

Scenes from the faculty & staff holiday party



Three-year-old Hailey Roberts of Mt. Vernon, IN THE PHOTO ABOVE, warms up to Santa Claus at the Rend Lake College Faculty/Staff Holiday Party. Employees livening up the campus holiday party by donning their ugly holiday sweaters are, IN THE PHOTO AT LEFT, FROM LEFT, RLC Foundation CEO Shawna Hill, and faculty members Larry Williams and Greg Hollmann.

RLC Board approves new certificates

BY NATHAN WHEELER
 CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE EDITOR

The Rend Lake College Board of Trustees met Dec. 13 and approved the following items:
 New curricula, courses approved

The board approved two new occupational certificates — Medical Coding and Nail Technology — as well as several corresponding courses and authorized their submission to the Illinois Community College Board for action. The courses include: Medical Office Procedures, Essentials of Human Disease, Health Information Technology, Pharmacology Principles, Outpatient Billing and Reimbursement, Inpatient Billing and Reimbursement, Intro to Medical Coding, Introduction to CPT Coding, Intermediate Medical and CPT Coding, Medical Law and Ethics, Coding Practicum Nail Technology Theory I and II, and Nail Technology Clinic I and II. The Nail Technology certificate is associated with the Cosmetology program.

Bids accepted for machine shop equipment, routing table bids sought

Accepted the low bid of \$34,500 from JBH Technologies of Glenview, Ill., for the purchase of a Trotec Speedy 400 Laser Engraving System, and the low bid of \$21,172.33 from Torchmate CNC Cutting Systems of Reno, Nev., for a new CNC plasma cutter. In addition, the board granted permission to advertise for one new CNC routing table at an estimated cost of \$40,000. The equipment will help build RLC's new sustainable design curriculum with funding from the Illinois Green Economy Network — Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant.

Division Chairs, Director receive new titles

The chairs of the college's four divisions as well as the director of the Center for Community and Corporate Education received new titles after the board approved the creation of corresponding dean positions, updated the job descriptions and approved the

transfer of these individuals. Those being transferred are:

- Andrea Banach, Division Chair of Math and Sciences to Dean of Math and Sciences Division
- Henry "Buster" Leek, Division Chair of Liberal Arts to Dean of Liberal Arts Division
- Chris Nielsen, Division Chair of Applied Science and Technology to Dean of Applied Science and Technology Division
- Lori Ragland, Director of the Center for Community and Corporate Education to Dean of Community and Corporate Education
- Kim Robert, Division Chair of Allied Health to Dean of Allied Health Division

These changes were made to more accurately reflect the job duties associated with each of these positions.

Sveda moves into new Financial Aid position
 Appointed Rachel Sveda as Financial Aid and Admissions Coordinator effective Jan. 1. Sveda currently serves as Financial Aid Specialist at RLC. She holds Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees from RLC and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Paralegal Studies from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and is scheduled to complete her Master of Science Degree in Education in May 2013.

Bertschi becomes temporary full-time in Cosmetology

Employed Melissa Bertschi as a temporary full-time Cosmetology Instructor. Bertschi has been a part-time instructor since November 2008 and will fill a temporary vacancy within the program.

Two resignations accepted with regret

Accepted with regret the resignations of Krystal Reagan, Coordinator of Technology Integration and Training, effective Jan. 7, 2013, and Shannon Epplin, Assistant Child Care Provider, effective March 28, 2013.

"As an employee of Rend Lake for over six years, I have been blessed with many great

RLC Board..... continues on page 4



Rend Lake College President Terry Wilkerson, 2012 RLC Foundation Presidential Award winner Jim Leuty and RLC Foundation CEO Shawna Hill

RLCF Director Leuty receives Presidential Award

BY NATHAN WHEELER
 CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE EDITOR

Jim Leuty received the Rend Lake College Foundation Presidential Award during the RLCF Annual Dinner Meeting, Thursday night, at the Mount Vernon Holiday Inn.

