

# Wood you believe a \$400,000 gift?

When William M. Wood first approached Rend Lake College Foundation officials regarding a planned giving donation, he was somewhat skeptical.

All he had, the widower explained, was the modest house in which he lived and a few tools. But he had been touched by the care he received from

Rend Lake College nursing students during a recent hospital stay, and with no living descendants he wanted to repay the favor in some small way.

Any gift would be appreciated, he was told. That was 1987.

When Wood died this past June, with an estate enhanced by an inheritance from his sis-

ter, Vermadel M. Wood, he left behind the means to help build countless futures for many years to come.

The climax to Tuesday night's RLC Foundation Annual Dinner was the announcement of a gift of approximately \$400,000 toward the establish-

(Continued on Page 4)

ANNUAL FOUNDATION DINNER ATTRACTS 300+

## Theme: Do-gooders usually part of team

The recurring theme throughout an upbeat evening of recognizing do-gooders at the Rend Lake College Foundation Annual Dinner . . .

Nobody does anything worth doing alone. It takes a team. The support of family, friends, co-workers and other colleagues.

Said "Alumnus of the Year"

Mark Michalic, the AFT Special Agent-turned-reluctant hero who first identified Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, to an audience of 300-plus at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn: "I don't accept this (award) because of what I've done. I accept it for what you have done for me."

(Continued on Page 6)

## First Chairman Dr. Curt Parker finally saluted

The same virtues that made him an effective leader may have led to virtual obscurity in later years for one of the founding fathers of Rend Lake College, Dr. Curtis A. Parker.

Chairman of the Steering Committee that led to the formation of the comprehensive community college by an all-time record affirmative vote of 87 percent. First Chairman of the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees. One of those most responsible for the establishment of the RLC Foundation.

Unrecognized. Until now.

The Executive Board Room, located in the Student Center on the Ina campus, will hereafter be called the Curtis A. Parker Board

(Continued on Page 10)

REND  
LAKE  
COLLEGE



FALL '98 / Vol. 28 / No. 13

DECEMBER 14-20, 1998

# RLC art students claim three of four Logan awards

Rend Lake College art students won first place, second place and one of two merit awards given at the fourth annual Great Rivers Community College Art Exhibition held at John A. Logan College. The exhibit will run through January 1999.

The exhibition was open to nine community colleges in Southern Illinois, with four submitting entries – RLC, John A. Logan, Southeastern Illinois and Shawnee.

Of the four awards presented, first place was claimed by Brenda Webster McCollum (Benton) for her watercolor, "Past Pleasures." McCollum returned to school a few years ago and has won numerous awards during that time for her art work.

Second-place went to another RLC rep, JoAnn Mondino (Benton). Mondino is a nontraditional student, also, who had never painted before this semester. She won for her oil painting, "Our Red Dogwood."

Bob Pina (Zeigler), a musician whose ensemble has played at the opening of the annual RLC Student/Faculty Art Exhibit for the past several years, won a merit award for his oil painting, "Autumn Light." Pina has painted for awhile but had never before taken classes until recently.

The other merit award went to Logan's Michael Thomas Wright.

Dr. Dennis Taylor of the SIU School of Art and Design served as juror. He

praised RLC students for their "good use of perspective, handling of the media, strong spatial qualities and fresh use of light and color."

Other Rend Lake College students participating in the show include Sarah Bevis, Joe Frisch, Janet Galli, Jennifer Melton, Tommy Miller, Sue Parrish, Jenny Reininger, Sarah Scott, Nila Tanner, Glenda Thompson and Janice Threatt. Some of those have more than one piece on display.

# Capps, two others have work chosen

Three area artists with a Rend Lake College connection have had works selected in preliminary judging for the prestigious Illinois Women Artists: The New Millennium exhibit.

RLC Art Professor Sarah Capps (Belle Rive), art student Brenda Webster McCollum (Benton) and former student Sue Stotlar (Benton) have all had paintings selected for the show sponsored by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, located in Washington, D.C.

From 1,200 slides submitted statewide, 100 works were chosen. Three

regions – Cook County, Central Illinois and Southern Illinois – were judged separately by four judges to make up the works. These works will now be sent to Chicago, where juror Clare Henry, Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts, Glasgow, Scotland, will do the final judging.

Between 20 and 30 from these works will then be chosen and displayed at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. From there they will tour various venues in the state of Illinois until the year 2001.

## Birthdays

- Frank Fenton (12/14)
- John Duncan (12/15)
- Linda Denton (12/19)
- Camille Jones (12/19)
- Leah Stallman (12/19)
- Dr. Julie Meents (12/20)
- Becky Williamson (12/21)
- Ginger Hogan (12/25)
- Michael Joplin (12/26)
- Nancy Kinsey (12/26)
- Jana Groh (12/27)
- Shelley Meacham (12/30)
- Paula Myers (12/30)
- Elaine Johnson (12/31)
- Nigel Thompson (1/2)
- Lyndy Girten (1/3)
- Dan Horton (1/6)
- Joseph Henry Rust (1/6)
- Jerry Bate (1/7)
- Melinda Thomas (1/9)
- Glenna Maxwell (1/11)
- John Fisher (1/14)
- Georgine Hawley (1/15)
- Rosemary Hicks-Lay (1/17)
- Jennifer Parker (1/17)

## Menu for week of December 14-18 ...

### MARTIN'S FOOD SERVICE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Specials				Specials
LUNCH \$4.25				LUNCH
Dumplings				Asserole
2 Vegetarian Roll				Salads
Small Drink				Small Drink
SANDWICH \$3.15				SANDWICH \$3.15
Pork Fritter				Cheeseburger
FF/Veg/Chips				FF/Veg/Chips
Small Drink				Small Drink

**The cafeteria will close at 1 p.m. daily**  
**Finals Week. Bob Martin, Debbie Jackson and staff wish everyone safe, Happy Holidays!!!**

**Hours / 7:30 am - 1:30 pm**

## RLC employees will attend 'Values' seminar January 7

The Rend Lake College campus will be closed Thursday, January 7, to allow all full-time faculty and staff to attend a Core Values seminar at Kaskaskia College.

According to a memo from RLC President Mark S. Kern dated December 3, the seminar tentatively is scheduled from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Kaskaskia auditorium. Coffee and rolls will be available at 8:30 a.m.

The date is firm, but the exact times could change. Employees will be notified of any changes.

"All full-time Rend Lake Col-

lege employees are to attend this seminar," the memo indicated.

If there is enough interest, a bus will leave the RLC campus at 7:15 a.m. for those who would like to ride together to the Centralia-based campus. A stop will be made at the Holiday Inn in Mt. Vernon to pick up employees from the area.

Those interested in riding the bus to K.C. on January 7 are asked to contact Cindy Minor on or before December 18, either at Ext. 243 or by e-mail, [minor@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:minor@rlc.cc.il.us).

Mileage will not be paid to those who prefer to drive.

## Surgical Technology program to be offered through SICCM

Rend Lake College, John A. Logan College, Shawnee Community College and Southeastern Illinois College will jointly offer a new one-year Surgical Technology certificate program beginning Fall Semester 1999. The program will be administered by the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM).

The four community colleges, along with Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and SIU-Edwardsville, comprise the membership of SICCM, an organization formed in 1973 to administer cooperative programs.

The newest program is designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to practice as certified surgical technologists. Students successfully completing the program will be fully qualified for jobs as surgical technologists at hospitals, surgical centers, clinics

and physician offices.

Admission to the program will require a high school diploma or equivalent. Students also must meet admissions requirements of the community college district in which they reside.

Content classes will be held at the SICCM facility in Herrin, just off State Route 13, and at cooperating clinic sites. Related classes will be conducted at the students' home campuses.

For admission and enrollment information, prospective students are encouraged to contact Rend Lake College Allied Health Department Chair Wilanna Kiefer Patton at 437-5321, Ext. 251, or a representative of the other colleges: Tom Cardwell at John A. Logan, 985-3741, Ext. 8497; Carol Belt at Shawnee, 634-9411, Ext. 277, or Nancy Buttry at Southeastern Illinois, 252-5400, Ext. 2382.

## Reception Tuesday for retiring D. Tabor

A retirement reception for Allied Health Associate Professor Dana Tabor will be held Tuesday, December 15, from 3-4 p.m. in the Student Center.

Refreshments will be served.

Tabor is in her second stint as a full-time instructor at the college. She returned in 1991 after previously teaching between 1979 and '84.

Tabor's responsibilities involve the evening and weekend Practical Nursing program.

### FYI Briefs

Printing Services will close Friday, December 18, at 4 p.m. and will not reopen until after the holidays on Monday, January 4.

The Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market currently has a full-time position available for a Director of Surgical Technology for its new one-year program.

The program director must have a Bachelor of Science Degree in a related field and five years of operating room experience preferred.

Applicants must be eligible for CNOR or CST. Teaching experience is preferred.

Candidates are required to submit a résumé with references and college transcripts to Dr. Jack D. Hill, Executive Director, SICCM, 3213 South Park Ave., Herrin, IL 62948. Interviewing will begin in January and the position will remain open until filled.

Due dates for upcoming payrolls:

Payroll	Due Date
January 5	December 18
January 20	January 12
February 5	January 29
February 19	February 12
March 5	February 26

# Mercantile Bank will donate children's outdoor equipment

There were several surprise announcements during Tuesday evening's Rend Lake College Foundation Annual Dinner, one of which even came as a surprise to college officials responsible for the gala event.

Confirmation did not come until a little earlier in the day that Mercantile Bank would be donating \$12,000 to the RLC Foundation. David P. Strautz, President and CEO of Mercantile Bank of Mt. Vernon, notified Executive Director Pat Mitchell of the good news.

Mitchell was more than happy to add the item to an already-overflowing agenda. There is always room for good news.

The President of Mercantile Bank of Benton and a member of the RLC Foundation Board of Directors, Steve Woodfin, was present at the dinner to make the presentation.

The money will be used for an

infrastructure (jungle gym) which will be placed in the Learning Environment Center located in the new RLC Foundation Children's Center playground. The outdoor portion of the new facility consists of a rabbit hutch, vegetable and flower gardens, trike path, sandpile and walk-in log cabin built by students in the RLC Big Muddy River Correctional Center Construction Occupations program.

Mercantile Bank currently participates in a grant program to support community projects. With the help of Rend Lake College Director of Resource Development Bob Ross, a proposal was written requesting playground equipment for the Children's Center.

Since 1987, Mercantile Bank has donated over \$13,000 to promote student scholarships at Rend Lake College. An endowment scholarship fund was started in 1990.

## FYI Briefs

Beanie Baby updates . . .

The winner of the Princess Di Beanie Baby from England through a raffle sponsored by the International Studies Club was Dean of Vocational-Technical Education Terry Clark.

Allied Health students recently raised \$1,028 for Nursing Scholarships through a raffle involving numerous Beanie Babies.



Books for Spring '99 will be available beginning Monday, January 4, for sale or rental in the newly remodeled Textbook Sales and Rentals office, located in the Student Center.



A reminder of the free trial Arthritis Aquatics class open to all faculty and staff Monday, December 21. The class will be taught by Debbie Bennis. Participants should be changed and ready to go at 7 a.m. Questions? Contact Jason Thrash at Ext. 207.

## MORE ABOUT >> Wood legacy establishes scholarships

ment of perpetual funding for the "Delta Theta Tau Vermadel M. Wood Scholarship" awards.

It represents the largest single donation ever made to the comprehensive community college in its 32-year history.

"The money is going into a trust at Bank of America and will benefit many, many students annually," commented RLC Foundation Executive Director Pat Mitchell, who praised the groundwork by one of her predecessors, Bob Carlock, in helping Bill Wood finalize his planned gift.

Vermadel Wood taught in the Mt. Vernon City Schools system for 40 years. The first eight of those, from 1929-37, were at Edison Grade School. From 1937 through the 1968-69 school year, she taught at Casey Junior High School.

Her brother revised his will in August, 1993, shortly after her estate

was passed on to him. "He saw no reason to change the original intent of his decision," Mitchell said.

Miss Wood, who never married, also was quite active during that time with Delta Theta Tau Sorority. Delta Theta Tau President Barbara Beck and other members of the educational sorority were at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn when the announcement was made.

Delta Theta Tau Sorority, as well as Vermadel M. Wood, will be recognized each time a scholarship awarded through William M. Wood's generous legacy is presented.

Interest earned from the trust "shall be used solely for the providing of educational scholarships."

The college will determine how scholarships "shall be awarded based upon the financial need of the recipient and upon the scholastic ability and achievement of the recipient,"

according to Wood's request.

The scholarships will be established "with the general goal of assisting deserving, well-rounded, needy students capable of beneficial service to society through their further education. The scholarships awarded by the trust shall each be in an amount sufficient to pay the annual tuition, the annual textbook and materials expense and a sum to defray room-and-board expenses, housing expenses and/or transportation expenses."

Scholarships "shall be for a one-year period only, although a given recipient shall not be prohibited or restricted from receiving a scholarship during a subsequent year."

Bill Wood was the manager of J.V. Walker's & Sons clothing store for men and young men on the square in Mt. Vernon for many years before his retirement.

# Fulks No. 7 in 'Presidential Award' lineup

How appropriate it is that Jimmy J. Fulks would become No. 7 in a lineup of heavy hitters for the Rend Lake College Foundation.

A close personal friend of the late Mickey Mantle – a picture of the two of them hangs in the office of the Mariah Boats, Inc. CEO, along with other memorabilia of No. 7, the former Yankee great – Fulks joined the RLC Foundation's version of the Hall of Fame Tuesday evening when he was named recipient of a "Presidential Award."

With the announcement by Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern, Fulks becomes only the seventh person to be so honored, following another heavy weight in Sam Mateer of Mt. Vernon a year ago, Jim Kelly (Sesser) in 1996 and the initial quartet of Hunt Bonan (McLeansboro), Mildred Fitzgerald (Sesser), Richard Garner (Sesser) and Howard L. Payne (Benton) in 1995.

Fulks could do about anything he wanted in the field – pitch, play shortstop, roam the outfield like his old friend – or in the batting order – hit clean-up, lead-off, etc. – for the Rend Lake College Foundation after a very productive four years on its Board of Directors.

Prior to Tuesday's honor at the Foundation's Annual Dinner at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn, Fulks' contribution to the college in recent years had amounted to over \$300,000 and culminated in the recent naming of the new Jimmy J. Fulks Aquatics Center on the Ina campus.

The Mariah Boats founder and president made an immediate impact in 1994, a few short months after joining the board, when he matched the lead gifts of General Tire and Bank of Illinois in Mt. Vernon with a \$100,000 commitment to the "Generations of Excellence" capital campaign. Those donations provided the major impetus toward an initial goal of \$250,000 which was increased 2-for-1 by an "Endowment Challenge Grant" from the U.S. Department of Education.

And as a result, the not-for-profit RLC Foundation now boasts a perpetual endowment fund of just over \$1 million from which it can draw interest for ongoing student scholarships.

Fulks had told those present at the 1994 Annual Dinner of his humble beginnings as a sharecropper's son, of his needs one winter as a small child without adequate footwear, of a teacher's generosity in taking him to a store to purchase a new pair of shoes and in his personal vow to repay that debt "over and over if I ever get the chance."

"He certainly has done that," RLC Foundation Executive Director Pat Mitchell said at the October 30 dedication of the Fulks Aquatics Center.

Since that initial investment in the college and its students, Fulks and Mariah Boats also have been a co-sponsor of the annual RLC Foundation Open Golf Tournament each summer.

Enough to earn a "Presidential Award?" Without question.

Fulks was far from done, however.

He allowed the Mariah pledge in later years to be counted toward a \$200,000 shortfall in funding for the aquatics recreation and rehabilitation facility. When that still wasn't enough to go along with the state's original \$1.8 million appropriation, Fulks personally upped the ante enough to complete the project.

Kern recalled it did not take Fulks long in one of their meetings to decide to assume the additional liability. Fulks saw the need and the benefits to the community in making his generous offer," Kern said.

"When considering this donation, Jimmy asked the question, 'If I do this, will it free other monies for (student) scholarships?'"

In a Letter to the Editor on Fulks' behalf last summer, Kern alluded to a project "in jeopardy. Mr. Fulks made a major donation that allowed the project – done by Southern Illinois contractors – to be completed.

"The facility now enables people with arthritic conditions to exercise, those with physical problems to have water therapy, young children to learn to swim, others to receive life-saving lessons and lifeguard training and a place for high school students to have wholesome after-prom or graduation parties."

Added Kern: "Mr. Fulks has underwritten major educational projects by donating much-needed equipment and educational tools to Rend Lake College, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, University of Illinois and John A. Logan College. He has made his business available to provide training for students and job opportunities for hundreds of area residents.

"I know first-hand Mr. Fulks has regularly come to the aid of those in need, also. He has helped ease the financial pain of medical and economic disasters for many area families, and he has repeatedly given generously to provide clothing for economically disadvantaged children, support for community-based activities such as youth sports programs and American Red Cross blood drives, food for local food pantries and funding for street signs in Benton.

"It has been my privilege," concluded Kern, "to view Mr. Fulks' many contributions to and his positive impact on our region."

There are no hard-and-fast rules to gaining membership in the exclusive "Presidential Award" club, no magic numbers or goals to reach to guarantee inclusion, Kern pointed out once again.

Foundation directors, noted Kern, "provide many functions for the college, not the least of which is to provide college officials with community opinion concerning the college and to help explain college activities to the people within their communities.

"However, the most important role of most foundations and their membership is to raise monies for activities that could not be funded through normal resources."

## MORE ABOUT >>> Theme: Do-gooders all part of a team

Dr. Curt Parker, one of the founding fathers in the mid '60s, will have the college's Executive Board Room named for him. But in honoring the Mt. Vernon optometrist, "You honor the original seven board members . . . And when you honor those seven, you also honor the 70 members of the Steering Committee, 10 from each county . . . You honor people like Dr. J. Lester Buford, from whom the real genesis for Rend Lake College came; the Dean of Deans, Dr. Howard Rawlinson, who molded the faculty and curriculum that produced the Mark Michalics and all of the other graduates of Rend Lake College . . . You honor the very first excellent president, Dr. James M. Snyder . . . You honor my wife, Mary Ann, and the families who didn't see much of us but carried on while we were working . . .

"For all of them, I'd like to accept this honor."

In saluting the area's largest industry, which started a capital campaign rolling five years ago with a \$100,000 lead gift, and the plant owned by RLC Foundation "Presidential Award" recipient Jimmy J. Fulks, Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern noted, "Think of where Southern Illinois would be, with the current state of the coal industry locally, if not for companies like General Tire and Mariah Boats.

"It's an honor and a privilege," responded Mariah's Fulks, "to be able to give back to a community that has allowed me to prosper. I'm a strong supporter of Rend Lake College."

After all the kind words and worthy praise were passed out - including those for Annual Dinner co-sponsor First Cellular of Southern Illinois and a special friend of the RLC Foundation, Tri-County's Bruce Barkau - there were announcements of major importance as well . . .

The Wood Family legacy (there's that family theme again), with the late William M. Wood leaving \$400,000 to the college in his planned

giving estate in the form of Delta Theta Tau Vermadel M. Wood Scholarships. The largest single donation in the history of the Rend Lake College Foundation is a tribute to an educator who taught in the Mt. Vernon city schools for 40 years.

And finally, with the Jimmy J. Fulks Aquatics Center and the RLC Foundation Children's Center shining examples of the past year's accomplishments, Executive Director Pat Mitchell told of 1999 RLC Foundation plans which call for the establishment of a Learning in Retirement Center designed to enhance lifelong educational opportunities for area seniors.

"I keep being asked, 'What are we going to do now?' " Mitchell said. "Everybody is ready for more."

Activities and the curriculum planned as an avenue for lifetime learning will be designed by those individuals comprising the retirement community, Mitchell indicated. Participants will have the largest say "in what to teach and who will teach it."

Four television stations - WSIL-TV 3 in Carterville, WPSD-TV 6 in Paducah, KFVS-TV 12 in Cape Girardeau and WSIU-TV 8 from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale - and two local newspapers covered the event and focused on the returning hero, West Frankfort native Michalic.

Michalic recalled the "electric" moment when he placed the call that put McVeigh, jailed nearby on a traffic violation but soon to be released on bail, behind bars permanently. "We got lucky," he admitted.

During his TV interviews and throughout much of his speech, the personable Michalic talked more about how "lucky" he was to have his support team than his own accomplishments. He thanked his parents, George and Agnes Michalic, his Southern Illinois friends of long-standing, Rend Lake College and his teachers.

That was especially true of retired RLC Architectural Instructor Fred Bruno, a West Frankfort neighbor who convinced Michalic he should give college a try.

Not necessarily in this order, but in his own words, Michalic said to those present: "You don't realize, faculty and staff and Dr. Parker, what you started. You don't know what's going to happen with those individuals you help . . . that you may have a part in arresting the most heinous criminal in the United States (a crime that affected 265 million Americans, "basically everyone in the U.S.," he noted earlier).

"... I was honored to be part of the prosecution team . . . I can't tell you the number of unsung heroes there were," added the man who lost friends and colleagues in the devastating blast that destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building where he worked.

"In life," the former RLC Student Trustee reiterated, "you never do anything alone. You do it as a team. Many of you out there . . . I am going to accept this award for all of us."

Michalic previously had received the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Distinguished Service Medal, the Attorney Generals Distinguished Service Award from Attorney General Janet Reno and the FBI Jefferson Cup inscribed to ATF Special Agent Mark Michalic "with deep appreciation."

But in all sincerity - and he was quite convincing - Michalic commented, "All of the other awards pale in comparison to this ("Alumnus of the Year" Award), because it came from the people who know me, and they still decided to award it to me anyway."

Benton Consolidated High School Superintendent Russell Clover, a family friend, was reading *Newsweek* magazine when he first learned of Michalic's heroics. "I know a Mark Michalic," the honoree laughed

(Continued on Page 14)

# General Tire took the 'lead' five years ago

Does it really seem possible it was five years ago this week a press conference was held on the Rend Lake College campus to announce the largest monetary donation in its history to date?

Representatives from the entities of Continental A.G., General Tire, Inc. and GTY Tire Company were on hand that afternoon to present the first installment on a five-year, \$100,000 pledge. Five years. Five \$20,000 checks.

It represented the "lead" gift for others to follow in the "Generations of Excellence" major capital campaign drive. That first \$20,000 check went toward a matching 2-for-1 "Endowed Challenge Grant" from the federal government which eventually turned \$250,000 into \$750,000.

As the story goes, build the "lead" gift, and the rest will come. I.e., show us the money.

And the others have followed suit in the years since.

Rend Lake College placed its official seal of approval on the General Tire donation Tuesday evening when it awarded a gold replica of the college seal at the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner attended by over 300 people at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn.

Accepting the award were Denis Garvey, new GT Mt. Vernon Plant Manager, and Human Resources Manager Mark Pitchford.

"We are truly thrilled to be part of this," then Plant Manager Jim Dolwick said at the press conference.

"We are proud to have this opportunity to enhance our 20-year relationship with Rend Lake College. This association is mutually beneficial, since our employees are both educated and educators at this institute."

Added Dolwick, "While we realize the numerous accomplishments of our plant, we can never rest on our laurels, and we recognize that the education provided our employees by Rend Lake College is instrumental to our continued success. We hope this grant will assure the mutual prosperity of General Tire and Rend Lake College for years to come."

(Continued on Page 8)

## HELP WANTED

### Rend Lake College

is seeking a part-time professional

## Adult Education (GED) Instructor

for Jefferson, Franklin, Perry and Wayne Counties. This person will be responsible for teaching a curriculum that includes math, social studies, science, English composition and literature integrated with job readiness and teamwork skills. Both day and evening classes offered.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution required.
- Must have experience teaching and ability to work with adult students of diverse skill and motivational levels.

### SALARY and BENEFITS

- \$20 per hour (not to exceed 24 hours per week)
- Pleasant, challenging work environment
- Free tuition for employee after four semesters

### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Application Deadline is Friday, December 18
- Send cover letter, résumé and completed application and transcripts to:

Barbara Bauernfeind, Chair  
Alternative and Developmental Education  
c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE  
468 N. Ken Gray Pkwy  
Ina, IL 62846

437-5321, Ext. 244 / e-mail - jobs@rlc.cc.il.us

# REND LAKE COLLEGE

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Educator and Employer

Are you using a computer?  
Do you want to increase  
your proficiency?

## Sign up for Professional Keyboarding



Learn how to enter information  
into a computer quickly and accurately.  
E-mail concepts and applications are included.

**STARTS JANUARY 11**

**Mondays and Wednesdays / 1-2 pm**

**ENROLLMENT LIMITED! REGISTER NOW!!!**

Contact Information Systems Technology  
personnel for enrollment information

# REND LAKE COLLEGE

437-5321, Ext. 252 / 1-800-369-5321 / 435-2817



# Bronze anniversary is 1st Cellular's sixth

The Rend Lake College Foundation broke from tradition Tuesday night when it presented First Cellular of Southern Illinois with an anniversary gift of sorts.

