

LINDENWOOD *Connection*

A Publication of Lindenwood University for the Alumni

Spring 2015

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Turning Points and Transitions

Lindenwood's Office of Institutional Advancement has made remarkable strides recently. Not only has the number of donors increased appreciably across the past few years, but so has the percent of our alumni who make annual gifts to the University. Thank you! We so appreciate your support of the various new scholarships and programs we have developed for our students.

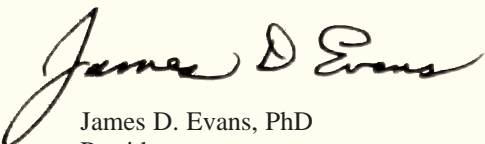
Several campus buildings have been named in the context of large donations from our friends and supporters. For some time, the Institutional Advancement office and I have also been pursuing significant gifts that reflect and support the great scope and quality of Lindenwood's *academic* programs and schools. The John W. Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise was the first such naming initiative, and the Institute already is attracting the attention of universities, corporations, and business leaders in the Midwest region, while providing unique higher-learning opportunities for our students. That development was a turning point for the University.

In this issue of the *Connection* you will learn about another turning point in the University's advancement programs. I am pleased to announce that, for the first time in its long history, Lindenwood has named one of its academic schools. Our business division is now the Robert W. Plaster School of Business & Entrepreneurship, which is headquartered in the beloved Harmon Hall. We are very grateful for the friendship and generosity of The Robert W. Plaster Foundation, and we look forward to working with the Foundation in future programming. We are extremely pleased about this initiative.

This *Connection* also introduces Lindenwood's next President, Dr. Michael Shonrock, who will start his presidency here on June 1 after having served as President of Emporia State University. I have known Dr. Shonrock for about three years through our joint service on the CEO Council of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Our Board of Directors made a splendid choice when it picked Michael from a considerable slate of well-qualified candidates. He is an experienced higher education professional with both teaching and administrative credentials. He loves students and, I believe, already understands and genuinely appreciates Lindenwood's special history and campus culture. He is smart and personable and will advance our University to even greater achievements. I could not be happier for Lindenwood, and I trust you will support his work here in all possible ways.

In the 21st century, Lindenwood has become one of the larger private universities in the United States, with professors, programs, and facilities that command attention and respect nationally and internationally. Through all eras and transitions, it remains your Lindenwood: *It is still about the students – past, present, and future.* I am very proud of our University and hope you are too.

With best personal wishes,



James D. Evans, PhD
President



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On The Cover

Dr. Michael Shonrock will take over as
President of Lindenwood University on June 1
following the retirement of Dr. James D. Evans.



Dr. Michael Shonrock, who will assume the presidency of Lindenwood University on June 1, with his wife, Karen, during a recent trip to the campus in St. Charles

Shonrock Selected 22nd Lindenwood President

New President Had Been Charmed by Campus

By SCOTT QUEEN

It was a typical Lindenwood University Homecoming on October 19, 2013. There was a slight breeze. The sun was out. The temperature was in the mid-50s. The campus was buzzing with activity, and alumni were enjoying a visit to their alma mater.

Michael Shonrock was in the crowd at Hunter Stadium that day, too. The president of Emporia State University was there to watch his football team play against Lindenwood. He was moved by the beauty and spirit of the campus. He even called his wife, Karen, to tell her about Lindenwood.

"I was in awe of the campus," Shonrock said. "I called Karen and told her 'You've got to see this place.' I was taken by the energy, the large band, the spirit squads, and the stadium."

Shonrock had no idea that in 18 months, he would return to St. Charles for another visit. Only this time, his wife was with him. It was April 9 when the Lindenwood Board of Directors selected him as president to replace the retiring Jim Evans.

Shonrock, 57, starts his new position on June 1.

He said he admired the fact that Lindenwood was a mission-driven institution that focused on character and values, which he said sometimes goes missing at colleges and universities.

"We felt a calling to go to Emporia, and now feel called to serve Lindenwood," Shonrock said. "We feel like it is a good fit because the focus is on learning and teaching."

Board Chairman Jim J. Shoemaker made the announcement to the campus community immediately following Shonrock's hiring. He said the board and its search committee, along with the executive search firm Witt/Kieffer, invested countless hours in a national search. Shoemaker said the board was impressed by Shonrock's diverse set of leadership abilities.

"Dr. Shonrock's credentials match up very well with Lindenwood's needs," Shoemaker said. "He is a friendly, engaging, students-first leader who will be able to handle everything from fundraising to finance. He is a data-informed futurist and is committed to connecting with our alumni and other University constituencies."

Lindenwood's new president has a track record of success at Emporia State—capital campaigns, campus master plans, and strategic planning. He is also well known for connecting with students day-in and day-out. Within hours of the news of his hiring, Shonrock was busy on social media interacting with Lindenwood students, alumni, and employees who had welcomed and congratulated him.

He is looking forward to launching his new @LindenwoodPres twitter account on

June 1, but he is even more enthusiastic about walking the 500-acre main campus, the Belleville campus, the Daniel Boone Home, and regional locations and meeting students, faculty, staff, alumni, community leaders, and board members. He said he and his wife are excited to make the Lindenwood campus their home.

"The board members with whom Karen and I met have a passion for and a dedication to the University," Shonrock said. "Lindenwood is an institution with solid academics, a rich history, and a bright future."

For three and a half years, Shonrock served as president and professor at Emporia State. Prior to that, he spent over 20 years at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, where he was senior vice president and an associate professor. He also held positions as vice president, dean, and assistant professor.

He has a PhD from the University of Kansas, an EdS from Pittsburg State University, and an MS and a BS from Western Illinois University.

Shonrock said he was looking forward to his first days on the job and was particularly interested in connecting with the campus, community, and alumni and is already planning to form a 2027 Committee to begin planning for Lindenwood's 200th anniversary.

The Robert W. Plaster Foundation

Naming School of Business

Robert W. Plaster passed away in 2008, but his legacy continues to expand across Missouri and now will touch the lives of thousands of Lindenwood University students.

Lindenwood received a significant seven-figure gift from the Robert W. Plaster Foundation to name the School of Business & Entrepreneurship and to serve as a lead gift in the construction of a \$21 million Library and Academic Resources Center, approved last May by the Board of Directors.

Dr. Dolly Clement, Plaster's daughter and the executive director of the Robert W. Plaster Foundation, said the partnership with Lindenwood was a good connection because of her father's "strong free enterprise focus."

"Dad set up the foundation to promote free enterprise and to help students realize their dreams," said Clement. "He wanted to have a broad impact, which is why he wanted to be involved with capital projects as opposed to individual scholarships."

Clement said the School of Business and its Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise were a natural fit.

"We are so proud to have Dad's name on Lindenwood's School of Business & Entrepreneurship and associated with the Hammond Institute," she said.

President James D. Evans expressed gratitude for the generous gift, as did Roger Ellis, Dean of the Robert W. Plaster School of Business & Entrepreneurship.

"We are delighted and honored to have our business school named after a great entrepreneur and business leader," said Ellis.

Clement said her father grew up in poverty and wanted a college education because he knew it would give him a better start toward improving his life.

"Once Dad had some success in business, he wanted to help students like him, who wanted an education but could not afford it," said Clement. "He knew that by helping universities with their capital needs, he could not only help provide wonderful facilities for students but also help those universities keep tuition lower for the students."

Lindenwood expects to begin construction on the 100,000-square-foot Library and Academic Resources Center (LARC) complex in the spring of 2015 and have it up and running for student

"We are so proud to have Dad's name on Lindenwood's School of Business & Entrepreneurship and associated with its Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise."

-Dolly Plaster Clement
Executive Director
Robert W. Plaster Foundation

use in the 2016-2017 academic year. The new building will contain the new university library, 15 classrooms, a Center for Teaching Excellence, as well as a host of student services, such as Career Development, First-Year Student Programs, and Lindenwood's International Students and Scholars program.

"We are thrilled about this cornerstone gift that will facilitate great service to our students," said Elizabeth McDonald, Dean of Library Services. "This gift will help Lindenwood provide more state-of-the-art learning space and easily accessible resources for student study and work."



Dr. Dolly Plaster Clement

A portrait of Robert W. Plaster, who passed away in 2008



Lindenwood Forms Partnership with City of Ferguson

Multi-part Initiative Announced in February

By CHRIS DUGGAN

On Feb. 18, Lindenwood University and the City of Ferguson, Mo., jointly announced a new partnership aimed at helping the city recover from months of unrest following the August death of 18-year-old Michael Brown, which occurred during an altercation with a city police officer. The incident and the November decision of a grand jury not to charge the officer touched off protests and riots and brought national news attention on the city.

In the immediate aftermath of the November riots, in which several businesses in the city were looted and burned, the University's Liberty and Ethics Center launched a social media campaign called #fergusonfavorites, designed to bring people back to Ferguson businesses and to temper the perception of the city that had been created by the news coverage of the unrest.

"We knew that the press had created an impression that was scaring away business, not just from Ferguson, but from St. Louis as well, and Lindenwood always strives to be a good neighbor," said Rachel Douchant, Director of the Liberty and Ethics Center, which is housed in the Robert W. Plaster School of Business & Entrepreneurship as part of the Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise.

Shortly after, eLittle Communications, which had been retained to represent the city, contacted Douchant to see if a more expansive partnership was possible. Through numerous conversations between



Officials from Lindenwood and the City of Ferguson, as well as North County public school administrators and representatives from Pinnacle Entertainment, posing with a check signifying Pinnacle's \$25,000 donation toward one of the Lindenwood-Ferguson initiatives.

city personnel, Johnny Little, of eLittle Communications, Douchant, and Howard Wall, Director of the Hammond Institute, along with numerous other Lindenwood personnel, arrived at seven additional initiatives to go with the #fergusonfavorites campaign.

These include

- An internship program for Lindenwood students to provide needed personnel at City Hall.
- A volunteer program in which Lindenwood students organize and volunteer for a number of community service events.
- The production of public service announcements by Lindenwood

communications students to highlight and promote the city's businesses.

- A series of documentaries by Lindenwood's film and television students, contributing to the historical record of the city's recovery.
- A program to encourage greater interest among North County residents and students in law enforcement careers and to increase the diversity of the region's law enforcement agencies.
- An entrepreneurship program for Ferguson residents. The nationally recognized program is designed to help participants build the skills to develop an entrepreneurial mindset. The Pinnacle Entertainment Foundation donated \$25,000 to provide 100 full scholarships to the program, which will be offered at the University's North County Regional Center.
- A new scholarship program for students living in North County school districts for up to 25 qualifying students—\$5,000 per student, per year, renewable up to five years, for a total Lindenwood financial commitment of \$625,000.

Ferguson Mayor John Knowles III speaks at a Feb. 18 press conference announcing the Ferguson-Lindenwood partnership. Also pictured are Lindenwood President James Evans and student David Alexander, both of whom also spoke.



Douchant said the University is also working with St. Louis Community College in Florissant Valley on a partnership to create workable college plans for community members.

"At Lindenwood, this philosophy of helping others is a part of our heritage," Lindenwood President James Evans said at the press conference. "It is embedded in our mission. Time and time again, throughout our history, we have asked, 'How can we help?' Today, we're proud to stand with the City of Ferguson, Mo."

LINDENWOOD 5

A photograph of Professor Emeritus Castro, an older man with a grey beard and hair, wearing a red shirt and a black vest. He is smiling and speaking into a microphone at a wooden podium. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Professor Emeritus Castro Named St. Louis' First Poet Laureate

By CHRIS DUGGAN

The Library of Congress has appointed a U.S. Poet Laureate on an annual basis since 1937 with figures like Robert Frost and Gwendolyn Brooks holding the post. The state of Missouri got into the act in 2008 with its own poet laureate program and is currently on its third, William Trowbridge. St. Louis, partly to celebrate its 250 birthday, named its first poet laureate at the end of December—Lindenwood University Professor Emeritus Michael Castro.

Castro was nominated by more than one person, and after the application process that followed, he was unanimously selected by a task force appointed to pick the honoree. He learned of the vote in November during a month-long trip to India. All that remained was for the St. Louis Board of Aldermen to ratify the task force's selection, which occurred on Friday, Dec. 15. Still in India, Castro borrowed a friend's phone so he could follow the aldermanic meeting broadcast live while at a wedding.

"Unfortunately, the phone's battery ran out before they voted," Castro said.

He found out a short time later that the board, too, voted unanimously to accept his appointment. His first task was to write a poem related to the 250th birthday of the city, which he presented at his inauguration ceremony on Jan. 31 at St. Louis' Regional Arts Commission.

"It was great," he said. "The crowd was overflowing, and the response was very positive."

Castro's appointment was covered by the majority of the St. Louis news media, and the poem, "RE: BIRTHDAY ST. LOUIS TWO FIFTY," was published in its entirety on the website for St. Louis Public Radio and in the *St. Louis American* newspaper. Portions of it were also published in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and *St. Louis Magazine*.

The poem ranged through the city's early history and pre-history, referencing the ancient Native-American civilizations that lived here, and it refers to the St. Louis of today.

*St. Louis, Mound City, River City,
city of baseball, blues, & beer,
an iconic American city established here.*

It pays homage to the Mississippi River, around which so much of the city's history and identity is built.

We live by the heartbeat.



Michael Castro's newest book of poetry, *How Things Stack Up*, takes its title from a poem he wrote about one of his experiences in India.

*The great river, North America's pulse,
throbs in us, in our bustling businesses,
our blood, our spirit, flows into our music
that animates the world.*

It addresses the city's and the region's scars, too: racial and income inequality, civil unrest, tension, and violence, and it offers a roadmap forward, an appeal to work together to heal the wounds.

*Time for St. Lou Is, truly, to become
St. Lou Us. All of us—one polity—
with mutual R-E-S-P-E-C-T,
a unity community,
less of me & more of we
to harness the energy of our DIVERCity;*

During Castro's two-year term as St. Louis poet laureate, his overarching job is to support the art of poetry in the region and the arts in general and also to contribute to the healing process in the wake of racially polarizing incidents in Ferguson and St. Louis. He is required to make six appearances a year. As of mid-March, he had already done more than six, and he's organized a Unity Community Reading Series, which brings together poets

from different poetry communities to share their work.