Leuty, 49, of Mount Vernon, is a CPA and partner at Krehbiel and Associates accounting firm. He is one of the newer members to the RLCF Board of Directors. However, his firm's work on the Foundation's audit in past years makes him very familiar with its functions and an ideal addition to the board.

Rend Lake College Foundation Board Member Jim Leuty receives the RLCF Presidential Award, Thursday night, at the organization's Annual Dinner Meeting in Mount Vernon. Presenting the award to Leuty is

RLC President Terry Wilkerson and RLCF CEO Shawna Hill. Larger image attached.

With another firm conducting the most recent audits of the RLCF, Leuty found himself on the other side of the process. It was his work on this audit that made Leuty well-deserving of the RLCF Presidential Award.

Shawna Hill, CEO of the Foundation, said Leuty was active in a series of long meetings about the audit.

"His expertise was vital," said Hill. "I can't thank him enough for his willingness to go above and beyond for the Foundation. It was reassuring to have him there as we went through the audit. But it doesn't stop with the audit. Jim is always there to help out with our monthly financials or anything else we need."

The RLCF Presidential Award is among the institu-

tion's most prestigious honors and is reserved for an RLCF Board Member who shows exemplary service. The first recipients were Hunt Bonan, Mildred Fitzgerrell, Richard Garner and Howard L. Payne in 1995. Jim Kelly was the 1996 recipient, followed by Sam Mateer in 1997, Jimmy Fulks in 1998, Wendell Maulding in 1999, Rich Yunkus in 2000, Dr. Warren Petty in 2001, Bill Regenhardt and Mark Ballard in 2002, Dr. Gene Stotlar and Dr. Charles W. Roe in 2003, Dr. Robert Parks in 2004, Terry Addington in 2005, Millie Caldwell in 2006, Bob Thomason in 2007, Mary Ellen Aiken in 2008, Ed Cunningham in 2009, and Steve Rowland in 2010.

For more about the Foundation, visit online at www.rlc.edu/foundation.



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RLC radiologic technology students all in for Lambda Nu Honor Society

BY FERNANDO JACINTO AND NATHAN WHEELER

CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFF

All 25 sophomores in the radiologic technology program at Rend Lake College have joined Lambda Nu, the national honor society for the radiologic and imaging sciences. It's the first time since the organization was brought to the RLC campus a couple of years ago that every student has decided to take advantage of what it offers.

"As their teacher, it is incredibly rewarding," RLC's Lambda Nu representative Bria Robinson, an instructor in the Rad Tech program, said of her students' commitment. "Radiologic Technology is not an easy program. Our students must stay focused throughout the two years in order to successfully complete it. I appreciate how they all have stepped up and taken accountability for their own success. As their teacher I can give them all the information and knowledge I have, but how they utilize this information is what will bring them their greatest achievement. And obviously they all have done this quite well."

One student, sophomore Megan Wren of Harrisburg, said, "I joined Lambda Nu because they give you scholarship opportunities and it looks great to have this on a resume."



Every sophomore in Rend Lake College's radiologic technology program has qualified for and joined the Lambda Nu National Honor Society for the radiologic and imaging sciences. **FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT:** Krystal Girten (Valier), Mandy Sylvester (Thompsonville), Amanda Arondelli (Christopher), Trevor Gipson (Benton), Caitlin Bell (Benton), and Wanda VanGilder (Mt. Vernon). **SECOND ROW, FROM LEFT:** Michelle Kennedy (McLeansboro), Amy Carpenter (Orchardville), Julie Triplett (Galatia), Mindy Gauger (Waltonville), Jennifer Mezo (Herrin), Ashley Cobb (Johnston City), Sean Stewart (Benton), and Beth Price (Opdyke). **BACK ROW, FROM LEFT:** Katie Brown (Royalton), Laura Henson (Buckner), Dave James (Energy), Amanda Owen (McLeansboro), Paula Dodillet (Mt. Vernon), Ashley Webb (McLeansboro) Megan Wren (Harrisburg), Steven Campbell (Pinckneyville), Taylor Beninati (Pinckneyville) and Melissa Pearson (DuQuoin). Not pictured, Jera Engel (Carbondale).