Tradition, according to Hallmark, calls for a gift of candy or iron for the sixth anniversary; the more modern approach might find the gift-bearer bringing something made of wood.

But on the sixth anniversary of First Cellular helping co-sponsor the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner, the telephone and paging service was presented the official bronze Rend Lake College seal by Foundation Executive Director Pat Mitchell.

The award is in recognition of over \$16,500 in contributions since stepping forward in 1993 to ensure the dinner's success. In addition, the locally owned cellular company has a presence each summer at the annual Rend Lake College Foundation Open Golf Tournament, providing free ser-

vice throughout the afternoon for participants.

Representing First Cellular of Southern Illinois at Tuesday's banquet was Sally Cherry, Vice-President of Marketing/Customer Service.

First Cellular opened its doors for business in April, 1993, with one retail store, two employees and nine cellular sites. In five years, it has experienced a 1280% growth in its subscriber base. Thanks to this tremendous growth, First Cellular now has over 135 employees and an annual payroll that exceeds \$4 million.

The one retail store in 1993 has expanded into eight full-service retail facilities, plus two mall locations, 10 Wal-Mart locations and 15 authorized agents. Corporate headquarters are located in Mt. Vernon.

Nine original cellular sites are now part of a network that includes 40 cellular sites and 24 paging transmitters.

In total, First Cellular has reinvested over \$27 million in capital infrastructure in Southern Illinois.

"First Cellular has reinvested its money back into Southern Illinois because we are the only locally owned and operated cellular company," according to a company news release. "First Cellular is unique allowing Southern Illinois dollars to stay here."

Ownership is made up of seven independent telephone companies - Crossville Telephone Co.; Egyptian Telephone Cooperative; Hamilton County Telephone Co-op; Odin Telephone Exchange, Inc.; Shawnee Telephone Co.; Harrisonville Telephone Co., and Wabash Telephone Co-op.

CEO Terry Addington and General Manager Dale Lewis both have been recognized previously.

MORE ABOUT >>>

## 'Leader' General Tire

Rend Lake College has worked with General Tire to provide courses or training since the plant opened in 1974. That includes classes in personnel management and supervision, business communications, team building, industrial safety, quality control, motor alignment, industrial electricity/electronics and computer programming and various applications, among others.

College administrators over the years also have relied heavily on General Tire personnel for membership on vocational advisory groups and benefit by using employees as part-time instructors.

Continental General Tire, through the Rend Lake College Foundation, annually awards scholarships to the sons, daughters and/or spouses of GT employees.

The Mt. Vernon Continental General Tire plant today has more than 2,000 employees, approximately 450 of whom have been added since 1990. The payroll is over \$80 million annually. The plant has not experienced a lay-off in the past 16 years.

At the RLC Foundation Scholarship Dinner in November, local banker and former Foundation Board member Bruce Flanigan called Rend Lake College's investment value "second to none" and alluded to the college's willingness to change with the times and needs of the community.

"They are always there to train people ... as General Tire and others can attest to," Flanigan commented. "Whatever the need, Rend Lake College has always been there for the community."

### HELP WANTED



#### Rend Lake College

is seeking Internal Applicants only for a

## Continuing Ed / Business Training Coordinator

*This person will be responsible for developing, coordinating and marketing continuing education programs targeting business/industry and trade associations; conducting professional development seminars; coordinating training activities with other RLC departments; working with area business/industry to develop and coordinate training and specialized course offerings. // Full-time, grant-funded temporary position.*

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelors degree in Business, Education or related field from an accredited institution required.
- Experience working with business/industry required.

#### SALARY and BENEFITS

- \$35,000 annually
- Retirement Plan
- 20 paid Vacation Days
- 12 paid Holidays
- Pleasant, challenging work environment
- Excellent Health/Life Insurance coverage
- Free Tuition for employee, spouse and dependents

#### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Tentative start date January 18 (or as negotiated)
- Application Deadline is Monday, January 4, 4 pm
- For an application packet, contact:

Cindy Minor, Assistant  
c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE

468 N Ken Gray Pkwy Ina, IL 62846  
437-5321, Ext. 228 / e-mail - jobs@rlc.cc.il.us

## REND LAKE COLLEGE

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Educator and Employer



# Tri-County's Barkau recognized for support

No organization ever lost a better friend than the Rend Lake College Foundation did with the death of Tri-County Electric Cooperative General Manager Jim Hinman 21/2 years ago.

Hinman had served previously as president of the RLC Foundation Board of Directors and was a member of the Rend Lake College Board of Trustees at that time.

The relationship between the Ina-based community college and Tri-County Electric has continued to prosper, however, thanks in large part to Hinman's successor, Marcia Scott, and especially to his former right-hand man, Bruce Barkau.

Barkau, Director of Marketing for Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc., certainly has stepped in to fill some of the void.

For his efforts during the past year plus to secure a state-of-the-industry, geothermal heating and cooling training system for the college's Industrial Technology Department and a similar, working system in the new RLC Foundation Children's Center, Barkau was saluted for "Outstanding Community Support" during Tuesday night's Annual Dinner. He was presented a plaque by the college and Foundation from Executive Director Pat Mitchell.

Both the training component and the Children's Center unit actually were donated by the manufacturer, WaterFurnace International, Inc., but Barkau was the individual most responsible for making it happen.

While vocational education students are learning the technical side of the components, other parents attending Rend Lake College can rest assured their infant, toddler or preschooler is comfortable when in the care of the on-campus Children's Center, thanks to Barkau and WaterFurnace International.

Rend Lake College was one of only five community colleges/vocational-technical schools in downstate Illinois selected to receive the training equipment donation, and the only one south of Mattoon. Schools were chosen based on their offering of Heating and Air Conditioning courses and their commitment to utilize the equipment in the training curriculum.

As part of that donation, both Tri-County Electric and WaterFurnace International also agreed to provide technical assistance in the proper installation of the equipment.

Geothermal systems harness the relatively constant temperature of underground water, circulate it through a loop of small-diameter pipes and utilize it to provide a safer, cleaner and infinitely renewable energy source for heating, air conditioning and hot water. Operating costs are reputed to be 30-60% lower than most other systems and it emits no CO<sub>2</sub>, considered a major contributor to environmental air pollution.

"Geothermal systems are extremely energy efficient, since they only need a comparably small amount of electricity to power the pump, com-

pressor and fan. They typically deliver up to four times more energy than they consume, so the college should save significantly on its monthly energy bills," WaterFurnace Territory Manager Jeff Hurst explained at the time the \$17,407 system was being installed in the Children's Center.

Rend Lake College continues to save nearly \$100,000 annually through a special arrangement with Tri-County Electric Cooperative for interruptible service. Under this agreement, the power supplier can call on the college to shut down occasionally during peak usage times in extreme hot or cold weather statewide.

In 1991, the RLC Foundation recognized Tri-County Electric Cooperative with its 12th annual "Community Support Award" at Commencement.

Five years later, in memory of the co-op's former head, college officials established an endowed "Jim Hinman Scholarship."

In addition to his involvement through these various Tri-County projects, Barkau also was a member of the Southern Illinois Farm Show Committee which likewise established an endowed scholarship with remaining funds when that annual showcase no longer was held.

He represented the Greater Jefferson County Home Builders Association as well at the most recent RLC Foundation Annual Scholarship Dinner.

## Project CHILD reps read to day care children

The week of November 16-20 was National Children's Book Week.

To celebrate, Project CHILD's two AmeriCorps/Illinois Child Corps members, Carrie Perkins-Schnicker and Tara Whittington, went into local child care centers to read to the children.

Perkins-Schnicker went to Good

Samaritan Child Care Center and Original Kids Development Center. She read to a variety of ages of children from "Tootle," a book about trains. She also took a tub of toys relating to trains to share with them.

Whittington visited Logan Street Day Care and Preschool, as well as Happy Time Day Care Center. She

shared the story of "Corduroy" with children of various ages.

While Perkins-Schnicker was reading to children at Original Kids Development Center, a reporter for the Mt. Vernon Register-News took a color picture which made the front page of the Saturday, November 21, issue.

## MORE ABOUT >>> 'Founding Father' Curt Parker recognized

Room following the recent recommendation by Rend Lake College President Mark S. Kern and subsequent action by some of Parker's successors at the November Trustee meeting.

Dr. Parker likewise was recognized for his many contributions over the past 30-plus years at the Rend Lake College Foundation Annual Dinner on Tuesday, December 8, at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn.

The patient honoree, according to longtime Rend Lake College Attorney and colleague, Donald G. Musick, "was greatly instrumental in (the college's) formation, organization and early success.

"Curt Parker's quiet leadership, and the confidence which he gained from all members of the informal steering committee, were perhaps the prime ingredient which led to a successful organization effort. The voters of the district voted to incorporate the college, and to assess themselves additional taxes for its construction and operation, by the affirmative vote of 87 percent of those voting on the proposition; that stands as the all-time record for an affirmative vote establishing a junior college in Illinois."

The Administration Building was long ago named in honor of Dr. Allen Y. Baker, the Pinckneyville resident who also was an original member of both the Steering Committee and Board of Trustees. Baker served for 13 years and made his presence known at the state level as well. A portrait of Dr. Howard Rawlinson, the first Dean of both Mt. Vernon Community College and Rend Lake College, hangs in the Learning Resource Center.

In 1995, naming ceremonies were held for the James (Hummer) Waugh Gymnasium and the Wayne Arnold Aerobics Fitness Center, in honor of two well-known faculty members and coaches. The new Aquatics Center took on the name of Mariah Boats, Inc. President Jimmy J. Fulks in re-

cent months, in recognition of the largest single donation ever to the RLC Foundation.

Dr. Parker patiently waited his turn, content with the memories of a job well done.

"It was a very happy period of my life," recalls the Mt. Vernon optometrist. It was noted Mt. Vernon education Dr. J.L. Buford who first reported a statewide investigation that might make a community college available for that community and recruited Dr. Parker in 1964 to become part of a feasibility study.

A college which would serve the communities of Mt. Vernon, Salem and Centralia was considered briefly, before the shift to Franklin County and other communities with ties to the Rend Lake Conservancy program began taking shape.

"There were no hidden agendas with the representatives from the 13 high school districts (on the Steering Committee)," the chairman remembers.

"Unique to this particular proposal is the desire to take full advantage of the Rend Lake Conservancy program," said their report. "This local project is now under construction through state and federal assistance. The lake itself is in the geographic center of the area. Its recreational and industrial facilities combine with the new interstate highways to make the Rend Lake area a natural community center. The establishment of a junior college in this setting would provide the needed cohesive force for growth."

Dr. Parker was satisfied to serve only five years on the Board, from 1966-70, before bowing out. "I didn't come to be a perennial board member. I came to get a job done," he said. He was 35 years of age when he assumed the chairmanship of the original Community College District 521 Board.

His accomplishments were considerable, beginning with the formal proposal in February 1966 that re-

sulted in the overwhelming acceptance of the Class I Public Junior College and the hiring of Dr. James Snyder at its first President following a nationwide search.

Interviews for the presidency were conducted in the Parker home. Snyder, according to Dr. Parker, was selected based on his background in administration and construction projects. The committee also liked his quiet manner, recalled Dr. Parker, who still believes "Dr. Snyder was the best person for the position."

The 21st community college in the state to be approved, Rend Lake College in 1975 – eight years after opening its doors for the first time to 729 in-district students – became the first in Illinois to complete its original facilities Master Plan.

Just as amazing, perhaps, is how closely the public, two-year community college has stuck by the "General Aims" first proposed by Dr. Parker and the 55-member committee representing Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Perry, Wayne and White counties.

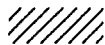
"Citizens of the area could have superior educational opportunities," the report indicated, "to prepare to enter a vocation; prepare for further studies in higher education; adjust to shifting technological changes; obtain information previously missed in high school; keep abreast of increasingly available technology; gain further education not presently available from distant, expensive higher educational institutions, and investigate varying interests without fear that weakness in one field will terminate opportunities in others."

The report also concluded, "Education on a continuing basis for working adults will require initiative on the part of area leaders . . . the recruitment of area residents skilled in professional, industrial, commercial, labor, sales and crafts talents for a part-time faculty will be needed . . . programs to fulfill the needs of senior citizens could be provided . . ."

(Continued on Page 14)

## Worth repeating . . . rllcall@rlc.cc.il.us

Repeating messages available on the Internet for RLC personnel with e-mail addresses . . .



From vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us ~

IMPORTANT NOTE for on-line registration users!!! If you are advising students and performing on-line registration, please remember two very important tasks . . .

1. PLEASE check the application screen for the following:

- a. Correct name and address
- b. Any blank cells on the application screen
- c. A "7" in the chargeback field.

If you note problems in these areas, please have students complete appropriate change forms or send them to admissions to report changes before completing their registration.

2. Have returning students complete the Continuing Student Supplemental Data sheet for submission with the registration card (takes about 5 seconds; I normally complete the form for the student to sign while I am advising them). Please let me know if you need a supply of these.

The first issue is especially important. Student records with incomplete application information are ineligible for credit hour reimbursement. This means a direct loss of revenue \$\$\$\$ to your department!!!

If you have any questions regarding these two issues please call either Dave Vinyard or Nancy Kinsey.



From hogan@rlc.cc.il.us ~

When you get your mail, please check the name over your mailbox. Due to the addition of new offices and the changing of others, it was necessary to make a few changes . . .

The Arts and Communications Dept. is now under Liberal Arts. The Pinckneyville Prison and Children's Center have been added. The bookstore is under two different mailboxes - Textbook Rental, where Dorothy Feira will be receiving mail, and the

Retail Store, where Mary Braden will be receiving mail. The Business and Social Science Dept. is now under Business/Information Technology. Thank you.



From vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us ~

To all concerned with IAI issues:

Nancy Kinsey and I attended the November meeting of the Illinois Transfer Coordinators. Several issues regarding IAI were discussed. We are pleased to say that Rend Lake College is well in line with substantial IAI issues. The following points were discussed and should be noted and/or re-emphasized.

### COMMUNICATIONS PANEL:

It was noted again to remember that students entering as native students in Summer Term 1999 (FY2000) must have a "C" or better in both writing courses to meet IAI general education and transfer requirements. A student earning a "D" or less will have to repeat the course in order for it to transfer, meet the IAI core and/or meet AA/AS degree requirements.

The issue of students participating in AAS programs was not discussed. However, if those students completing AAS degrees choose to capstone, they will probably encounter difficulty at the senior institution. We probably should consider the grade requirement across the board.

It was also stated that in order for a student to receive IAI certification, both writing courses must be taken at the same institution. The group at large challenged this requirement, and it is to be discussed further by the panel. The point was made that many of us receive students who have transferred, started other programs under cooperative agreements (then return), and various other circumstances which could make this requirement a hardship on the student.

(For example, a student taking ENGL 1101 at Kaskaskia and transferring to RLC would be required to

repeat ENGL 1101 in order to receive IAI general education credit.

At this time the panel has not required a minimum grade for the Speech course. This issue will be re-examined during the fifth year review process.

### HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS:

A note was included in the general information package that courses seeking inclusion on the humanities list must show evidence that the student will do significant writing.

The panel indicated there has been difficulty with institutions not being consistent with course syllabus format. Institutions have been asked to follow format recommended by the IAI panels.

### GENERAL:

There was some general concern last year when we were putting the catalog together regarding students who placed directly into an advanced course meeting IAI general ed requirements (i.e. student places into CHE 1103 by virtue of high school math and science experience). A student placing directly into a higher level course meets IAI gen. ed. requirements as long as the prerequisite for that course was an IAI gen. ed. approved course.

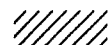


From carlson@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Starting immediately for the Spring Semester 1999, the FAO will data enter and electronically transmit FASFA applications for new and returning students.

Dependent students need their own and parents' income information, as well as their parent(s) signature on the FASFA form. Independent students need to bring in only their own income information.

Approximate turn-around time if we transmit is five days, compared to approximately three weeks if student mails in application .



## Worth repeating . . . rlc@rlc.cc.il.us

From vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Please note the following additions and changes to the Spring Schedule:

- A new section of Math 1402 has been added. This new section (01) will meet from 9-10 a.m. MWF.

- Math 1406-82 is being changed to Section 42. This section will still meet from 12:30-2:20 p.m. on TuTh but will not be a computer-based course.

- An additional section of PHSC 1101 has been added. Section 5K will meet for lab from 4-6 p.m. on M. This new section is limited strictly to 20 students.

If you have any questions, please contact Barb Davenport or the Counseling Center.



From kuberski@rlc.cc.il.us ~  
Attention Advisors . . .

- ART 2113-41 (Intro to Ceramics) and ART 2114-4K (Advanced Ceramics) are NOT closed, although the recent schedule indicates they are. The combined seats availability for Ceramics and all art studio classes is 20. Presently, ART 2213-41 has 10, but ART 2214-4K only has seven. Therefore, three more students can sign up for either class. It does not matter if they are in 2213 or 2214 as long as the combined total does not exceed 20.

This seats availability rule applies to all art studio classes. I hope this has helped clarify a confusing issue. If you have any questions, please let me know.



From vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us ~

To all who are advising potential Child Development students . . .

Students participating in the Child Development program are now subject to a background examination. When you are advising potential students, please instruct them to see Tina Grounds to initiate the background process. Wilanna Patton will be running class lists to verify that back-

ground checks have been initiated, but everyone's assistance is appreciated.

Please call Wilanna Patton at Ext. 225 or 251 if you have questions.



From ruffino@rlc.cc.il.us ~

- MATH 1402, Sec. 85, was originally scheduled as a computer based course. Barb Davenport has advised the Counseling Center that this section is being changed to a regular course and the section number is being changed to 51. The course will still meet from 6-8:50 p.m. on Thursdays. Please be aware of this change as you advise students.



From long@rlc.cc.il.us ~

The 1999 Top 20 Dining Cards are now available. The card permits 2-for-1 entrees at several participating area restaurants.

Participants include Alongi's Italian Restaurant, Midland Inn, Old Main Restaurant, Cristaudo's Cafe and Bakery, 17th Street Bar and Grill, Port Cape Restaurant, Martin's Restaurant and Catering, Whaler's Catch, Bistro 51, Girolamo's Pizzeria, Sebastian's, The Depot, Michael's, Italian Village, Pagliai's Pizza and Pasta, The European Cafe, The Pioneer's Cabin, China King, Lick Creek General Store and Mugsy McGuire's.

The more cards ordered, the lower the cost. The regular price is \$20 per card, but last year we were able to purchase them for \$13.50 due to good response (65 ordered).

Do not send any money until the price is determined. Cutoff date for purchase is December 16. The card takes effect on January 2, 1999.

For more information contact Joan Long, Ext. 232. "Please understand," she said, "I am not selling these cards, only coordinating the effort."



From miller@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Re: David Schuessler's e-mail about the Computer Science brochure being outdated . . .

The Microcomputer Support Specialist Degree in the same brochure is current and correct. This is an AAS Degree that is capstoned with SIU's Information Systems Department. This degree is offered through the OFTC Department. In advising students, please promote this degree.

In addition, if you know students who are unable to key, please advise them to enroll in the Professional Keyboarding class, OFTC 1200, for one-hour credit. They also will learn to use e-mail.



From vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us ~

In the past we have provided high school counselors with an update of programs. This update tended to be sporadic at best. I will be putting together an update newsletter each semester or as needed to keep our area counselors informed. If you have items you would like to submit that could be of interest to our feeder schools, please e-mail them to me.



From wilson@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Due to the recent death of a hard drive . . . several e-mail accounts do not have the user's current password. If you experience problems with e-mail, please don't hesitate to e-mail (or have a friend e-mail) us a message to mis@rlc.cc.il.us. We apologize for any inconveniences as a result.



From kinsey@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Reminder for all those doing online registration. Double-check the front registration screen where the year and term are entered. Verify that the answers to the last four options are N, N, Y, Y. We've been receiving registration with Y, N, Y, Y causing error messages and problems. Also, please initial everything you enter.

## AQUATICS CENTER HOLIDAY HOURS

December 19-23	Regular Hours (6-9 am / 11 am-4 pm / 6:30-10 pm)
December 24-25	Closed
December 26-27	Noon-5 pm
December 28-30	6-11 am / 3-8 pm
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	Closed
January 2-3	Noon-5 pm (Sunday – Free Swim)
January 4-10	Regular Hours

**Worth repeating . . .**  
***rlcall@rlc.cc.il.us***

From [vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us) ~

Recently there have been questions regarding the transferability of EDUC 1101 – Introduction to Education and Observation.

I have been in contact with SIUC and SIUE. According to their respective advisors, EDUC 1101 (IAI# EDU 901) will transfer as CI200 at SIUE and EDU311 at SIUC.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have additional questions or concerns.

## Education Dept. rethinks plan for aid to Distance Learners

By **STEPHEN BURD**

WASHINGTON – In an about-face, the U.S. Education Department has agreed to negotiate with college officials before finalizing the rules for a pilot project that would, for the first time, allow students in distance-learning programs to be eligible for federal financial aid.

At a meeting with college lobbyists on Tuesday, department officials agreed to participate in expedited negotiations with college groups and other interested parties over the rules. In turn, the college groups agreed not to challenge a department decision to bypass the formal rule-making process.

As part of the changes that Congress made this year in the Higher Education Act, the Education Department is required to waive, at more than a dozen institutions, rules that deny eligibility for Pell Grants, guaranteed loans, and other sources of federal aid to students participating in distance-education programs. The waivers are to take effect at 15 institutions to be chosen by the Education Secretary in 1999, and at 35 others to be chosen in two years.

Education Department officials angered the college lobbyists earlier this month when they announced that they planned to grant the waivers without going through the formal rule-making process. That decision, department officials said, was in keeping with the department's policy to regulate "only when absolutely necessary." They also said that they were concerned that adhering to the formal process would prevent them from getting the pilot program started this year. (See a story from *The Chronicle* on December 7, 1998.)

But the lobbyists called such thinking misguided. They said that Congressional lawmakers, in revising the Higher Education Act, had made clear that the department was to consult with college officials on any changes

to Title IV, the part of the law that governs federal student-aid programs. The distance-education project is contained within that section of the law.

David L. Warren, president of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, said at the time that his organization would consider suing the department unless the distance-learning demonstration project was subjected to the standard rule-making process.

Mr. Warren said his biggest concerns were the department's criteria for choosing institutions to participate in the waiver program, and the regulations that would be lifted for those institutions. Providing such waivers, he said, would weaken some of the safeguards that lawmakers put into the law six years ago to prevent students at institutions of questionable academic rigor from receiving financial aid.

As part of the agreement that the college groups worked out with the department Tuesday, Sarah Flanagan, the independent-college group's vice-president for government relations, will meet with Education Department officials in the coming weeks to determine how to structure the expedited negotiations.

In an interview, David A. Longanecker, Assistant Secretary for postsecondary education, said he was pleased with the agreement because the department would still be able to get the demonstration program started this year.

Mr. Warren said he viewed the agreement with "guarded optimism."

"I am prepared to take the department at its word that it will engage in good-faith discussions with us, that they will listen and give serious consideration to the issues that we raise, and that they will come to the table with a flexible frame of mind," he said.

MORE ABOUT &gt;&gt;

## Dr. Curt Parker

the community service aspect of a comprehensive area junior college provides a means by which such a college can take its rightful place in the educational program of the nation . . . another important aim is to provide impetus for industrial and agricultural production, plus allied fields of supply, marketing and transportation.

"In short, it is expected that such a junior college would greatly contribute to the economy, health, culture and general well-being of the area and its citizens."

The proposal was to "implement this new concept of education as rapidly and thoroughly as can reasonably be expected. It is the desire of the citizens to have a superior institution."

The Foundation, which remained dormant until 1979, nevertheless was formed in the beginning by Dr. Parker and Musick at the insistence of the latter, who stated the college needed an avenue to take care of any potential gifts from the community.

Ken Miller, then at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, provided the paperwork that was used as a model for the RLC Foundation bylaws and constitution. Not-for-profit status was applied for and granted in the college's formative years. Several years later, Miller headed the Foundation on a part-time basis.

Dr. Parker and his wife, Mary Ann, are the parents of five adult children - Judy Hammer-Murphy, Jeff, John, Jane Bradford and Jacqueline Anderson - and have five grandchildren, with a sixth due in February.

Joining Dr. and Mrs. Parker at Tuesday's Annual Dinner were his mother, Bernice Parker, who will be turning 91 soon; oldest son Jeff, a Rend Lake College graduate, and his wife, Brenda, and granddaughter Elizabeth.

MORE ABOUT &gt;&gt;&gt;

## Teamwork = success

while recalling Clover's reaction, " 'but this can't be him.' "

RLC President Mark S. Kern knew otherwise. "Seriously, you really could tell when Mark Michalic was a student at Rend Lake College (in 1977-78), he was going to make a difference," Kern said. "I mean that."