"There is a lot of poetry going on, but it's kind of fragmented," Castro said. "We're trying to bring together a disparate and diverse group."

As poet laureate, another of Castro's jobs is to "inspire current and future generations of literary artists in the St. Louis region and nationwide."

Anyone who knows Castro also knows he's been doing that for many decades. A native of New York City, Castro moved to St. Louis in 1967 to attend graduate school at Washington University. He taught from 1972 to 1979 at UM-St. Louis before coming to Lindenwood in 1980 to teach in the still somewhat new Lindenwood College for Individualized Education. At that time, there was no Communications Program, but he started one with one student. He later started the LCIE Cross Cultural Program in 1991 and the MFA in Writing Program in 2000. His poetry students often credit him with helping them develop a love for reading and writing poetry.

"When I teach, I look at myself as a coach," Castro said. "I try to work with each student to develop his or her individual style. I stress certain emphases: the power of image created by words; the idea, also, of being attentive to sound and rhythm; not using extraneous language; strengthening an awareness of the basic elements of poetry. I've had students who don't fit into easy categories. I try to work with them where they are—help them develop."

In addition to his work in the classroom, Castro has been a central figure in the St. Louis poetry scene since the 1970s, founding *River Styx Magazine* and the River Styx at Duff's Poetry Series. He also hosted the *Ars Poetica* radio show on KWMU from 1975 to 1978 and developed and hosted the *Poetry Beat* program on KDHX Radio from 1989 to 2003. He has published 10 volumes of poetry and has published poetry in more than 100 newspapers, magazines, and anthologies.

"Few communities are lucky enough to have someone like Michael to become their first poet laureate," said Aaron Williams, chairman of the task force that selected Castro, in a *Post-Dispatch* article. "He really is a game-winning grand slam of a nominee and human being to lead this post for the first time for our community."



Barbara Novero Levy ('75) poses with her dogs



Novero Levy's books, *Be Your Pet's Best Friend* (2013) and *A New Spring for April* (2014)

One of Author's Books has a Lindenwood Twist

By RACHEL JOHNSON

"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened," wrote French poet, journalist, and novelist Anatole France. Lindenwood University alumna Barbara Novero Levy ('75) wholeheartedly agrees with that sentiment, having loved and owned 15 pets in the past 46 years.

"I come by my love of animals honestly," said Levy, who lives in Columbia, Mo. "I inherited it from my mother and my paternal grandmother. Growing up, we had three dogs, a cat, a rabbit, two ducks, a chicken, and even a small piglet that we kept in our basement for two days before a farmer adopted it."

After a long and satisfying career in the healthcare industry, Levy, a member of the Sibley Heritage Society, retired in 2004. Her role has evolved into primary caregiver for her spouse, which requires that she be home more often. Writing has become an outlet for her creativity, which has led to her authorship and publication of two popular books dedicated to the subject of rewarding pet ownership.

"Even though I'd earned my degree in business and my career had taken me in a different direction, I'd always loved writing and I had written little articles here and there," said Levy. "Since I needed to be home a lot, my friends encouraged me to find more outside interests. I dug out all my

old files and story ideas and came up with the concept for my first book."

The end result was *Be Your Pet's Best Friend: Choose Wisely, Care Deeply, and Plan Carefully*. Published by AKA publishing and released in 2013, the book is filled with enlightening information about the cost of owning a pet, a first aid section, an important chapter on toxins, and more. With editorial help from veterinary professionals and animal bonding experts associated with the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia, the book has become widely regarded as a valuable educational manual for new and experienced pet owners alike.

"After I finished the first book, I felt so good having crossed that goal off my bucket list," Levy said. "I thought, 'now I've got to get my children's book done!' So, I pulled out all my story ideas again and got to work."

Levy drew inspiration from her first Blenheim Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, April, whom she acquired in St. Charles, Mo., near Lindenwood University. The proximity of the adoption location to the school inspired Levy to weave some of her fondness for the campus into her children's book, *A New Spring For April*, which was published by Compass Flower Press in 2014.

"The story is about a mother dog named April who lives in a kennel for years before being adopted to her forever home," said

Levy. "In the book, April comes from Lindenberry Kennels, the kennel maiden's first name is Linden, and April knows its spring because the Linden trees are in bloom. The moral of the story is to teach kids that older dogs are special, too, and need loving homes as much as puppies do."

Both of Levy's books are available through online retailers BarnesandNoble.com and Amazon.com. Copies are also available at the University of Missouri-Columbia bookstore, as well as Treats Unleashed and McAdams' Ltd. in Columbia, Mo. Three-hundred limited edition, hand-numbered, personally signed hardback copies of *A New Spring for April* are also available by contacting Levy directly at creativecavalier@gmail.com.

A portion of the proceeds from her book sales benefits a variety of animal rescue agencies. Levy is already looking forward to working on her next project, which will be about, what else, dogs.

"They always say you have to write about something you're passionate about," she said. "I don't expect to ever make a ton of money doing this, but it's my passion to share my thoughts and experiences as a lifelong pet lover."

Alumni's Web Business Taking Hold on College Campuses Across the Country

By SCOTT QUEEN

Alyssa Rispoli and Julian Barnes and their business partners may be freshly minted college graduates, but their company is on a trajectory that could place them among Lindenwood University's top entrepreneurs.

Rispoli and Barnes graduated in 2014 along with Gilad Brunfman and Nishan Shrestha. The story of their company, CollegeCrap.org, is receiving attention nationally. The website is essentially an online peer-to-peer marketplace for college students.

"We created something that students want," said Barnes. "And the market is responding."

The website is a clearinghouse – arranged by campus – of items and services. CollegeCrap.org is also a place where students can look for jobs or even find apartments and/or roommates. One publication described CollegeCrap.org as "what would happen if Facebook and Craigslist had a baby."

The first verified "for sale" post was a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. And Rispoli remembers her first sale—a calculator.

"I was so excited about it that I told the buyer to keep the \$20 and just make sure to spread the word about us," Rispoli said. The word is indeed spreading. Collegecrap.org was featured in *USA Today* and the *Huffington Post*, and was highlighted on two television broadcasts.

Of course, St. Louis is a hotspot for Collegecrap.org. Lindenwood leads the way, but UMSL, SLU, and Mizzou have taken a liking to the site. It is gaining momentum across the country as well, at Penn State, LSU, Illinois, and some colleges in California.

And as to the name, "CollegeCrap," Barnes politely states that, while it may be considered offensive by some, it is perfect to attract the site's target market.

The young Lindenwood entrepreneurs have slowly built up consumer interest for their site, and now they are beginning to monetize it. Revenue generation efforts began in earnest in February, with the focus being on coupons from local business and housing ads. They are being cautious about general display advertising.

"We don't want to overwhelm people and turn them off with huge ads," Barnes said. "Content needs to lead the way. We are taking our lead from Mark Zuckerberg and Facebook in the movie *The Social Network*... You've got to have some credibility."

Rispoli says CollegeCrap.org is all about developing a resource for college kids.

"We're creating something that has value to them," she said. "It starts with the poor college kids buying and selling those expensive textbooks, but it is far more."

Rispoli is no stranger to entrepreneurship. She published a book, *The Young Entrepreneur*, in 2013 while still in college and has been involved in other entrepreneurial endeavors. This one, she says, is very promising.

"I tried to hire her," said Rick Duree,



Creators of CollegeCrap.org on the Lindenwood campus

"We're creating something that has value to them. It starts with the poor college kids buying and selling those expensive textbooks. But it is far more."

– Alyssa Rispoli

alumnus and owner of Book-X-Change and namesake of the Duree Center for Entrepreneurship. "I wanted her on my team. She and her partners show a lot of energy and promise."

The four grads have every aspect of their business covered—from sales and marketing to IT and graphic design. And they give credit to Duree for connecting

them to Randy Schilling and the Old Post Office incubator project in St. Charles. Rispoli, Barnes, and their partners in CollegeCrap.org will have incubator space there late this spring.

"We really appreciate the efforts of Rick Duree and Randy Schilling," Rispoli said. "Randy probably owns half of Main Street. We've been to different accelerators, and this was the right fit for us. It's like a Google-type of office—a great environment with a bunch of entrepreneurs sharing ideas and helping each other out."

Duree said he was proud of the young Lindenwood alums.

"They're using their Lindenwood education to make their mark and stay outside of the norm," he said. "And they've been getting a lot of attention."

Weitzel to Become President at Cottey College

By SCOTT QUEEN

Provost Jann Weitzel is stepping down this month and has accepted a position as president of Cottey College in Nevada, Mo.

Weitzel, who came to Lindenwood as a professor of education in 1994, has come into contact with thousands of Lindenwood students over the years. She has served as a professor of education and Dean of Humanities, and is completing a nine-year stint as Provost. She credits her contact with Lindenwood's alumni as one of the key elements in preparing her for a college presidency.

"When I speak to alums here at Lindenwood, I hear their memories of their close friends, the history, and their respect for tradition here," she said. "It's not unlike the culture at Cottey College. In fact, it has helped me relate to Cottey."

Weitzel said she has learned over the years that she actually missed out on those type of experiences since she comes from a large college – the University of Iowa.

"The closeness and memories are wonderful gifts we all have from Lindenwood," she said. "And it is something I look forward to at Cottey."

Since working to place Lindenwood's student teacher candidates back in the mid 1990s, Weitzel has come a long way at Lindenwood. She spent her early Lindenwood years in Roemer Hall in a tiny office with professors John Dougherty and Victoria Jones. She eventually moved over to Butler Hall when she assumed the role as

Dean of Humanities.

Weitzel said some of her favorite Lindenwood memories involve students. Among her favorites is the joy she received teaching Composition I.

"Those were the new students to Lindenwood, and they would tell me all their stories," Weitzel said. "They were so open."

Weitzel was instrumental in developing Lindenwood's Academic Honesty programs. In addition, she was on the ground floor of Lindenwood's online programs and was very influential in the development of the new nursing program and the day college in Belleville.

"I think one of Lindenwood's strengths is the lack of bureaucracy when it comes to reacting to the market and getting something started," she said. "When we see a need, we can act quickly."

Weitzel credits her role model, President James D. Evans, for "training me to become a college president. He has been very open to helping me know not only what is being done but why it is being done."

Evans is proud of Weitzel's accomplishments at Lindenwood.

"Dr. Weitzel has had many exceptional accomplishments that will be remembered as history shapers at Lindenwood..." Evans said. "(She) has spearheaded every major Higher Learning Commission matter at this University for more than eight years, and she led the charge in our recent, very successful 10-year reaffirmation of regional



Dr. Jann Weitzel

accreditation."

Evans said that Weitzel is "superbly qualified" to be a college president. Cottey is much smaller than Lindenwood, Weitzel said, but that gives her a chance to be even more hands-on. She said she is well-prepared for what is ahead because of her experiences at Lindenwood.

"I'm not leaving Lindenwood because of anything I dislike," Weitzel said. "I've been supported for 20 years. This is simply an opportunity to use what I have learned in a new setting. It's a new adventure."

Taiwanese Art Reception

Faculty, staff, and friends came together on March 23 in celebration of a generous gift of art donated by Dr. Cheng and Beverly Tsai. The Tsais donated nine beautiful Taiwanese water color paintings that have been installed at the Nursing and Allied Health Center in Dardenne Prairie. The paintings were created by Lindenwood alumnus Chen-nan Chu, a 2001 graduate of Lindenwood. Chu lives in Taiwan, where he is known nationally for his work.

Beverly Tsai (left) and Dr. Cheng Tsai pose with Dr. Peggy Ellis with two of the donated pieces from artist Chen-nan Chu.





Dr. Chad Welsh (left), of Lindenwood's Biology Department, with students Palolo Molina and Nikki Goeddeke and some of the new equipment

Sigma-Aldrich Donates Equipment and Supplies for Biological Studies

Lindenwood University received a momentous gift-in-kind donation from Sigma-Aldrich Corporation in the amount of \$576,054. The gift is made up of equipment and consumable supplies and will be used by the School of Sciences primarily for the departments of Biological Sciences and Chemistry. Sigma-Aldrich, a leading life science and high technology company, has partnered with institutions around the world to donate excess inventory totaling more than \$8 million.

"In appreciation of the generous gift Lindenwood University will rename the biology research lab in Young Hall after Sigma-Aldrich," said Jessica Gatewood, Director of Corporate Relations for Lindenwood University. "We are thrilled

about the meaningful and long-term impact Sigma-Aldrich's donation will have in enhancing both students and educators in the labs."

Dr. Chad Welsh, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, said the donation will benefit the School of Sciences in a number of ways.

"Sigma-Aldrich's generous donation will allow for greater diversity of labs and enrich students in many areas of study, from cell signaling to nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy," said Welsh. "These resources will help boost the rate of learning at Lindenwood University, and as we create programs to partner with local consortiums and high schools, the community will also benefit from the

inventory."

Jeffrey Whitford, global citizenship manager at Sigma-Aldrich, said the donation is in keeping with the company's mission to enable science to improve the quality of life.

"Donating excess inventory to organizations growing their science departments supports that mission," Whitford said. "It also helps the community and, in this case, the students of Lindenwood University. We were impressed with the passion Dr. Welsh expressed and we appreciate that the School of Sciences' success will benefit the greater community we serve."

LU Reaches out to Florida Alumni

By ELIZABETH WIKOFF

In January, the Lindenwood Alumni Relations Office took to the road to visit alumni in sunny Florida. There are approximately 600 Lindenwood alumni living in Florida, with the greatest concentration in the greater Sarasota/Fort Myers/Tampa area.

"After researching the number alumni in the state of Florida, our initial out-of-town visit turned into many individual visits and events," said Jane Baum, Athletic Development Director. "We ended up hosting six alumni networking events in central and southern Florida and visiting alumni on an individual basis if they were unable to attend an event. The primary purpose of this trip was to re-connect with our alumni living in Florida."