Robinson explained the program and its benefits. "It basically helps if they want to pursue any scholarships through the honor society as well as looking good on their resumes. It's a big accomplishment for them to keep up on that nice of a GPA through the program." The fact that every sopho-

more joined also means that every sophomore in the program meets the GPA requirement to join, which is a very respectable 3.0 GPA. "A student has to have at least a 3.0 GPA in their Radiology classes in order to qualify," said Robinson. "That they all qualify says to me that our students are taking

their program of study very seriously. They have a drive and dedication to the field of radiology that will help take them far in their new profession after graduation." Lambda Nu has had a chapter on the Rend Lake campus since November of 2010. Robinson believes it keeps RLC at a higher stan-

dard and helps students strive for more academic achievement. "I think it shows dedication and that the student really cares about the academic side of the profession," she said. Radiology can be a bit of a difficult program to study, she added. Her advice for

radiology students in the program is to study hard and always have excellence at the top of their academic priority list. "It's always a subject matter that has to be studied and to be focused on," she said. "Always look toward your end result and your final goal."

Santasy Football Challenge

WEEK 15

Mark Hopkins gained ground again this week and is now only 52 points behind Josh Myers in fake football. Can his team catch Myers in the final, Week 16?

Mark's Team			Josh's Team		
Pos	Player	Pts	Pts	Player	Pos
QB	M. Ryan (ATL)	22	(NO) D. Brees		QB
	E. Manning (NYG)		24	(GB) A. Rodgers	
RB	R. Rice (BAL)	3	16	(HOU) A. Foster	RB
	CJ Spiller (BUF)		0	(PHI) L. McCoy	
	R. Bush (MIA)			(SF) F. Gore	
	A. Peterson (MIN)	27		(SEA) M. Lynch	
WR	V. Cruz (NYG)	1	12	(DET) C. Johnson	WR
	S. Smith (CAR)	12	11	(CHI) B. Marshall	
	V. Jackson (TB)	8	2	(ARI) L. Fitzgerald	
TE	T. Gonzalez (ATL)		0	(NE) R. Gronkowski	TE
	J. Graham (NO)	6		(SF) V. Davis	
K	L. Tynes (NYG)	0	0	(CHI) R. Gould	K
	M. Bryant (ATL)			(GB) M. Crosby	
DEF	Texans	17	7	Bears	DEF
	Ravens			49ers	
Week 15 Total Pts	96	Week 15 Total Pts	72		
FF Total Pts	1,304	FF Total Pts	1,356		

This symbol means the guys picked that player to start.

Fantasy Football Tip for Week 16 - Pay attention to who is playing to win. Teams with the postseason locked up have been known to rest starters or bench them all together. This can provide severe punishment to Fantasy Football teams everywhere. Likewise, watch out for hopeless teams already writing off this season in hopes of a higher draft pick. It is fake football, but it is ruled by reality.



Rend Lake College's security department recently received a squad car, donated by the Mount Vernon Police Department. Pictured above with the car is, FROM LEFT, RLC Chief of Police Gary McGill, MVPD Police Chief Chris Mendenhall and RLC President Terry Wilkerson. Mendenhall said the cruiser is a "great car" that, while no longer meeting the force's needs, should be perfect for patrols at the college in Ina. This is the second squad car in a little more than two years that the MVPD has donated to RLC.

Rend Lake College Clocktower Chronicle

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Door decorating contest



The top two finalists of RLC's uber-competitive door decorating contest were announced at the Holiday Party. STARS and Upward Bound Administrative Assistant Marcia Whitehead (RIGHT) took home first place while Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Instruction Jean Huie was named runner-up.

Door prize



Aquatics Center Coordinator Laura Johnston was the first name pulled in the door prize drawing.

50/50 raffle



Executive Assistant to the President Cathy DeJarnette won the big 50/50 raffle to raise money for the Student Emergency Fund. The event helped raise roughly \$1,000 for the fund, which was established years ago to help students who face an unexpected financial burden that significantly hinders their education and may even put them at risk of dropping out.