The others recognized on this special evening are making a significant difference in their own ways. Future "Alumnus of the Year" recipients will tell the Rend Lake College story for years to come thanks to their contributions and support provided.

Mercantile Bank learned earlier in the day it will receive a \$12,000 grant toward the purchase of an infrastructure (jungle gym) for the new RLC Foundation Children's Center.

The entities of Continental A.G., General Tire, Inc. and GTY Tire Company, represented on the podium by Mt. Vernon Plant Manager Denis Garvey and Human Resources Manager Mark Pitchford, received the Foundation's official "gold" seal for their monetary support amounting to \$100,000 since 1994.

First Cellular of Southern Illinois was co-sponsoring this event for the sixth time, with contributions totaling \$16,500. Sally Cherry, Vice-President of Marketing and Customer Ser-

vice, accepted a "bronze" seal from Mitchell on behalf of the cellular and paging service.

Barkau, responsible for "Outstanding Community Support" in helping secure over \$20,000 in equipment donations from WaterFurnace International for training purposes and for the heating/cooling system for the Children's Center, was presented with a plaque, as were Dr. Parker and Fulks, the seventh recipient of a Foundation "Presidential Award" for exemplary service.

Dr. Parker, emphasized Kern, "doesn't take on a task for public recognition. He gets pleasure out of doing a job well." Kern alluded to the college goals set forth by Dr. Parker and the original Steering Committee, pointing out, "how closely we have stuck by our general aims. They were prepared over 30 years ago, and that is exactly what we are doing today."

Adding to the success of the event were a short video of the past year's accomplishments, Master of Ceremonies Russ Withers and the entertainment, which included the MVTHS Symphonic String Choir under the direction of Rolland Mays; Suzuki Violinist Jennifer Herzing, a Rend Lake College student, and Music Instructor Julie Wilkerson.

## Title III faculty mini-grants available

The Faculty Development Center announces the second year of faculty project mini-grants under the auspices of Activity One of the Title III: "Strengthening Institutions" Federal Grant Program.

The intent is to encourage faculty to apply for funding to support professional development activities as they relate to the overall goals of Title III. Full and part-time faculty are encouraged to apply to support a broad range of curriculum development projects, including: classroom-based assessment, computer-assisted instruction, win-

dow treatments, CD-ROM/DVD instructional applications, and accessing/using online databases.

- December 15 - Submit application to David Vinyard, Activity I Director.

- December 22 - Must have endorsement of Faculty Development Committee by this date.

- January 15 - Applicants notified and funds awarded by Title III Activity One Task Force

Please contact David Wicks or Karla Lewis in the Learning Resource Center (Ext. 299) for additional information and application.

## REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – DECEMBER 15 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### **Notice given of intent to sell \$1.5 million in bonds**

Approved publication of the college's intention to issue Protection, Health and Safety bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1.5 million and to conduct a public hearing (January 12, 6:30 p.m. in the Student Center) to receive comment on the proposal. Purpose of the bond sales is for the "altering and repairing of physical facilities for energy conservation, health or safety, environmental protection or handicapped accessibility purposes."

### **Working Cash Fund repaid by transfers**

Approved the transfer of \$500,000 from the Education Fund and \$256,000 from the Bond and Interest Fund to the Working Cash Fund to repay earlier transfers made in anticipation of revenues to be received. Following this action, the balance of transfers between each of the funds will be \$0.

### **Approval given for Associate Dean position**

Authorized the administration to advertise internally for an Associate Dean of Student Services, at an annual salary of \$57-58,000, effective January 18. The new position will coordinate efforts of the Counseling, Financial Aid, tutoring and the STARS grant program, as well as initiating new efforts to improve the college's retention rate.

### **Lintner resigns as Payroll Accountant**

Accepted with regret the resignation of Payroll and Benefits Accountant Alane Lintner and authorized the internal advertisement for a full-time, nontenure-track replacement at an annual salary of \$27,400. Lintner is moving from the area.

### **Additional personnel-related actions . . .**

Approved other personnel-related recommendations:

- Advertising internally for a full-time, temporary Coordinator of Continuing Education and Business Training, at an annual salary of \$35,000, with an anticipated start date of January 18.

- Advertising externally for a Coordinator of the AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois program. This is a full-time, grant-funded position at an annual salary of \$24,500.

- Hiring a full-time, temporary job coach at an annual salary of \$17,350. This grant-funded position will oversee 8-12 employees provided at no cost to the college through the Welfare to Work program.

- Establishing a \$7,200 stipend for a new position, Director of American Heart Association Community Training Center and \$2,700 for Community Training Center/Coordinator for ACLS. The college has made application to become an American Heart Association Training Center, which would be the only one in the district offering basic and advanced life support training.

- Changing the status of two employees – Liberal Arts Department Chair Chris Kuberski had her contract increased from 42 to 48 weeks; Janet Miller will receive a \$1,000 stipend as she assists in the transition of a new, incoming Department Chair of Business and Information Technology.

### **Misc.**

Approved revisions to 19 Administrative Procedures and approved changes on first reading to one policy.

### **Jeannie Mitchell moves up to Academic Counselor**

Appointed Jeannie Mitchell Academic Counselor, effective January 4. She has worked for the college since 1996 as the Coordinator for the AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois project. Mitchell holds an M.S. Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, as well as a B.S. in Speech Pathology and Audiology from SIU-Edwardsville and an Associate Degree. She worked previously as a Manager/Counselor for TASC, Inc., in Marion.

### **Four appointments at Pinckneyville Corrections**

Employed four people to work in the RLC educational program at Pinckneyville Correctional Center:

- Kevin Eugene Thornburg was named Youthful Offender Counselor, effective December 16 contingent on passing Dept. of Corrections background check and drug screening. The grant position will provide inmate life-skill instruction for post-secondary students and remedial help to upgrade skills in preparation for college instruction. Thornburg holds a B.S. in Administration of Justice from SIUC and has been an Adult, Juvenile and Alternative to Detention Officer in Jackson County since 1994.

- Steve A. Mandrell was hired as Construction Occupations Instructor, effective December 16 pending DOC approval. He has a B.S. in Vocational Education – Training and Development from SIUC. After 14 years as an assistant superintendent for Arch of Illinois Mines, he has been self-employed and a journeyman carpenter the past two years.

- Tom Lawless was hired as Horticulture Instructor, effective December 16 pending DOC approval. He has been owner/operator of Murphysboro Lawn and Garden since 1984. He has a B.S. in Plant and Soil Science from SIUC.

- William R. Gibson was hired as Culinary Arts Instructor, effective December 16 pending DOC approval. A graduate (AAS) of the Culinary Arts Management program at RLC, he has experience as banquet cook at Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn and manager of Big O's Bar-B-Que in Mt. Vernon.

### **Distance Learning reaches out to Witthoft**

Employed Andrea B. Witthoft as Distance Learning and Media Technology Specialist, effective January 4. An employee of Shawnee Community College the past seven years, she has been a Distance Learning Technician since '94 and an Executive Secretary in the Learning Resource Center since '96. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in Workforce Education and Development from SIUC.

### **Heather Sample joins CCRR as Financial Assistant**

Employed Heather Sample as full-time Financial Assistant on a grant-funded contract with the Child Care Resource and Referral program. She has been serving as an intern in that position the past year after earning B.S. and M.S. degrees in Accounting from SIUC.

### **Office Support/Physical Plant Report**

Learned of two other personnel moves, both of which are involved with the correctional education program:

- Mary Hiller (Pinckneyville) has been named Administrative Assistant at Pinckneyville Correctional Center.

- Tammy Tadlock (Mt. Vernon) has been named an on-campus Administrative Assistant, effective December 14.



# Donation of \$400,000 marks largest single contribution in RLC's history

BY RANDY SNYDER  
Mt. Vernon Bureau Chief

MT. VERNON — The estate of a Mt. Vernon man who died in June now represents the largest single donation made to Rend Lake College in its 32-year history.

Bill Wood, who managed J.V. Walker and Sons menswear store for many years on the Mt. Vernon square prior to his retirement, left RLC approximately \$400,000, it was announced at the annual RLC Foundation Dinner on Tuesday night at Holiday Inn.

The money, most of which Wood inherited in 1993 from his sister, Vernadel Wood, will be placed into a trust fund in a local bank to establish perpetual funding for the Delta Theta Tau Vernadel M. Wood Scholarship awards.

Vernadel Wood taught for 40 years in Mt. Vernon city schools, from 1927-39 at Edison Grade School and from 1937-69 at Casey Junior High, now Casey Middle School. She was a very active member of Delta Theta Tau sorority.

More than 300 people attended Tuesday night's event, during which Mike E. Michalic, a West Frankfort native and former RLC student trustee, was named 17th recipient of the Rend Lake College Alumnus of the Year Award.

Michalic, a special agent for the U.S. Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, is credited with tracing Timothy McVeigh, a suspect in the Oklahoma City bombing.

A recipient of the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award from U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, said it and similar awards paled in comparison to the RLC Alumnus of the Year Award, "because this one was given by folks who actually know me and they decided to give it to me anyway."

He recalled the moment when, after several telephone calls to Oklahoma law enforcement personnel, he got through to Sheriff

Jerry Cook in a northern Oklahoma County. Michalic had heard of a man having been stopped by a state trooper in northern Oklahoma for driving with no license plate and possessing a handgun.

"Sheriff Cook said he recalled such a suspect," Michalic said, "When I asked him the suspect's name, he said 'Timothy James McVeigh.'" Michalic said the makeshift command room, "where we were jammed together shoulder to shoulder and nobody had shaved in about eight days — the aroma wasn't too good — got so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. It was if they knew some good information was going to come from my phone. I yelled 'We got him!' and everyone started cheering.

"Sheriff Cook said a deputy was taking McVeigh for a bond hearing and I told him, 'You put one of those federal holds on him because I've got a feeling there's gonna be a whole bunch of FBI boys up there wanting to talk to him.'"

**OTHER AWARDS** presented at the dinner were:

- a gold replica of the RLC seal to Continental General Tire, which five years ago pledged \$20,000 annually over five years. RLC President Mark Kern credited the gift with eventually bringing \$750,000 to the Foundation as it was the lead gift in a campaign and money was doubly matched by the federal government.

- "There is no better relationship than that between Rend Lake College and General Tire," Kern said.

- special recognition to Dr. Curtis Parker of Mt. Vernon, who was chairman of the steering committee that led to formation of RLC with a state-record 87 percent affirmative vote on the referendum establishing the district. Kern noted that Parker also served as the first chairman of the RLC board of trustees, during which the school was the first community college in the state to complete its



Sentinel Photo/RANDY SNYDER

**GETS GOLDEN SEAL** — Denis Garvey, CENTER, plant manager of Mt. Vernon's Continental General Tire plant, and Mark Pitchford, RIGHT, the plant's Human Resources manager, accept a gold replica of the Rend Lake College seal on Tuesday night during the annual RLC Foundation dinner at Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn. RLC President Mark Kern, LEFT, presented the award, which commemorated a \$100,000 donation made over the past five years from the tire manufacturer to the school. The donation, which led a campaign drive in which others followed, was doubled by the federal government.

master construction plan, needing only three years.

- a bronze replica of the RLC seal to First Cellular of Southern Illinois, which has contributed more than \$16,500 since pledging in 1993 to support the RLCF annual dinner.

- recognition was given to Mercantile Bank, which announced at the dinner that it is giving \$12,000 for a jungle gym to be placed in the Learning Environment Center in the new RLC Foundation Children's Center playground.

- a salute to Bruce Barkau, director of Marketing for Tri-County Electric Cooperative Inc. Pat Mitchell, executive director of RLCF, noted that Barkau and Tri-County arranged for four geothermal system heat pumps worth a

total of \$17,000 to be donated to the Children's Center and that an interruptible power agreement with the utility has saved RLC "hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years."

- the Presidential Award to Jimmy J. Fulks, whose \$320,000 used for the Aquatic Center was the previous largest single donation to RLC. Fulks, a Marion resident, is chief executive officer of Mariah Boats Inc. in Franklin County.

W. Russell Withers Jr. was master of ceremonies for the dinner. Musical entertainment was provided by RLC music instructor Julie Wilkerson, RLC student Jennifer Herzog and the Mt. Vernon-Township High School Symphonic String Choir, under direction of Rolland Mays.

# ATF hero accepts RLC alum award

By GREGORY NORFLEET  
Education Reporter

MT. VERNON — Though the awards and recognition for tying Timothy McVeigh to the Oklahoma City Bombing go to Mark E. Michalic, he said it was a team effort.

The 17th Rend Lake College Alumnus of the Year said Tuesday at the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner that encouragement and education put him in the right place at the right time to finger McVeigh.

"What we do in life, we never do alone, I think we always do as part of a team," he said. "There are many out there this evening that I'm going to accept this wonderful and heartfelt award for."

On April 19, 1995, 168 people were killed by a bomb that ripped apart the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Michalic's office was in that building until that morning. By afternoon he and other surviving agents of the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms crammed into a small, temporary command post alongside state and local police.

Knowing a terrorist only gets farther away each moment, he and others spent days and nights — grabbing quick naps here and there — working the phones and computer databases trying to piece together evidence and drum up suspects.

"You didn't want to be away from your post," he said.

Michalic said a sketch of the sus-

pect matched the name of Timothy J. McVeigh in the National Crime Information Center system.

He tracked down a state trooper in the northern part of Oklahoma who said he pulled over a man for having no license plates, then jailed him when he found the bulge under his jacket was a gun. Michalic said he called the sheriff of that county while the man was being taken to court for his first appearance — and to post bond. Agents sitting around Michalic overheard his phone conversation, the room got quiet, and all eyes were on him.

"You had to be there, it was an electric moment, because, for some reason, everybody thought the phone I was on had some sort of magic ... you could hear a pin drop," he said.

He then asked the sheriff the name of the man. The response: Timothy James McVeigh.

"We got him!" he shouted to the agents surrounding him.

Michalic continued to emphasize the "we," which started "years ago with a wonderful team of my parents," and included other people who encouraged and challenged him to become what he is today.

Michalic recognized some of the faces of people he knew when living in West Frankfort and attending RLC.

"There are a number of you out there who, because of you, have allowed me to stand here this evening and accept an award on behalf of many people — the agents I've been working with and the many prosecutors," he said.

Michalic said he does not wear the

see HERO

3A



Michalic

HERO

continued from 1A

title "hero" very well when the bombing "touched a chord in everyone" in the United States.

"The 19th was very devastating, but your mind is a wonderful thing, even when you see devastation to your own office it shuts down and says, 'You know, Mark, you got something you need to do, you've

got to go to work," he said. He said there were a lot of unsung heroes that went down to the rubble and rescued people from what used to be part of a building.

"This award, compared to the Attorney General's award, compared to the award I got from FBI Director Louis Freeh, and the trip to the White House ... all those things really pale in comparison to this because this comes from people who actually know me, and still decided to award it to me," he said with a smile.

# ERIC Clearinghouse for Community Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



UCLA

BENKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO

SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

ERIC® CLEARINGHOUSE FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
3051 MOORE HALL  
BOX 951521  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1521

November 5, 1998

Dear Colleague:

The Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) is the world's largest source of education information. It is only through the continued contribution of professors, researchers, and others like yourself that such a global readership is possible. Thus, with the submission of your documents to ERIC, you can be part of a collective of education leaders educating the world.

\* { Reports, studies and other papers pertaining to two-year colleges are among the valuable materials community college educators send to include in our database. If you would like your work to be part of our database, which would make it accessible worldwide, simply send us two copies of each document, along with a completed Reproduction Release form (included in this package). We will review your materials upon receipt and notify you promptly of their status. Our database now has over one million documents with more coming in everyday.

In addition, the Clearinghouse for Community Colleges is just one of 16 clearinghouses, each covering specific topics in education, that comprise ERIC. The services we offer you are free, and include

- ✦ Abstracting and promoting your literature
- ✦ Assisting with search strategies
- ✦ Providing up-to-date information on ERIC and community colleges through our quarterly newsletter
- ✦ Offering many opportunities to create original publications to disseminate your work

Administered by the National Library of Education, ERIC was established in 1966 and is supported by the U.S. Department of Education. More than 900 libraries nationwide house our collection on microfiche, and Internet users worldwide access the ERIC database daily. ERIC abstracts are printed regularly in paper and on CD ROM under the titles *Resources in Education* and the *Current Index to Journals in Education*

Please keep in mind that our services are available to you regardless of your inclusion in our database. Simply call our toll-free number at (800) 832-8256 or e-mail us at [ericcc@ucla.edu](mailto:ericcc@ucla.edu), and we will be glad to help you with any community college-related question you may have.

If you wish to visit our website, the address is <http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/ERIC/eric.html>.

I encourage you to take advantage of our many resources, and am eager to include your materials in the ERIC collection.

Sincerely,

  
Willy Yu  
Acquisitions Coordinator

For more information,  
or to get copies of the  
Reproduction Release Form,  
please contact Michelle Swain at ext. 275.

# Metzger awarded national honor for community service from USTA

By Diana Winson

*Sports editor*

Benton's Diane Metzger is headed to Florida this weekend — and not just to avoid the cold weather.

Metzger, who teaches and coaches at Rend Lake College, will be receiving the United States Tennis Association Collegiate Community Service Award on Monday.

She is one of only 10 national recipients of the honor, which will be presented Monday at the Saddlebrook Resort in Tampa, Fla.

One male and one female from NCAA I, II, III, NAIA and NJCAA schools were chosen based on several criteria, including volunteer involvement with USTA and/or community programs, work with community tennis associations, campus clinics and other campus activities and volunteer work running local tournaments.

Metzger, understandably, is very excited about receiving the award.

"I'm thrilled!" she said. "To get a national award is quite an honor, and because it's a community service award, it recognizes not only me but all the people that volunteer to help with our tennis events."

She said she was expecting to take a trip up north to receive the award.

"When I got the letter that said I'd won, I figured the banquet

would be somewhere like Chicago. Then I found out it was in Tampa," Metzger said. "I called down there today and they told me it was 80 degrees. I think I can handle that for a couple of days!"

Tennis great Chris Evert, a native Floridian, will be one of the featured guests at a Sunday night get-together.

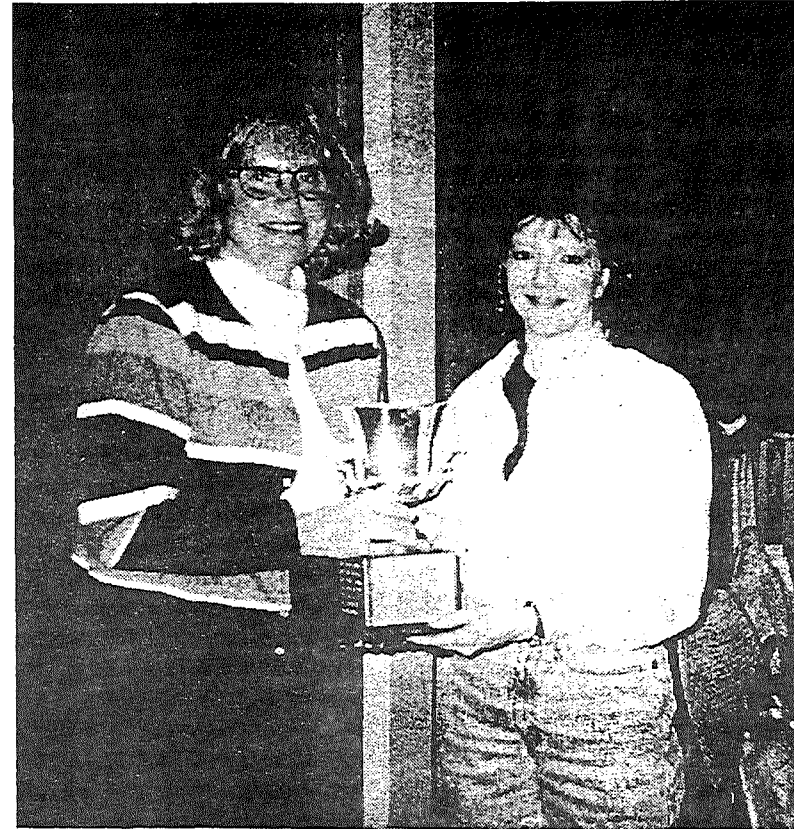
"It will be neat to meet her — a legend of tennis," Metzger said.

Metzger directs USTA-sanctioned adult and junior tournaments every year in Benton and is in charge of the Southern Illinois Tennis Association's junior team tennis program.

She competes in several USTA tournaments, too, and is the top senior female tennis player in Southern Illinois; in fact, just last month she earned the Chicago Title Insurance Award that is presented annually.

Metzger coordinates the local tennis program, which includes free lessons during the summer and a junior team representing Franklin County. Also, she is president of the Franklin County Tennis Club and secretary of the SITA.

Four years ago, Metzger started the first-ever Rend Lake College women's tennis team. Each of the last two years, the Lady Warriors have finished third in the Region 24,



Benton's Diane Metzger, left, receives the Chicago Title Insurance Award as the top senior female tennis player in Southern Illinois from Patsy Conley of Flora. Metzger will travel to Tampa, Fla., this weekend to pick up her Community Service Award from the United States Tennis Association.

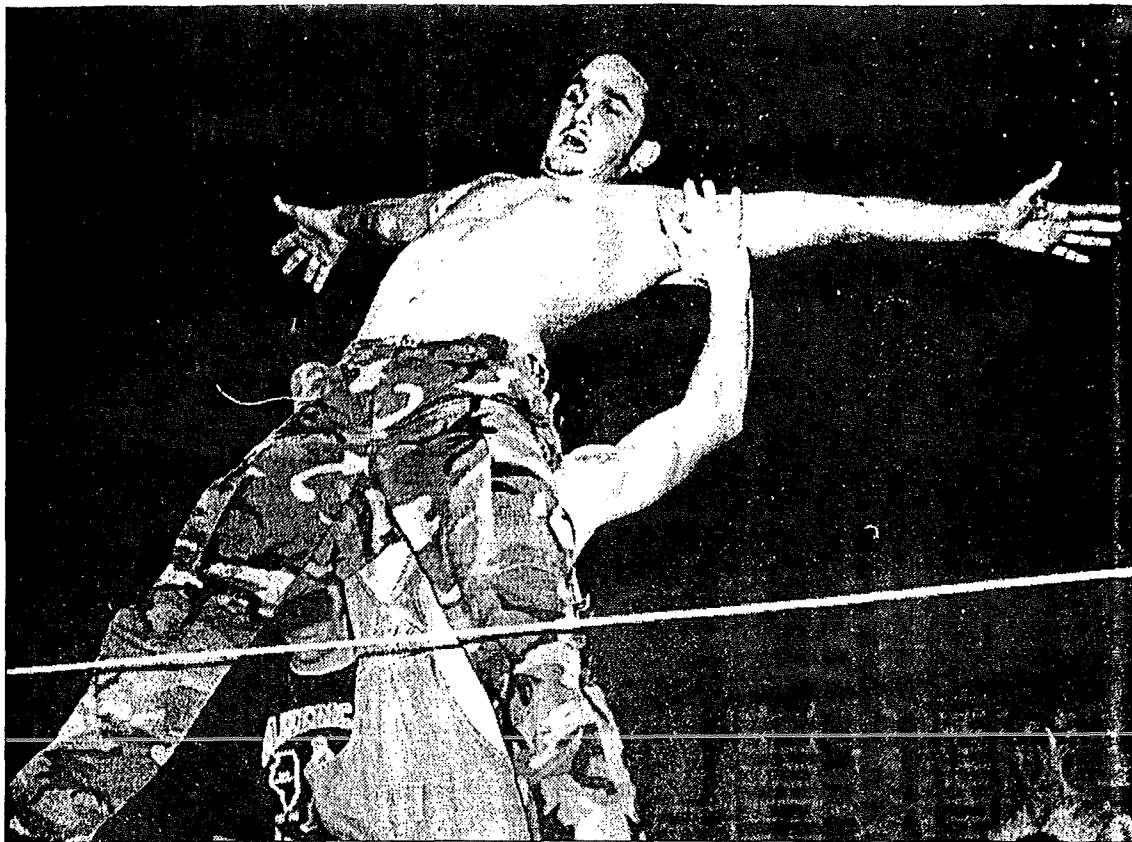
*Photo by Diana Winson*

missing a berth in the national finals by one spot.

Metzger is a full-time math

instructor at RLC. She has two grown children and three grandchildren.

dren.



Jeremy Hall/Register-News

Rend Lake College students run through an exhibition wrestling match during a "Nitro Party" Monday at the school's theater. The students are trying to win a party package from World Championship Wrestling.

# Nitro Party at RLC

## Enthusiastic students stage show

By **JEREMY HALL**  
Register-News

INA — Chair shots to the face. Opponents thrown through tables and dropped on their heads in the middle of the ring. Yes, the glory of professional wrestling made its debut Monday at Rend Lake College, as a group of students hosted a "Nitro Party."