The week started off in Ocala, where a luncheon was held at the Hilton Ocala. That evening, a networking event was held at the Castle Hotel in Orlando. On Wednesday, the Alumni Relations staff traveled to Miami and hosted an event at the Grand Beach Hotel Surfside. At this event, alumni from as early as 1947 and as recent as 2010 showed up to network, reminisce, and make new friends.

"I enjoyed meeting you and the other alums at the Lindenwood reception," wrote Sondra (Swindel) Galperin ('61) of the Miami event. "It was a lovely event on a beautiful evening, and it was such a surprise to receive all the gifts!"

Thursday and Friday were spent in the Sarasota area with an evening networking event at Classico Café & Bar and lunch the next day at the Polo Grill. All who attended the events were proud Lindenwood alumni who still follow Lindenwood happenings online. Many alumni had a strong interest in learning more about the campus and were all interested in the changes that have taken place since their graduation. A slideshow of photos, old and new, was shown at some events, and interest in the new library was very high among attendees.

For the Saturday event at the Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda, Billiards Coach Mark Wilson flew down to highlight the Lindenwood billiards team. The event was primarily attended by non-alumni yacht members who were interested in supporting the billiards team. Wilson talked about Lindenwood history, academics, campus life, and the billiards team. Following the presentation, Wilson performed trick shots on the club's pool table. The club hopes to start an endowed scholarship for a deserving Lindenwood student.

One alumna has been back to campus since the Florida trip, and many of the Florida alumni said they hope to return for Homecoming this year. Others said they will continue to network with the alumni they met at the events, and the Alumni Relations Office will continue to bridge the gap between the Lindenwood campus and the Florida alumni. In the not-too-distant future, the Alumni Office will make a more segmented trip to these areas to continue the momentum that was started down in Florida.

"A sincere 'thank you' for a wonderful luncheon, discussion, slide show, parting gifts, conversation, and overall positive thoughts today," wrote Debra (Spicknall) Wright ('78). "I certainly appreciated the invite and was looking forward to today. You did not disappoint me; that's for sure! I am proud to be a Lindenwood alumna... Your hard work and efforts are paying dividends."



Miami alumni attendees networked at the Sky Bar atop the Grand Beach Hotel Surfside in downtown Miami. (L to R) Sondra (Swindel) Galperin ('61), Barbara Wexner Levy ('47), Carla (Campbell) Coleman ('73), and Douce Mudahemuka ('10) reminisce about their time at Lindenwood. Even though all are from different decades, they remember their time at Lindenwood fondly.



Sarasota Lunch – (L to R) Jane (Wilson) Friday ('59), Frances (Huber) ('66) and Stanley Cooper, Donna Baber, and Debra (Spicknall) Wright ('78) enjoyed an intimate lunch at the Polo Grill in Sarasota.



Sarasota – Pamela (Stephenson) Johnson ('71) and Donna Baber, Director of Planned Giving, talk about Lindenwood during the Sarasota event at Classico Café & Bar.

One Alumna's Path – In Extraordinary Shoes

By ELIZABETH WIKOFF

Barbara Wexner Levy was born into a fashion shoe family in Memphis, Tenn. Her family owned high-end shoe stores in Memphis and Houston, Texas, and she developed an affinity for shoes and everything fashion growing up and turned her passion into her profession.



Barbara Wexner Levy during her Lindenwood years

Wexner Levy attended Lindenwood College from 1943 to 1945, and as many women did during that time, she transferred to a university for her final two years of college. While attending Lindenwood, Wexner Levy was involved in choir, the League of Women Voters, the Press Club, Beta Pi Theta, the Athletic Association, Beta Chi, the *Linden Bark* yearbook staff, and Tau Sigma. Her underlying passion was journalism, and she made the most of her love of words during her career.

"I absolutely loved attending Lindenwood," said Wexner Levy. "I have the fondest memories of campus and all of the girls I attended with."

Wexner Levy spent her career writing for the fashion industry. She was a stringer and later a fashion editor for the *Boot and Shoe Recorder*, the *Shoe and Leather Journal*, *Shoe News and Envoy*, *Shoes and Views*, and *Modern Retailer*. She was also the fashion editor for *Window Shopping the World*. Her specialty was articles on shoes, and she has the shoe that goes with every



Elizabeth Wikoff (left) with Barbara Wexner Levy during a recent alumni event in Florida

article she has ever written.

She started her own fashion report in 1974, *Barbara's Report*, and had an international base of subscribers who paid \$200 a year for her findings, opinions,

*I absolutely loved
attending Lindenwood.
I have the fondest memories
of campus and all of the girls
I attended with.*

-Barbara Wexner Levy

and reports on the newest and next fashion trends in shoes, handbags, hosiery, accessories, and fashion items. She scouted shoe stores from New York to Milan to find footwear for manufacturers and retailers such as Saks Fifth Avenue. She also published urban guides for Miami, New York, and European cities she visited twice a year. The guides offered hints and tips on

navigating travel spots in the cities, the best places to shop, and the best places to eat. Wexner Levy had the fashion world by the tail and was dedicated to letting everyone know through her writing.

Throughout Wexner Levy's lifetime of accomplishments, she has maintained a passion for life. She currently lives in Florida and attended a recent Lindenwood alumni event in Miami, where her enthusiasm and bubbly personality were on display. She also maintains an active lifestyle, riding her bike every day and regularly going out for shopping and dining. A Lindenwood pennant adorns her door, and she has several scrapbooks from the mid-1940s with her Lindenwood memorabilia and photos. She remains passionate in all areas of her life.

"I've had the opportunity to visit many exciting places due to my work, and I've been able to bring the exciting world of fashion to thousands of people over the years," said Wexner Levy. "Lindenwood helped me round out my passion for writing through journalism studies and pair it with an industry I am passionate about."

Hannegan Scholarship Builds on Family Legacy

By RACHEL JOHNSON

Tom Hannegan ('92, '98), publisher and founder of *Streetscape Magazine*, has created an endowed scholarship to support students in Lindenwood University's School of Fine and Performing Arts. The \$25,000 gift is made possible through a portion of the proceeds from *Streetscape Magazine*'s Beyond the Best Top 50 in Business Awards annual gala. The funds will provide need-based financial assistance for up to four Lindenwood students each year.

Hannegan and his family have enjoyed a long and gratifying relationship with the University for many years. Tom's mother, Mary Louise Hannegan, earned her master's degree in education from the school in 1979. Tom's father, John C. Hannegan, served on the Lindenwood Board of Directors from 1977 to 1988 and was named the 1987 Sibley Medallion of Honor recipient for his service and commitment to Lindenwood. In 2014, Tom Hannegan became a member of the University's Butler Society.

"I have always been supportive of Lindenwood, and I feel very connected to it," Hannegan said. "I made lifelong friends there, and I feel it's important to give back. I think alumni should always try to be a part of their alma mater."

After earning an undergraduate degree in business administration from Lindenwood in 1992 and a master's degree in human resource management from the school in 1998, Hannegan worked in the corporate sector for a time before deciding to start his own business. He launched *Streetscape Magazine* in 2006.

Streetscape, which comes out six times a year, is the only magazine of its kind covering St. Charles County.



Tom Hannegan ('92, '98) is publisher and founder of *Streetscape Magazine*, based in St. Charles, Mo.

The community-based lifestyle magazine is published bi-monthly and has a distribution of 30,000 throughout St. Charles County and the surrounding St. Louis Metropolitan Area. It's available for free in local newsstands and online at www.streetscapmag.com.

"People have personal stories to tell and they want to leave their legacies," Hannegan said. "Streetscape gives people permission to talk about themselves and to celebrate their accomplishments. Through their stories, readers connect with all the great people and positive things happening in our community."

Hannegan also helps connect the community with good news about Lindenwood through the magazine. *Streetscape* highlights each high-profile entertainer who performs at the University's J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts and regularly includes feature articles about the school's achievements and initiatives. He also involves individual students and faculty members from Lindenwood's Fashion Design Department in some of the magazine's operations and events.

"We show Lindenwood student collections in the *Streetscape Magazine* Fashion Week events we host, and students help us with projects for the Fashion Scene portion of the magazine," Hannegan said. "We've had several Lindenwood interns

who've become employees here before advancing in their careers. As an alumnus, it's fun to mentor them, watch them grow, and see them move forward."

Hannegan has his own plans for growth moving forward. He will continue to own and operate *Streetscape*, but he's also running as a Republican candidate for Missouri State Representative, District 65, for 2016. He hopes to take his passion for highlighting the good things about St. Charles County with him to the Missouri House of Representatives.

"Just like the people we feature in the magazine, I also want to leave something positive behind as my legacy," he said. "I think we all want that, and I love to see people succeed and grow. I hope the *Streetscape* scholarship helps as many Lindenwood students as possible begin to create their own legacies."

Applications for the Streetscape Endowed Scholarship will be available through the Lindenwood University Office of Admissions at the beginning of the fall 2015 semester. Recipients will be chosen and scholarships will be awarded prior to the start of 2016 spring semester.





President James D. Evans, PhD



Keynote speaker Bill McClellan



Graduate Chad Poole



Brett Barger, Associate Vice President for Operations and Finance, waits with the Edd candidates.

More than 740 graduates participated in the December Commencement exercises, which were held at the St. Charles County Family Arena.





Dr. James Hutson (second from right) with some of the Kappa Pi fraternity members: (from left) Natalie Johnson, Hollyanne Leach, Graciano Cruz, Arianna Azzopardi, Katie Nadler, and Elena Bankovskaya

Kappa Pi Art Fraternity Rises Again

By RUSSELL KORANDO

Kappa Pi operated as a national honorary art fraternity at Lindenwood College from 1928 to 1951. Recently, Kappa Pi was reactivated on campus and 10 Lindenwood University students were selected to be part of that revival.

Dozens of students seeking Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees at Lindenwood each submitted an extensive portfolio in his or her art discipline, as well as a research paper, to be considered for the art fraternity. Lindenwood faculty then voted on those who also met the academic criteria: a 3.5 grade point average in the major classes.

The 10 new Kappa Pi members selected by the faculty panel are Chapter President Graciano Cruz, Arianna Azzopardi, Elena Bankovskaya, Natalie Johnson, Hollyanne Leach, Katie Nadler, Saki Ogushi, Tori Leigh Oxford, Jourdan Stacer, and Chantal Rae Stilwell.

Cruz, a senior who graduates in May, said the fraternity will help promote art on campus, and he hopes it entices students to participate. Cruz's submission to the faculty

panel was performance art.

"I don't have a preferred medium, but I like to work with ink," Cruz said. "My performance art is a mixture of theatre, sculpture, and poetry."

Dr. James Hutson, Associate Professor of Art and Design and program manager for art history, pre-art conservation, and pre-art therapy, said performance art has not been seen on Lindenwood's campus since the 1960s.

The original Lindenwood Kappa Pi fraternity chapter, Hutson said, was discovered in January.

"A member who is active on two different Greek societies asked if anyone had ever heard of Kappa Pi," Hutson said. "No one had, so we had our faculty research it."

According to the Oct. 9, 1928, issue of *Linden Bark*, the student newspaper, the Lindenwood chapter of Kappa Pi elected its first officers. In subsequent years, Lindenwood students were honored, sometimes nationally, for their artwork. In spring of 1936, the *Sketch Book* of Kappa Pi stated "the highlight" of the year was the annual dinner at the Jefferson Hotel in

St. Louis. That year, Lindenwood Kappa Pi member Rene Kiskadden won first place for Introduction to Art at an unnamed competition.

Reactivating the chapter and selecting new members was fast-tracked when the national Kappa Pi chapter notified Hutson that Lindenwood wouldn't have to start a brand new chapter but would be able to reactivate the old one.

"What will make the art clubs successful depends on this modern technology, because we need it to design websites, posters for our events, and i-Pad apps, and the way we keep in touch with the students is obviously through social media," Hutson said.

Hutson said Lindenwood's Art Department prides itself on celebrating and teaching the traditional studio disciplines of painting, sculpture, and architecture. Those long-held disciplines have been joined by conceptual art and performance art, a sign of the times, even as Lindenwood rejoins an art fraternity that had been defunct on the campus for nearly 65 years.



ACT INC, Lindenwood's new resident summer repertory company, in an earlier production of *Lend Me a Tenor*

Performances at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts

Play it Again, Sam

June 12, 13, and 27 at 8 p.m.

June 14 and 28 at 2 p.m.

Love From a Stranger

June 19, 20, and 26 at 8 p.m.

June 21 and 27 at 2 p.m.

Private performances and group rates are available. For more information, visit the company's website, actincstl.com or email actsummer-rep@sbcglobal.net.

ACT INC Named Lindenwood's Resident Summer Repertory Company

Lindenwood University has named the 36-year-old ACT INC its resident summer repertory company. In June, the company will perform two plays in the Emerson Black Box Theater, located in the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts.

The company, which was formed in 1979 by a group of actors who wanted the opportunity to perform in the summer, produces lesser-known works of well-known playwrights or plays that are not frequently produced. Throughout its lifetime, the company has performed at a number of locations in the St. Louis metro area before coming to the current agreement with Lindenwood. It will be the first professional non-equity company to perform in St. Charles.

"We are thrilled to have ACT INC

at Lindenwood as our resident summer rep company," said Emily Jones, Director of the Theatre Department at Lindenwood. "Our students will have the added benefit of working with experienced area professionals, and the St. Charles community will enjoy delightful summer performances throughout the month of June."

The group has performed the works of George Bernard Shaw, J.M. Barrie, Oscar Wilde, and Somerset Maugham, among others. The ACT INC 2015 season will include the comedy *Play it Again, Sam*, by Woody Allen, and the suspenseful *Love from a Stranger*, by Agatha Christie. Both will be performed in the Emerson Black Box Theater at Lindenwood's J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts on the St. Charles, Mo.,

campus.

Eleanor Mullin, secretary/treasurer for ACT INC, said she and the company are excited about the collaboration with Lindenwood.

"The Board of ACT INC thinks we are the luckiest theatrical company in the area to have found a new home at Lindenwood and to have been named the University's resident summer repertory theater," Mullin said. "The Scheidegger Center is an incredible facility. Lindenwood's drama department is very dynamic, and the students who work with us have exceeded expectations. We look forward to entertaining a growing number of Lindenwood students, alums, and St. Charles residents for many years to come."

