education administration from Lindenwood in 2012.

Josh Arras ('12) and Katie Veile ('10) were married on December 30, 2016, and live in St. Louis. Arras works as a loan officer for New American Funding. Veile started her own business, Kaked by Katie, that designs and creates wedding and specialty cakes. She received a B.A. in business administration, and he received a B.A. in sports management from Lindenwood. Veile also graduated from the French Pastry School of Kennedy-King College in Chicago in 2014.

Dr. Tracy McGrady ('13) was appointed provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at Ozarks Technical Community College after a nationwide search in November 2016. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Missouri State University and remained at MSU as the assistant director of admissions. She joined the English faculty at OTC in 2001 and switched to administration in 2012 as assistant to the vice chancellor. She received her doctorate in higher education administration from Lindenwood in 2013 and became the dean of the OTC Richmond Valley Campus.

Amanda Spaunhorst ('13) and Tony Frankenberg were married on November 5, 2016, at St. James the Greater Church in St. Louis. Spaunhorst is a magna cum laude graduate and is employed with Nestle Purina. Frankenberg is employed as a civil engineer. Chelsey Martin ('13) was a bridesmaid. The couple honeymooned in Japan, Australia, and New Zealand.

Lauren Whan ('15) and Gentry Ideus recently announced their engagement. Whan received her B.A. in journalism from Lindenwood in 2015 and is a social media community manager at Friendemic in Dallas, Texas. Ideus is employed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. The couple will be married on April 22 in Destin, Fla.

Katie Nadler ('15) and Levi Gildehaus recently announced their engagement. Nadler received her B.A. in graphic art from Lindenwood in 2015 and is employed by Concourse Sports as a multimedia designer. Gildehaus is employed by Brewer Science as an associate applications engineer. The couple will be wed on September 23, 2017, in Augusta, Mo.

Jennifer Kindret ('16) is the head coach of the women's ice hockey program at Kings College in Wilkes-Barre, Penn. Kindret was a four-year starter on the William Morris women's hockey team before coming to Lindenwood to serve as a graduate assistant. She received her master's in business administration from Lindenwood.

NOTICE OF ACCREDITATION EVALUATION AT LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY

Lindenwood University is seeking comments from the public about the university in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The university will host a visit November 6-7, 2017, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Lindenwood University has been accredited by HLC since 1921. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet HLC's Criteria for Accreditation. **The public is invited to submit comments regarding the university to the following address:**

**Public Comment on Lindenwood University
The Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411**

The public may also submit comments on HLC's website at www.hlcommission.org/comment. Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing. **All comments must be received by October 9, 2017.**

HOMECOMING SET FOR OCT. 12-15

Theme will be **'Welcome to the Jungle'**

Plans are well under way for Homecoming 2017, which will be Oct. 12-15. The theme for this year is "Welcome to the Jungle," and the honored 50-year class is from 1967. The agent from the class of 1967 is Francis Murphy, and members of the class are encouraged to contact her at fransm2111@gmail.com.

Each year, hundreds of alumni return to campus for Homecoming weekend for a variety of gatherings, events, the parade, and Lion sports, including the annual Homecoming football game, as well as the chance to visit with their professors and old friends and see what is new on campus.

This year, the new attraction is the spectacular Library and Academic Resources Center, which is slated for completion in late summer or early fall. Be sure to come check it out.

A complete schedule of Homecoming activities will be released at a later date.

IN MEMORIAM

Please be aware that the names listed in the In Memoriam section are of alumni that may have passed within recent months or within the past couple of years.

Martha Elizabeth "Betty" Muncy ('41), Dodge City, Kan.

Sara Jefferson Stukenbroeker ('41), Falls Church, Va.

Frances Louise Olson Marks ('42), Nashville, Tenn.

Nancy Jeanne (Dana) Hill ('48), Asheville, N.C.

Lucy Anne McCluer ('49), Weldon Spring, Mo.

Jacquelyn Corrigan Dugan ('50), Hot Springs, Ark.

Anne Bradford (Leedy) Wenrick ('61), Fairbanks, Alaska

Martin L. Sherman ('74), St. Charles, Mo.

Jeanette Marie Corrie-Lee ('84), Allendale, Ill.

Brian L. Thurn ('88), Kansas City, Mo.

Megan Chilton Pflieger ('06), Williamsport, Penn.

Michael L. Tocco ('12), Camdenton, Mo.