The students gathered to watch World Championship Wrestling's Monday Nitro, and to enter a contest the show is holding. The Nitro Party contest allows Nitro viewers to videotape themselves living it up while watching the show and send the tape in to WCW.

Selected entries will be shown on the television show, while a grand prize winner will receive an official Nitro Party package from WCW. The package includes a visit from WCW mainstay "Mean" Gene Okerlund and the Nitro Girls, a troupe of mascots for the show.

"It's a blast," said RLC student Josh Haile. "It's going really well."

The Rend Lake students set up a ring consisting of four used automobile rims with posts sticking out of

them and ropes around the posts. The mat is just that, a group of tumbling mats scattered between the ring corners.

The group ordered some food, brought in some refreshments and put on a show for the show. A best-of-three exhibition match between "The Thugs" and "The Hillbillies" served as a predecessor to the actual viewing of Nitro.

Haile said the group is supported by Rend Lake College, as the school allows the use of its theater for the party. He added that Monday's event may be the first of series of events the group organizes.

"We'd like to make this something we do every month or so," said Haile, who served as referee in the exhibition matches. "If we can get the funds and everything to do this. There's been a lot of people that say 'hey, I'd really like to wrestle if you guys do this again.'"

The group raffled off two tickets to the Dec. 21 Monday Nitro, which will be live at the Trans World Dome in St. Louis.

The event also featured video games and, of course, Monday's episode of Nitro.

# Two-year schools offer many ag programs

By HEATHER NORTON

AgriNews Publications

INDIANAPOLIS — When a high school senior decides to go to college and major in agriculture, they may think that their big decisions have been made.

From that point, however, their choices get even more numerous and important. They can choose from majors in general agriculture, agricultural business, ag mechanics, ag communication, horticulture, ag engineering, food science and many, many more.

The students may also think about whether they want to be involved in extracurricular activities such as livestock judging teams, fraternities or sororities, educational clubs, or even sports.

Those choices will be greatly affected, however, by another important decision that must be made — whether to attend a four-year or two-year higher education institution. While four-year land grant universities such as the University of Illinois or Purdue University get a lot of agriculture's attention, two-year colleges have been quietly adding programs and gaining recognition.

This week AgriNews features some of the two-year colleges and universities in Indiana and Illinois that offer a wide range of agricultural programs. The featured schools are: Black Hawk College, East campus, Kewanee, Ill.; Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Ill.; Lake Land College, Mattoon, Ill.; Rend Lake College, Ina, Ill.; and Vincennes University, Vincennes, Ind.

There are more Illinois college featured because Illinois has many more community college with agriculture programs than Indiana. In fact, Vincennes offers the only two-year agricultural program in Indiana, except for six agricultural associate degree programs offered as an option at Purdue.

The community college with ag programs in Illinois only are a sampling from around the state. Many more exist and can be found through the Illinois Board of Community Colleges.

A student may have many reasons for choosing a two-year school for agriculture. The schools offer associate of science or associate of applied science degrees in agricultural areas, which is important to students who want to get a job in their field or go back to the family farm quickly, but still want to earn a college degree.

Or, in many cases, students plan to get a four-year degree in ag but for a variety of reasons don't want to start their education at a four-year school.

"Purdue is a big school. Students can come to Vincennes and get small class size and very personal attention," said Susan Brocksmitth, agribusiness department chair at Vincennes. "Our small structure is the biggest calling card we have right now."

Vincennes and the other two-year schools featured offer agricultural majors specifically designed to transfer to a four-year school after two years. At Black Hawk, Agricultural Programs Department Chair Lanny Anderson said about

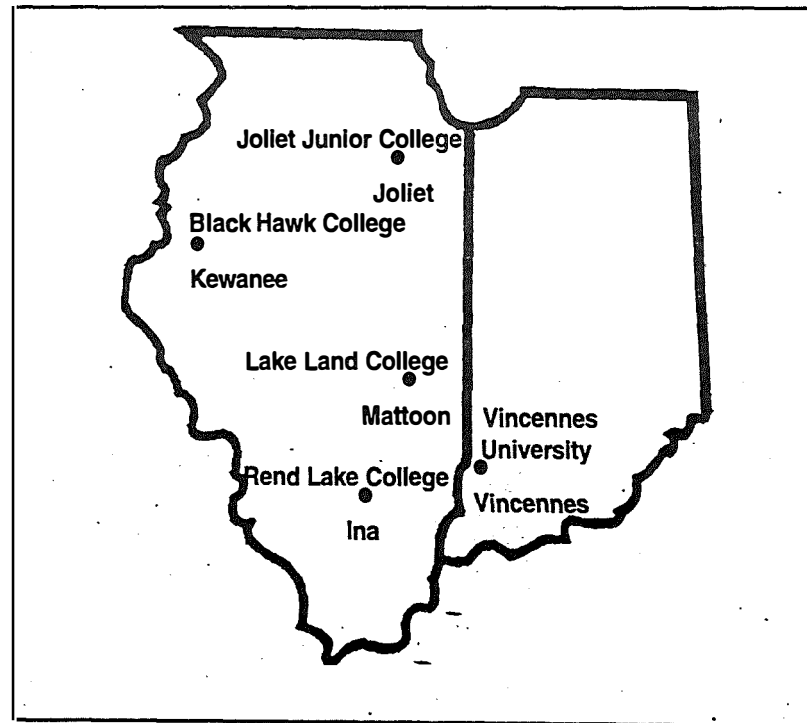
one-third of his 245 full-time agricultural students are in those kind of transfer programs.

For More  
See Close-Up  
Page B1

"Plus, quite a number of those getting their two-year degree change their mind and go on to get a four-year degree," Anderson said. "That's probably another third of our students."

More and more, however students interested in an agricultural career aren't just choosing two-year schools because they're not ready for a bigger school or because they want to be done quickly. These schools are offering activities and programs that have student-attracting reputations, like Lake Land's livestock judging team, which recently won their junior college competition at the North American International Livestock Exposition.

Horticulture has been another  
See SCHOOLS; page A4



# AGRINEWS

INDIANA EDITION-USPS694-ISSN0745-7103

## Schools

Continued from page 1

draw. As jobs in landscaping and other horticultural fields have multiplied in recent years, two-year schools have stepped up their programs and facilities.

Joliet, for example, has a more than 9,000-square-foot greenhouse, a LANDCADD/Video Imaging Laboratory, and a horticulture judging team to offer potential students interested in that major. Ed Billingsley, ag department chair at Rend Lake, said interest from the horticulture industry was so strong that they just added the major to their program line-up this year.

Black Hawk offers a one-of-a-

kind equine program with facilities that allow students in horse or equine science to bring their horses to stay on campus during school. Anderson said they are in the process of expanding those facilities, too.

With these improvements in the quality of students' education, a firm commitment to internships, and a still-good demand from ag employers for qualified students, graduates of two-year colleges like these are commanding starting salaries that more than compete with those of four-year graduates. Curt Rincker, agriculture division chairman at Lake Land, said his

two-year degree graduates start anywhere from \$18,000 to \$30,000.

"Plus, they get some good incentives for growth (of that salary) after the first year, too," he said.

Black Hawk's reported starting salary range for ag students was \$20,000 to \$35,000, while Rend Lake estimated \$22,000 to \$30,000. Vincennes reported anywhere from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

"A lot depends on their willingness to relocate," Rend Lake's Billingsley said. "A lot of kids draw a little circle of where they want to live, and that limits their opportunities and pay."

With so many choices, high school graduates interested in agri-

culture must carefully consider their long-term goals before choosing a college and a major. The representatives from schools featured here are hoping that those students will see that two-year schools are worth considering.

"The original community college concept was with the idea that students could commute to nearby, but in the past decade that's changed quite a bit," Lake Land's Rincker said. "We get students from all over."

Black Hawk's Anderson agreed. "I think community colleges do an excellent job in agriculture," he said.



### Rend Lake College

Indiana, Ill.

Total enrollment: 2,500

Agricultural enrollment: 97

Tuition per credit hour: Approximately \$38, in-district

Ag programs offered: associate in science degree — plant and soil science; associate in applied science degree — agricultural business, agricultural mechanics, ag production and management, horticulture; occupational certificates — agricultural mechanics, ag production management, horticulture technician, turf management.

1997-'98 placement rates: Of students seeking, between 90 percent and 100 percent of graduates are placed.





# Making the Grade

## Internships are integral part of two-year ag

By HEATHER NORTON  
AgriNews Publications

**YORKVILLE, Ill.** — When A.J. Metzger was finishing his second and final year at Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Ill., in the spring of 1998, he was also completing his second and final internship, a paid, working experience that is directly related to the program in which he was getting his degree.

Metzger, originally from Mulberry, Ind., worked for a semester on the Sunny Valley Farm in Yorkville, a purebred cattle operation, to fulfill the rest of his Joliet requirement of two on-the-job experiences.

When Metzger graduated in May with his associate of applied science degree, it is easy to say that his Sunny Valley internship directly contributed to his success at getting a full-time position, as the Yorkville cattle farm offered him a full-time position as assistant beef herdsman.

Metzger, like most other students who attend two-year colleges or universities for two-year degrees, quickly learned that on-the-job experience before graduation goes a long way to ensure an on-the-job experience after graduation. At some schools, students are required to learn that lesson.

At Lake Land College, Mattoon, Ill., for example, all students in agricultural program areas who are working towards associate of applied science degrees or certificates must complete 26 weeks of actual job experience before they graduate. Only those enrolled in programs designed to transfer to a four-year degree program are not required to have the internships, but often do anyway, said Curt Rincker, agriculture division chairman at Lake Land.

"Our students work during school on their home farms, as herdsmen, at John Deere dealerships," Rincker said. "Ag business majors go primarily to fertilizer and chemical businesses, or working with GPS, doing field mapping work, scouting, or in the grain handling field."

Similar scenarios are the rule at other two-year schools — for example: Joliet; Black Hawk College — East, Kewanee, Ill.; Rend Lake College, Ina, Ill.; and Vincennes University, Vincennes, Ind. All of the five school require internships for graduation in at least one part of their agricultural or horticultural programs.

Because of the nature of a two-year versus a four-year program, the internships these students are getting are very specific to the area in which they are enrolled. A student majoring in swine production works for three months at a farrow-to-finish operation. Someone enrolled in agricultural mechanics works at a dealership or shop where he or she diagnoses and fixes farm equipment.

"We feel that (internships) are a very important part of their education," said Ed Billingsley, Agriculture, Automotive, and Architecture department chair at Rend Lake College. "We're training them to work, so that's what they need to do."

At Rend Lake, all students working toward an associate of

applied science degree must complete at least 320 hours of on-the-job experience in an area related to their major. At Vincennes, said Agribusiness Department Chair Susan Brocksmith, only those students in custom applicator and John Deere-sponsored programs are required to have internships, but "most looking for them find them."

At Black Hawk College, agricultural production and ag business majors must complete two work experiences, while horticulture, equine science and horse science majors must have one.

These two-year programs' emphasis on internship experience is in sharp contrast to many four-year institution majors, where students can graduate successfully without ever working in their chosen field of study. Department heads at the featured two-year colleges, however, said "real-world" experience is invaluable.

"We see (internships) as a benefit to the students, because it not only gives them experience to put on their resumes, it gives them a great opportunity to decide if that is really

what they want to do for a career," Billingsley said.

Some opportunities are even more focused than others. At Lake Land and at Vincennes, John Deere cooperates with the agriculture departments to offer actual majors called John Deere tech or marketing that prepare students specifically to work at John Deere dealerships. Those students intern at Deere dealerships and often go on to full time jobs there.

In fact, many of the students continue working with their internship employer after the scheduled internship is over, even if they are still in school.

"Students certainly get job offers from (their internships)," Rincker said. "After a student

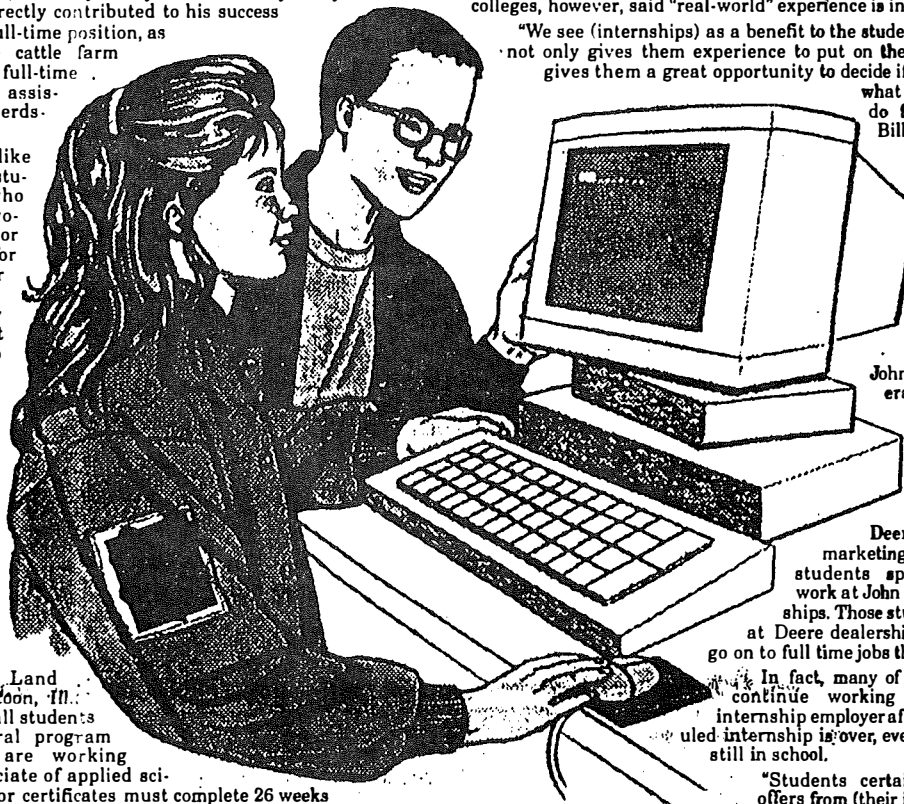
gets a taste of getting paid in their chosen career, it can be tough to keep them in school until they get their degree sometimes."

That's especially true now, with high pressure from employers to get qualified employees, like the students, who have an interest in that agricultural or horticultural career. All of the schools' representatives said it is still an employees' market out there, and they don't see too much of a slow down in that trend. Agricultural employers who need salespeople, technicians, chemical applicators, herdsmen, managers, etc., are banging down the doors of the two-year colleges looking for good people.

"We have many more requests than students," said Lanny Anderson, chair of the agriculture programs department at Black Hawk. "I see that continuing, especially with all the new technologies in GPS and landscaping."

Others agreed with that assessment. Lake Land's Rincker said he sees a job to graduate ratio of about four to one right now, and doesn't see any area of agriculture in which that ratio is becoming more balanced right now, even livestock production. William Johnson, ag production/swine coordinator at Joliet, put it another way.

"Basically, we tell students coming in that we guarantee a full-time job in agriculture for anybody that wants one," he said.



# F.Y.I. Week ahead **DECEMBER**

## **MONDAY / 14th**

- SEMESTER EXAMS • South Oasis closed for remodeling • Adult Area Planning Council, 8:30-11 am (SC/PDA)
- State of IL Teachers Retirement, all day (Theatre) • Office Systems Technology Classes, 11:30 am-5 pm (ACA 204; SC/EBR until 1 pm)
- Welfare to Work, 1-4 (SC/EBR) • LIGHT, 3-5 pm (SC) • Student Senate, 4-5 pm (SC/EBR) • Information Systems, 4 pm (SC/PDA)

## **TUESDAY / 15th**

- SEMESTER EXAMS • South Oasis Closed • Office Systems Technology Classes, 11:30 am-5 pm (ACA 204)
- "Psychology" TV, 1-2 pm (ACA 107), 6-7 pm (ACA 109) • "Culinary Arts," 2-10 pm (Kitchen) • President's Cabinet, 2 pm (SC/PDA)
- Dana Tabor Retirement Reception, 3-4 pm (SC) • "Theatre," 6-9 pm (Theatre) • Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 pm (SC)

## **WEDNESDAY / 16th**

- SEMESTER EXAMS • South Oasis Closed • Student Services, 8:30-10 (SC/EBR) • Office Support Staff Christmas Party, 11 am-1 pm (SC/PDA)
- Office Systems Technology Classes, 11:30 am-5 pm (ACA 204) • "Anthropology" TV, Noon-1 pm (ACA 211) and 5-7 pm (ACA 210)
- Office Support, 2-3 pm (SC/EBR) • College Bowl, 5-6 pm (ACA 105) • Children Christmas Dinner, 6:30-8 pm (SC/PDA)

## **THURSDAY / 17th**

- SEMESTER EXAMS • South Oasis Closed • McKendree, 8 am-8 pm (Tech 156)
- Office Systems Technology Classes, 11:30 am-5 pm (ACA 204) • "Health Ed," 10 am-Noon (SCI 110)

## **FRIDAY / 18th**

- SEMESTER EXAMS • South Oasis Closed • Mt. Vernon Christian Tourney, 9 am-10 pm (Gym) • Office Systems Tech. Classes, 11:30-5 (ACA 204)

## **WEEKEND / 19th & 20th**

- SATURDAY - • SEMESTER EXAMS • South Oasis Closed • Mt. Vernon Christian Tourney, 8 am-5 pm (Gym)  
• National Audobon Society Christmas Bird Count, 5-7 pm (SC/PDA) • Women's Basketball, Lincoln Land at RLC, 5:30 pm
- SUNDAY -

## **MONDAY / 21st**

- South Oasis Closed • Office Systems Technology Classes, 11:30 am-5 pm (ACA 204)

## **TUESDAY / 22nd**

- South Oasis Closed • Office Systems Technology Classes, 11:30 am-5 pm (ACA 204)

## **WEDNESDAY / 23rd**

- South Oasis Closed • Student Services, 8:30-10 am (SC/EBR)

## **THURSDAY / 24th**

- COLLEGE CLOSED - CHRISTMAS BREAK

## **FRIDAY / 25th**

- COLLEGE CLOSED - CHRISTMAS BREAK

## **WEEKEND / 26th & 27th**

- SATURDAY - • COLLEGE CLOSED - CHRISTMAS BREAK
- SUNDAY -

## **WEEK of 28th thru 3rd**

- MONDAY - SUNDAY - • COLLEGE CLOSED - CHRISTMAS BREAK

## Business chair finds education 'fun, enjoyable'

A bit ironic, perhaps, but the new chairperson of the Business and Information Technology Department at Rend Lake College doesn't rank finances as the most important thing in life. Not from a personal standpoint, anyway.

Ted Zwayer is an attorney and former elected official who turned to education because he found it "fun" and "enjoyable" and because of the impact he felt he could make on the lives of students. He was hired by RLC following a national search and started last week.

After 14 years as a trial lawyer, the last 11 1/2 years as City Attorney in his hometown of Whitehall, OH, Zwayer realized he "wasn't enjoying trial work any more" and not looking forward to running for a fourth term in office.

"I had started teaching part-time in 1990 and personally found that to be a lot more rewarding than going to court each day," commented Ted Zwayer, J.D. "So it really was the combination of not wanting to have to run again - it requires so much of your

(Continued on Page 4)

# K-12...OK

## Cooperation a college priority

Rend Lake College has worked diligently in recent years to make cooperation between K-12 schools in the district and higher education a priority by introducing and integrating numerous exemplary programs.

These include:

- Honors Credit Program for high school juniors who are high-achievers.
- Summer "Career Exploration Camp" for 7th- and 8th-graders.
- "Career Center" orienta-

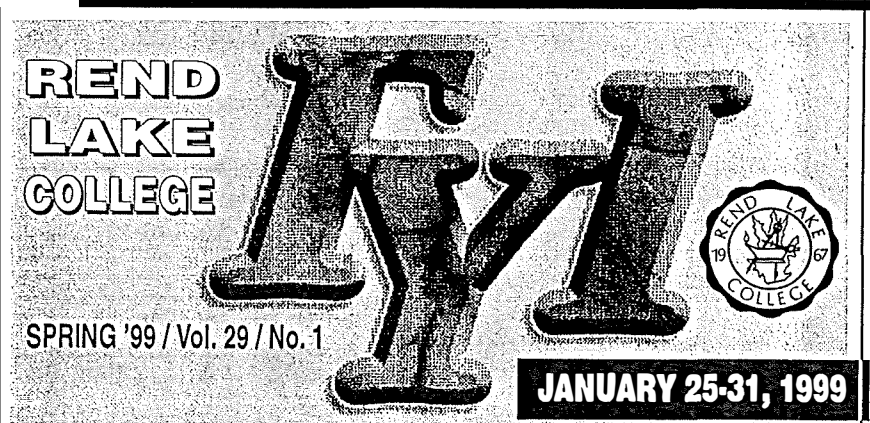
tions for middle school and high school students.

- Coordination of Alternative/Optional Education programs for high school students through the efforts of Dr. Walt Montgomery, a former high school administrator.

- Interactive "Distance Learning" classrooms in five feeder schools.

- Volunteer helpers in area gradeschools with AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois and "America Reads" projects.

(Continued on Page 11)



## Chamber membership pays for RLC Aquatics participants

It pays to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce in four communities within the Rend Lake College district. Orrather, it saves to be a member.

Individuals and businesses associated with Chambers of

Commerce in Jefferson County, Benton, McLeansboro and Pinckneyville, plus all of their employees, will save 50 percent on their memberships to the new Jimmy J. Fulks Aquat-

(Continued on Page 6)

# NCA accreditation visit ... March 22-24

## Work by Capps picked for 'Illinois Women' exhibit

When the prestigious exhibit, "Illinois Women Artists: The New Millennium," finally arrives on the Southern Illinois scene a year from this June, it will have a local flavor.

Rend Lake College Art Professor Sarah Capps was informed last week her watercolor painting, entitled "Awakening," is one of 51 pieces chosen for inclusion from over 1,200 original entries from judging throughout the state.

She won't be alone, either. Former student Sue Stotlar (Benton) will join Capps with her painting, "Good Times," a pastel on tinted watercolor paper.

It is the same select exhibition of contemporary art that opens this April at the Illinois State Gallery in Chicago, then moves September 9 to headquarters of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC, before returning to Illinois for a statewide tour during the Years 2000 and 2001 with stops in Peoria, Champaign, Normal, Springfield,

Rockford and Quincy, in addition to the local visit to the Southern Illinois Artisans Shop at Rend Lake June 10 through August, 2000.

One other area artist with RLC connections made the first cut of 100 works under consideration. Current art student Brenda Webster McCollum (Benton) received a phone call recently informing her the piece she submitted was not among the final selections.

Slides submitted from four regions – Cook County, Northern Illinois, Central Illinois and Southern Illinois – were judged separately to make up the preliminary list of finalists. Debra Teyes, Assistant Curator of Fine Arts for the Southern Illinois Art Gallery at Rend Lake, was responsible for narrowing the Southern Region field.

These works were then sent to Chicago, where juror Clare Henry, Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts, Glasgow, Scotland, did the final judging. Henry has been the art critic for the Glasgow Herald newspaper

for the past 17 years. The Final Juror has written a series of monographs on modern British artists and has taught as an art historian specializing in 19th and 20th century visual arts. She is well known as an arts broadcaster for BBC radio and television.

Competition was open to all female residents of Illinois. Work submitted must have been completed within the last two years.

The sponsoring Illinois Committee for the NMWA was formed to assist the museum in its mission to honor women's achievements in all of the arts, both past and present, and to create a greater awareness on the part of the general public of those achievements.

Capps, a Belle River native, received the "Faculty Excellence Award" from the Rend Lake College Foundation in 1987. She has received considerable local, regional, state and Midwest recognition for many years, and her work hangs in many private and public collections.

### Birthdays

#### BELATED

- Nina Gaspar (1/18)
- Kim Davis (1/20)
- Roy Smith (1/21)
- Wayne Arnold (1/22)
- Steve Doty (1/26)
- Marsha Eubanks (1/27)
- Julie Wilkerson (1/30)
- Ronnie Ressel (2/2)
- Sam McCowen (2/5)
- Gib Sink (2/5)
- Gary Wade (2/9)
- Kevin Weston (2/9)
- Therese Howard (2/10)
- Bruce Bowen (2/11)
- William Dill (2/11)
- Pam Knoblett (2/11)

## MARTIN'S FOOD SERVICE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<i>Specials</i>	<i>Specials</i>	<i>Specials</i>	<i>Specials</i>	<i>Specials</i>
<b>LUNCH</b> \$4.25 Chicken and Rice 2 Vegetables Roll Small Drink	<b>LUNCH</b> \$2.99 Beef Stew in a Bread Bowl Small Drink	<b>LUNCH</b> \$4.25 Roast Beef 2 Vegetables Roll Small Drink	<b>LUNCH</b> \$4.25 Meatloaf 2 Vegetables Roll Small Drink	<b>LUNCH</b> \$4.25 Tuna Casserole 2 Vegetables Roll Small Drink
<b>SANDWICH</b> \$3.15 Cheeseburger FF/Veg/Chips Small Drink	<b>SANDWICH</b> \$3.15 Polish FF/Veg/Chips Small Drink	<b>SANDWICH</b> \$3.15 Pork Fritter FF/Veg/Chips Small Drink	<b>SANDWICH</b> \$3.15 Chicken FF/Veg/Chips Small Drink	<b>SANDWICH</b> \$3.15 Barbecue FF/Veg/Chips Small Drink

Hours / 7:30 am - 1:30 pm

# Quiz time ... What is NCA?

Students and staff alike are going to be asked to take several important tests in the weeks ahead.