Prize winners from the faculty & staff holiday party

Holiday greeting card facts

Millions of greeting cards are sent out each holiday season. Estimates suggest that 85 percent of the United States population, or roughly 250 million people, mails out greeting cards. That adds up to billions of cards going through the postal system — and all in a relatively short period of time.

Men and women who hope to send holiday greeting cards must purchase, prepare and mail the cards early enough so they are received prior to the holiday. It is never too early to begin greeting card preparation and assembly.

The majority of cards are bought in boxed packages or groupings of photo cards. Gone are the days of hand-picking individual greeting cards for every recipient. This trend toward general-theme cards has streamlined the process and can help senders start their tasks earlier than ever before.

Some people like to take advantage of post-holiday sales to stock up on greeting cards for the following year at a deep discount. This means they can write the cards out at their leisure and then simply toss them into the mailbox at the appropriate time.

Much in the way people begin their holiday shopping or decorating right after the Thanksgiving turkey leftovers have been stored away, a good majority of people also begin their greeting card writing after Thanksgiving as well. Those who want their cards to arrive first will mail them

within a few days of Thanksgiving. When sent domestically, it is safe to assume that cards mailed out up to 2 weeks before Christmas will arrive on time. After that point, you may be risking lateness, particularly for rural delivery addresses unless cards are sent priority. For those who need to mail cards internationally, sticking close to the end of November will ensure they arrive in a timely manner.

People who want to make a statement and not have their greeting cards get lost in the crowd may intentionally mail them late and lean toward wishing health and prosperity for the new year, rather than sending a card tied to a specific holiday. This gives extra time for mailing and will set cards apart from the many others.

Photo cards have grown in popularity, and people interested in having a professional photographer shoot their holiday card photo

pharmacy or retail store can save time. It is unlikely that professional photos taken in December can be printed and mailed and still arrive on time. Also, be sure to heed copyright laws concerning photographs. It may be illegal to scan an image from a photographer or photo studio and have prints made without written permission.

Postage is another thing that will have to be considered when mailing out cards. While many cards fall under the weight and size limits of a regular first class postage stamp, unusually shaped envelopes or heavy greeting cards may cost more. Rather than have them returned, it is a good idea to have at least one card weighed at the post office to ensure the right amount of postage is affixed. Some cards will be packaged with envelopes that state "Additional postage may



be required" right on the box. Greeting cards are an important component of the holiday season. Ensuring they arrive on time requires planning and sending them out with ample time to spare.

tos would be wise to make an appointment as early as possible. Popular photographers often start holiday photo shoots in October. Keep in mind that the photographs can take a while to be processed and arrive. For those who are on borrowed time, taking a photo with a personal camera and having prints made up at a

RLC offering variety of classes next semester

BY RHEANNA GRIZZELL
CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFF

Besides the basic core curriculum, Rend Lake College offers a variety of unique classes and programs that can appeal to everyone's interests. A few of these options for the upcoming spring semester include Introduction to Stained Glass, Educational Technology, Stage Makeup, Introduction to Game Programming, and the Inside-Out program.

A class in the art department, Introduction to Stained Glass gives students a first-hand opportunity to create stained glass structures in lead and copper foil and to learn about the history of glass construction. It will meet from 5-8 p.m., on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Students striving towards a degree in education could enroll in Educational Technology. The class focuses on the modern technology and the use of it in education. Students will be able to perform and learn about the technology in activities. Classes meet from 3-3:50 p.m., on Wednesdays.

Another interesting choice in the liberal arts is Stage Makeup. Students will learn the basics of highlighting and shadowing, showing old age and wounds, creating fantasy and animal looks, and more. Taught by Tracey Webb, the class will meet from 3-4:50 p.m., on Mondays and Wednesdays.