Mathematics professor John Nichols

Former mathematics professor John Nichols, 82, passed away on January 31, 2017, in St. Charles, Mo. John was born in Virginia to Harry and Hope Nichols and married Grace Munson Nichols in 1960. He is survived by Grace, their three sons, Michael (Chris), Scott, and John (Carol); five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild, as well as many nieces and nephews and four sisters-in-law. He was predeceased by his sister, Evelyn Hogshire (Happy), brother-in-law Mike Preusser, and two nephews.

John was a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and graduated from Norfolk Academy, Hamden-Sydney College, the University of Virginia, and Washington University. He began his 25-year career at Lindenwood College in 1969 when he came to teach math. He served in many capacities and was beloved by his students.



He was elected St. Charles County Auditor, was a delegate at the 1976 Democratic Convention, treasurer of Crescendo Concert, president of SCENE, treasurer of St. Charles County Historical Society for 25 years, and an active member of the Trinity Episcopal Church.

LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENT TOUR

Irish Castles, Landscapes and Flavors, Summer 2019

Lindenwood University announces a 10-day President's Tour of Ireland, set for the summer of 2019. The sights and sounds of Ireland are a wonder to behold, from the lush, green landscapes and historical sights to authentic Irish food. This special tour affords Lindenwood alumni and friends the opportunity to experience it together.

The tour includes overnights in Dublin, Claremorris, Galway, Limerick, Killarney, and Waterford with unforgettable excursions along the way. The tour is presented by Lindenwood University with Cheyenne Travel Agency. Space is limited, and an early reservation discount of \$200 per person is available. Deposits are fully refundable if your plans should change for any reason.

For more information on this tour, please contact **Michelle Giessman** at alumni@lindenwood.edu.

INTRODUCING THE NEW ST. CHARLES CLUB OFFICERS



From left: **Tina Queen ('98)**, **Jodell Larkin ('94)**, **Mary Ellen Kantz ('77, '91)**, **Amy Johnson ('97, '99)**.

ALUMNI CAN HELP WITH RECRUITMENT

by **JUDY FORSTMANN BROWN '67**
President, Alumni Association

We hope we have seen the worst of winter—the days are growing longer and our students and faculty are preparing for the final push to the end of the school year and graduation.

The end of the fall 2016 semester culminated in graduation exercises in St. Charles on December 10 and in Belleville on December 11. At each graduation ceremony, members of the Alumni Board welcomed the new alumni to our ranks with our Association Board members presenting pins to the new graduates as they exit the stage. We encourage your further involvement at the university and hope to see you at regional and local alumni networking events.

One of the challenges facing institutions of higher education is the declining number of high school graduates across the nation. With a smaller pool of high school graduates, the number of students enrolling in colleges and universities also is on the decline. Lindenwood University is no exception. As alumni we represent the best examples of a Lindenwood education, and we need to partner with the Admissions Office in recruiting new students. I urge you to talk about your Lindenwood experiences at work and with friends and family. You never know who might be looking for the opportunities we offer. If you know of a student who is interested,

please contact Kristen Revis (636.949.4338) in the Admissions Office. She will take your referral and reach out to the prospective student.

The Alumni Office continues to sponsor alumni events throughout the metro St. Charles/Belleville area. Some gatherings are on campus while others are at local restaurants or businesses. Remember that you are automatically a member of the Lindenwood University Alumni Association when you graduate or if you have completed at least the equivalent of one year of study at Lindenwood University. There are no dues to belong to the Alumni Association.

We welcome all who wish to catch up on what's new and what's happening on campus or to connect with fellow alumni. Please check the alumni section on the university website for upcoming events. Our alumni director, Michelle Giessman, may be reached at mgiessmann@lindenwood.edu or by calling 636.949.4975 for additional details. We would appreciate it if you will update your contact information with Michelle and let us know about the milestones in your life so that we can include it in our records.

Work continues on the new Library and Academic Resources Center at the corner of Kingshighway and First Capitol. Completion is anticipated late summer or early fall of this year. We are hopeful

that the facility will be available for alumni events during our annual Homecoming festivities October 13-15, 2017 (see news item on page 19). I encourage you to make plans now to return to campus to see the advances being made. As alumni, we hold dear the heritage that has been our hallmark since 1827. It is heartening to see the progress of the institution as we move toward the 200th anniversary of our alma mater.

It's not too early to start planning to return to campus to celebrate Homecoming 2017! I look forward to seeing many of you at alumni events.