Q. The best part of these tests?

A. a.) They should be simple to answer for those paying attention; b.) There will be rewards for some of those answering correctly; c.) They will be like open-book exams, with helpful hints plastered all over campus and in F.Y.I.; d.) all of the above.

In a recent letter to RLC students, President Mark S. Kern explained:

"On March 22, 23 and 24, Rend Lake College will be hosting representatives from the North Central Accreditation (NCA) team.

"This team's purpose is to evaluate institutions of higher education to

assure development and maintenance of high standards of excellence. An institutional accrediting team evaluates an entire institution in terms of its mission and accredits the institution as a whole.

"Why is this important to you?

"Accreditation assures students that Rend Lake College will provide quality programs. With accreditation, students are offered educational opportunities and experiences to obtain essential skills and competencies. This results in students being able to compete effectively in the job market or transfer to four-year universities."

Several events will take place within the next few

weeks, Kern explained.

Look for "Road Sign" flyers with contest questions. Prizes will be awarded weekly to four students and at the contest's close to a staff member.

(Students should put their answers in boxes in the Student Center or South Oasis; staff should e-mail answers to Jana Groh at grohj@rlc.cc.il.us or call her voice mail by dialing "400," then "99#" and Ext. 341.)

"All eyes will be on RLC March 22-24," Kern noted. "Please join me in efforts to welcome and educate the NCA team so they can learn what we already know: Rend Lake College is the BEST!"

**CAMPUS-WIDE**  
**NCA**  
**INFORMATIONAL**  
**MEETING**  
**FOR STUDENTS**  
**AND STAFF**

**TUESDAY**  
**MARCH 9**

**WEDNESDAY**  
**MARCH 10**

**STUDENT CENTER**

**FREE**  
**LUNCH**  
**FOR THOSE**  
**ATTENDING!**

**Contest**  
**Question /**  
**Week 1 ...**  
**Back Page**

**HELP WANTED**

**Rend Lake College**  
*is seeking a full-time professional Instructor at*



**Pinckneyville**  
**Correctional Center**

*This individual will coordinate and teach in the college's Culinary Arts Vocational Correctional Education Program at Pinckneyville Correctional Center. // The candidate selected will be required to pass a Dept. of Corrections background check and drug screening. Full-time, contract-funded, nontenure-track position requiring DOC approval.*

■ **Culinary Arts Instructor**

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Minimum of five years food service and supervisory experience required.
- Associate Degree in related field from an accredited institution preferred.

**SALARY and BENEFITS**

- \$30,000 annually
- Retirement plan
- 18 paid Vacation Days
- 12 paid Holidays
- Excellent Health/Life Insurance coverage
- Free Tuition for employee, spouse and dependents

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS**


- Tentative start date is February 10 (or as negotiated)
- Application Deadline is Tuesday, February 2, 4 pm
- For an application packet, contact:  
 Cindy Minor, Assistant  
 c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE  
 468 N Ken Gray Pkwy  
 Ina, IL 62846  
 (618) 437-5321, Ext. 228

or e-mail request to - jobs@rlc.cc.il.us

**REND LAKE COLLEGE**  
 Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Educator and Employer

**HELP WANTED**

**Rend Lake College**  
*is seeking Internal Candidates only for*



**Executive Director of**  
**Community Development**

*The Executive Director is responsible for the areas of Cooperative Education and Job Placement, K-12 Programs, Alternative / Optional Education, Project First Class, special grant projects, the Center for Business and Industry and Community Services. Responsibilities include: administrative leadership, staffing, budget preparation and management, staff evaluation, program and grant evaluation, development and facilitation of programs and activities relating to community improvement and development.*

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Master's Degree in Education, Administration or related field from an accredited institution required.
- College-level administration and teaching experience preferred.
- Grant writing / administration experience preferred.
- Innovative, energetic, team-oriented.

**SALARY and BENEFITS**

- \$48,000-\$51,000 range
- Retirement Plan
- 20 paid Vacation Days
- 12 paid Holidays
- Pleasant, challenging work environment
- Excellent Health / Life Insurance coverage
- Free Tuition for employee, spouse and dependents

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

- Start date is negotiable
- Application Deadline is Thursday, February 4, 4 pm, or until position is filled
- For an application packet, contact:  
 President's Office  
 c/o REND LAKE COLLEGE  
 468 N Ken Gray Pkwy  
 Ina, IL 62846  
 (618) 437-5321, Ext. 228

or e-mail request to - jobs@rlc.cc.il.us

**REND LAKE COLLEGE**  
 Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Educator and Employer

# Metzger, Grounds, Hart get Service Learning grants

Three Rend Lake College teachers – Math Professor Diane Metzger, Child Development Instructor Tina Grounds and part-time Instructor Mary Hart – are recipients of 1999 Illinois Campus Compact for Scholarship of Engagement Service Learning Grants.

Each will receive a \$1,000 stipend to help them integrate service learn-

ing into courses that will combine classroom instruction with experiential education through service.

Interested in service learning for some of your courses?

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will host a Faculty Service Learning Symposium Thursday and Friday, April 8-9. Those who might be interested in attending are

asked to contact Rex Duncan (Ext. 352) ASAP. Limited travel money is available and will be committed on a first-come, first-served basis. Those currently working with service learning projects already have built-in travel money in the budget to attend.

More proposals can be submitted in early August, said Duncan, who will assist anyone in need of help.

## MORE ABOUT >> Business Chair finds education 'fun, enjoyable'

time – and having found something else you really enjoy.

"Income was an issue, naturally. But my wife and I discussed that aspect and decided that was not an important enough issue to keep me from making the change."

Zwayer, who earned a B.S. Degree in Business Administration from Ohio State University and three years later his Juris Doctorate from the same institution, was an adjunct instructor at Columbus State Community College during his last year and a half as city attorney.

He then moved to Arkansas to accept a full-time teaching position at Mississippi County Community College in Blytheville in 1991. Four years later he was promoted to Interim Chairperson, and in July, 1996, he was named Director of Technical Programs.

"When I first started teaching part-time, even though I wasn't seeing students on a long-term basis, I still felt I was getting to know them and realized I could have an impact on them," Zwayer commented.

"I remembered back to my own college experience, also, and the impact a few of my instructors had made. There was one instructor, in particular – Tom Dunfee, a Business Law Professor who I had for three different classes at Ohio State – who really made an impression on me.

"I always thought what he did was really neat. He was a really good instructor, an 'open' instructor who

got to know his students and seemed to care about them. He was somebody I admired, and I do remember thinking this would be a nice way to make a living."

In a college environment, Zwayer added, "It is really enjoyable knowing you are contributing to somebody's future success in life."

About six years ago, the former student had the opportunity to reintroduce himself to Dunfee, now Business Law Chair at the University of Pennsylvania, when the latter was overseeing a convention as President of the Association of Legal Studies in Business. "It felt good to be able to tell him I was teaching because of him," recalls Zwayer.

But even that aspect of his profession has taken a dramatic turn from his original plan, which was to become a Business Law professor at a four-year university.

"When I got to Arkansas, I found I really enjoyed working at the community college level, where you have the ability to have more contact with employers. There is more opportunity to do practical work than theoretical teaching. The part of the job I had always enjoyed most as a City Attorney was when I was working with economic development in my home community, touring somebody's plant, things like that. That was fun.

"And then I discovered the community colleges is a fun place to work, for many of the same reasons."

As the new Business and Information Technology Chair, Zwayer says, "It is important that a chairperson works with the community. I plan to go out and uncover what community employers need Rend Lake College to offer in terms of coursework."

He said computer courses may be one of the most important areas in which to concentrate.

Zwayer will teach only one class Spring Semester while he gets familiar with his new position, but after that usually will be in the classroom for a couple of classes each term.

"The way I do my classes is turn them mostly into brainstorming sessions," he explained. "They are lecture classes, but I find after the first few class sessions it is more stimulating for everyone if you can get them going, get them talking and exploring and coming up with answers on their own. Students learn more that way, and they enjoy it more."

Zwayer is living in Mt. Vernon but commutes weekends to be with his family in Blytheville, until school is out and they make the move to join him. His wife, Kay, is a legal secretary. Daughter Carrie, 12, is a 6th-grader.

The new department head was active in Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce in Arkansas and plans to become involved in the community here as well. In his spare time, he enjoys following Ohio State University football, reading and fishing.

# Faculty/Staff Mentoring program encouraged

From biggsr@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Dear Faculty and Staff,

One of the most common compliments that I hear about Rend Lake College is how helpful and friendly our faculty and staff are to students. We can use this strength to make our college even more student-friendly. Contact is important to students and important for the college, as well. With that in mind, Rend Lake College, under the direction of the STARS staff, is implementing a Faculty/Staff Mentor Program to begin in the Spring semester.

Ideally, we will assign interested faculty and staff 1-4 students. Initially, STARS students will be assigned to mentors (since this is a "test" semester), but if you know a student who you would like to mentor (or who you feel needs a mentor), let me know. Most students will be assigned a mentor who has experience in the student's field of study. Hopefully, the program will be expanded campus-wide fall semester.

A mentor is someone who will listen, support, and guide students. Students who participate in the program will have a greater connection with Rend Lake College, and mentors can gain great satisfaction by making a difference in a student's life. You can make a difference. We need your support to make this a successful program.

Anyone interested in becoming a mentor and helping our students to successfully complete Rend Lake College or anyone who needs more information about the program, should contact me at Ext. 357 or reply to this email (biggsr@rlc.cc.il.us) as soon as possible.

We will have lunch hour meetings once enough mentors have volunteered (hopefully, in the fourth week). The meetings will discuss the details of the program, and student assignments will be made. Thanks for your support of this program.

Rebecca Biggs  
Academic Specialist

## Worth repeating ... rlcall@rlc.cc.il.us

From ruffino@rlc.cc.il.us ~

To all advisors:

Students enrolling at RLC who do not have a high school diploma or who have not passed the GED exam are subject to Ability to Benefit Requirements when applying for financial aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

Following are the required minimum passing scores for Ability to Benefit/Financial Aid Eligibility as specified by the Department of Education, for ASSET and COMPASS, respectively:

ASSET Subtest	Scaled Score
Writing Skills	34
Reading Skills	34
Numerical Skills	33
COMPASS Subtest	Scaled Score
Writing Skills	31
Reading Skills	60
Pre-Algebra Skills	21

JAN. '99	FEB. '99	MARCH '99	APRIL '99	MAY '99	JUNE '99
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

1999

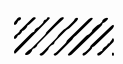
## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 1998-99 SPRING SEMESTER 1999

- First Day of Classes ..... Monday, January 11
- King's Birthday Holiday ..... Monday, January 18
- Presidents Day Holiday ..... Monday, February 15
- Faculty/Staff In-Service (No classes) ..... Tuesday, February 16
- Semester Midterm ..... Friday, March 5
- Spring Break (Offices open) ..... Monday-Saturday, March 15-20
- Easter Holiday (Offices open on Thursday) ..... Thursday-Saturday, April 1-3
- Fun Fest (No classes Noon-4 pm only) ..... Wednesday, April 21
- Last Day of Regular Classes ..... Friday, May 7
- Semester Exams ..... Saturday-Friday, May 8-14
- Commencement ..... Friday, May 14

**(Note Easter Holiday change . . . No classes Thursday, April 1, but Rend Lake College offices will be open as usual that day)**

Please keep this requirement in mind as you work with prospective students.

If you have any questions regarding Ability to Benefit Requirements, please contact the Counseling Center or the Financial Aid Office.



From ruffino@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Just a reminder that the bulletin board is available in the Student Center for the posting of information about your club or organization.

The bulletin board is an excellent way for students to obtain information on how to become involved in your club or activity and to keep up-to-date on upcoming events.

The bulletin board is located by the Security Office.



## MORE ABOUT >> **Aquatics discount for Chamber members**

ics Center on the RLC Ina campus.

In all, approximately 20,000 discount cards will be distributed to potential members via this method, according to Rend Lake College Dean for Finance and Administration Bob Carlock.

Members of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce already were entitled to half-price membership in either of the RLC Aerobic Super-Circuit Fitness Centers with their Member-to-Member Discount Card.

"We feel it will be beneficial to the college to extend this offer, but it also could help the local chamber offices establish more members and, hopefully, it should be a benefit to companies within the area, also," Carlock said at a recent luncheon in Mt. Vernon to announce the discount program.

Families of chamber members may now purchase Aquatics Center annual memberships for \$150, compared to \$300 previously. Single memberships are available for \$90, down from \$180. It is not necessary to be enrolled as a Rend Lake College student to take advantage of this opportunity; no other usage fees are required.

Membership fees will not be prorated during the year, Carlock added, so it is of greater benefit to anyone making such a purchase to do so early in the calendar year.

"I don't think you will find a better bargain anywhere from a fitness or entertainment standpoint," Carlock commented.

"Part of our original commitment when we got the pool," added RLC President Mark S. Kern, "was to make it a total 'community' pool. This is

part of that agreement."

Open swim hours for members and non-members – the public may use the facilities on an hourly basis as well – are 6-9 a.m., 2-4 p.m. and 6-10 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon until 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, or 55 hours per week. The facility opened last February.

The first Sunday afternoon each month is open to the community for free usage of the facilities at the present time, added Aquatics Center Coordinator Jason Thrash.

"People are using the (Member-to-Member Discount) cards," Jefferson County Chamber Executive Director Debbie Paschal said, "and membership in the Fitness Center probably is one of the top utilizations of the card."

Companies were encouraged to schedule parties during weekend hours when the pool is not scheduled. A large, outdoor patio included in the original plans is expected to be completed this spring and should prove to be another asset for those needing a large area in which to entertain.

The facility features a six-lane, 25-yard lap pool, a 10-foot diameter whirlpool and a 10 x 20-foot hydro therapy pool. The lap pool features a ramp for the physically challenged, and both pools are equipped with stairs and a hydraulic chair lift to assist patrons into the water. Also included are shower and locker room areas, a changing room for elderly or physically challenged individuals who might need assistance by a spouse or member of the opposite sex and a common lobby entrance adjacent to James (Hummer) Waugh

## ..... **RLC faculty, staff qualify for discount**

Rend Lake College personnel can take advantage of this half-price offer for membership to the Jimmy J. Fulks Aquatics Center as an employee of a member of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce.

Discount cards were distributed through campus mail to all full-time faculty and staff. These cards should be presented at the time the person signs up for an annual membership – \$150 for a family, \$90 for individuals.

.....  
Gymnasium.

More information related to the Chamber of Commerce member discounts is available from the Jimmy J. Fulks Aquatics Center at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 207, or 437-5321, or through the chamber offices in Jefferson County, Benton, McLeansboro or Pinckneyville.

Among those present for the joint announcement in Mt. Vernon were Hallam Mahlon, Employee Relations Manager for Walgreens; Human Resources Director Mark Pitchford of Mt. Vernon Continental General Tire; Beverly Pickel, Administration, and Marketing Department rep Kathy Atchison of St. Mary's Good Samaritan; Earl Elliston, Public Relations Director for Crossroads Community Hospital; Mike Fiorina, Operations Manager, and Joe Funkhouser, Manager of Field Services, for Heavy-Duty Electric; Krys Fisher of Man-Tra-Con, Corp., and Chamber President Bill Beck of Beck's Bus Service.

## **RLC course for Private Investigators starts in February**

A Basic Training and Firearms Qualification course for Illinois certification as a Private Investigator will be conducted at Rend Lake College February 22 through May 3.

The class will meet Monday evenings from 6-9 p.m.

The course – CRJS 1601 – is designed to train security officers for positions in business and industry. Topics to be covered include conduct and ethics, crime prevention, law enforcement, criminal investigation, weapons and defensive tac-

tics, routine services, hazardous duty, emergency services and interpersonal relations.

For more information, prospective students are encouraged to contact Professor Ed Heischmidt at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 278 or 288.

## OBITUARIES

## Ex-employees: Counselor Burke, RLCF's K. Miller

Two former Rend Lake College employees died within the past month or so.

Ken Miller, who headed the RLC Foundation from 1984-88 until his retirement, died January 10 at his home in Mt. Vernon.

Miller, 83, had been in failing health in recent months.

The newspaper obituary is included elsewhere in this edition of F.Y.I.

Tom Burke, a longtime college counselor and English instructor, also died around the holidays.

He was no longer living in the area and had been diagnosed with a terminal illness in recent years.

No other details were available.

## Can you help identify source?

The college received the following note, dated January 1. Can you help identify the origination?

"Dear Friends,

A balloon was found in our field with the address of your college, sometime in August.

I had intended to write before this, but just neglected it. Now today in cleaning out my desk I came across it again, so I thought I'd write a few lines, so if you receive this and care to answer I would be pleased. I am a farmer and have 10 children whom are all at home yet (ages 1-19).

Sincerely, Amos J. Mast, 217 Denson Rd, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.

Could it have been a run-away balloon from the DuQuoin State Fair?

## SBDC hosting videoconference for community leaders Thursday

Rend Lake College's Small Business Development Center will be presenting a series of Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA) satellite videoconference training workshops for local officials and community leaders.

The first in the monthly series that runs through May is scheduled Thursday, January 28, from 4-5:30 p.m. The satellite presentation on the Ina campus (Science Room 110) will be one of 18 statewide and the only one south of Mattoon.

The first videoconference, "Upgrading Your Infrastructure: How to Finance New Projects," will cover the procedure used to issue bonds to finance important, big-ticket items which cannot be built out of a community's regular operating revenue.

"If your community is contemplating financing significant improvements to water or sewer systems, roads and bridges, or any other infrastructure improvement, you will want to attend this workshop," according to Oletha Taft, RLC Coordinator of Continuing Education and Business/Industry Training. This session will look at the traditional types of bonds – General Obligation Bonds, Revenue Bonds and Alternative Bonds – used to finance projects and explain when they are appropriate.

Presenters will be Daniel D. Forbes, CIPFA, vice-president and owner of the largest financial advisory firm in Illinois, and Susan L. Carlson, an associate director in the Public Finance Department of Standard and Poor's Chicago office.

Preregistration is required at a cost of \$20 per person. Participants will receive a packet of materials designed to reinforce the concepts presented and to serve as an important reference tool long after the program is over.

A "Disaster Planning" workshop will follow on February 24. "Do It Before Disaster Strikes" will focus on

the importance of preparing a disaster plan to ensure a community is protected if disaster strikes. Reviewed will be the important steps a community should take now to develop a disaster response plan with the local police and fire departments, public works personnel and public health officials, as well as information about how to coordinate a disaster program with other emergency management agencies at the county and state level.

"The Right Stuff: What Businesses Look For When Choosing A Community" is slated March 24. Included will be a review of some of the important community characteristics that business location decisions hinge upon, reviewing the importance of transportation facilities, adequacy of water/sewer and other essential services, area work force statistics, quality of life and the role incentives play in the location decision process.

How do businesses and people see your downtown community? April 28 will bring a "Downtown Redevelopment" session. "How Do Businesses and People See Your Downtown?" will review characteristics of successful downtown areas and look behind the scenes to identify how past communities' decisions influence the present.

On May 26, "How to Run an Effective Governing Board Meeting" will review the parliamentary procedures and attitudes that ensure meetings in which public business takes place are both effective and civil. A panel of experts will give tips on how to reduce friction between board members and conduct a mock council meeting to demonstrate the proper way to run a meeting.

Each workshop will run from 4-5:30 p.m., with check-in beginning at 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$20 per workshop. For additional information, contact Oletha Taft (Ext. 334) or Lisa Payne (Ext. 267) at (618) 437-5321.

## 'Campus Alcohol and Traffic Safety' attendees sought

Rend Lake College volunteers are sought to attend the seventh annual "Campus Alcohol and Traffic Safety Conference sponsored by Eastern Illinois University's Office of Safety Programs and the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Traffic Safety.

To be held Monday and Tuesday, March 1-2, at the Renaissance Hotel in Springfield, the conference will focus on the prevention of problems related to alcohol, other drugs and traffic safety issues.

All colleges and universities in the state are invited to send up to 10 representatives.

Faculty participants are permitted to use the conference for movement on the salary schedule, provided they reimburse the college for the \$10 registration fee per person already paid by RLC, according to Cindy Corn. Would-be participants are asked to notify Corn (Ext. 226) by the Tuesday, February 16, deadline.

Corn and Carolyn Stewart already are planning to attend. They did so last year as well, along with Camille Jones and two criminal justice officers from within the district, Brad Flota of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and Roger Mulch with the Jefferson County Sheriffs Department.

Other appropriate participants might include administrators, students, campus security personnel, department heads, faculty or counselors. Lodging and meals will be provided.

Keynote speaker will be Bill White, Senior Research Consultant for Chestnut Health Systems.

During the two-day conference, participants will be provided with state-of-the-art information and models for creating and sustaining healthy and safe learning, living and driving environments for campus and community members.



The Rend Lake College Safety Committee has been commended by Mike Wright, Loss Control Specialist of Indiana Insurance, for efforts made in recent years which directly influence the level of campus safety.

The commendation by Wright pertains to sidewalk improvements on the north side of campus, the parking lot improvements with new asphalt resurfacing and lighting and the new tread plates on all exterior steps throughout campus.

The Safety Committee is made up of Randall Shively, Director of the Physical Plant; Jerry Bate, Chief of Security; Wayne Arnold, Chair of the Health and Physical Education Department; Frank Fenton, Professor of Industrial Safety; Bob Carlock, Dean for Finance and Administration; Barb Davenport, Interim Chair of the Math, Science and Education Department, and Wilanna Kiefer Patton, Chair of the Allied Health Department.

Committee members recently

came up with a mission statement, which states: "Rend Lake College promotes a safe environment for the staff, the students and the public and is pro-active in the prevention of accidents and injuries." This statement is to be the foundation on safety for the committee as well as for Rend Lake College as a whole.

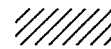
Wright recommended improvements for the general housekeeping in the chemistry lab and sidewalk conditions on the south side of campus. The committee already had instituted plans to improve the sidewalks after an underground plumbing project slated for the summer of '99.

Since then, Chemistry Professor John Fisher, Davenport, Bate and Shively have instituted a plan to improve the chemistry lab and storage area by February.

The committee plans to hold bi-monthly meetings to discuss campus safety issues.

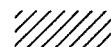
## EVY BrieFs

In case you were wondering or are asked . . . the RLC Foundation will NOT be hosting a Valentine Dance this year. Efforts instead are going into the start-up of an Institute for Learning in Retirement, which is expected to serve the educational needs of senior citizens within the district.



Please pass along this information to students whenever possible. The following college representatives will be on campus in the weeks ahead . . .

Wednesday, January 27	SIU-Carbondale		Student Center
Wednesday, February 17	Western Illinois U.	10 - 1	Student Center
Monday, February 22	U. of Springfield	10 - 1	Student Center



Academic honors were earned by 268 RLC students during Fall Semester '98. Included are 94 individuals named to the President's List for achieving perfect 4.0 grade-point averages and 174 other full-time students on the Dean's List with GPAs of 3.5 and above.

# Free swimming first Sunday of each month

The public is reminded that once again on Sunday, February 7, the Jimmy J. Fulks Aquatics Center on the Rend Lake College campus will be open for a free swim as it is on the first Sunday of each month, accord-

ing to Coordinator Jason Thrash.

Free usage of the six-lane, 25-yard lap pool, hydro therapy pool and whirlpool will be available each of those Sundays during normal hours of operation, between noon and 5

p.m. The facility is accessible for the physically challenged.

The next free swim after February 7 will be March 7.