2015-16 Scheidegger Season to be Announced in Mid-June

The 2014-15 professional season at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts was a memorable collection of luminaries and legends, including Jay Leno, Willie Nelson, Bernadette Peters, the Beach Boys, and Amy Grant, not to mention the Grammy Award-winning St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

Stay tuned to luboxoffice.com or follow the center on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/LindenwoodCenter>) for the announcement of the 2015-16 season lineup in mid-June. Tickets will go on sale in mid-July at luboxoffice.com or 636-949-4433.



New Beginnings – Lindenwood University Homecoming and Reunion

Save the Date for Lindenwood St. Charles Homecoming and Reunion!

October 16-18, 2015

New faces. New places. New changes.
New beginnings.

Homecoming and Reunion 2015 is just around the corner. Make your plans now to attend! Reconnect with your classmates and beloved professors, see what's new on campus, and feel the Lion pride. This year, the class of 1965 will be celebrating its 50-year class reunion. We look forward to welcoming back our special alumnae at this year's reunion.

"The campus has gone through many changes in the last 50 years, just as we have, but the old Lindenwood College we knew still remains," said Jeannie Mattern McDowell ('64) during last year's reunion. "We used to joke about being wheeled back to campus for our 50th reunion. Well, here we are, still standing and exhibiting Mrs. Sibley's spirit and drive. I think she would be very proud of her Lindenwood ladies."

A number of classes have set up special events in the past as well. The class of 1963 walked in the Homecoming parade, complete with banner and matching sweatshirts! Other classes have organized dinners at local hotels and restaurants to have extra time to reconnect and reminisce. If you would like to help organize a class get-together or department reunion, contact the Alumni Relations Office at (636) 949-4975 or alumni@lindenwood.edu.

Here are just a few of the exciting events you can look forward to:

Friday, October 16, 2015

Alumni and Guest Registration and Reception

Get Your Alumni Photo ID

Historic Campus Bus Tours

Special Tour for the Class of 1965

Dorm Tours

Archeological Dig

History of Lindenwood Lecture

Blood Drive

Alumni Fashion Showcase

Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner

Class of 1965 50-Year Reunion Dinner

Ayres Dorm Ribbon Cutting

Saturday, October 17, 2015

Race to be King 5K Run and Walk*

Breakfast with the President

Alumni Association Meeting

Faculty Emerita Reunion

Parade

Kids Den

Linden Scroll Reunion Gathering

Barbecue Luncheon and Tailgate

Football Game - Lions vs. Northwest

Missouri State

Music at the Barbecue

LINDENWOOD



Sunday, October 18, 2015

Baseball Alumni Reunion Game and Recognition

Softball Alumni Reunion Game and Recognition

T-shirt, lunch, and football ticket packages will be available again this year for only \$15.

There will be something for all ages. Visit www.lindenwood.edu/homecoming for the latest events, travel information, and contact numbers.

Do you or your company want to have a float in the Homecoming parade? Get together your classmates for an alumni float or show off your business or organization to parade goers. Or, if you have a convertible you would be willing to drive, Contact Nikki Cornwell at ncornwell@lindenwood.edu or (636) 949-4717 to get involved.

Want to volunteer? We need alumni parade judges and parade drivers. Contact Elizabeth Wikoff at (636) 949-4975 or ewikoff@lindenwood.edu.

**Donate Your Shoes. Bring new or old shoes with you and drop them off for a good cause. Look for the Shoeman Water Project donation drop boxes in Hunter Stadium, Hyland Arena, and at the 5K registration table at Roemer Hall. The Shoeman Water Project collects donated new and used shoes and exports them to places like Kenya, Haiti, and South America, providing affordable shoes and jobs for those communities. The funds are used for well drilling rigs, water purification systems, and training programs to bring clean, fresh water to those who thirst.*

The Saturday parade is a popular element of the Homecoming on campus and in the neighboring community.

Welcome Home Lynx!

Save the Date for Lindenwood Belleville Homecoming and Reunion!

October 24, 2015

Homecoming and Reunion is quickly approaching, so make your plans now to attend. Come back and experience the fun and excitement of campus life.

Saturday, October 25, 2015

Visit the Alumni Tent for Games and Giveaways

Alumni Football Recognition

Football Tailgate and Game

Alumni Section in the Bleachers

Barbecue Lunch at the Stadium

Evening Alumni Networking Event

T-shirt, lunch, and football ticket packages will be available again this year for only \$15.

There will be something for everyone. Alumni will be invited to various student activities during the week as well. Connect with Belleville Alumni on Facebook for updates at **Lindenwood University-Belleville Alumni**.

Belleville President Announces Resignation

The first campus president in Lindenwood Belleville history is stepping down December 31 after serving just over six years in the position.

Dr. Jerry Bladdick announced his resignation in January. He was hired in 2009 to shepherd the Belleville campus prior to the launch of the very successful day college in Belleville.

Bladdick, 53, was no stranger to Lindenwood when President James D. Evans hired him in 2009. He received his master's from Lindenwood in 1993 and worked at the St. Charles campus in various admissions-related roles for 14 years. He left Lindenwood in 1995, just as the St. Charles campus was building on a decade-long period of double-digit growth.

"I missed the grand renaissance in St. Charles," said Bladdick. "So when Dr. Evans shared his vision for Belleville and wanted me to be a part of it, I told him I wasn't about to miss another renaissance. It was very easy to see the potential in Belleville."

Not only did Bladdick not miss the ascension of Belleville, he was one of the architects of its growth.

"People thought we were crazy for starting a day college," Bladdick said. "Consider what was going on in the economy at the time."

But Bladdick drew on his Lindenwood alumni pride, his experiences in St. Charles, and his teambuilding attitude and matched that up with an obvious need for higher education in Belleville and southwestern Illinois. The path to success was clearly marked.

"We've grown to over 1,200 day students," Bladdick said. "We earned campus status from the Higher Learning Commission. We grew from five undergraduate and seven graduate degrees to 42. There were 13 employees, and now we have over 100. And we successfully moved our athletics program into the NAIA."

Integral to Belleville's success, Bladdick said, was the fact that the campus was tethered to St. Charles, receiving the advice and resources of several key individuals who helped duplicate the model.

Bladdick and his team have added nuances like a campus mascot, campus colors, and a yearbook and student newspaper to document the campus history and make the Lindenwood Belleville campus unique. But he is quick to point out that "we have one Board of Directors and one mission. We're forever linked."

So, why step down in what appears to be



Dr. James Evans and wife Lois with Dr. Jerry Bladdick

a rising wave of success?

"I just knew in my heart it was time for a change," Bladdick said. "I am not retiring, I'm slowing down. This is a high-octane job, and I am ready for something different. Something slower. I think I am leaving things in pretty good shape."

Bladdick beams with pride at the work that has surrounded the ascension of the Belleville campus. He doesn't take personal credit; he credits a team of committed, dedicated employees, his mentor (Evans), and the Lindenwood Board of Directors.

"Mary and George Sibley would be proud of the pioneers who started the Belleville day college and the growth of this campus," Bladdick said. "The Belleville faculty and staff are the individuals who saw the potential to transfer the Lindenwood University values and educational opportunities to a community that has shown such appreciation of those efforts and affection for our students."

Another thing Bladdick is proud of is the Belleville community and the way Lindenwood was welcomed and embraced.

"If there was ever a match made in heaven, it is the City of Belleville and Lindenwood University," Bladdick said. "The community support has been extraordinary. The community leaders have been incredible."

And Bladdick says Lindenwood has delivered on its promises to Belleville.

"We helped change the landscape of the west end of Belleville literally and figuratively," he said. "They placed a lot of faith in Lindenwood, and we were able to show the community our stewardship, buying nuisance properties and converting some blighted areas to a safe, vibrant part of the community."

In letters to Evans and the Lindenwood Belleville community, Bladdick said he hoped he would be remembered for his collaborative efforts and that he accomplished nothing by himself.

"I owe so very much to the Lindenwood community that created many special opportunities for me," he said. "The faculty, staff, and students, as well as the wonderful residents of Belleville, are individuals in my life I will come to miss very much."

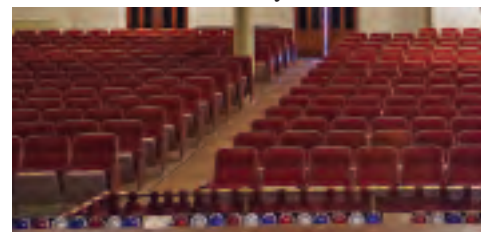
Name Your Seat in the Historic Lindenwood Belleville Auditorium

This year, the Belleville campus has launched a new fundraising campaign for student scholarships that gives donors the chance to sponsor seats in the historic Lindenwood Auditorium.

Plaques mounted prominently on any of the 940 seats may be purchased by individuals wishing to leave their legacy or honor the memory of a loved one in the Belleville theater. Each seat that is named remains so in perpetuity.

"This campaign is an excellent way for friends of the University who have an interest in the arts to make a difference at the Belleville campus and to leave their names for future generations to see," said Mary Reuter, Assistant Vice President and Executive Director of Community Relations. "This building also holds special memories for generations of Belleville Township and Belleville West High School graduates, and we hope that many of them return to campus to attend theatre productions and name a seat."

Individuals can choose to name a seat in the front row center, orchestra center, orchestra side, or balcony.



Designed and constructed in 1924 by renowned St. Louis architect William B. Ittner, Lindenwood Auditorium is made up of a performance theater, ticket booth, lobby, and classrooms. In 2005, the building received a \$2 million renovation to restore it to its original pristine condition. The facility is a prime example of early 20th century architecture and has been the location of musical and theatrical performances for over 90 years.

In 2005, donors Fred and Barbara Kern officially named the facility Lindenwood Auditorium, and in 2008, it received the Landmark Award from the St. Clair County Historical Society. The building has hosted performances by outside groups, such as Scott Air Force Base Bands, The Brass Rail Players, Belleville Festival of Stories, and the Kennedy Center for Young Audiences, as well as plays and musicals by Lindenwood students.

For pricing details and more information on how you can name a seat, visit belleville.lindenwood.edu or contact Mary Reuter at mreuter@lindenwood.edu.



Dr. Jerry Bladdick (left), President of Lindenwood University-Belleville, with Chris Dussold, Belleville Faculty Council Chair, presents Marsha Parker with the Faculty of the Year awards from the students and her peers.

Marsha Parker Honored as Top Faculty Member Veteran of St. Charles Campus Makes Impression in Belleville

By STEPHANIE DULANEY

Marsha Parker, Professor and Director of Theatre at Lindenwood University-Belleville, was recognized as the campus' inaugural Faculty Member of the Year at the LU-Belleville Sibley Day Employee Appreciation Dinner on Feb. 18.

With two awards at stake, one selected by the student body and one selected by the Faculty Council, Parker was selected by both groups.

"Lindenwood has been a part of my life for as long as I am old," said Parker. "My mother, grandmother, and other family members have worked for the University over the years. The Faculty of the Year awards made a profound impact on me—as profound an impact as Lindenwood has made on my life. I am honored and so glad to be a part of the LU-Belleville community and am sure Mary Easton Sibley would have been thrilled to see how her dreams have been realized on the Illinois campus."

LU-Belleville President Jerry Bladdick praised Parker as deserving of the honor.

"Marsha is truly deserving of these awards, and the fact that both the faculty and student population chose her to be Faculty of the Year speaks volumes about her reputation and the way she has touched everyone on this campus," said Bladdick.

The LU-Belleville Faculty Council has

suggested to the administration that the award be formally named the Marsha Hollander Parker Faculty of the Year Award in years hence and has taken steps to start raising funds to do so. Thanks to an anonymous donor, an endowment fund for the naming rights has been set up. Bladdick noted that the administration will approach the Board of Directors to approve the naming opportunity in the near future.

"Marsha is one of the longest serving faculty at Lindenwood, and she has the respect and admiration of the faculty body," said Chris Dussold, Belleville Faculty Council Chair. "Her selection as Faculty of the Year is indicative of her drive to educate students while also working to enhance and improve the faculty experience at Lindenwood Belleville."

A Lindenwood alumna as well as faculty member, Parker was a student in Lindenwood's last all-female freshman class and later attended LCIE classes as a graduate student. She began working at Lindenwood University in St. Charles in 1986 and served as Director of Evening and Graduate Admissions, Director of Alumni Relations, Dean of Fine and Performing Arts, and Dean of Communications. She joined the Belleville campus in 2011 as Professor and Director of Theatre. Parker has also served as the Chair of Lindenwood Belleville's Faculty Council and is a member of the Educational

Policies Committee. She currently teaches, directs theatrical productions on campus, and provides props and costumes for all productions.

In addition to her teaching duties, Parker has always been an enthusiastic supporter of her students. She has served as faculty advisor for Linden Scroll, Lion Line, Lionettes, Cheerleaders, Lindenwood Student Government, Alpha Sigma Phi, and Lindenwood Ambassadors. Her handiwork is also behind major pieces of Lindenwood history. One of her most significant projects was her authorship of the lyrics for Lindenwood University's alma mater, and she also served as the mace bearer for the Belleville campus' first commencement ceremony in 2013.

Parker has been honored as an Outstanding Educator by Emerson Electric and was named the Belleville campus' Employee of the Month for September 2014.

Parker notes that coming to Lindenwood Belleville four years ago was one of the best things that has happened to her professionally.

"I am fortunate to work with great faculty, staff, and students," she said. "I hope I live up to the expectations such awards represent. And the possibility of having an award named for me is something I honestly never ever expected. As my students say, 'OMG'."

Lindenwood Belleville Alumnus Starts Soccer Company in Bolivia

By STEPHANIE DULANEY

When LU-Belleville alumnus Daniele Stabile ('11) walked into his senior marketing class four years ago, little did he know the impact it would have on his life for years to come.

"My professor gave us the assignment to create a company," said Stabile. "As an international student, I thought about what we need in my home country of Bolivia. One year later, I actually started the company that I had given my presentation on for class."