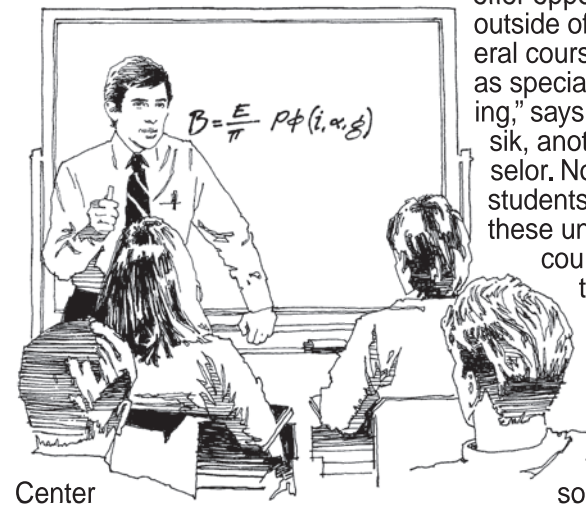
For students who are interested in the creation of computer games, Introduction to Game Programming is being offered in the spring from 8-9:50 a.m., on Mondays and Wednesdays. This class gives an overview on graphics and animations for computer

games in Windows-based applications, DirectX, and OpenGL. One must complete Intro to Programming in MS Visual Basic as a prerequisite or have the consent of the instructor to enroll.

In the social science department, the Inside-Out Prison Exchange offers students the chance to visit the Jefferson County Justice

summer option as well. Nicki Bowlin, a counselor at Rend Lake College, says that the Inside-Out program "is a great experience for students to be able to get good insight and background knowledge into those incarcerated individuals."

These are only a few classes that are available at Rend Lake College. "We offer opportunities outside of the general courses, such as specialized training," says Jena Jen-sik, another counselor. Not only are students offered these unique



Center to connect and discuss with the inmates. It requires an application and a background check. It starts March 19 and meets from 6-8:50 p.m., on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is a

courses, but they can request classes as well. She adds, "If there is something that is not offered, speak with someone. Some classes come from student demand."

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Randy Small of Carbondale holds his certificate in enology from Rend Lake College. He is joined by, FROM LEFT, RLC President Terry Wilkerson, Vice President of Career-Technical Instruction Lisa Payne and VESTA Coordinator Candy Fitch-Deitz.

New RLC Fitness Center to open in Mt. Vernon

Rend Lake College will open a new fitness center location at the Rend Lake College MarketPlace in Mount Vernon. The new facility will open Dec. 26 next door to the RLC Golf Outlet. It will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays; and 1-4 p.m. on Sundays.

The new facility will be equipped with universal machines, free-weight stations, treadmills with dedicated television screens, elliptical trainers, and an aerobic/group

exercise room. Aerobic dance classes, led by qualified instructors, will also be available. For members who like to go at their own pace, the fitness center will offer a variety of fitness DVDs that can be used in the exercise room.

To sign up, or inquire about rates, call 618-437-5321, Ext. 1347. For any question, call that number or make contact with RLC Fitness Center Director Tony Etnier by e-mail at etniert@rlc.edu.



Illinois Mining Institute Scholarships



Rend Lake College Mining Technology students (FROM LEFT) Matt Androvandi (Waltonville), Bryce Jones (Sesser) and Aaron Green (Kell) received scholarships from the Illinois Mining Institute. Each recipient received a certificate and a check. They are pictured above with RLC Mining Technology Associate Professor Dave Colombo.

How \$9 wine won gold

BY MELISSA GIBBS
CULINARY ARTS CLUB

On Nov. 9, the Rend Lake Culinary students hopped on the official RLC "short bus" and headed to Springfield to learn all about wines. The field trip was organized by the Viticulture and Enology Science and Technology Alliance (VESTA) as a Sensory Evaluation Workshop to help us learn how to appreciate and understand wine on a higher level. Why do people swirl wine? Why stick their nose into their glass? Why are wine snobs so ... snobbish?

We jumped on the bus around 3 p.m. — full of energy, adventure and amused at Chef [Robert] Wilson's Hawaiian shirt. Seriously ... Rend Lake Chefs are allowed to wear something other than white? Who knew?! After a long bus drive, we finally arrived in Springfield ... the adrenalin gone and longing for bed. We stopped at the Asian Harbor for sushi and other oriental treats to fill our belly. It was here that Chef Wilson ordered and treated everyone to a small taste of sea urchin. Even the anti-seafood among us couldn't say no. With full bellies, most of us headed straight to bed, feet dragging.