Participants under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

## Meet the staff

### Tammy Tadlock

A.S. in General Studies – RLC, '95  
Currently attending Greenville College for B.S. in Organizational Leadership (awarded in 2000)

**Background** – Data Entry Clerk, First Image, '95-96 • Medicaid Analyst, Lutheran Child and Family Services, '96-98 •

Former RLC student-worker

ON-CAMPUS CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (12/14/98)

(Tammy Carroll) in President and Vice-President's Office

Residence – Mt. Vernon

Husband – Michael (auto mechanic at Paris Auto Repair)

Daughter – Alex, 3 1/2, attends preschool at Future Kids

Leisure – Reading • Cooking • Crafts

## Meet the staff

### Tom Lawless

B.S. in Plant and Soil Science – SIUC, '82

**Background** – Owner/Operator of Murphysboro Lawn and Garden since 1984, specializing in both residential and business landscaping / maintenance (responsible for University Mall)

• Substitute Teacher, Murphysboro School District, '96-97 • Correctional Officer, Marion Federal Prison, '88-89 • Native of Murphysboro

Residence – Murphysboro

Wife – Chilang (works for SIUC Touch of Nature)

Children – Rene, 25 (court

HORTICULTURE INSTRUCTOR / PINCKNEYVILLE CORRECTIONAL (12/16/98)

reporter in Orlando, FL) • Allen, 13, Murphysboro 7th-grader

Organizations – Navy veteran is officer in American Legion • United Methodist Church • SIUC Friends Club

Leisure – Spending time on pontoon boat on Kincaid Lake • Fishing

Also Noteworthy – Involved in many international activities, in part because wife is native of Guam and adopted son is Korean • Has hosted students from Bangkok and Sweden, visiting educator from Kasistan (part of former Soviet Union)

## FYI Briefs

Project CHILD will be sponsoring a parent/children's fair, entitled "A Family Affair," Saturday, January 30, on the Mt. Vernon Township High School campus (Building "L") between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The fair and all activities will be free of charge, with over 40 booths set up to disperse information for parents and provide activities for children.

Free developmental screenings for children ages birth to 3 will be provided by Child and Family Connections. Activities will include face painting, cookie-icing and free caricatures.

Participating agencies will include Child and Family Connections; Sexual Assault Service Center; People Against Violent Environments; Amy Schultz Advocacy Center; Jefferson County Cooperative Extension; American Red Cross; Girl Scouts of America; Mt. Vernon Kiwanis; Opportunities for Access; CAPA Head Start; PBS; Illinois Child Corps; Jefferson County DARE, and Kroger.

For more information, contact RLC Child Care Resource and Referral personnel at 244-5209, toll-free 1-800-362-7257 or [prochild@accessus.net](mailto:prochild@accessus.net).

A reminder to everyone . . .

Off-campus evening classes in area high schools or grade schools do not meet on those days when that particular school has not been in session, either due to school holiday or inclement weather/conditions.

## /// FYI Briefs ///

Like to help a worthwhile cause? Looking for a keepsake that should increase in value over time?

Want to get in on McGwire-mania? "Illinois Child Corps" Coordinator Rosemary Hicks-Lay and her family are selling commemorative Mark McGwire envelopes released by the U.S. Post Office and sold only in St. Louis, stamped with the dates he hit historic home runs No. 62 and 70.

Approximately 50 of each are left at a cost of \$25 apiece or \$40 for the set of two. They are still in their plastic covers. Any profit from the sales will go to help offset ongoing medical expenses incurred by her son, Brendon, who has been hospitalized three times since birth.

The envelopes feature an action picture of the McGwire home runs, the St. Louis Cardinal logo and the home run number in a hologram.

They make great gifts! Contact Rosemary at 244-2210, Ext. 118.



Warrior Baseball Coach Rich Campbell is justifiably proud of his team's composite 2.80 grade-point average for Fall Semester '98, the team's highest in his tenure at RLC.

Freshman pitcher Kevin Scott of Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, led the way with a 3.88, according to Campbell.

Two other baseball players made the Dean's List – freshman outfielder Dustin Vugteveen (Granville, MI) with a 3.76 and freshman pitcher Zack Brinson (Ellettsville, IN) with a 3.64 – and sophomore outfielder Dan Albers (Belleville Althoff) just missed at 3.47.

All 24 members of the squad maintained academic eligibility for spring.



Charles Jay, who teaches part-time for the college and works part-time out of the regional Superintendent of Schools office for Jefferson-Hamilton counties, has enlisted the help of two of the Warrior baseball players.

Scott and fellow Canadian, sophomore catcher Terry Chisholm

## /// Meet the staff ///

REGISTRAR (11/23/98)

### Jackie Myers

B.S. in Education – SIUC, '87  
A.A. – Rend Lake College, '86

**Background** – Logan CCSD #110 Teacher, '94-'98 • Big Top Development Center Teacher, '92-'94 • Substitute Teacher, '88-'92 • SIUC Student-Worker in Admissions/Records Office, '86-'87 • RLC Student-Worker in Admissions/Records, '83-'85

Residence – Sesser

Husband – Brian (Foreman)

at Gilster-Mary Lee Corp. in Perryville, MO)

Children – Taylor, 6, 1st-grader at Sesser-Valier

Organizations – Member of the Women's Mission Group and Prayer Meeting Coordinator at 1st Baptist Church, Sesser

Leisure – Crafts • Spending time with family and friends  
• Pampered Chef Consultant  
• Shopping • Collecting Beanie Babies

## /// Meet the staff ///

CHILD CARE RESOURCE/REFERRAL  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANT (12/16/98)

### Heather Sample

M.S. in Accounting – SIUC, '98  
B.S. in Accounting/Finance – SIUC, '97

**Background** – Project CHILD, Child Care Resource / Referral Student-Worker, RLC, '97-'98 • Academic Support Programs and Graduate Registration Student-Worker, SIUC, '95-'97

Residence – Christopher

Husband – Jason (Billing Clerk

at Southeastern Illinois Electric Coop); daughter-in-law of Student Services Executive Assistant Connie Sample

Organizations – Member of Pleasant Valley Baptist Church • Attends St. John's United Church of Christ

Leisure – Reading Sci-Fi, Classics and Romance books  
• Bicycling • Volleyball • Sewing

(Brampton, Ontario), will be speaking to grade school students on what it is like living in another country.



More baseball news ...

• RLC product Drew Thomas ('96), a pitcher who played for Illinois State University after his Warrior days ended, recently signed a free-agent contract with the San Diego Padres.

• Pitcher Ryan Spille ('97) was named "Pitcher of the Year" last

spring in the Ohio Valley Conference and is projected as the OVC's pre-season "Player of the Year."

• Another former Warrior hurler, Chris Holt ('94), was not drafted despite having earned "Player of the Year" honors in Conference USA as a freshman member of the University of Cincinnati squad in '95. Two teammates – fellow pitchers Brian Kern (Oakland A's) and Bobby Butler (Boston Red Sox) – either played professionally or were drafted.

## MORE ABOUT >>> OK. K-12 cooperation rates high priority

- The highly effective, decade-old "Project First Class," which encourages minority students in the Mt. Vernon system to stay on a college-bound tract.

- Science grant programs that have significantly impacted both instruction and equipment in area high schools.

- Invitations to elementary students for age-specific theatre arts performances.

Recently, the college counseling staff worked with RLC President Mark S. Kern and high school superintendents to devise a unique, three-year research plan aimed at early identification of developmental needs of college-bound students.

The plan includes a three-year testing cycle at three schools of varying size. The schools, representing a small, medium and large high school, will allow the college to administer its placement exam to the entire sophomore class at the end of the school year. Results of the study will be shared with high school counselors to assist them in directing students toward needed classes and to assist the college in its articulation efforts with local high schools.

"Hopefully, this will give these high schools a chance to do more of the remediation of their own students before they graduate. This is something that is having to be done by the college at the present time," Kern indicated.

Students will be retested during their junior year, and those planning to attend Rend Lake College will be administered a different entrance exam at the end of their senior year. If the number of students still needing remediation drops, the program will be expanded to other in-district schools.

"With the new IAI requirements, once a student starts behind, he or she will never graduate on time. This could help solve that problem," added Kern.

Director of Counseling David

Vinyard works extensively with both counseling activities and special programs. His department works closely with the area high schools, two of which actually share a full-time RLC counselor with the college on a part-time basis. As needed, the RLC Counseling Center provides research information to local school officials to assist in development of their curriculum.

College counselors also work closely with secondary school guidance staffs to identify students who are academically advanced. These students are offered enrichment activities through a special Honors Credit Program. This program offers select students an opportunity to pursue advanced studies with their peer group as well as the college community. Students may earn up to 17 semester hours of transfer credit at a reduced tuition rate prior to their typical college start date. Students are selected on the basis of GPA, ACT scores, class rank and ability to communicate in a demonstrated writing sample.

Kern also noted that Rend Lake College offers after-prom and homecoming activities for its in-district high school students by making available use of the Aquatics Center – something no one else in Southern Illinois can offer – Student Center and cafeteria, theatre and gymnasium.

Numerous K-12 activities been implemented by Nontraditional Student Programs, according to Director Elaine Johnson. One such program is the "Career Exploration Camp," with 15 of 17 district middle schools being represented most recently when 22 college departments featured hands-on learning experiences at the week-long camp. RLC held its largest camp ever in 1998 with 165 students attending. Due to increased student interest, two camp sessions are under consideration for '99.

Other programs include high school and middle school orientations. Area high school students are

invited to RLC for a campus tour and visit to the Career Center. To date, 478 high school students have passed through the doors of the Career Center since its opening a year and a half ago. Area middle schools (363 to date, not including Career Exploration Campers) also visit the Career Center to utilize the career assessment software, DISCOVER.

In January, a Career Distance Learning class is being offered to local high school students for the first time. The class will utilize professionals throughout the district as teachers and students will receive school credit. All of these activities are consistent with the School to Work initiative of assisting students to make wise career choices earlier in their educational careers.

Montgomery, RLC Director of Alternative and Optional Education Programs, spends much of his time in district high schools. Once every two weeks, he travels to area high schools to meet with local counselors regarding alternative/optional education needs and distance learning opportunities.

Two years ago, college personnel developed an Alternative/Optional Education program with the cooperation of the 13 district high schools. RLC administers the program, provides classroom space, helps counsel the students and hires the instructors. The main objective of this program is to help students who have failed classes to prevent them from becoming dropouts.

The program provides secondary education evening and summer classes for these students. Over 200 students have taken classes and earned high school credits. Several of these students have received their high school diplomas and are currently enrolled at RLC.

This program is unique in many ways. First, students meet on the college campus. Second, distance learning is utilized for those students

(Continued on Page 12)

## Mandatory Real Estate classes offered thru RLC

Two mandatory Illinois Real Estate Continuing Education classes offered through the RLC Center for Business and Industry are scheduled evenings in February.

Each of the classes qualifies for three Continuing Education Units, according to Coordinator Oletha Taft.

On Monday, February 1, the session is entitled "Thou Shall Not."

On Monday, February 8, the subject will be "Agency."

Both classes are scheduled from 6-9:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the Academic Building on the Rend Lake College campus in Ina. Registration is at 5:30 p.m., but those interested are expected to call in advance to reserve space.

The cost is \$25 per class. A driver's

license will be required at check-in.

Attorney Mike Troutt will be the instructor. A test will be given at the conclusion of each three-hour session.

More information regarding these Real Estate CEU classes is available by contacting Taft at 437-5321, Ext. 334, toll-free 1-800-369-5321, or e-mail at taft@rlc.cc.il.us.

## MORE ABOUT >>> OK. K-12 cooperation rates high priority

who are unable to come to campus. And finally, district superintendents meet twice a year with college administration to plan this and other programs. As a result of these meetings, the five cooperating high schools have solved scheduling problems and are using distance learning to teach each other and expand their curriculum to include anatomy, aviation, speech and foreign language. The college also has been able to offer college classes as dual enrollment to advanced high school students during the regular school day.

Rex Duncan, Director of Cooperative Education and AmeriCorps Campus Coordinator, notes that RLC has made a significant effort to involve its students with K-12 students in positive roles and activities, while becoming a nationally recognized leader in the national service programs, AmeriCorps and "America Reads."

The "AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois" project, made possible through RLC leadership, places 10 RLC students in three Mt. Vernon middle schools. These students tutor and mentor at-risk junior high students, working to improve their academic performances and attendance. This project also involves John A. Logan, Southeastern Illinois, Shawnee and Kaskaskia community colleges and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale; within the project, 40 college students work with 300 at-risk students in 13 Southern Illinois junior high schools.

Rend Lake College also has com-

mitted significant federal work-study funds to the "America Reads" program in which 12 student-workers provide reading and basic skills assistance for K-4 students in two area schools. RLC was recognized by Vice-President Al Gore as being the first downstate community college in Illinois to commit to this important project.

Making significant advances in its service learning offerings, RLC went from zero to nine service learning courses in the last year, eight of which involve K-12 partnerships. RLC also is the fiscal agent for the "Illinois ChildCorps" program and provides office space for the "Illinois EcoWatch" project, both of which involve K-12 aspects.

"Project First Class" is a HECA Grant program that has been around throughout the '90s. Coordinator Camille Jones encourages Mt. Vernon Township High School students and District 80 elementary students in Mt. Vernon through various incentive programs, tutoring help, field trips to the Rend Lake College campus and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Chemistry Professor John Fisher has integrated the Science Department with area K-12 schools in many ways. Public and private district high schools have been updated with technological innovations. Computers equipped with unique probes allow simulations of nearly every possible analytical instrument a lab might want. This has been coupled with

unique, interactive lab software and a set of "kitchen chemistry" experiments developed by RLC instructors. These enable small schools to provide students with hands-on labs without spending thousands of dollars on EPA/OSHA remodeling. As a result, all in-district high school science students have hands-on lab experience regardless of school size and finances.

The Science Department likewise has developed a unique set of curriculum units to help district schools meet the intent of the new Illinois Learning Standards for Science. High school instructors are trained in the new units and then implement them with their students. Unusual approaches to service learning, such as scuba diving in the RLC pool to introduce gas laws, are being met with great success.

In celebration of its 25th anniversary in 1992, the college began offering grade school performances for K-8 students. The college sends invitations to district schools and brings in a variety of performers two or three times each year for age-specific performances. Attendance is by reservation only and have all been full. This year's featured performances include a Marionette troupe and "Tales and Scales."

Kern indicated Rend Lake College will continue to explore new ways of reaching and benefitting students of all ages, especially those prospective college students in K-12 settings throughout the district.



## Worth repeating . . . rllcall@rlc.cc.il.us

Repeating messages available on the Internet for RLC personnel with e-mail addresses . . .

From duncan@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Over the holidays I noted the passing of Phyllis McNeil in Benton. Some of you may recall Phyllis as the Job Service representative to RLC during the late 1980s. She worked closely with Sandy Rhodes, Lisa Payne, Pam Allen and myself.

Phyllis was a delightful person who brought a unique sense of compassion to her work and her life. She thoroughly enjoyed, and was quite good at, finding jobs for people who most would regard as hard to place. She had a particular fondness for the human driftwood of our society, taking the homeless, dis-spirited, and out-of-luck into her home without expectation of pay or thanks. She was great with students, professional with employers, and liked and respected by all.

Phyllis' work and life can be an example for all of us.



From mcendree@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Almost all of the computer labs have been converted to the Novell server. Those people using IT 178 should log on as math. Their password is also "math."

Those people who do not require student accounts should log on as print. Their password is also "print."

If you are trying to type in a name or password and nothing happens, point the mouse somewhere in the red Novell login box and click the left mouse button once. You should now be able to type.

If you get a yellow caution sign and a message box concerning the DHCP client was unable to obtain an IP address, click yes.

If no Novell login box appears, go to the start button, then run, and type in "winipcfg" and hit OK. A grey box should appear. Click Renew All. Numbers that were once zeros should

change. Click OK. Now restart the computer.

If your lab will not function as desired, please call me. If you run into difficulties that do not constitute and immediate emergency, please e-mail me and I will try to rectify all problems as quickly as possible.



From mcendree@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Anyone who has an account on the NT server (domainrlc2nt4) that used to be used in the computer labs should read the remainder of this message.

If you have files on that server that you wish to keep, please notify me by Wednesday, January 20. We intend to remove that server from the network in the near future. At that time, it will be reformatted and files that were kept on it will no longer be there.

I will gladly move any files that you may want to another server if you will only notify me.



From kinsey@rlc.cc.il.us ~

All Counselors/Advisors, please be aware of a couple of changes in ENGL 1101 distance learning classes.

First, the one on the schedule will NOT be offered in Sesser (section D6 will be cancelled.) I'm making an effort to contact the one student currently registered in that section to do a section change.

In addition, another section is being opened via distance learning at a different time. It will only be offered at RLC (D8) and Pinckneyville (D9).



From vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us ~

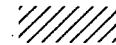
Please be advised . . . after open registration ends on Friday, January 15, students will be required to obtain the signature of the instructor or division chairperson prior to enrollment.

Enrollment for classes which meet other than the traditional M/W/F or T/H sequence (i.e., evening courses meeting one night per week) will con-

tinue up to the second class meeting. Students requesting enrollment after these courses have held the second meeting will be required to obtain the signature of the instructor or division chairperson prior to enrollment.

Note: Sessions canceled due to weather conditions will not count as a class meeting.

For situations other than those described above, please direct questions to the division chairperson.

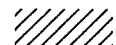


From carlson@rlc.cc.il.us ~

For the 10th consecutive year, RLC will have a team in the River to River Relay Run. This is a relay race where each member of the eight-person team runs three legs of the relay for a combined team total of 80 miles. Last year's "rookie of the year" is claiming medical hardship, so there is definitely room for new runners.

The race is on April 17, so you have time to start your training. Please contact me ASAP to reserve your spot on the team.

Note: You do not have to be a FAST runner; however, I would suggest that a minimum training routine would consist of jogging 15-20 miles a week.



From kistner@rlc.cc.il.us ~

Just a friendly reminder . . .

If, in fact, you or any of your staff members experience an accident while on the job, please be advised that you must complete Form 4.5 - Worker's Compensation as soon as possible. This form may be obtained from the RLC Business Office, and an accident report should be filed with the RLC Security Department.

Failure to report the accident or to complete the required paperwork in a timely manner may cause your claim to be denied by our Worker's Compensation Insurance carrier.

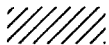
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Business Office.

## Worth repeating . . . [rlcall@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:rlcall@rlc.cc.il.us)

From [rust@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:rust@rlc.cc.il.us) ~

The Faculty Development Committee will be handling the afternoon of in-service in February. Any and all suggestions would be appreciated.

We have decided staff will be allowed to return to their work stations, so the focus of the afternoon will be on faculty issues, concerns and needs. I need this information by Thursday morning to give to Dr. Meents on Friday.



From [rice@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:rice@rlc.cc.il.us) ~

If your department has received equipment or computers that does not have a silver Rend Lake College inventory tag, please call me to have the equipment inventoried.

Your help is appreciated.



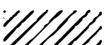
From [vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us) ~

Please note that this is our first semester using the computerized assessment test, COMPASS, for determining student placement. As with any new project, we expect to have some bugs to work out.

COMPASS appears to place students lower in MATH courses. Please be alert for students who appear to be misplaced (high or low). We may have to adjust "cut-off" thresholds. We would especially appreciate the assistance of developmental faculty in alerting us to any apparent problems. If a student appears to be improperly placed, please call so I may check the test taken and the score.

COMPASS appears to be working well, and the flexibility it offers is a plus in accommodating the needs of students. We ask for your patience as we try to improve our efforts at implementing this new assessment format.

Again, we issue an open invitation to all faculty or staff to come by and view or try out COMPASS.



From [vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:vinyard@rlc.cc.il.us) ~

We sincerely appreciate the assis-

tance the faculty has provided the last two semesters with the Early Alert Form. We are asking you continue to utilize this form after the second week.

When we receive the Early Alert Form, we perform the following tasks:

1. Verify Enrollment: During the first few weeks of class many students either switch sections or withdraw from classes. If you report a student who has withdrawn or changed sections we will send a copy of the slip back to you indicating the student's status.

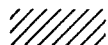
2. Student Contact: If the student is still enrolled, we attempt to contact the student by phone. If contact is not made, a letter is sent to the student stating concern for their absence and requesting them to contact us, speak to their instructor and come by the counseling center. Services available to the student are detailed. Referrals due to academic difficulty are contacted and a copy of the referral is forwarded to the tutoring coordinator.

3. If an issue is discovered that is appropriate to share with the instructor (i.e. illness, death in family, etc.) a note will be forwarded to the instructor and/or a counselor will call.

Please note that we do not contact faculty on every early alert received.

While our response from students due to these efforts has not been overwhelming, we have had several students each semester who received assistance and were retained in programs. These students certainly have made this project worth continuing.

Please contact counseling if you are in need of additional forms.

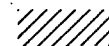


From [wicks@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:wicks@rlc.cc.il.us) ~

Please join me in welcoming Andrea Witthoff to RLC. Andrea is our new Distance Learning and Media Technology Specialist. She comes to us from Shawnee Community College where she was the Distance Learning Specialist for four years. She is one of the pioneers of SICCM's interactive video classroom

network and possesses extensive expertise in all facets of distance learning and media technology.

Andrea's office is located in the Learning Resource Center. Her areas of responsibility will include distance learning/interactive video classrooms, satellite programming and teleconferences, telecourse support and traditional audiovisual equipment and service requests. If you have needs in any of these areas, feel free to contact her at Ext. 249.



From [wilson@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:wilson@rlc.cc.il.us) ~

I received the following message from Rex Duncan, who had received it from a former student. I think this is a good warning about opening unsolicited email.

If anyone does not have McAfee Anti Virus on his or her computer, e-mail the IS Dept. at [mis@rlc.cc.il.us](mailto:mis@rlc.cc.il.us) and we will install it.

"Attention!! If you receive e-mail titled, JOIN THE CREW/for PENPALS . . . DO NOT open it! It will erase everything on your hard drive! Send this letter out to as many people as you can. This is a new virus and not many people know about it! This information was received this morning by IBM. Please share it with anyone who might access the internet!! PENPAL appears to be a friendly letter asking you if you are interested in a penpal, but by the time you read the letter it is too late.

"The Trojan horse virus will have already infected the boot sector of your hard drive, destroying all the data present. It is a self-replicating virus, and once the message is read it will automatically forward itself to anyone whose e-mail address is present in your box! This virus will destroy your hard drive and holds the potential to destroy the hard drive of anyone whose mail is in your box and whose mail is in their box and so on and on! So delete PENPAL or JOIN THE CREW. It can do major damage to worldwide networks!"

# More census testing, prep work slated at RLC

Additional testing dates have been announced and free preparatory classes scheduled at Rend Lake College for those individuals who may want to assist with the upcoming Year 2000 Census.

The United States Census Bureau will conduct testing next on the RLC

campus Friday February 19, at 2 p.m. in the Science Building, Room 110.

To make sure area residents are well-prepared for what will be required, Rend Lake College is offering "Census Prep" classes in Benton, Mt. Vernon and Pinckneyville. These sessions are ongoing under open-entry,

open-exit formats. There is no charge.

- "Census Prep" classes in Benton are conducted on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-4 p.m. at the RLC Family Investment Education Center, 406 East Main.

- "Census Prep" classes in Mt. Vernon are on Mondays and Wednesdays, also between 1 and 4 p.m., at the RLC Adult and Family Education Center, 506 Herbert.

- "Census Prep" class arrangements in Pinckneyville are pending.

Over 400 people will be hired in Southern Illinois during the months leading up to the census for work as enumerators, crew leaders and clerks throughout the region. The higher a person scores on Census Bureau testing, the better chance that person has of getting hired and being considered for advanced positions.

The Census Bureau is looking for persons who want to earn money while they serve their communities. Retirees, participants in government programs and the unemployed or underemployed are urged to apply.

Census enumerators are paid \$7.25 per hour plus \$.31 per mile for the use of their automobiles.

Applicants should be 18 years of age or older and U.S. citizens. Those planning on taking the test will need to bring their driver's license, Social Security card and three personal and three business references.

The free "Census Prep" course is specifically designed to address topics included on the Census Field Employee Selection-Aid Test, which evaluates applicants for work as Census Enumerators, Crew Leaders and Clerks. Topics will include:

- Clerical Skills
- Reading Skills
- Number Skills
- Interpreting Information
- Organizational Skills
- Interpersonal Skills
- Basic Test-Taking Strategies
- Employability Skills

Taking "Census Prep" training does not guarantee employment.

## Meet the staff

### Andrea Witthoft

Pronunciation, "Wit-off"

B.S. in Workforce Education and Development – SIUC, '98  
Magna Cum Laude

**Background** – Distance Learning Technician, Shawnee Community College, '94-98 • Learning Resource Center Secretary, Shawnee, '96-'98 • Executive Secretary, Title III Project Management, Shawnee, '91-'96

Residence – Anna

DISTANCE LEARNING / MEDIA  
TECH. SPECIALIST (1/4/99)

Husband – Don (Correctional Officer at Marion Federal Pen.)