As a scholar-athlete and player on Lindenwood Belleville's first soccer team, Stabile blended his love of the sport with his academic pursuits in business administration. Created in 2012, his corporation, Sports Events Agency (SEA), organizes, hosts, and promotes soccer tournaments in Bolivia, and Stabile notes it is the only one of its kind in Santa Cruz.

"Our goal is to be the number-one sport management company in Bolivia," said Stabile. "Currently, Bolivia is in last place in international soccer rankings, and we are trying to change the image of the sport here."

The company also hosts a program called Student Athletics, which helps high school-age soccer players earn scholarships to attend universities in the United States. This year, the organization held its first annual

Daniele Stabile (top row, third from the right) was a member of the first men's soccer team at LU-Belleville in 2009.

Stabile's company, SEA, hosted a soccer camp in Bolivia this spring that was attended by 250 prospective student-athletes.

soccer camp, in which over 250 prospective student-athletes participated. Soccer recruiters from a variety of universities in the U.S. were present to recruit the best players. The four-day camp featured practice games, seminars, and a trip to a professional game. Players and their parents were also educated on the process of applying to and attending a university in the United States.

"We meet individually with each player and talk to them about how to manage earning a degree in America and playing soccer at the same time," said Stabile. "Right now, we have 20 student-athletes in the U.S., and we are working with more than 40 students to gain scholarships this year."

Lindenwood Belleville currently hosts eight student athletes from Bolivia, several of whom came to campus with the help of the program Student Athletics.

"Student Athletics saw me play and gave me advice to help me prepare for college at Lindenwood Belleville," said current

student Alvaro Echeverria, a native of Santa Cruz. "They showed me how I could study and do what I love, which is playing soccer."

Stabile was a student in Lindenwood Belleville's first day classes in 2009 and was a member of the campus' first soccer team. Dan Hogan has been the campus' men's soccer coach since the program's inception.

"I could not be happier when former players take advantage of their college education in a field in which they are passionate," said Hogan. "Daniele is an example for the students he is helping of what a college degree from the United States can do for them."

For Stabile, Lindenwood Belleville not only provided him with the opportunity to excel in academics and sports; it also gave him the inspiration to help others pursue their dreams and fill a need in his community.





Some of Zack Smithey's art in his recent Easter Art Hunt took on a definite Easter feel.

Smithey's Easter Art Hunt Raises Money for St. Louis-Area Charities

By RACHEL JOHNSON

When Easter arrives each spring, colorful eggs, candy, and anything related to the Easter bunny is consumed en masse. What's not typically associated with the holiday is beautifully crafted original artwork, but Lindenwood University alumnus Zack Smithey ('06, '09) has changed that with the 2015 Easter Art Hunt.

Smithey spent most of his days and nights the first three months of the year creating 1,000 paintings. Over the course of eight days in April, the well-respected St. Louis artist hid those pieces of art at different locations around the region for residents to find and keep.

"The idea for the Easter Art Hunt came to me as a reaction to the unrest in Ferguson, Mo.," Smithey said. "The outside world was associating St. Louis with two things: being the murder capital of the U.S. and the home of the Ferguson riots. I wanted to bring positive vibes and attention back to St. Louis."

After looking at a photo of a bunny sculpture he'd painted a few years earlier, Smithey was inspired to create the Easter Art Hunt to generate the positivity he was seeking. Out of his own pocket, he covered the \$10,000 in material costs required to make the artwork. By the time he was finished creating, he had painted 864,000 square inches. If placed in a straight line,

the pieces would have stretched more than a half-mile. Ranging in price from \$100 to \$2,500 each, the total retail value of the art came to more than \$500,000.

"I thought I'd just post clues on Facebook about where I was leaving paintings and see what happened," said Smithey. "Within the first couple days, I received more than 2,000 friend requests and maxed out my 5,000 friends limit on Facebook. When I realized how big it was getting, I realized it was my chance to do something good, to support local charities and businesses."

Smithey hid 100 pieces of art each day for seven days, often going into local businesses and leaving clues on social media requiring individuals to purchase an item from the establishment in exchange for a painting. He conducted interviews and gave drop-off clues with local television stations that resulted in Stray Rescue of St. Louis and Five Acres Animal Shelter quickly netting thousands of dollars in donations. A full day of the art hunt took place in Ferguson, Mo., and the initiative also raised thousands of dollars and a truck full of donated goods for a youth homeless shelter in St. Louis.

On the eighth and final day, Smithey worked with business owners in the Delmar Loop to hide and distribute 300 pieces of art. The hunt culminated with a closing reception at Cicero's, a restaurant



A winner poses with Smithey and the piece she found in the art hunt.

in the University City Loop, at which Smithey spent more than four hours signing autographs and mingling with supporters. He raffled off the last two pieces of art, raising more than \$2,000, which will be donated to the Growing American Youth Organization and to assist a local cancer patient with medical expenses.

At the end of the successful Easter Art Hunt, Smithey shared a message on his personal Facebook page thanking all those who participated for helping him make a difference in the community.

"Together we supported local businesses, discovered new places to hang out, spent a day in Ferguson to see what a great community it is, donated to charities, met new people, and shared a common experience," he wrote. "We were a part of something bigger than ourselves."

Smithey also said he hopes the positivity generated by the event continues to ripple through the St. Louis community and throughout America.

"Martin Luther King said, 'The time is always right to do what is right,'" Smithey said. "I hope everyone chooses to do what is right every minute of every day. People are defined by their actions, so I encourage them to get out there and do something worth being defined by."

Smithey with one of the art hunt winners

Smithey with some of his larger pieces





It was a sold out house February 7 in the J. Scheidegger Center as the Butler and Sibley Heritage societies celebrated *An Evening with Bernadette Peters*. Above, President Jim Evans (left) poses with his wife, Lois (far right), and Dr. Rao Ayyagari and his wife, Subhadra Ayyagari. Rao Ayyagari is a professor of biology and is among the five most senior faculty members at Lindenwood. He has the honor of carrying the mace at commencement. The Ayyagaris recently established an endowed scholarship in research of cell biology/genetics.

Butler Society and Sibley Heritage Society Reception

The esteemed members of the Butler Society and Sibley Heritage Society joined together for a beautiful evening at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts on Feb. 7. The evening included a dessert reception followed by a complimentary performance of *An Evening with Bernadette Peters* in the Lindenwood Theater. Peters was accompanied by a symphony of 30 and entertained the audience by performing mostly songs from Rogers and Hammerstein, Disney productions, and composer Stephen Sondheim.



(from left) Jim Moffitt, Mike Roberts, and Joseph Guthrie

Basketball Brought Us Together

How Three Lindenwood Students Helped Pave the Way for Athletics as We Know it Today

By GREG NEUNUEBEL

Lindenwood University recently welcomed a trio of distinguished alumni to the Hyland Arena to be recognized and honored as founding members of the men's basketball program.

During the Jan. 31 doubleheader against Missouri Western State University, Lindenwood recognized all alumni present from the men's and women's basketball programs. But the Lions were especially pleased to welcome back Mike Roberts, Dr. Joseph Guthrie, and Jim Moffitt, who in 1968 as Lindenwood College students worked together to help formulate the first basketball team on campus.

After a special halftime honor, the trio sat down together and thumbed through yearbooks and newspaper clippings from their college years. They rehashed stories, recounted memories, and offered new perspectives of their tenure at Lindenwood as athletes, scholars, and activists.

"It brought back memories I hadn't thought of in 40 years," said Moffitt. "It reminded me how important that education was to me."

The basketball team began as a group of young men with mutual interests simply looking to occupy their free time. It started as an informal, intramural-type activity and in the coming years progressed and garnered heightened interest around campus.

The team eventually widened its scope of competition against other area colleges and fielded its first official varsity squad in 1970, finishing its inaugural season 5-11. They played on a rickety gym floor and had a psychology professor for a head coach who, despite knowing little about the game of basketball, was a great motivator focused on developing character.

Their new venture did not come without

its share of challenges. Historically an all-female institution, Lindenwood had only recently began enrolling male students. The integration of men was something the all-female base did not initially embrace. It was a transformative era not only for the school, but also for the United States. National issues such as civil rights, women's rights, environmental conservation, and the anti-war movement were common threads felt at the local level.

Basketball was merely one of many activities they were involved in as students. Living in such dynamic times inspired all three men to openly express their beliefs through various forms of activism. With support from several teammates and peers, Roberts led a sit-in at the school library in support of the Anti-Apartheid Movement protesting racial segregation in South Africa.

"We were trying to say to the trustees not to invest in any type of business in South Africa," Roberts said. "Our peaceful sit-in certainly got the attention of the board. They hadn't seen that type of activism before."

Roberts, Guthrie, and Moffitt all said they see parallels between the transcendent times of their youth and the present-day issues brought into the national spotlight by way of the recent events in Ferguson, Mo. It's their hope that college students of today, as well as their fellow alumni, take full advantage of the opportunities afforded to them through education to implement and attain positive change in the world. The trio have all gone on to lead robust lives and careers. Hailing from St. Louis, Roberts went on to become a successful entrepreneur, public official, author and real estate developer. He was the

(from left) George Hendrixson, Coach Lanny Hradek, Paul Boschert, and Daniel Odom



keynote speaker of a 2011 Lindenwood commencement ceremony.

Guthrie, who grew up in St. Charles, enjoyed a 42-year career in education, serving in various roles at all levels from preschool to graduate school. He worked as an elementary school principal and retired as a school psychologist.

Moffitt, originally from Poplar Bluff, Mo., was a veteran detective for the St. Charles County Sheriff's Department. He shifted into a career managing an insurance agency and since 2005 has been teaching

criminal justice courses at St. Charles Community College.

"These guys have gone on to do great things and from a basketball perspective really started what we have today," said Dr. Jann Weitzel, who helped prepare for the alumni recognition game and has served as Lindenwood's Provost since 2006. "Their stories tell us what a truly special place Lindenwood was during that time. There are alumni out there with equally great stories. It's my hope they'll share them with us."

The alumni trio expressed gratitude and appreciation to Lindenwood for inviting them to take part in the alumni recognition basketball game. The Lions won that day, 66-57 – a fitting sendoff for three founding members who came full circle with the very basketball program they helped create.

"In a small way I feel like I played a part in this," Guthrie said. "We were just a bunch of guys who wanted to get off campus and play some ball."

"Basketball brought us together."

Right — Jim Moffitt, Joseph Guthrie, and Mike Roberts look through old pictures and a Lindenwood yearbook.



Below — Lindenwood basketball alumni from four different decades visited. They are (from left) Coach Lanny Hradek, Cassie Bluemner ('14), Kay Schmidt ('69), Abby Schultenhenrich ('11), Sharon Bickel ('89), Kelly Albers ('11), Mike Burris ('83), Daniel Odom ('77), Jim Moffitt ('71), Alex Tilley ('13), Mike Roberts ('71), Tyler Harris ('14), Joseph Guthrie ('73), Morgan Harrington ('12), George Hendrixson ('76), Paul Boschert ('81), and Sarah (Schnieders) Gibson ('13).



Lindy Award Winner Earl Austin Jr.



Provost Jann Weitzel, left, with Lindy Award Alumnus of the Year Earl Austin Jr., ('86) sports editor of the *St. Louis American* and a longtime college basketball broadcaster, and Dean of Communications Mike Wall. Austin is a former basketball star at Lindenwood and an inaugural member of the Lindenwood Sports Hall of Fame, and he operates a high profile prep basketball recruiting website, earlaustinjr.com.

Lindenwood Day at Busch Stadium

Enjoy Lindenwood Day at Busch Stadium with your family, friends, and fellow Lindenwood alumni!

Sunday, August 2, 2015
1:15 p.m.
Cardinals vs. Rockies

Proceeds from each ticket sold will go directly to Lindenwood student scholarships.

Left Field Pavilion tickets are only \$20, and each ticket includes a

FREE hot dog and soda coupon.

For Tickets: (636) 949-4903

koneal@lindenwood.edu

Make It a Dozen! Shotgun Team Earns another National Title

The Lindenwood shotgun sports team wrapped up another national title on March 29 at the 47th Annual ACUI Collegiate Clay Target Championships, held at the National Shoot Complex in San Antonio, Texas. In doing so, the Lions made it a dozen straight, winning their 12th consecutive team title at the event. Lindenwood hit 2,252 targets out of 2,350 for a margin of 45 over second place Bethel University. Tarleton State University finished third.

Despite only winning one individual medal during the week of competition, the Lions captured five out of six major team events.

Synchro Wins Title

The Lindenwood synchronized swimming team won its first High Point title in program history at the U.S. Senior National Championships April 4 in Moraga, Calif. The Lady Lions earned four gold medals, four silver, and two bronze at the event, finishing with 80 points overall to easily outdistance the perennial power Santa Clara Aquamaids with 52. Mary Killman won her third straight crown in both solo and duet, and junior Daniela Garmendia won the Individual High Point title.

Just a few days earlier, Lindenwood captured four gold medals and one bronze in five events entered and took second overall at the 2015 U.S. Collegiate Championships March 28 in Columbus, Ohio.

Lion Line Makes History

At the 2015 UCA and UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championships, the Lion Line Dance team won the Open Jazz division for the first time. The event concluded January 18 at Walt Disney's Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Fla. It was the sixth championship for Lion Line, with five previous trophies all coming in the Open Hip Hop division.

Weightlifting Wins First Team Title

Olympic weightlifting won the coed division National University Championships title September 28, 2014, in Albuquerque, N.M.



Lindenwood's shotgun sports team extended its own record with a 12th consecutive national championship in San Antonio, Texas, in March.

Men's Water Polo Wins First Title

In 2013, the men's water polo team came up one game short of winning a national title, settling for second place after losing to UCLA in the finals. On November 16, 2014, a 13-8 victory over number one-ranked San Diego State clinched the 2014 Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Men's National Club Championship in Kearnes, Utah. It was the first time the Lions hoisted the trophy since winning three straight Division III crowns from 2006 to 2008, and the title game victory completed a perfect season at 24-0.