The next morning we headed straight to Land of Lincoln College to begin our workshop. Sensory Evaluation? What did that even mean? We would

soon learn as we walked into the room filled with glass after glass of various wines. Our first job was only to smell and discover. There are many smells and attributes to wines — both good and bad. Different people are attracted to different smells based on their own palate, experiences and general preferences.

Tasting and truly experiencing a wine takes several steps. Look at it, smell it and finally taste it. We swirled our wine, forcing air into it, trying and struggling at first to understand even what we were looking for. The aromatic compounds often complex and hard to pick apart to find the individual smells within. We would shout thoughts around the room — from canned asparagus to ripe blackberries to buttery caramel!

The work involved in just smelling, without ever tasting, was physically exhausting. Break and lunch couldn't come fast enough. Land of Lincoln's Chef, Jolene Adams, treated us to a wonderful lunch of pesto-tortellini soup, fresh green salad, sandwiches and pear-pomegranate salad for dessert. After a short tour of their brand-new kitchen facilities, it was back to work ... this time we would be tasting.

The line of glasses in front of us, at first exciting, soon became overwhelming as the exercise began. But we were learning - learning faster than we even realized at first. Our struggles to identify even one scent within the glass soon became collections of smells that we would recognize quickly and efficiently. Our instructor soon took us through exercises to recognize wine components such as alcohol, tannin and acid — later exploring defects

that can taint our experience.

We finished out the evening visiting American Harvest, a farm-to-table restaurant ran by a Land of Lincoln culinary graduate. Here, Chef Wilson treated our wine-out palates to lamb sausage, fresh cheeses and pork belly meatballs. We returned to our hotel - once again exhausted and longing for pillows. The bluegrass festival next door provided entertainment for those willing to forgo sleep.

On our last day, after some short review, we formed a wine panel and actually practiced 'judging' wine. We awarded the glasses with medals based on each group's interpretation of the qualities we had just discovered. The effects of one day of education were evident. Without realizing it, we were already becoming wine snobs ourselves — giving few wines gold medals while refusing to even medal others. Afterwards, the wines we tasted were revealed. Gold medals were rare and often went to cheap \$9 bottles of wine and no medals for more expensive \$25 and more wines, which were, many times, harshly voted down across the board.

We walked out that afternoon, thankful to be back on the "short bus" heading home, but also with a head full of knowledge and experience. Never again would we quickly swallow a glass of wine without appreciating all the subtleties that came about during its creation. We would always have a better understanding of certain qualities and how they help match a wine with an entree and even how to understand why we, personally, liked or disliked a certain wine.

We had left RLC as students and returned to RLC as future wine snobs. We also returned thankful, to VESTA and RLC, for the experience and knowledge that would carry with us throughout our lives.

RLC Board.....

continued from page 1

opportunities and have made lifelong friendships. I appreciate everything that RLC has provided me with and I will greatly miss everyone," Reagan wrote in her resignation letter. Epplin wrote, "Thank you for the opportunities that Rend Lake College has provided me in the last seven years of employment. I will cherish the memories of each child who has come through my classroom, and all the people I have met."

- IN OTHER BUSINESS:**
- Approved revisions to board procedure concerning fees.
 - Approved the schedule of meetings of the RLC Board of Trustees for the 2013 calendar year.
 - Approved the 2013-2014 Rend Lake College



John Kabat, member and secretary of the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees, gets in on the discussion during the board's December workshop. The workshop is an annual meeting where college leaders and trustees come together to talk about the past year and what's to come.

- Catalog.
Mark your calendars
...
• Homecoming, Wednesday Feb. 20, 2013; 5:30 p.m. Women's Game, 7:30 p.m. Men's Game, Waugh Gymnasium.

- "Into the Woods," RLC Spring Musical; 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 21-23, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 24, RLC Theatre.
- HLC Substantive Change Request Visit, Monday-Tuesday, April 15-16.



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