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COMMUNIQUÉ LINDENWOD AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

Gianini's Heroics Earn Employee of the Month Recognition

Lindenwood University Maintenance Department employee Emo Gianini has been named the Employee of the Month for March. The Eolia, Mo., resident has been in the position since February. He previously worked for 35 years as a Schnuck's warehouseman.

Gianini currently works the second shift from 2:30 to 11 p.m., overseeing the Linden Lodge and any areas on campus where his assistance is required. In fact, it was his quick response to an urgent issue in women's housing that earned him the Employee of the Month honor.

A home owned by the University recently caught fire, sparked by electrical lines downed by high winds. Once Gianini was notified of the circumstances, he rushed to the scene and put to use knowledge he had gained from his experience as a former member of the Winfield-Foley Volunteer Fire Protection District.

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Did you know With earthquakes in the news recently, did you know that George Sibley wrote about the New Madrid earthquakes that occurred between 1811 and 1812? He reported seeing the Missouri River rolling backwards. At the time, George was in charge of Fort Osage near Kansas City, Missouri.

"I grabbed the fire extinguisher in my truck and almost had the flames on the deck put out when my extinguisher ran out and the wind picked up," Gianini said. "I picked up the garden house and Steve Johnson told me where to point it through the smoke, keeping water on the eaves and flames out of the attic so the house wouldn't be lost or catch any other houses on fire."

Gianini's actions that day have been praised by the St. Charles Fire Department and by University officials.

"His efforts saved thousands of dollars in damages to the house and in personal belongings," said Julie Muller, Vice President for Operations and Finance and Chief Operating Officer. "Some say the whole house could have been lost if not for his actions."

Gianini has also earned a reputation among students for his positive attitude and solid customer service skills. A student, Justine Decock, recently took the time to write a letter to University officials recommending that Gianini receive special recognition. "Emo is the best maintenance person I have ever dealt with at Lindenwood, and I have been constantly impressed with his work," she said. "He sticks to his word and performs his job very well."

Julie Mueller, Lindenwood University Vice President for Operations and Finance and Chief Operating Officer, has been elected to the Community Advisory Board for SSM St. Joseph Health Center in St. Charles, Mo. She will serve a three-year term in the position.

Mueller currently oversees Lindenwood's 1,600 acres of properties and facilities. She also manages all major financial transactions and is a central figure in the planning and implementation of the University's campus expansion initiative.

Mueller served as Lindenwood's Dean of Students from 1989 to 1991. She was responsible for all human resource functions from 2000 to 2007, at which time she assumed her current role at the University.

She also has experience in the health care field, having worked initially as an emergency room relief charge nurse and later in a variety of roles for Correctional Medical Services, Inc.

"As a licensed registered nurse with several years of direct patient care and administrative experience in nursing, I'm really excited to be involved in the health care system again," Mueller said. "I'm looking forward to serving as an ambassador for SSM and supporting the institution in any way I can."

Gaspare Calvaruso, president of SSM St. Joseph Health Center, also enthusiastically supported Mueller's appointment.

"We are excited to have Julie join us, and we're looking forward to working with her," he said. "Her background in health care, education and finance, combined with her involvement with the St. Charles community, will bring a unique and welcome perspective to our board.