Lindenwood started the championship tournament with a convincing 22-5 win over Iowa State, then followed it with a 12-4 defeat of Ohio State to advance to the semifinals against California. In that game, it looked like the Lions would cruise to the finals after building an 11-6 advantage, but the Golden Bears stormed back with four unanswered goals, and they had a chance to tie the game with less than 40 seconds

remaining, but Lindenwood held. After escaping the semifinals, the championship game was less dramatic. The Lions jumped on the Aztecs early and built a 13-6 lead and closed out the game from there.

Two Lindenwood players were named to the 2014 CWPA Men's National Club Championship All-Tournament Team. Alvaro Castro earned first team honors, while Alberto Duran was named to the second team.

It was a weekend of firsts for the Lions. They became the first team from the Missouri Valley Division to claim the title since the inaugural event in 1993 and the first squad outside of California and Michigan to hoist the trophy since Dartmouth did it in 1997. Prior to the national championship, Lindenwood finished on top of the Missouri Valley Division standings and then won the conference tournament title.



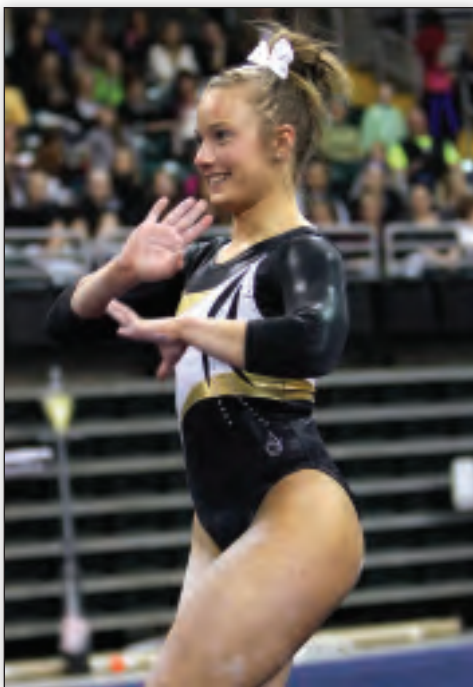
The men's water polo team won the CWPA Men's National Club Championship in November.

Gymnastics Team Has a Historic Season

The Lindenwood women's gymnastics team did not let the fact that it was just a third-year program stop it from setting lofty goals in 2015 and then reaching those marks. The Lady Lions had a record-breaking season in 2015, including winning the Midwest Independent Conference (MIC) Championship and having three gymnasts advance to the NCAA National Collegiate Regional Championships.

Lindenwood was the No. 1 team during the regular season in the MIC, a conference consisting mostly of NCAA Division I programs. The Lady Lions backed that ranking up at the conference meet when they shattered the previous school record with a team score of 195.800. That score was just enough for the program's first conference title as it defeated the host school, Texas Woman's, by 0.050 points.

The Lady Lions were led by Valeri Ingui who won the MIC's all-around title. Ingui recorded at least a 9.800 in every event and finished with a school record of 39.400.



Valeri Ingui

Courtney Heise won the vault and the bars MIC events with school-record scores of

9.950 and 9.900, respectively.

Besides winning the team conference title and three of the five individual events, Lindenwood also dominated the MIC yearly awards. Ingui was the Gymnast of the Year, while Kierstin Sokolowski was the co-Newcomer of the Year. Head Coach Jen Kesler was named the Coach of the Year, and Jennifer Grabowski was honored as the Assistant Coach of the Year.

Ingui and Sokolowski both earned bids to the NCAA Regional Championships, hosted by No. 1 Oklahoma, to compete in the all-around competition. Heise also advanced to regionals in the bars event. The trio are the first Lindenwood gymnasts to compete in an NCAA postseason event.

The Lindenwood team also won the USA Gymnastics Women's Collegiate National Championship. The Lady Lions defeated the six-time national champion, Bridgeport, by less than a point for the first national title in program history.

"It has been a historic year for our program, and I am beyond proud of the hard work and dedication that each person has put into the team," said Kesler.

Wrestling, Swimming and Diving Make Strong Showing in NCAA Postseason

The Lindenwood wrestling and swimming and diving programs had their share of success in 2014-15. The Lions wrestling and swimming and diving teams each won conference titles. Those programs, plus the women's swimming and diving squad, had top-15 NCAA Division II finishes.

The Lions wrestling team won the MIAA Dual Meet Championship with a perfect 5-0 record. Lindenwood clinched the title with a dominating 33-6 win over No. 6 Nebraska-Kearney, with Kyle Webb and Jon McArdle leading the way with pins.

Webb, Terrel Wilbourn, Derrick Weller, and McArdle advanced to the NCAA Division II National Championships. The four wrestlers scored 30 points and helped Lindenwood finish 13th in the nation. Wilbourn became the first Lion to advance to an NCAA finals, but he lost in a tight 5-2 decision in the 149-pound finals.

The men's swimming and diving team captured the RMAC Championship with a dominating conference meet that saw the Lions win by 180 points over the second-place team. Jakub Jonczyk was named the RMAC Swimmer of the Meet, and Jason Owen was tabbed the conference Coach of the Year.

At nationals, the men's squad had a third-



Jason Owen, swimming coach

place finish, tying for the best national showing for a Lion team since the move to the NCAA. Twelve swimmers and divers earned All-American accolades, including Krzysztof Jankiewicz, who won a national championship in the 100-meter backstroke.

Women's swimmer Alecia McGillivray



Chad Smith, wrestling coach

made Lindenwood history by winning the first NCAA individual national title for the school. She opened the 2015 national championships by capturing the 1,000-meter freestyle title. McGillivray won a second title later in the meet by having the fastest time in the 1,650-meter freestyle.

Harris Returns to Exciting 2015 Football Squad

Lindenwood football player Connor Harris was one of the most feared defenders in the MIAA last season. After recording 152 tackles, the fourth most in NCAA Division II, Harris was showered with postseason honors, including All-American awards. Harris is back in 2015 to lead the Lions.

Harris, an inside linebacker, will anchor a Lindenwood defense that returns the majority of its starters. Aside from Harris, the Lions also return linebackers Clint Koons and Steven Pace, both top-four tacklers for the Lions last year. Also back for the defense are all-conference performers Chaz Fulton, a defensive tackle, and Roderick Ryles, a defensive back.

On offense, Lindenwood also returns nearly every starter, including all-conference wide receivers Jaron Alexander and Greg Coble and running back Lavorrie Johnson. The Lions also return quarterback Graham Lindman, who started the final seven games of the season in 2015.

In addition to the returning players, the team has also brought in several newcomers that can contribute right away. Two of the biggest names are Jesse Scroggins and Rob



Connor Harris will return this season to lead the Lions' football attack.

Standard. Scroggins was a backup quarterback for the University of Arizona last year. He played in four games, including the Pac-12 Championship game, in which he threw a 69-yard touchdown pass. Standard was a two-time *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* Offensive Player of the Year in high school and has spent the last four years at Iowa State

University.

Lindenwood's schedule will again be a round-robin with every MIAA school. Some of the top home games will be the season opener on Sept. 3 against Washburn, Family Day on Sept. 19 versus Fort Hays State, and Homecoming on Oct. 17 against Nebraska-Kearney.

Lacrosse Teams Making Noise Nationwide

Lacrosse is the fastest growing sport in the United States, a trend that Lindenwood University was in front of at the start of this century. The school started club teams in 2003 and elevated its men's and women's programs to the NCAA level in 2012. After

just a few seasons at the NCAA level, Lindenwood is the premier university in the Midwest for the sport of lacrosse.

The Lindenwood men's team is having a breakthrough season in 2015. After hovering around the .500 mark for its first three seasons, the Lions entered their final month of the season this year with just one loss on the year. The Lions made history on March 23 when they appeared in the national rank-

ings for the first time at the NCAA Division II level.

Head Coach Jimmy Lange has put together an all-around team that ranks in the top-five in the nation in both scoring offense and scoring defense. Leading the team is long-stick midfielder Graeme Hossack, a senior defender who is projected to be selected in the first round of this year's Major League Lacrosse (MLL) draft.

The Lindenwood women's team, meanwhile, has continued to build its reputation after reaching last year's NCAA tournament semifinals. Head Coach Jack Cribbin led the Lady Lions to their fourth straight conference title in 2015, and the program has a 28-0 record in conference matches at the NCAA level. Lindenwood entered the final month of the season ranked No. 3 in the nation and was expected to be one of the top teams contending for the national crown in May.

Melissa Menchella is the leader of the 2015 women's lacrosse team. The senior All-American will end her career as the school's all-time leader in points and goals.

Lindenwood's influence in the sport of lacrosse is also beginning to show in the coaching ranks.



Senior Melissa Menchella was a leader on the field and in the classroom for the women's lacrosse team.

Lynx Ice Hockey Has a Historically Great Season

The Lindenwood Belleville men's hockey team had arguably one of the greatest seasons any Lynx team has seen. Finishing the season with a 29-2-1 record, the Lynx did not lose until their 20th game of the year, which they lost in overtime. Suffering only two regulation losses all season, the Lynx dominated their opposition, winning by an average of over five goals per game.

Head Coach Lindsay Middlebrook and Assistant Coach Ben Kenyon saw unparalleled success in their first season with the Lynx program, which started with the recruiting process long before the first puck was dropped. Signing players from seven different states and three different countries, the Lynx were a diverse group that had no problem gelling once the season began.

In goal, Germaine Jackson and Kyle Miller split time, each playing 17 games. Jackson compiled a record of 15-1 with a 1.05 goals-against average, and Miller went 13-1 with a 1.69 goals-against average. Brad Edwards, a freshman from Napanee, Ontario, led the team in points with 83 on the season. Tallying 35 goals and 48 assists,



The LU-Belleville men's hockey team had a historic season with a record of 29-2-1.

he led the team in both categories.

The most amazing thing about this team is that it was made up of 22 players—21 freshmen and 1 senior. The Lynx are built

for success in the coming years and will see a jump to ACHA Division I next season, where they will be eligible to compete in the post-season for the first time.

LU-Belleville Softball is Consistent in its Excellence

The Lady Lynx softball team has been one of the most consistent programs at Lindenwood Belleville since its inception in 2012. Under the guidance of Head Coach

Charlie Kennedy, the Lady Lynx won back-to-back USCAA National Championships and are now enjoying early success in their first season in the American Midwest Conference.

Winning at least 24 games in each of their first three seasons, the Lady Lynx have eclipsed the 30-win mark twice, winning a program best 35 games in the 2014 season. With this success, the Lady

Lynx, in just three-plus season, reached the 100-win milestone with an 8-0 home victory against St. Mary of the Woods earlier this season.

Along with reaching 100 wins as part of the Lindenwood Belleville program, Kennedy also reached a personal milestone this season, winning his 400th career game as a head coach. Kennedy had previous success at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and Maryville University. At Maryville, Kennedy led his team to two NCAA Tournament appearances, where he notched his 300th career victory the same day he won his first NCAA tournament game in 2008.

With the Lady Lynx since 2012, Kennedy and the team have enjoyed great accomplishments, winning consecutive USCAA National Championships in 2013 and 2014, going 7-0 over the two post-season appearances.

Now in the American Midwest Conference, the Lady Lynx are a threat to vie for a conference championship in their first year. Behind middle infielders Kaylin Stewart and Makayla Powers and pitchers Michelle Pilster and Taylor Winn, the Lady Lynx have the experience and leadership to make a run as they enter their first season in the AMC.



Head Softball Coach Charlie Kennedy talks with his battery.

John M. Stephens Receives 2015 Alumni Merit Award

John M. Stephens ('75) is the recipient of the 2015 Alumni Merit Award for Professional Accomplishment, which was bestowed at the Undergraduate Commencement ceremonies on May 16, 2015. The Alumni Association's Merit Award Committee, chaired by Cortney Hupper Lenk ('99), presented the nomination to the Alumni Board at its February meeting, where it was unanimously endorsed.

Stephens' interest and background resides in communications. He was drawn to Lindenwood as a student because of KCLC. Before attending Lindenwood he did a lot of research on the college and discovered Robert Hyland was associated with the school.

"Mr. Hyland is legendary," Stephens said. "There was a strong conduit between Lindenwood, KCLC, and KMOX, and for this reason I wanted to attend Lindenwood with hopes to grab the attention of Mr. Hyland."

During college, Stephens was working at the *St. Charles Daily Banner News* and did a piece on the St. Louis football Cardinals that caught the attention of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, where he worked before moving on to CBS TV spot sales. Later, when offered that job at KMOX about which he had initially dreamed, he instead went to New York to work for a large advertising agency.

Stephens made his way back to St. Louis in the '80s to work with the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association, which asked him to produce a marketing campaign for St. Louis. The "I'm Sold on St. Louis" campaign was the result. He later served as executive editor of *St. Louis Commerce* magazine.

In 1991, Stephens started Media Pulse, a media tracking and analysis service. Twice, the company was honored by the *St. Louis Business Journal* as one of the fastest growing privately held businesses in St. Louis. After expanding into a number of markets around the country, the company was honored by *Inc. Magazine* as one of the fastest growing high tech companies in the USA. He sold it in 2001 to a publicly held company in Sweden.

Stephens went on to start a new group of companies, including a video production company and a closed caption service, and even went back into the media tracking and analysis business.

"I guess that makes me a serial entrepreneur," Stephens said. "I enjoy the challenges of building a business."

Stephens says that his experience at KCLC paved the way for his career path. He is a firm believer in the Lindenwood communications educational model, which



John Stephens in the studio of Our Musical Roots radio

is rooted in hands-on experience, something that he says is hard to match at any other institution.

"So many Lindenwood communications graduates from my era have become entrepreneurs in media-related businesses," Stephens said. "At Lindenwood, we operated and managed the radio station. There are direct parallels with what we learned as students and how we developed in our careers."

He sent his daughter, Emily, to Lindenwood, where she is a communications major slated to graduate in 2016, and Stephens continues to hire Lindenwood graduates.

Currently, Stephens owns Pulse Productions, an Emmy Award-winning

video production company, and Media Watch, a nationally recognized media tracking and analysis firm.