Children – Jessica, 10, a 5th-grader at Lick Creek Elementary

Organizations – Member of Trinity Lutheran Church

Leisure – Snow and Water Skiing • Reading Sci-fi and mystery novels • Horseback riding

Also Noteworthy – Was a Horse Wrangler for "River Pilots," which will air on the History Channel in March

## Meet the staff

### Ted Zwayer, J.D.

Juris Doctorate – Ohio State University, '76

B.S. in Business Administration – Ohio State University, '73

**Background** – Director of Tech. Programs, Mississippi County Community College, '96-98 • Interim Chair, MCCC, '95-96 • Instructor, MCCC, '91-95 • Adjunct Instructor, Columbus State C.C., '90-91 • City Attorney, Whitehall, OH, '80-91

Residence – Mt. Vernon

CHAIR – BUSINESS AND INFO.  
TECHNOLOGY DEPT. (1/4/99)

Wife – Kay (legal secretary in Blytheville, AR)

Children – Carrie, 12, 6th-grader in Blytheville, AR

Organizations – Involved in Rotary and Chamber of Commerce in Arkansas

Leisure – Lives and breathes Ohio State Buckeye Football • Reading • Fishing • Spending time with wife and daughter on the weekends

# PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL MEETING

December 15, 1998

- NEW EMPLOYEES** Mark Kern introduced several new employees: Traci Hempen, Director of Education Programs at Pinckneyville Correctional Center; Jackie Myers, Registrar; and Susan Eubanks, part-time Marketing and Public Information Assistant. Mark encouraged employees to give Bob Kelley information in order for Susan to generate newspaper articles.
- STARS PROGRAM** Mary Roe, Director of STARS (Student Transfer and Retention Support), presented an annual performance report that was prepared for the Department of Education. Mary requested employees share the 25-page report with department members. Mary thanked her staff (Sandy Shook, Rebecca Biggs, and Hollie Taylor) for doing an excellent job in preparing the report and in making the program successful. She explained the program provides support services for students relating to persistence, retention, graduation, and transfer. Of the 150 students participating in the program, an 80 percent retention rate was achieved. In a comparison group of 150 non-STARS students, the retention rate was only 40 percent. GPA for 80 to 83 percent of the STARS participants was at least a 2.0. In addition, 85 percent of the participants who intended to graduate were successful along with 85 percent of the participants who intended to transfer to a 4-year university or college. Mary stressed student contact was very important and students needed to know STARS employees would be there for them. STARS employees had to "become attuned to the needs of the students."
- Mark Kern added that he and several other administrators had recently attended a retention seminar in Rockford, Illinois. In this seminar they learned that students decide during their first four months whether or not they will accomplish their objectives at the institution. Also, students attended a particular institution based mainly on the advice of friends who had attended and of their high school teachers. Mark also learned that students usually don't leave a school because of bad grades. Enrollment at RLC has been declining slightly and, unless some things are done differently, that trend will continue.
- CORE VALUES** Mark Kern reminded employees that the college will be closed on Thursday, January 7, 1999, in order for all employees to attend a Core Values seminar at Kaskaskia College. Mark noted a bus will be available for employees to ride, and mileage will not be paid. Sign up for the bus by calling Cindy at Ext. 243.
- COLLEGE NIGHTS** If the college is invited to a high school outside of our district for a college night, Mark Kern requested that the Director of Counseling not attend. He stated a chairperson or other employee from the department in which we have a cooperative agreement program should attend.
- RETIREEE HEALTH INSURANCE** Bob Carlock announced that on the January 20, 1999, paycheck, employees would notice a one-half percent increase in the SURS deduction. The increase is due to the fact that new retirees will automatically receive health insurance effective July 1, 1999. The insurance plan is provided through CMS (Central Management Services).

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

## PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL MEETING

January 12, 1999

### NEW EMPLOYEES

Mark Kern introduced Susan Eubanks, part-time Marketing and Public Information Assistant, and Ted Zwayer, Department Chair of Business & Information Technology.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Kern reminded employees of upcoming events/dates:

- Strategic Planning Meeting on January 21 & 22, 1999 (The entire President's Council will be involved in this two-day training.)
- Mid-Management Workshop at Rend Lake Resort on February 10, 1999
- Faculty/Staff In-Service on February 16, 1999
- Strategic Planning Process begins March 1, 1999 (Everyone should begin developing a strategic plan for their area.)
- NCA visit on March 22, 23, & 24
- No classes on April 1, 1999 (College will be open; however, no classes will be held. This is the instructional staff's "trade-off day" for the visit to Kaskaskia. )

### TUITION

Bob Carlock foresees a small tuition increase next academic year due to the increase in staff salaries. The new increase should be decided upon later this spring.

### OTHER

Lisa Payne announced the Small Business Development Center, in conjunction with Illinois Department of Commerce & Community Affairs, is offering teleconferences during the next few months. Lisa reminded everyone of the computer workshops available at Times Square Mall. Books are also available for purchase from Clinton Liston and may be billed to your department.

Nancy Kinsey distributed an Enrollment Report revealing enrollment percentages for 1998-99. Enrollment appears to be down 1-1.4% in credit hours overall. Spring 1999 funding categories indicated increases in enrollment in Baccalaureate/Transfer, Health Occupational, and Development/Remedial areas and decreases in Business Occupational and Technical Occupational areas. Fall 1998 funding reports will be calculated later this week.

Rex Duncan announced that along with the other activities at in-service, SICCM is sponsoring a Labor Market Information Seminar with Illinois Employment Security sharing information on employment numbers and how they can be used in curriculum and career matters.

Rex also announced that Tina Grounds, Diane Metzger, and Mary Hart recently had Service Learning Grants funded. Mark encouraged all department chairs and faculty to take advantage of service learning grants and to contact those people who have received grants to learn more about them. Rex announced that on April 8 & 9 there would be a Faculty Service Learning Symposium at University of Illinois - Champaign.

Elaine Johnson asked for an explanation on snow days. Mark explained that any closing notices will be broadcast on local radio/TV

stations. Mark stated that when an area high school is closed, RLC classes will not be held at that site. If the college is open, each department is expected to be open. Should faculty/staff members choose not to report to work, they will have to be charged with a personal/vacation day. In the case of distance learning, if one high school is closed and all other sites are open, classes will be held.

Doug Carlson commented that many students who were in his office on Friday, January 8, complaining about the campus being closed on Thursday, January 7. Mark explained that he and Terry Clark had heard the Core Values speaker on a previous occasion and felt this would be beneficial to RLC. Mark added that he believes in the concept and feels, along with the ICCB, that school systems can have an impact on core values. Comments were made expressing the hopes that the presentation has opened doors to the concept and laid the ground work for future implementation. Terry Clark has a team which will be working on an implementation plan.

Salah Shakir also wanted to encourage the use of the computer classes with Clint. Clint does a wonderful job, and he hopes staff members will take advantage of the opportunity.

### **ELECTRONIC GRADE BOOK**

Salah Shakir demonstrated a recently created Electronic Grade Book program. It will allow faculty members to set up the program based on their needs and will allow them to track student information, grades, and attendance. It has the ability to import all classes and student lists for each faculty member, track retention progress, and calculate grade percentages. Salah asked for 10-15 faculty members to pilot the program this semester before distribution to all faculty. If anyone is interested in more information or to participate in the pilot, please contact him.

Salah showed an example of an appeal letter received on January 11, 1999. The letter contained numerous errors in spelling, punctuation, and content. This particular student holds a 1.9 GPA and will soon graduate from RLC. Mark expressed his concern and encouraged serious discussions with faculty regarding attendance and grading policies. He noted that some faculty have expressed concerns about failing a student because of the pressure to maintain enrollment. Mark indicated that the best way to maintain and build enrollment is to have high quality programs that students need, not lower quality to pass everyone. Discussion was held on grade issues, not just an RLC problem but a problem throughout the community colleges and high schools.

Bob Carlock announced that for the first time in a long time a department was docked for an expenditure. He stressed the use of purchase orders/requisitions for all expenses exceeding \$99. If an expense sheet is turned in for an amount over \$99, only \$99 will be reimbursed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

## ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

December 1, 1998

**PRESENT:** Trish Bennett-Minor, John Fisher, Ro Hoar, Maurice Kirsch, Vickie Lewis, Don Lynch, Julie Meents, Mike Mullen, Chris Nielsen, Wilanna Patton, Larry Williams, and Becky Williamson

**ABSENT:** Sharon Beasley, Steve Kennett, Rob Little, Julie Mumbower, Wilanna Patton, and Tim Wills

**VISITORS:** Elaine Johnson and Sue Trammell

Call to Order. Terry Wilkerson called the meeting to order. Wilanna reported she had Sharon Beasley's proxy. Maurice Kirsch had Julie Mumbower's proxy and John Fisher had Tim Will's proxy.

Approval of Minutes. Chris Nielsen made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Maurice seconded the motion. The motion passed.

It was decided the minutes would be put in F.Y.I. after reviewed by Terry Wilkerson but before approved by the Council. We can put a disclaimer that they have not yet been approved by the Council.

Christmas Musical. Terry announced the Christmas musical to be held Thursday, December 3, at 7 PM.

Assessment. Terry reported that Elaine Johnson and Sue Trammell were present to report on assessment.

Sue reported that every faculty member is to do an assessment activity next semester. The Assessment Committee scheduled two panels to inform faculty. They will be Monday, December 7, from 4-5 P.M. in the PDA, and Wednesday, December 9, from 7-8 A.M. in the PDA. It will be informal with faculty having an opportunity to talk to the committee.

The committee plans to put a column in F.Y.I. similar to Ann Landers or Dear Abby. The first questions will be planted, but after that it should be questions faculty have sent in.

Sue said she hoped everyone that had volunteered to pilot an assessment activity during the fall semester had done so.

Dr. Meents wants a copy of everyone's assessment activity on file by December 18. She gave a form to department chairs today.

Elaine reported the computer software has been loaded and faculty have been given a code number. Before next semester, forms should be able to be printed. If a faculty member wants to assess a class, say BIO 1101, then that can be entered and a form printed.

Faculty Development Committee. The grant application forms are available from your department chair. They need to be submitted by December 15.

LRC Committee. Mike Mullen reported that the committee met yesterday. A questionnaire is going out to faculty and department chairs regarding what is housed in departments that can be loaned or transferred to the LRC. The questionnaire is to help avoid duplication.

Committees. Ro said that when they were working on North Central, the committees were not doing what the constitution said they were to do, so they had put in a disclaimer. Terry said he was working on having all the committees meet.

Student Senate Representation. Terry reported he had received a memo dated December 1, 1998, from the Student Senate asking for representation on the Academic Council. The memo reads as follows: *The Student Senate requests that the Academic Council grant permission for the Senate to have representation at Council meetings. It views this position as one which could benefit both the Senate and the Council because it would open lines of communication at the leadership level for both students and faculty. The Academic Council currently includes representation from all levels of the college except the students, and the Senate feels adding one of its members would allow it to have a voice on matters of concern to the students and to the campus.*

*For several years now, students serving as Student Trustee have demonstrated a level of responsibility in matters sensitive to the campus. The Senate believes, that like the Trustee position, representation on the Council should be as a non-voting member.*

*Thank you for your consideration of this request.*

Terry suggested that the Council think about it and bring it up at the next meeting. Mike Mullen made a



motion to table the item until the next meeting. John Fisher seconded the motion. The motion passed. Policy and Procedures. Terry reported that this committee had met for the first time in a long while. Linda Denton, chair, was unable to attend today but had sent a memo which Terry read to the Council regarding the Overload Policy. The memo reads as follows:

*The Committee on Policies and Procedures met on Wednesday, November 26, 1998, and unanimously agreed that the administrative policy on faculty overload was unfair. Two key concerns of the written policy (attached) were:*

- 1. The separation of laboratories and lectures for overload conflicted with established class descriptions;*
- 2. By setting a specific limit on overload, the policy does not provide the flexibility many departments need to meet the needs of the programs and their students.*

*The committee requests permission from the Academic Council to study the matter and make recommendations concerning changes in the policy. Dr. Meents indicated that, although overload allocation is solely a prerogative of administration, she is willing to work with the committee on this matter.*

Terry asked if everyone had a chance to look over the memo. Terry said he had talked to Dave Smith as to whether the Academic Council looking at the overload policy was stepping into the union's place. Dave was not concerned.

Larry Williams said there was a place in the contract (read from contract) that provided for a review committee for overload complaints.

Someone said they did not understand the need for change in policy. Julie asked what changes and advised there was no explicit policy.

Mike Mullen said that at the negotiations table with Tietz, Clark, and Turner it was understood that overload was available for those that wanted it.

John Fisher said it was his understanding that when the union representatives and administrators negotiated the contract, overload and summer were left as is and the only issue was salaries.

Julie said it was not addressed in the contract.

Terry and Chris indicated that the splitting of labs and lectures was a concern.

Julie said she was flexible on that. In some areas they weren't separated. She said she was willing to work with them to modify the policy. Her concern is instructional quality. She said she would not have implemented the policy if she didn't feel it was good.

John Fisher made a motion to reject the faculty overload policy proposed at the mid-management in-service Fall 1998 and continue with the overload policies in effect when our present contract was negotiated. This action will keep us consistent with the spirit and intent of our present contract. It will also keep us consistent with current working conditions and past practices at RLC, as well as with the course articulation agreements RLC has on file with the ICCB. The motion was seconded by Mike Mullen. There was some discussion and Terry read the Policy and Procedures Committee's report again. The motion passed: Yes-9, No-3.

Julie asked the Council if they wanted her to work with the Policy and Procedures Committee or with Dave Smith.

Vickie Lewis made a motion to do what the committee requested. Trish Bennett-Minor seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chris Nielsen asked if Dave Smith could be on the committee.

Adjournment. John Fisher made a motion to adjourn. Chris Nielsen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

*The  
Engaged  
Campus*

**C**ampus Compact was founded in 1985 in response to a sense that a generation of youth was entering society apathetic about and isolated from their communities. Before discussing the idea of the engaged campus, it is important that we discuss this idea of the isolated student.

*The  
Isolated  
Student*

No critic, then or now, has claimed that today's college students are leading wholly self-interested, socially disconnected lives. They are connected to their peers, their sports teams, even their study groups. But there is a sense that students are not connected to the larger purposes and aspirations of the people around them. They are—according to national studies by Alexander Astin and others—disengaged from public life and the common hopes of the community. As such, students see no clear connection between the knowledge they acquire through education and the broader public good.

One of the fundamental principles of democracy is that it is up to the people themselves to decide what is best for their community. Higher education in a democracy must prepare students to fulfill this responsibility. A generation that acquires knowledge without ever understanding how that knowledge can benefit the community is a generation that is not learning what it means to be citizens in a democracy.

The presidents who formed Campus Compact challenged higher education to revive its democratic roots. They urged the nation's colleges and universities to motivate students to participate in their communities and acquire learning in the context of striving to better their world. Donald Kennedy of Stanford, one of Campus Compact's founding presidents, remarked at the time: "The call to public service is not simply an appeal to help society, not a request to exercise some form of noblesse oblige. It is an invitation to become a stockholder in this great joint venture of ours."

After 13 years, Campus Compact's nearly 600 member presidents have helped to develop the service movement that today thrives on campuses around the country. They have given visibility to tens of thousands of efforts to involve faculty, staff, and students in bettering their communities; and they have helped engage ever more students in the reflective and thoughtful pursuit of the common good. It is this work that has led John Gardner, the former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, to call Campus Compact "one of the most enlightened and farsighted ventures that American colleges and universities have undertaken in recent years."

While this movement continues to grow, we recognize today that higher education faces a far greater challenge than we imagined in 1985. Institutions of higher education themselves, like the students they teach, are often seen as isolated from the life of their surrounding communities.

*Is Higher  
Education  
Disengaged?*

If we worry that students are disengaged from their communities, we must worry, too, that higher education as a whole is disengaged from the democratic purposes of society. If students are to use their knowledge and skills to make society a better place, we must ask whether the institutions that support them are in fact using their store of knowledge and skills to engage in the same democratic goal.

---

*A generation that acquires knowledge without ever understanding how that knowledge can benefit the community is a generation that is not learning what it means to be citizens in a democracy.*

---

Campus Compact and its member presidents have worked for 13 years to support and recognize students who integrate their learning in efforts to better society. We must now encourage colleges and universities as a whole to engage their vast resources in democratic pursuits.

---

*A Picture  
of the  
Engaged Campus*

The engaged campus, like the service-learning student, recognizes that knowledge cannot be separated from the purposes to which it is directed. The engaged campus is not just located within a community, it is intimately connected to the public purposes and aspirations of community life itself. The engaged campus is unable to separate its unique responsibility for the development of knowledge, from the role of knowledge in a democratic society to form the basis for social progress and human equality.

These are the fundamental concepts that form the underpinning of the engaged campus: a campus integrated into its community and focused on positive social change. What does this look like in practice? Campuses are discovering many different ways to collaborate with their local communities to improve community conditions and, in the words of Ernest Boyer, "connect thought to action: theory to practice." In the 1998 edition of *Service Matters* we document many of these efforts, ranging from partnerships with local schools, to presidential leadership in local economic development, to comprehensive curricular efforts that address local needs.

In addition to extensive student learning through service, there are common practices that characterize an engaged campus. For presidents, this means a deep commitment to and articulation of the importance of community engagement. For faculty, this includes a scholarship of engagement to share their knowledge with and help their students learn from the community. For campuses, this means having staff whose job it is to build collaborative community relationships based on mutual respect. Finally, it is sharing with the community such physical and economic resources of the campus as space, athletic facilities, purchasing power and employment opportunities.

Each action a campus takes to be a better citizen is a powerful model for its students, especially if a conscious effort is made to integrate campus actions with student curricular and co-curricular experiences. Just as Campus Compact members have set the national standard for student engagement, we challenge our members to do the same for campus engagement and thus, vividly demonstrate that democracy is not a spectator sport but depends upon all of our actions on behalf of the common good.

---

*Each action a  
campus takes to be  
a better citizen is a  
powerful model for  
its students  
especially if a con-  
scious effort is made  
to integrate campus  
actions with student  
curricular and  
co-curricular  
experiences.*

---

Elizabeth L. Hollander, Executive Director  
Campus Compact  
December 1998



Campus Compact and its member presidents have worked for 13 years to support and recognize students who integrate their learning in efforts to better society. We must now encourage colleges and universities as a whole to engage their vast resources in democratic pursuits.

---

*A Picture  
of the  
Engaged Campus*

The engaged campus, like the service-learning student, recognizes that knowledge cannot be separated from the purposes to which it is directed. The engaged campus is not just located within a community, it is intimately connected to the public purposes and aspirations of community life itself. The engaged campus is unable to separate its unique responsibility for the development of knowledge, from the role of knowledge in a democratic society to form the basis for social progress and human equality.

These are the fundamental concepts that form the underpinning of the engaged campus: a campus integrated into its community and focused on positive social change. What does this look like in practice? Campuses are discovering many different ways to collaborate with their local communities to improve community conditions and, in the words of Ernest Boyer, “connect thought to action: theory to practice.” In the 1998 edition of *Service Matters* we document many of these efforts, ranging from partnerships with local schools, to presidential leadership in local economic development, to comprehensive curricular efforts that address local needs.

In addition to extensive student learning through service, there are common practices that characterize an engaged campus. For presidents, this means a deep commitment to and articulation of the importance of community engagement. For faculty, this includes a scholarship of engagement to share their knowledge with and help their students learn from the community. For campuses, this means having staff whose job it is to build collaborative community relationships based on mutual respect. Finally, it is sharing with the community such physical and economic resources of the campus as space, athletic facilities, purchasing power and employment opportunities.

Each action a campus takes to be a better citizen is a powerful model for its students, especially if a conscious effort is made to integrate campus actions with student curricular and co-curricular experiences. Just as Campus Compact members have set the national standard for student engagement, we challenge our members to do the same for campus engagement and thus, vividly demonstrate that democracy is not a spectator sport but depends upon all of our actions on behalf of the common good.

---

*Each action a  
campus takes to be  
a better citizen is a  
powerful model for  
its students  
especially if a con-  
scious effort is made  
to integrate campus  
actions with student  
curricular and  
co-curricular  
experiences.*

---

Elizabeth L. Hollander, Executive Director  
Campus Compact  
December 1998

# KC, RLC faculties receive ethics lesson from national expert

BY MIKE JONES  
Sentinel City News Editor

CENTRALIA — It was a precedent-setting occasion — the first time the entire faculty and staffs of Kaskaskia College and Rend Lake College held a joint meeting. The topic: ethics.

Thursday's meeting at KC couldn't have come on a more ironic day, noted the day's speaker, Rushworth M. Kidder, founder and president of the Institute for Global Ethics.

With President Clinton's impeachment trial — the first presidential impeachment trial in 130 years — also getting under way Thursday, "This is the day in which the question of how much ethics matters comes to a head as never before," Kidder said. "It will define who we are as a nation, and how much it means to our leaders. This will be the biggest test since the Civil War."

Politics wasn't the main focus of Kidder's presentation to about 450 teachers, administrators and other staff members of the two com-

munity colleges in Centralia and Ina.

But since politics is part of life, the topic wasn't totally absent either.

Kidder said anyone who interacts with others — and that means all of us — has to make decisions regarding right and wrong.

He said the news media too often tries to pare stories down into the categories of politics ("who's winning?") and economics ("what's the bottom line?"). "Neither tells us much about our national leadership. We need language that's able to ask what's right in as broad and informative a way as possible," Kidder said.

Everyone, including school personnel, has to make decisions, and

they are seldom cast in terms that clearly show which side is right and which side is wrong, Kidder said. "There are powerful right sides of view on both sides of most issues. But there can be a 'higher right.'"

He cited as an example the conflict between environmentalists and those who want to impact the environment in order to create economic development.

"We must have both. There has to be some kind of trade-off. We can't say both are wrong. We need a way to get at that in a civil, thoughtful way.

"Most of us are good people. The really tough dilemmas are where both sides are right. When we vote, we often try to figure out who's the bad guy and then we

vote for the other person.

"We need a much greater degree of civility in our public conduct."

Kidder said one-sided messages on some talk radio programs and on the Internet can be just as bad as a driver with road rage, a reflection of anger rather than understanding.

He said of his message to the educators from the two colleges, "I hope to build some ethical awareness. There are some tremendously significant ethical issues facing schools, families and local communities."

Kidder provided some material to the educators, including a survey of 9,000 young people and adults conducted in 1991-92 by the Josephson Institute which showed, among other things:

- 78 percent of high school and 88 percent of college students said cheating on exams is wrong.
- 75 percent of college students said making a difference in the

See Ethics, Page 3A



Sentinel photo/MIKE JONES

**COLLEGE PRESIDENTS AND SPEAKER** — Kaskaskia College President Alice Mumaw Jacobs, CENTER, talks with Rend Lake College President Mark Kern, LEFT, and Rushworth M. Kidder, the keynote speaker at an ethics seminar at KC on Thursday.

## Ethics...

Continued From Page 1A

lives of others is very important to them.

But one of every three college students agreed that "In today's society, one has to lie or cheat at least occasionally to succeed."

A study of ethics in American business conducted by the Ethics Resource Center showed:

- 97 percent agreed that good ethics make good business sense (66 percent strongly agreed).
- But 82 percent agreed that American managers generally "do those bigger profits" over "doing what's right."

The Ethics Resource Center, in its study of ethics in American business, said 29 percent of those surveyed reported feeling pressure sometimes to engage in unethical conduct.

- Why?
  - 54 percent said it was to meet schedule pressures.
  - 39 percent cited overly-aggressive financial objectives.
  - 26 percent said it was to help the company survive.
  - 24 percent said it was to advance the career interests of the boss.
  - 19 percent cited peer pressure.

The same study said 31 percent of those surveyed observed conduct that violated either the law or the company's ethics standards. What did they see?

- 56 percent saw lying to supervisors.
- 41 percent mentioned falsifying reports.
- 35 percent mentioned stealing.
- 35 percent said they had witnessed sexual harassment.
- 31 percent cited alcohol or drug abuse.
- 31 percent reported conflicts of interest.

Kidder, who has traveled the world and is a former senior columnist for The Christian Science Monitor, said "Ethics is not a luxury or an option. It is essential to our survival... We will not survive the 21st century without the ethics of the 20th century."

With Clinton's impeachment trial beginning, Kidder noted, "Don't be under any illusion that an elected official can say 'Oh, that is my private life. You should not

take that into account. Judge me as a politician." The public no longer credits that line of reasoning — as our politicians keep finding out. There is no dividing up ethics into compartments. There's only ethics."

Alice Mumaw Jacobs, Kaskaskia College president, said Kidder's appearance was an outgrowth of the work of the local RESPECT Committee and a core team of faculty and staff members at Kaskaskia College who have been meeting to discuss values and ethics.

Bruce Connors of the KC staff has served on a state committee and was until recently president of the Illinois Faculty Association. He said the General Assembly set aside \$250,000 in the past year for ethics programs in the state's colleges, a figure which could grow to

\$500,000 in the coming year. He said that program helped pay for Kidder's appearance.

Mark Kern, president of Rend Lake College, said, "I think this type of thing is very important. Core values are important, and schools have a responsibility to do something about it, for example to address issues such as environmental awareness. We need to talk about basic honesty, work ethics and integrity."

Neither Rend Lake College nor Kaskaskia College had classes Thursday.

Kern said Rend Lake is in a consortium with the Shawnee, Logan and Southeastern community colleges, "but I think we have more in common with Kaskaskia College, and maybe this will help get us together."

## OBITUARIES



### Kenneth Miller

MT. VERNON. — Kenneth Ronald Miller, 83, of Mt. Vernon died at 3:40 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, 1999, at his home.