He was featured in the fall 2014 edition of *Connection* because of his development of the Internet radio station Our Musical Roots. The station has listeners in 30 countries and is Stephens' "long-term play," he says. Pulse Productions, with its staff of 20, is his job. His goal with "The Roots" is to build a substantial media property, like the FM radio pioneers did in the 1960s, something his daughter may want to be involved with down the road. She works at the station, where she helps out with technical operations, and the afternoon drive host is Charles McDonald, a Lindenwood alumnus.

Lindenwood's Annual Alumni and Friends Picnic - Movie Night!

Join us as we watch *Back to the Future* on a 33-foot screen in the center of campus!

Friday, June 5, 2015

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Heritage Campus near the Pavilion

Barbecue: 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Balloon Artist: 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Movie: 8:30 p.m. (runtime 116 minutes)

- Bring your blankets and lawn chairs to sit under the trees for the movie
- Lindenwood logo seat cushion to all who RSVP
- Event is free for all Lindenwood alumni and their families

For more information or to RSVP, contact Alumni Relations at (636) 949-4420 or alumni@lindenwood.edu.

Third Annual Lindenwood Family Day!

Saturday, September 19, 2015

Family Day is an opportunity for family members to visit their students and enjoy a variety of activities on campus. Families will be able to meet the President and Lindenwood faculty and staff, attend athletic events, attend fine arts performances, spend time with students on and off campus, take a campus tour, and enjoy dining services on campus.

Alumni whose children currently attend Lindenwood are encouraged to take part in the Legacy Lineup on Saturday, September 19, at which alumni and their student children will be recognized on the field during the football game. To participate as an alumni parent, contact Elizabeth Wikoff, Director of Alumni Relations, at alumni@lindenwood.edu or (636) 949-4975. For more information about Family Day, contact Caryn McFerren at (636) 627-4587 or CMcFerren@lindenwood.edu.

'40s

Keltah (Long) Bellanger ('47) lives in Louisville, Ky., with her husband of 67 years, William Bellanger. She says that the secret to a long and happy marriage is to "maintain a good sense of humor."

'50s

Ruth (Beckmann) Murray ('59) had the opportunity to tour Lindenwood's new School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, located in Dardenne Prairie, Mo. Following her visit, she remarked, "Today's students will continue to be as blessed as I was by the School of Nursing—the beautiful environment that fosters excitement to learn, the state-of-the-art resources for learning, the faculty who are experts, and the total atmosphere that embodies the best of everything. The School of Nursing...will continue to be a model for the professions of nursing and healthcare."

'60s

Sondra (Swindel) Galperin ('61) has been a volunteer swim instructor for 38 summers and has taught over 1,200 children to swim. She resides in Coral Gables, Fla.

'70s

Patricia Clapp ('70) is retired, but still working as an interim supervisor through a residential treatment program at a men's prison. She enjoys playing tennis, making pottery, and spending time with her golden retriever.

Pam (Stephenson) Johnson ('71) works as the marketing and communications officer for the city of Venice, Fla.

James Moffitt ('71) is a professor, teaching criminal justice at St. Charles Community College. He works at the St. Charles Sheriff's Department and Missouri Division of Youth Services and is the owner of the James Moffitt Insurance Agency.

Frank Accarrino ('72) is retired as vice president of news and entertainment operations for NBC Television Operations and Production Services in New York. Before retirement, he was responsible for New York and Burbank Production Operations supporting the *Today Show*, *NBC Nightly News*, *Dateline*, *Saturday Night Live*, *Conan O'Brien*, *The Tonight Show*, *Carson Daly*, *Days of Our Lives*, *Access Hollywood*, *Ellen*, *MSNBC*, and various NBC News specials. Accarrino also supervised event productions for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Fourth of July Fireworks, the Rockefeller Center

Tree Lighting, and NBC and Telemundo Upfronts. He has won numerous Emmys for coverage of the 1997 and 2003 Olympic Games, *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* (2001), and Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2003).

Joseph Guthrie ('73) was a member of the first men's basketball team at Lindenwood University. After playing at Lindenwood, Guthrie began his coaching and teaching career. He completed his master's degree in counseling psychology from the West Texas State University and is now a school psychologist in Fountain Hills, Ariz. Guthrie has six children and eleven grandchildren and resides in Gilbert, Ariz.

Daniel Odom ('77) is a retired high school teacher after 28 years on the job. He continues to coach basketball at Hazelwood West High School.

Judy (Galyas) Stenta ('78) has been a senior account manager in commercial real estate for the past 20 years. She recently completed her MCR designation (Master's in Corporate Real Estate) from Core Net Global professional Real Estate Organization. She resides in Lutz, Fla., and enjoys regular horseback rides.

Debra (Spicknall) Wright ('78) lives in Riverview, Fla., and attended the alumni luncheon recently held in Sarasota. She states, "I am proud to see that the University continues to grow in many areas and is a vibrant growing center of higher learning!"

Sherry (Neal) Meinberg ('79) worked as an educator for 50 years and wrote 11 nonfiction books. She was recently honored with her 100th award. Her latest book, *The Cockroach Invasion*, is causing international interest. As a result, she has become an ambassador for "unhuggable" and "unloved" creatures.

'80s



veterans of the healthcare supply chain industry throughout the United States. Krumrey, one of 10 chosen from a nationwide slate of candidates,

Norman A. Krumrey ('82) was inducted into the Bellwether League National Hall of Fame at the Bellwether League's Annual Honoree Induction Dinner. The Bellwether League identifies and honors

was selected for his contributions in improving all segments of the healthcare supply chain, as well as for his integrity, leadership, mentoring, teaching, writing, speaking, and his major accomplishments and innovative contributions in the field. Krumrey is a member of several professional organizations, including the American College Healthcare Executives, the American Society of Hospital Material Management, the National Association for Supply Chain Management, and the Missouri Hospital Association. Krumrey earned his MBA from Lindenwood University. He and his wife, Joan, reside in Brentwood, Mo., and frequently volunteer for many local civic organizations.

Michael Burris ('83) was the captain of his basketball team and a leader in the nation for rebounding and scoring. Burris averaged 30 points a game and tried out for the Washington Bullets and Detroit Pistons. He has three children, one of which is a 2014 LU graduate; another is a freshman at Lindenwood. Burris and his wife, Myra ('06), have been married 32 years. Burris works for Paul Cerame Lincoln Mercury and lives with his family in Florissant, Mo.

Bernita Kirk ('87) lives in Lady Lake, Fla. She appreciates the social activities in her area and enjoys attending art fairs. Kirk worked at MEMC and Monsanto in Missouri. She graduated from the LCIE program and recalls how great the professors were in the program; she commends Lindenwood on the program that allowed her to attend class and maintain a full-time job.

Sharon (Lawson) Bickel ('89), mother of six, has homeschooled all of her children. Her eldest son is a marine in Japan, while her eldest daughter is a junior at Lindenwood University, working towards a BFA in acting.

'90s

Juliann (Hunter) Holle ('90) has moved to Orlando, Fla., with her husband and children so her son can pursue his baseball career.

Linda (Henry) Geluso ('91) lives in the Villages in Ocala, Fla. Geluso was an LCIE graduate and worked in the Lindenwood English Department at one time. She makes it back to Missouri occasionally, as she still has family living in Wentzville.

David Beaty ('94) is the new head coach for the Kansas Jayhawks football team. Beaty had two stints as an assistant coach in Lawrence, Kan., coaching the Jayhawks' wide receivers from 2008 to 2009 before returning for a stint as the co-offensive coordinator and receivers coach in 2011.

Tyler Duenow ('96) graduated from the Lindenwood University Theatre Program and has been nominated for the 2015 St. Louis Critics Circle Awards. Duenow currently works for Cine Services, Inc. and resides in St. Louis, Mo.

Brenda Suit ('96) is the new CFO at Baue Funeral Home in St. Charles, Mo.

Theodore Gregory ('97) graduated from the Lindenwood University Theatre Program and has been nominated for the 2015 St. Louis Critics Circle Awards. Gregory is a former faculty and staff member for Lindenwood University and currently works for the City Theatre of St. Louis, Mo.

Sandra (Wroblewski) Newell ('97) works as a buyer for Industrial Distribution Group in St. Louis, Mo.

Vince Powell ('97) is the owner of a real estate investing company, Powell Properties. He taught high school math for nine years and was an elementary and middle school assistant principal of instruction for four years.

Shelley (Moffitt) Bomerschien ('98) is an illustrator and currently works at Boeing.

Mark Coffelt ('98) worked for a year with the St. Louis Swarm of the International Basketball League. He is in his fourth year with the Charlotte Hornets, working as a strength and conditioning coach. He is responsible for the health, strength, and overall conditioning of the players, and he assists with other team-related medical issues.



Joi Niedner ('98) has been named to the Compass Health Network Board of Directors. She has been a business development officer at St. Louis Economic Development Partnership since March 2012. Her

primary responsibilities include connecting and assisting with the growth and expansion of privately held companies and supplying support and aid, generating real estate development projects in St. Louis County/City.

Greg Uptain ('98) worked as a news reporter and editor for the *Suburban Journals* of North County as well as a weekend reporter at KTRS-550 AM. In 2000, he worked for the *Suburban Journals* of West County as a sports reporter and was promoted to sports editor in December

2000. He now works part-time as a sports play-by-play announcer and color analyst for Prepcasts.com.

Sally Hawks ('99) received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award. Recipients were selected by their schools' administrations to celebrate their achievements and dedication to the teaching profession.

Kim Knerr ('99) cheered and worked as a coach for Lindenwood University while attending Lindenwood from 1996 to 1999. After graduation, she worked in the Admissions Office and continued to coach cheerleading until 2002.

Timothy Shannon ('99) is the director of marketing at TerraLex in Miami, Fla. Shannon and his wife, Anamary, live in Weston, Fla., with their daughter, Olivia.

'00s

Jolene Bell ('00) is a literacy coach in the Wentzville School District. She and her husband live in St. Peters, Mo.

Amy Davidson ('00) has just published her second young adult novel, *Elite*. Both of her novels are available on Amazon.com. Her first novel, *Satellite*, was selected as a quarterfinalist in the 2012 Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award contest. She lives in Troy, Mo.

Michelle Rosner ('00), a vice president of lending and marketing, was named to the Missouri Credit Union Association (MCUA) Board. She will represent the east region for three years. Rosner also serves as an officer for the St. Louis Chapter of Credit Unions and has been a board member for the Children's Miracle Network of Greater St. Louis since 2013. She was also recently named to the board of the Missouri Credit Union Charitable Foundation.

Joe McKinney ('01, '02) and wife **Michelle (Ray) McKinney ('10)** announced the birth of their second child, Jameson Joseph, on December 23, 2014. Joe McKinney is a former Lindenwood football player and is a member of the University's Athletics Hall of Fame.

Jamie Pitt ('01) graduated from the Lindenwood University Theatre Program and has been nominated for a 2015 St. Louis Critics Circle Award.

Leah (Zimmermann) Casey ('02) and Albert Casey were married this spring. Leah Casey is an organization manager for Garcia Properties, while her husband is a property manager for Central Realty.

Jennifer (Gasper) Henry (BA '02, MA '03), communications manager for the Francis Howell School District, has been named by the National School Public

Relations Association as one of the top "35 Under 35" school public relations professionals in the country. She will be honored at the NSPRA national conference in July 2015. Henry and her family reside in St. Peters, Mo.



Tamara (Hedrick) Keller ('02) was recently named a partner at Armstrong Teasdale LLP. As a member of the financial and real estate services practice group, she serves lenders and borrowers in a

variety of different industries in connection with commercial loan transactions and construction-based acquisitions. She also counsels lenders and investors on a variety of tax credit transactions. Licensed to practice law in Missouri and Illinois, she received a JD degree from Saint Louis University School of Law, an MBA from Lindenwood University, and a BS from the University of Oklahoma.

Mason Fischer ('03) works as director of field operations for Digital Reception Services. Fischer resides in Valrico, Fla., with his wife, Lindsey, and their three children.

Christine Ries ('03) received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award. Recipients were selected by their schools' administrations to celebrate their achievements and dedication to the teaching profession.

Joseph Watson ('03) is the Underwriter at The Hartford. He lives in Casselberry, Fla., with his wife, Sharon, and two sons.

Tim Goede ('04) is the president of security, telecommunication, and IT recruitment for Goede Premier Recruitment (GPR).

Jermaine Hendrickson ('04) works for the Boeing Company as a chief of staff in St. Louis, Mo.

Cody Hirschi ('04) is the principal of Fire Prairie Upper Elementary and will be moving to Pettis County R-V School District as a superintendent starting July 1, 2015.

Angela (Ince) Keys ('04) received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award. Recipients were selected by their schools' administrations to celebrate their achievements and dedication to the teaching profession.

Matthew Klingler ('04) was featured in a national McDonald's commercial seen

during the 2015 Super Bowl. Klingler graduated from the Lindenwood University Theatre Program and lives in Imperial, Mo.

Towahana Perdue ('04) is a retired postal supervisor for USPS. She and her husband reside in Pontoon Beach, Ill.

David Todd ('04) was recently appointed captain of the St. Charles County Sheriff's Department Bureau of Special Enforcement as the first chief of the new St. Charles County Police Department.

Cortney Brinkmann ('06) will marry Corey Swinney in June 2015 in St. Charles, Mo.

Chris Eikenberg ('07) works as a PGA professional at Desert Horizons Country Club in Indian Wells, Calif.

Brandon Joyce ('07) teaches French at Florida Virtual School in Orlando, Fla.

Timothy Trokey ('07) works for Fox Sports Midwest as a production assistant, writing and editing segments for pre- and post-game shows for the Cardinals, Rams, and Blues.

Jerome Vogel ('07) graduated from the Lindenwood University Theatre Program, and has been nominated for a 2015 St. Louis Critics Circle Award. Vogel works at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis.

Emil Williams, Jr. ('07) interned after graduation as a broadcaster for the South Georgia Peanuts. He attends graduate school and serves as an assistant coach for the Lindenwood bowling team.

Hope Woodson ('07) was named the new St. Charles County health director after working as an interim department director for the past two years.

Jeremy Boesch ('08) received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award. Recipients were selected by their schools' administrations to celebrate their achievements and dedication to the teaching profession.