He was born June 26, 1915, in Auburn, Maine, son of Phillip C. and Hazel E. (Connick) Miller. He married Jane Roberts on Sept. 4, 1937, in Cleveland and she preceded him in death on Nov. 13, 1996.

He is survived by three daughters, Gail Spila of Steger, Janis Crews of Murphysboro and Marcia Schmalenberger of Carbondale; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Miller was a council commissioner of Boy Scouts of America in Cincinnati. He was on the board of directors of the following agencies in Carbondale: Rotary Club president, Park District president, Historical Society state president, United Way, Society for Crippled Children, Educational Council of 100 and the Southern Illinois University Presidents Council.

He had board membership with the following agencies in Mt. Vernon: United Way, American Heart Association, Historical Society, Rotary Club, First Presbyterian Church, Comprehensive Services, board of advisers of Good Samaritan Regional Health Center, Senior Olympics, World Affairs Forum, Chamber of Commerce past president, Good Samaritan Hospital Auxiliary past president and Rend Lake College Foundation.

He was employed as a guidance counselor from 1941 to 1943 in Elyria, Ohio; state director from 1943 to 1950 for the Indiana Society for Crippled Children; lieutenant junior grade from 1944 to 1946 in the U.S. Navy; executive director from 1950 to 1954 for the Greater Cincinnati Safety Council, president from 1954 to 1958 at Ohio College of Applied Science, a two-year community college; administrative assistant to the president and executive director from 1958 to 1973 at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; executive vice president from 1973 to 1984 at the Mitchell Museum and the Mitchell Foundation at Mt. Vernon; executive director from 1984 to 1988 of the Rend Lake College Foundation in Ina; and he retired on June 20, 1988.

He graduated from Classical High School in Springfield, Mass.; from Ohio State University in 1941 with bachelor's degrees in education; and received a master's degree in 1948 in education from Butler University. He continued postgraduate work at the University of Maine, Indiana University, University of Cincinnati and Southern Illinois University. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Memorial services are 1:30 p.m. Saturday at First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Vernon with the Rev. Joel Whiteside officiating. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery.

The family will greet friends after 1 p.m. Saturday at the church.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, Good Samaritan Regional Health Center Auxiliary or First Presbyterian Church and will be received by Hughey Funeral Home of Mt. Vernon, which is in charge of arrangements.



# REND LAKE COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – JANUARY 12 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

## **Two new programs authorized for submission to ICCB**

Authorized the administration to submit the necessary forms to the Illinois Community College Board to obtain approval to offer two new programs . . .

- Surgical Technology, as part of the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM) curriculum.
- Occupational Certificate in Commercial Custodian Services, through the Pinckneyville Correctional Center.

## **Approval given to publicize \$1.5 million bond intent**

Approved publication of the college's intention to issue Protection, Health and Safety bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1.5 million and to conduct a public hearing to receive comment on the proposal, as required by law. The hearing will be held Wednesday, January 27, at noon on campus in the Student Center.

## **More action on personnel-related matters**

Acted on matters related to personnel issues . . .

- Approved the Administrative Procedure regarding Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty and Staff Seniority List, as required by law annually.
- Approved revisions to the Organizational Chart, due primarily to the creation of the Associate Dean of Student Services position.

## **Joint Agreement with Belleville Area approved.**

Approved renewal of the Joint Agreement for Education Cooperation with Belleville Area College. Under this agreement RLC will accept students from Belleville Area's district in Ag Business, Ag Mechanics, Ag Production and Management, Automotive Technology, Industrial Service Technology, Mining Technology and Practical Nursing. In turn, BAC will accept students from Rend Lake College District 521 in Communication Electronics, Construction Management Technology, Cosmetology, Deckhand Studies, Engineering Technology, Medical Assistant, Music Performance, Paralegal Studies, Physical Therapist Assistant, Process Operations Technology, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care Technology, Sign Language/Interpreter and Sign Language/Basic Communication.

## **Special Meeting date set for January 27**

Set a Special Board of Trustees Meeting for noon Wednesday, January 27, in the Student Center Private Dining Area on campus.

## **Also,**

In other action, Trustees . . .

- Approved on second reading Board Policy regarding Community Use of College Facilities, merely reflecting a change in titles for a position mentioned in the policy.
- Approved Administrative Procedures re: a job description for the newly created position of Associate Dean of Student Services and updating changes in the manual concerning the Grading System, to be consistent with the official college catalog.
- Approved the release of closed session minutes between July 21 and December 15.

## **Mary Roe named Associate Dean of Student Services**

Employed Mary Roe to fill the new position as a full-time Associate Dean of Student Services on a 40-week, nontenure-track contract, effective January 18. A college employee since 1987, Roe has an educational background in counseling with an M.S. Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and two years as a high school guidance counselor. She was a Counselor for Special Populations and Vocational Students at RLC for 11 years and more recently has served as the STARS (Student Transfer and Retention Support) Grant Project Director.

## **Oletha Taft to coordinate Continuing Ed/Training**

Employed Oletha Taft as Coordinator of Continuing Education and Business Training on a full-time, temporary, 48-week, nontenure-track contract, effective January 16. Taft has been the Branch Manager for Manpower in Benton since 1995. Prior to that, she was co-owner and Vice-President of Reed Insurance Agency from 1985-95 and an Employment Supervisor for both Old Ben Coal Co. and Freeman United Coal Co.

## **Instructors hired for Pinckneyville Corrections**

Appointed two more full-time instructors for the Pinckneyville Correctional Center Education Program . . .

- Tim W. Watson as Business Management Instructor, effective January 13 contingent upon passing a Department of Corrections background check and drug screening.
- Lance J. Jones as Computer Technology Instructor, effective January 13 contingent upon passing a Department of Corrections background check and drug screening.

## **Wendy Smith new Payroll/Benefits Accountant**

Employed Wendy Smith as Payroll and Benefits Accountant, effective January 16. It is a full-time, 48-week, nontenure-track position. Smith earned her B.S. Degree in Accounting in 1991 and began working on a temporary basis for the college in December. Prior to that, she was an Accountant for American Publishing Management Service for two years and Accounts Receivable Supervisor for Freeman United Coal Mining Co. from 1994-96.

## **Michelle Garrett to head AmeriCorps in S.I.**

Employed Michelle Renee Garrett as Coordinator of the AmeriCorps in Southern Illinois grant project, a full-time, temporary, 48-week, nontenure-track, grant-funded position. She recently received a Master's Degree in Higher Education with Concentration in College Student Personnel from SIUC. She has been Acting Coordinator of Student Development, Student Volunteer and Community Service-Learning Programs for her alma mater since July.

## **Resignations accepted from Volk, Short**

Accepted with regret the resignations of two employees . . .

- Associate Professor of Anatomy/Physiology/Microbiology Lisa Volk, effective January 1.
- Nicole Short, Program Specialist with the Skills Center, effective January 22.

# One-Day Computer Workshops

REND LAKE COLLEGE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
MT. VERNON

8:15 am-4:15 pm • \$34.<sup>00</sup>  
Times Square Campus

Vocational Skills Training Classes (.5 credit)

## BEGINNING COMPUTERS / WINDOWS 95

• Monday, 1/11 • Saturday, 1/30 • Tuesday, 2/2 • Wednesday, 2/24

## BEG. COMPUTERS FOR SENIORS / WINDOWS 95

• Thursday, January 14 • Saturday, February 13

## SURFING THE INTERNET

• Saturday, January 16 • Monday, March 8

## WEB PAGE DESIGN WITH NETSCAPE

• Thursday, February 4 • Saturday, April 10

## MICROSOFT PUBLISHER

• Thursday, February 18 • Monday, April 19

## BEGINNING MICROSOFT OFFICE 97

• Tuesday, January 19 • Wednesday, March 31

## INTERMEDIATE MICROSOFT OFFICE 97

• Tuesday, February 9 • Wednesday, April 14

## MICROSOFT OUTLOOK

• Friday, January 22 • Monday, April 5

## MICROSOFT POWERPOINT

• Monday, January 25 • Tuesday, April 27

## COREL PRESENTATIONS

• Friday, February 26 • Tuesday, April 6

## BEGINNING MICROSOFT WORD

• Saturday, January 23 • Thursday, March 4

## INTERMEDIATE MICROSOFT WORD

• Saturday, February 20 • Monday, April 12

## BEGINNING COREL WORDPERFECT

• Tuesday, January 12 • Tuesday, March 9

## INTERMEDIATE COREL WORDPERFECT

• Tuesday, January 26 • Thursday, March 25

## ADVANCED COREL WORDPERFECT

• Wednesday, February 10 • Friday, April 9

## BEGINNING MICROSOFT ACCESS

• Friday, February 5 • Monday, March 1

## BEGINNING COREL PARADOX

• Wednesday, January 20 • Saturday, April 17

## INTERMEDIATE COREL PARADOX

• Friday, February 12 • Wednesday, April 28

## BEGINNING MICROSOFT EXCEL

• Friday, January 15 • Saturday, March 6

## INTERMEDIATE MICROSOFT EXCEL

• Monday, February 1 • Thursday, April 22

## BEGINNING COREL QUATTRO PRO

• Thursday, January 28 • Wednesday, February 3

## INTERMEDIATE COREL QUATTRO PRO

• Thursday, February 11 • Friday, February 19

## BEGINNING LOTUS 1-2-3

• Wednesday, January 27 • Tuesday, March 2

## INTERMEDIATE LOTUS 1-2-3

• Monday, February 22 • Friday, April 16

## QUICKBOOKS PRO

• Saturday, February 27 • Friday, April 16

## QUICKEN

• Tuesday, February 23 • Saturday, March 27

Most classes will be offered additional dates later in the semester

**ENROLLMENT LIMITED! REGISTER NOW!!!**

# REND LAKE COLLEGE

Call 242-5805 • e-mail ~ dawe@rlc.cc.il.us

# Evening Computer Workshops

REND LAKE COLLEGE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
MT. VERNON

Times Square Campus  
Vocational Skills (.5 cr.)

## MICROSOFT OFFICE 7.0 FOR WINDOWS 95 - I

• Tuesdays, 6-9:10 pm • January 12-February 9 • \$53.<sup>00</sup>

## MICROSOFT OFFICE 7.0 FOR WINDOWS 95 - II

• Tuesdays, 6-9:10 pm • February 16-March 16 • \$53.<sup>00</sup>

## WINDOWS 95

• Wednesdays, 6-8:30 pm • January 13-27 • \$34.<sup>00</sup>

• Wednesdays, 6-8:30 pm • February 24-March 10 • \$34.<sup>00</sup>

## SURFING THE INTERNET

• Wednesdays, 6-8:30 pm • February 3-17 • \$34.<sup>00</sup>

• Wednesdays, 6-8:30 pm • March 17-April 7 • \$34.<sup>00</sup>

## MICROSOFT WORD

• Thursdays, 6-9:10 pm • January 14-February 11 • \$53.<sup>00</sup>

## MICROSOFT EXCEL

• Thursdays, 6-8:30 pm • February 18-March 4 • \$34.<sup>00</sup>

## MICROSOFT ACCESS

• Thursdays, 6-8:30 pm • March 11-25 • \$34.<sup>00</sup>

## MICROSOFT POWERPOINT

• Thursdays, 6-8:30 pm • April 8-22 • \$34.<sup>00</sup>

## COMPUTERS FOR BEGINNERS I

• Mondays, 6-9:10 pm • January 11-February 22 • \$53.<sup>00</sup>

## COMPUTERS FOR BEGINNERS II

• Mondays, 6-9:10 pm • March 1-April 5 • \$53.<sup>00</sup>

(One-Day Computer Workshops listed separately)

**ENROLLMENT LIMITED!**

Registration begins January 4 at Times Square Campus

# REND LAKE COLLEGE

Call 242-5805 • e-mail ~ dawe@rlc.cc.il.us

## Making the Grade Internships are integral part of two-year ag degrees

By HEATHER NORTON  
AgriNews Publications

YORKVILLE, Ill. — When A.J. Metzger was finishing his second and final year at Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Ill., in the spring of 1998, he was also completing his second and final internship, a paid, working experience that is directly related to the program in which he was getting his degree.

Metzger, originally from Mulberry, Ind., worked for a semester on the Sunny Valley Farm in Yorkville, a purebred cattle operation, to fulfill the rest of his Joliet requirement of two on-the-job experiences.

When Metzger graduated in May with his associate of applied science degree, it is easy to say that his Sunny Valley internship directly contributed to his success at getting a full-time position, as the Yorkville cattle farm offered him a full-time position as assistant beef herdsman.

Metzger, like most other students who attend two-year colleges or universities for two-year degrees, quickly learned that on-the-job experience before graduation goes a long way to ensure an on-the-job experience after graduation. At some schools, students are required to learn that lesson.

At Lake Land College, Mattoon, Ill., for example, an associate of agricultural science program in areas who are working towards associate of applied science degrees or certificates must complete 28 weeks of on-the-job experience before they graduate. Only those enrolled in programs designed to transfer to a four-year degree program are not required to have the internships, but often do anyway, said Curt Rincker, agriculture division chairman at Lake Land.

"Our students work during school on their home farms, as herdsman, at John Deere dealerships," Rincker said. "Ag business majors go primarily to fertilizer and chemical businesses, or working with GPS, doing field mapping work, scouting, or in the grain handling field."

Similar scenarios are the rule at other two-year schools — for example: Joliet; Black Hawk College — East, Kewanee, Ill.; Rend Lake College, Ina, Ill.; and Vincennes University, Vincennes, Ind. All of the five schools require internships for graduation in at least one part of their agricultural or horticultural programs.

Because of the nature of a two-year versus a four-year program, the internships these students are getting are very specific to the area in which they are enrolled. A student majoring in swine production works for three months at a farrow-to-finish operation. Someone enrolled in agricultural mechanics works at a dealership or shop where he or she diagnoses and fixes farm equipment.

"We feel that (internships) are a very important part of their education," said Ed Billingsley, Agriculture, Automotive, and Architecture department chair at Rend Lake College. "We're training them to work, so that's what they need to do."

At Rend Lake, all students working toward an associate of

applied science degree must complete at least 320 hours of on-the-job experience in an area related to their major. At Vincennes, said Agribusiness Department Chair Susan Brocksmith, only those students in custom applicator and John Deere-sponsored programs are required to have internships, but "most looking for them find them."

At Black Hawk College, agricultural production and ag business majors must complete two work experiences, while horticulture, equine science and horse science majors must have one.

These two-year programs' emphasis on internship experience is in sharp contrast to many four-year institution majors, where students can graduate successfully without ever working in their chosen field of study. Department heads at the featured two-year colleges, however, said "real-world" experience is invaluable.

"We see (internships) as a benefit to the students, because it not only gives them experience to put on their resumes, it gives them a great opportunity to decide if that is really

what they want to do for a career," Billingsley said.

Some opportunities are even more focused than others. At Lake Land and at Vincennes,

John Deere cooperates with the agriculture departments to offer a actual majors called John Deere tech or marketing that

prepare students specifically to work at John Deere dealerships. Those students intern at Deere dealerships and often go on to full-time jobs there.

In fact, many of the students continue working with their internship employer after the scheduled internship is over, even if they are still in school.

"Students certainly get job offers from their internships," Rincker said.

After a student gets a taste of getting behind their chosen career, it can be tough to keep them in school until they get their degree sometimes.

That's especially true with high pressure from employers to get qualified employees. The students, who have an interest in that agricultural or horticultural career. All of the schools' representatives said it is still an employees' market out there, and they don't see too much of a slow down in that trend. Agricultural employers who need salespeople, technicians, chemical applicators, herdsman, managers, etc., are banging down the doors of the two-year colleges looking for good people.

"We have many more requests than students," said Lanny Anderson, chair of the agriculture programs department at Black Hawk. "I see that continuing, especially with all the new technologies in GPS and landscaping."

Others agreed with that assessment. Lake Land's Rincker said he sees a job to graduate ratio of about four to one right now, and doesn't see any area of agriculture in which that ratio is becoming more balanced right now, even livestock production. William Johnson, ag production/swine coordinator at Joliet, put it another way.

"Basically, we tell students coming in that we guarantee a full-time job in agriculture for anybody that wants one," he said.



# F.Y.I. Week ahead



# JANUARY-FEBRUARY

## MONDAY / 25th

- "Biology," 8-9:30 am (Theatre) • "Theatre," 10-11 am (Theatre) • "Health" / "Nutrition" TV, Noon-1 pm (ACA 106); 5:30-6:30 pm (SCI 106)
- Culinary Arts, Noon-4 pm (SC/PDA) • LIGHT, 3-5 pm (SC) • Business and Info Technology Dept. Meeting, 4-5:30 pm (SC/PDA)
- Student Senate, 4-5 pm (SC/EBR) • STARS, 5-7 pm (ACA 105) • "Real Estate," 5:30-9 pm (ACA 108) • Play Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre)
- SIJHSAA Girls Class "M" State Tournament, 6-10 pm (GYM)

## TUESDAY / 26th

- Area Planning Council, 8:30-11 am (SC/PDA) • "Theatre," 9:30-11 am (Theatre) • "Health" / "Nutrition" TV, Noon-1 pm (A 108), 6-7 (A 103)
- Corrections, 3-5:30 pm (SC/EBR) • H.S. classes, 5-8 pm (ACA 207, 211) • "Intro to Flight," 6-9 pm (ACA 106) • "Culinary Arts," 6-10 (SC)
- Play Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre) • SIJHSAA Girls Class "S" State Tournament, 6-10 pm (GYM)

## WEDNESDAY / 27th

- "Biology," 8-9:30 am (Theatre) • Student Services, 8:30-10 am (SC/EBR) • "Health" / "Nutrition" TV, 9-10 am (SCI 132)
- "Theatre," 10-11 am (Theatre) • DACUM, 11 am-1 pm (SC/EBR) • RLC Board of Trustees Special Meeting, Noon-1 pm (SC/PDA)
- STARS, 5-6 pm (ACA 105) • Class, 5:30-8 pm (1-Rm. School) • Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre) • SIJHSAA Girls Class "L" State, 6-10 (GYM)

## THURSDAY / 28th

- "Welfare to Work," 8 am-4 pm (SC/PDA) • "Theatre," 9:30-11 am (Theatre) • DECCA, 3:30-5:30 pm (SCI 110)
- H.S. classes, 5-8 pm (ACA 207, 211) • Basketball, Wabash Valley at RLC – Women, 5:30 pm; Men, 7:30 pm • Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre)

## FRIDAY / 29th

- "Future Focus," 10-11 am (SCI 110) • "Theatre," 10-11 am (Theatre) • SICCM Occupational Therapy, 11 am-1 pm (SC/PDA)
- Build Set, 1-7 pm (Theatre) • SIJHSAA Girls Class "L" State Tournament, 2-6 pm (GYM)

## WEEKEND / 30th & 31st

SATURDAY – Girl Scouts, 8 am-5 pm (SC; NO; SO; SCI 110, 116, 117; ACA 102-109, 206, 207, 210, 211, 214)

• SIJHSAA Girls Class "M" / Class "S" State Tournaments, 10 am-6 pm (GYM) • Basketball, RLC at Lincoln Trail – Women, 5:30; Men, 7:30

SUNDAY – Build Set, 1-6 pm (Theatre)

## MONDAY / 1st

- "Biology," 8-9:30 am (Theatre) • "Theatre," 10-11 am (Theatre) • Thespian Committee, 3-4 pm (SC/EBR)
- LIGHT, 3-5 pm (SC) • Student Senate, 4-5 pm (SC/EBR) • STARS, 5-7 pm (ACA 105) • "Real Estate," 5:30-9:30 pm (ACA 108)
- Play Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre) • Airplane Club, 7:30 pm (SC/EBR)

## TUESDAY / 2nd

- "Theatre," 9:30-11 am (Theatre) • RLC Foundation Board Meeting, 4-9 pm (SC/PDA)
- "Intro to Flight," 6-9 pm (ACA 106) • "Culinary Arts," 6-10 (SC) • Play Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre)

## WEDNESDAY / 3rd

- "Biology," 8-9:30 am (Theatre) • Student Services, 8:30-10 am (SC/EBR) • "Theatre," 10-11 am (Theatre) • DACUM, 11 am-1 pm (SC/EBR)
- Allied Health, Noon-1 pm (SC/EBR) • STARS, 5-6 pm (ACA 105) • Play Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre)

## THURSDAY / 4th

- "Theatre," 9:30-11 am (Theatre) • Jackson County Health, 9:30 am-1 pm (SC/PDA)
- Basketball, Southeastern Illinois at RLC – Women, 5:30 pm; Men, 7:30 pm • Play Rehearsal, 6-10 pm (Theatre)

## FRIDAY / 5th

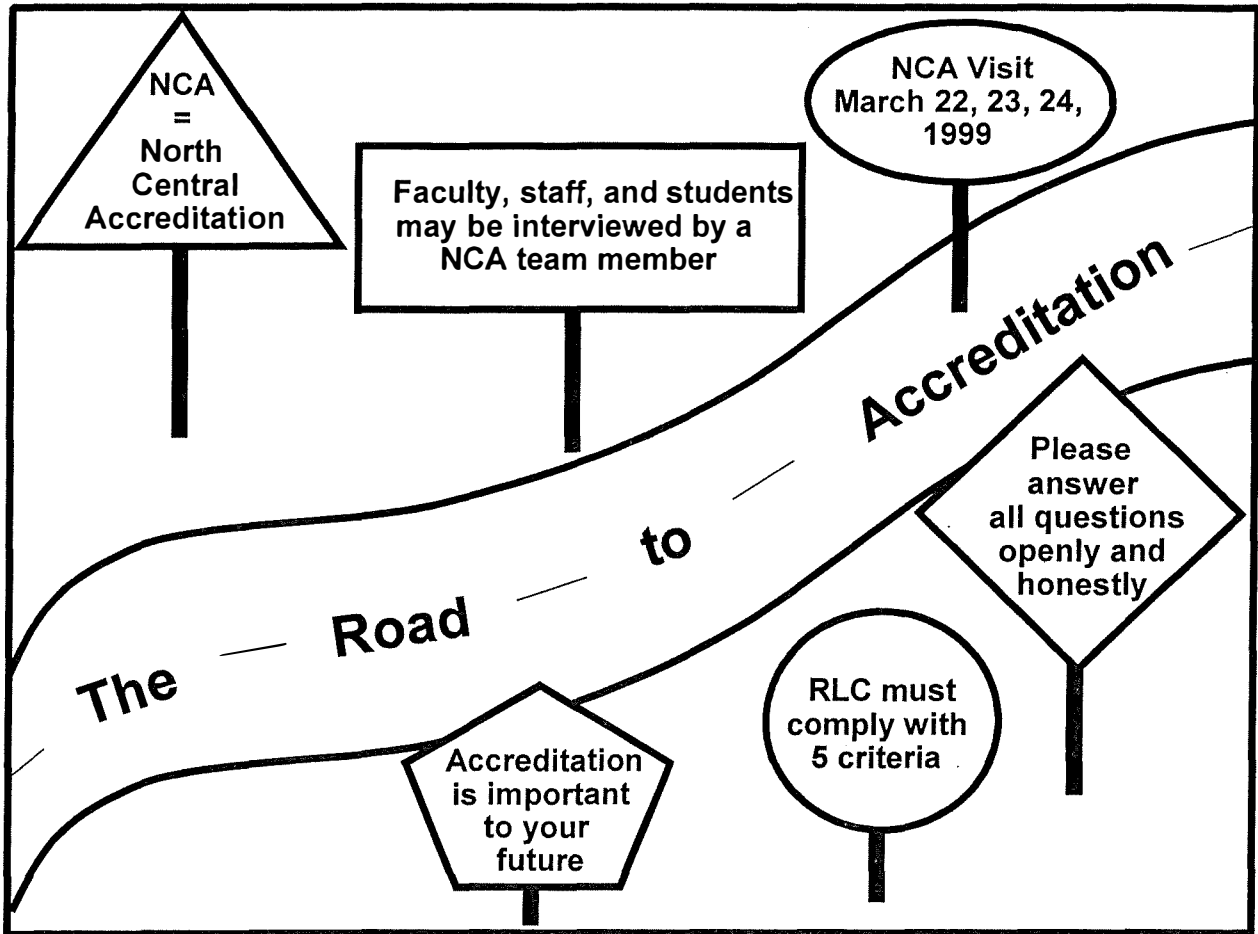
- "Theatre," 10-11 am (Theatre) • "Future Focus" Advisory Council, 11 am-3 pm (SC/EBR)

## WEEKEND / 6th & 7th

SATURDAY – Girl Scouts, 8 am-5 pm (SC; NO; SO; SCI 110, 116, 117; ACA 102-109, 206, 207, 210, 211, 214)

• Class, 8:30 am-12:30 pm (1-Room Schoolhouse) • SIJHSAA Boys Class "S" State Tournament, 9 am-10 pm (GYM)

SUNDAY – Build Set, 1-6 pm (Theatre)



**What  
is  
NCA?**