Katherine (Chadbourne) Quirin ('08) married Steven Quirin on May 16, 2015. Katherine Quirin works in implementation for Precision Practice Management in Belleville, Ill.; her husband works for Butler Supply Co., in O'Fallon, Ill.



Richard Metz ('08) has been named to the Compass Health Network Board of Directors. Metz resides in Winfield, Mo.

Shanika Silinzy ('08) is a corporate supervisor at Cardinal Glennon

Children's Medical Center. Silinzy is part of the 2015 RBC Young Professional Cohort—one of 100 young professionals in the St. Louis Region chosen for this honor.

Allen Michael Dowdy ('09) graduated from the Lindenwood University Theatre Program and has been nominated for a 2015 St. Louis Critics Circle Award. Dowdy lives in St. Louis, Mo.

'10's

Benjamin Cardwell ('10) married Sara Trebing on May 2, 2015, in Edwardsville, Ill. He works for Geico as a senior product modeling analyst.

Jenna Cowan ('10) will marry Ryan Morgan on May 30, 2015, in St. Louis, Mo. She works for Boeing; her fiancé works for the Powers Group in Chesterfield, Mo.

Jessica (Buchanan) Green ('10) is an admissions counselor at Missouri Valley College.

Kristin Hall ('10) is the program director of clinical excellence for Ascension Health.

John Link ('10), superintendent at the Fair Grove School District since 2006, resigned to take a position as superintendent in Jackson, Mo. He will remain with the Fair Grove district through June 30.

Douce Mudahemuka ('10) is an IT project manager and business analyst at Lennar in Miami, Fla.

Elizabeth "Libby" (Rogier) Steward ('10) married Justin Steward on September 27, 2014. The couple lives in Belleville, Ill.

Whitney (Ladwig) Schuette ('10) is a purchasing agent for Elite Tool. While at Lindenwood, Schuette played for the women's lacrosse team with coaches Jack Cribbin and Brian Smith. Schuette is married and live in Florissant, Mo.

Sarah Talimonchuk ('10) will marry Raymond Robertson on October 17, 2015, in St. Charles, Mo.

Danielle Bonney ('11) will marry Devon Sawyer in June 2015 in St. Charles, Mo. Bonney teaches special education, and Sawyer is a structural engineering specialist. They live in Florissant, Mo.

Robert Guerra ('11) is the head basketball coach, head golf coach, and AEP teacher at Valley View ISD in Pharr, Texas. As a student at Lindenwood, Guerra participated on the JV men's basketball team, intramural basketball, and intramural flag football. Guerra and his wife, Joanna, live in Pharr, Texas.

Jennifer Wallace ('11) was hired as principal at Central Park in the Monett School District and will begin her duties on July 1, 2015.

Jeffrey Wilson ('11) works for a

nonprofit youth development agency that promotes inner city youth to become community leaders.

Darron Bardot ('12) will marry **Jessica Boyd ('12)** in July 2015 in Union, Mo. Bardot is a graduate assistant football coach at Southwest Baptist University, and Boyd works as a first-grade teacher at Carthage.

Kelsey Biggs ('12) and **Alex Bazzel ('13)** will be married in June 2015 in St. Louis, Mo. Biggs played four years of collegiate volleyball at Lindenwood and works as a technical recruiter at iBridge Solutions. After playing on the men's basketball team at the University of Missouri—Kansas City for one year, Bazzel transferred to Lindenwood. He is a development coach for Pure Sweat of St. Louis, Mo.

Brittany Frankenfeld ('12) was hired as head coach for the Ottawa University Women's Lacrosse Program, which she will help launch. Previously, Frankenfeld was the defensive coordinator and goalie coach for the Wentzville (Mo.) Wild Women's Lacrosse Team. At Lindenwood, she was a two-year letterman for the Lions and was part of the LU's 2012 conference championship team. As a goalie, she tied the record for single-game saves (12) and tied fifth in single-game ground balls (6).

Bridget Kohler ('12) will marry Brian Eidson in July 2015. They live in Hazelwood, Mo.

Loretta Risley, EdD ('12), serves as program coordinator for the University of Central Oklahoma's Reach Higher degree completion program, which was named the recipient of the 2014 Malcolm Knowles Award for Outstanding Adult Education Program by the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE).

Macy Bross ('13) has been hired as the head coach for the Clark County softball program. Bross is assistant softball coach at Quincy High School and previously served as the assistant coach at Palmyra High School. While at Lindenwood, Bross made 81 starts and played in 111 games during her four-year career.

Sarah (Schnieders) Gibson ('13) teaches and coaches at Liberty Christian Academy in Wright City, Mo.

Jessica Karll ('13), a third-grade teacher at Discovery Ridge Elementary School in O'Fallon, Mo., was the winner of the Milken Educator Award, given each year to outstanding K-12 teachers, principals, and specialists who further excellence in education. Karll is co-chair of the CHARACTERplus Caring School Community committee and chairs the Missouri Assessment Program committee

for the school.

Jenna (Lummis) McDonald ('13) married Robby McDonald on April 11, 2015. She is a recreation supervisor for the Hannibal, Mo., Parks and Recreation Department. Her husband is a building supervisor at Longhorn Confinement Systems in Pittsfield.

Lauren Schneider ('13) is the resource manager at ZeroChaos. She lives in the Chesterfield, Mo., area with her son.

Elizabeth Zerkel ('13) will marry Jeremy Hellwig this summer in Valley Park, Mo. She works for Ginger Bay Salon and Spa; her fiancé works for Ungerboeck Software.

David Amelotti ('14) has been promoted to weekend anchor and producer at KHQA in Quincy, Ill. While at Lindenwood, Amelotti reported and anchored for LUTV and was the play-by-play broadcaster for LU Lions men's basketball in the 2013-14 season for LUTV and KCLC—89.1 He joined the KHQA team in September of 2014 as a production assistant.

Jacob Krato ('14) graduated from Lindenwood with a degree in political philosophy and is a Street Team writer for What's Up St. Chuck?

John Lymore ('14), a graduate of Lindenwood University's NPA MA program, has been certified as a reciprocal alcohol and drug counselor.

Brett McMillan ('14) works as a television sports anchor and reporter at NTV in Kearney, Neb., an ABC affiliate serving Nebraska's tri-cities.

Jessica Robbins ('15) was a four-year competitive cheerleader and a member of the 2011 NICA national champion small coed squad. She was also a Gold Club member and was awarded a Black & Gold Award.

Faculty/Staff

Lanny Hradek, men's basketball coach from 1974-1979, attended the alumni basketball game and recalls it as, "a great time coaching at Lindenwood with some great people."

Timothy Jones, former Missouri state representative in District 110 and speaker of the House of Representatives, has been named the senior policy fellow for the John W. Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise at Lindenwood University. Jones will help arrange policy forums, bring in speakers, and serve as moderator at events such as the recent appearance of Grover Norquist and Ralph Nader for a Liberty and Ethics Center forum in March.

Adjunct Instructor **Kenneth R. Porter** lectures on the herbs of the Ozarks at the

Ozark Regional Library. Porter performs reenactments and manages his small farm for native and introduced herbs to use in his presentations. Porter is retired after 33 years with the US Army Corps of Engineers and works in the School of

Sport, Recreation, and Exercise Science at Lindenwood University.

Derek Stanley, Wide Receivers' Football Coach at Lindenwood's St. Charles campus, will marry Andrea Lowe on June 6, 2015.

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.

Wynema Lee (Burns) Caswell ('39)
Norman, Okla.

Imogene (Stroh) Stumpf ('39)
Atlanta Beach, Fla.

JoAnne Hastings Gray ('43)
Denver, Colo.

Bernice (Clark) Lawson ('43)
Naples, Fla.

Joy (Salomon) Silver ('43)
Sioux City, Iowa

Peggy (Kimbrough) Welch ('43)
Wichita Falls, Texas

Martha Anne England Wischmeier Boyer ('44)
Crystal City, Mo.

Mary (Willena) Kurfman ('45)
Elsberry, Mo.

Mary (Lewis) Patterson ('45)
Texarkana, Ark.

Margueritte (Hollan) Perkins ('47)
Yorba Linda, Calif.

Genelle P. Branneky ('48)
Chesterfield, Mo.

Darlean (Carney) Garrett ('49)
Carmi, Ill.

Betty (Rogerson) Smitherman ('49)
Houston, Texas

Janeice (Bryan) Murphy ('50)
Scottsdale, Ariz.

Jacqueline (Boomis) Block ('52)
Naples, Fla.

Eleanor Trefz Evans ('52)
Pueblo, Colo.

Mary Frances Reed ('56)
Burlington, Iowa

Grete R. Meiter ('58)
Danville, Calif.

Jane Davis Schafflein ('58)
Louisville, Ky.

Mary (Lewis) Cardella ('60)
Omaha, Neb.

Olga (Urrutia) Bruno ('65)
San Antonio, Texas

Carolyn (Chapman) Lee ('74)
Mulberry, Ark.

Deborah (Stevenson) Graham ('76)
Collierville, Tenn.

Doug Cannon ('90)
O'Fallon, Mo.

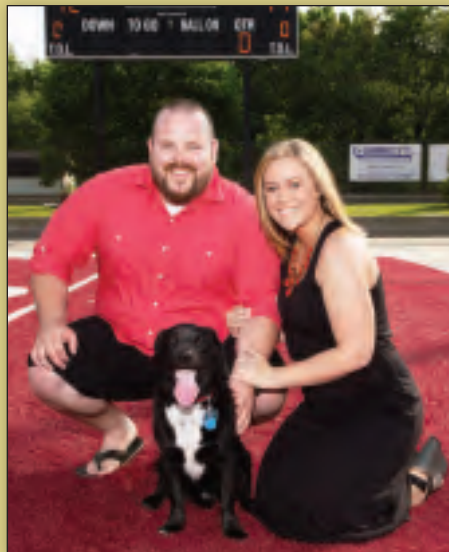
John Hamill ('93)
St. Peters, Mo.

Mary Ann Theresa Kniess ('97)
Saverton, Mo.

Roy Yarbrough ('98)
St. Charles, Mo.

Emilie Alison Morris ('01)
Crestwood, Mo.

Richard Harris
(Friend to the University)



Football Field Engagement

Lindenwood alumni Danielle Poe ('12 and '13) and Billy Clark ('12 and '14) announced their engagement at the location they first met, Lindenwood Belleville's signature maroon and gray striped football field. Graduates from both the St. Charles and Belleville campuses, Poe and Clark met through the LU-Belleville Athletics Department while working toward their MBA and master's in education, respectively. They were married on December 27, 2014, in Belleville.

Check if appropriate:

- ☐ My name is misspelled.
- ☐ My address is incorrect.
- ☐ I received more than one copy.
- ☐ I no longer wish to receive *Connection*.

Please clip this address panel and mail it to us, or email your changes to alumni@lindenwood.edu noting your request.

Renewal and New Beginnings

Spring is traditionally a time of renewal and new beginnings. Never is that more true than spring 2015 at Lindenwood University. We were excited to hear the announcement that Dr. Michael Shonrock has been selected by the Board of Directors as the 22nd President of the University. We welcome Dr. and Mrs. Shonrock to the Lindenwood community and look forward to working closely with them to enhance outreach to the alumni community.



Judy Forstmann Brown ('67)

May 2015 graduation will be bittersweet as President James D. Evans presides over his final Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies. We celebrate and remember the 41-plus years Dr. Evans served the Lindenwood community. From his earliest days in 1974 as an assistant professor of psychology to his assuming the presidency in 2007, he inspired students and was a faithful steward of our beloved institution. We celebrate his accomplishments in academics, the advancement in sports to NCAA Division II, and the construction of major facilities on the St. Charles and Belleville campuses. We will remember his dedication to the Lindenwood community and are grateful for his leadership.

We also bid a fond farewell to his wife, our fellow alumna, Lois Evans. Lois welcomed dignitaries, alumni, staff, and students to Lindenwood House with warmth and charm. We shall miss Jim and

Lois and wish them the very best in their retirement.

Spring heralds new beginnings for our graduates who are completing their degrees and starting a new chapter in their lives. We congratulate them and wish them continued success as they begin careers or continue their educational pursuits. Congratulations also to John Stephens, who was selected as the 2015 Alumni Merit Award recipient for career achievement. John, a successful entrepreneur in the communications industry, has had a continued relationship with Lindenwood over the decades since his days as a student in the Mass Communications Department.

Friday night, June 5, alumni are invited to gather on the St. Charles campus for Alumni Picnic Movie Night. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and come spend an evening under the stars near the Pavilion on Heritage Campus to watch *Back to the Future* on a 33-foot screen! Barbecue will be served at 7:30 p.m., followed by the movie at 8:30 p.m.

Also, mark your calendars for Reunion Weekend October 16–18 (see story on page 18). The 2015 reunion theme New Beginnings, will serve to introduce Dr. and Mrs. Shonrock to the LU community and the class of 1965 will celebrate its 5-year reunion. Other class years are encouraged to gather to celebrate as well. Along with the now traditional football game, we are planning numerous activities for a fun-filled enjoyable weekend. It's a great time for alumni to share stories, remember, and reconnect with classmates, dorm mates, and former professors. Plan now to attend.

Information on the alumni picnic or reunion weekend may be found on the Lindenwood University website or by contacting Elizabeth Wikoff, Alumni Director, at (636) 949-4975 or

EWikoff@lindenwood.edu.

The survey conducted by the Alumni Association last year indicated LU alumni were interested in regional events, and we are expanding efforts in this direction. Please let Elizabeth know if alumni in your area would be interested in helping to sponsor a visit. We would love to come and see you; bring the latest news of Lindenwood, and share memories of our alma mater.

Do not forget—contact the Alumni Office with your latest news.

Judy Forstmann Brown ('67)
President, Alumni Association

Get Connected

Follow the thousands of Lindenwood alumni on these social media channels!



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Lindenwood University-
Belleville Alumni

Lindenwood University
Alumni Association



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Official Lindenwood University
Alumni Association



On Twitter:
[@LindenwoodAlum](https://twitter.com/LindenwoodAlum)