



CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE



Volunteer painters

Instructors, staff and students alike spent the afternoon painting in the RLC Hitting Zone to complete the three recycling bins. Pictured is, FROM LEFT, Academic Counselor Leah Schlag, FRONT, Nathaniel Groh of Mt. Vernon, Cassidy Neal of Benton, Sierra Calloni of Mulkeytown, BACK, Director of AmeriCorps Dave Warner, Josh Zimmerman of Ina, Records Specialist Tyson Ellis, Levi Kabat of Scheller, Cody Johnson of Mt. Vernon, Sarah Ganieany of Blufford, Director of AmeriCorps Margo Wagner, Hunter Quarterman of Dix and Donnie Millenbine of Dahlgren. A story about the activity is on this page and additional photos are on page 2 of this week's Clocktower Chronicle. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

RLC distance delivery associate degree receives approval

Offerings begin in fall 2014

CHAD COPPLE

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

A college degree will be more accessible than ever for many area residents as Rend Lake College prepares to roll out a distance-delivered Associate in Science Degree in Fall 2014.

The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools recently approved RLC's request to begin offering this degree, which will be delivered almost entirely online. The degree will have a focus in business.

The roll-out of this new offering is an effort to make a college education more accessible to the residents of the Rend Lake College district, particularly those who may have difficulty attending college in the traditional face-to-face setting. This distance-delivered format allows most class work to be completed at the student's convenience, making it well suited to working adults, stay-at-home parents and more.

"We as a college have had an online degree included in our strategic planning process for the past few years," said

Chris Kuberski, Vice President of Academic Instruction. "Distance education is becoming more prevalent and more popular, and we want to be able to offer this opportunity to anyone who can benefit from it."

The majority of the classes in the curriculum will be completely online, with a select few being offered in a hybrid format. Hybrid classes feature online learning combined with a small number of face-to-face meetings announced in advance.

"This is a big step for us as an institution," said RLC President Terry Wilkerson. "We realized this was a need in our district, and this degree represents more than three years of effort by our Online

Degree Committee." The committee will continue its work, polishing the new distance-delivered Associate in Science Degree in Business and investigating additional offerings in the future.

The Higher Learning Commission's approval comes after the HLC sent a team to Rend Lake College for a two-day evaluation visit in April this year. That team met with the Online Degree Committee and other college employees as well as RLC students to learn more about the degree and all the factors which support it college-wide.

"The college is especially strong in its commitment to support distance education now and in the future," the HLC evaluation team report

states. "They are aware of the positive impact that distance education has on its community, affording courses in a rural area where students must travel long distances."

Registration for the online degree will begin in Spring 2014. Those enrolling in this distance-delivered program will pay in-district tuition regardless of residency. The curriculum includes several general education core classes in subjects such as English, mathematics, computer science, psychology and health, in addition to business classes.

More information will be distributed as details are developed. For more information about RLC, visit www.rlc.edu/journey.

Street Rodding classes working on '39 Chevy, more classes possible for spring

REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Most Tuesday nights in the Rend Lake College Auto Shop are bustling with vehicle enthusiasts and street rod buffs working to improve their skills during a hands-on workshop. With a growing interest in street rodding, plans are in the works to bring more classes to area residents in the spring semester.

Students in RLC's Principles of Street Rodding classes focus on a wide range of topics that revolve around working on a 1939 Chevy Coupe. While learning the fundamentals, the dozen students ranging from high school age to senior citizens, both men and women, gain a broader understanding of what it takes to convert an

old car into a one-of-a-kind.

First-time instructor Jody Martin said the first class covers everything from the brake system to the engine, from wheels to the transmission, and everything in between.

"There's a lot of hands-on work that we learn about and then do later in the class," said Martin. "It's more like a mock-up before the real deal."

In the second part – Principles of Street Rodding II – students touch up what they already know before moving on to metal work, primers, paint and buffing.

"That's where we get into the fine tuning and fitting parts," said Martin. "We have to cover the prep work first that

Car continues on page 2

Board chair Drew steps down, former trustee Crocker returns to board

CHAD COPPLE

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Rend Lake College Board of Trustees saw a change Tuesday night, with an eight-year veteran stepping down and a familiar face returning to the board.

Board Chair Bryan Drew, a Benton attorney, stepped down Tuesday, citing family and work obligations. "I have been honored to have served the people of the Rend Lake College district," he said. "Rend Lake College holds a special place for me as both a graduate and a member of the Board of Trustees."

"We certainly appreciate everything Bryan has done for Rend Lake College in his time on the board," said RLC President Terry Wilkerson. "He has a true love of this college and he enjoys seeing it continue

to grow and succeed. It's been a real benefit to have him on our board." Drew was presented with a plaque in honor of his years of service on the RLC Board.

Drew's history with RLC began long before his service on the board. The Class of 1995 grad was elected to the RLC Sports Hall of Fame as a member of the 1994-95 National Junior College Athletic Association Division II Runner-Up Men's Golf Team. After Rend Lake College, Drew transferred to Saint Louis University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in History, and then went on to the Saint Louis University School of Law. He received his license to practice law in the State of Illinois in 2000.

In addition to playing

Drew continues on page 2

AmeriCorps, welding students paint recycling bins for America Recycles Day

In celebration of America Recycles Day, one dozen Rend Lake College AmeriCorps and welding students picked up a paintbrush to revamp three large recycling bins on the Ina campus. The bins collect almost every recyclable material, from cardboard to paper to aluminum, and are available to the RLC community, students and staff. Once dried and re-labeled, the bins will be located behind the maintenance building.

Tomorrow, 10 teams comprised of various athletic and academic clubs

and teams will travel to the Mt. Vernon Walmart Supercenter to participate in a scavenger hunt. The groups will search for items designated as recyclable or "green." The event will start at 2 p.m. Some of the teams who may participate include the Warriors baseball, softball and volleyball teams, College Bowl, AmeriCorps, Student Transfer and Retention Support (STARS), Radiologic Technology, Art League and Phi Theta Kappa.

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COMING SOON

Studio RLC, Rend Lake College's cosmetology program, will soon have calendars available for sale in time for the holidays. The customized calendars feature hair styles designed and modeled by Studio RLC's own students. Check out the program's Facebook page at facebook.com/studiorlc to find out how to order. (Nathan Wheeler / RLC Public Information)

Drew continued from page 1

two seasons for the Warriors, Drew also played golf for Saint Louis University from 1995-97. Prior to that, he was a member of the Benton Ranger basketball squad that finished third in the 1993 IHSA Class "A" State Finals.

"I have enjoyed helping the college during my term on the board, through what have been trying economic times in Illinois," Drew said. "The president and administration have done an excellent job and I believe the board has placed an excellent group of individuals in charge of the college. It has been my pleasure to work alongside President Wilkerson and my fellow board members, and I look forward to seeing Rend Lake College continue to grow and provide a great education to the people of Southern Illinois."

Drew's replacement on the board is returning veter-



Rend Lake College President Terry Wilkerson, LEFT, thanks outgoing Board of Trustees Chairman Bryan Drew, RIGHT, for his service to the College and the Board. Drew was replaced by Eric Black as Chairman and the empty seat on the board was filled by Randall Crocker of Sesser. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

an Randall Crocker (Sesser), who previously served on the board from 1997-2009. Crocker is a long-time member and chair of the Franklin County Board, and owns and operates Crocker

Insurance Agency in Sesser with his son Brett.

"I'm very pleased with the way the college is being run.

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A 1939 Chevy Coupe before students in the Rend Lake College Street Rodding class get down to the nuts and bolts of fixing it up.

Car continued from page 1

leads to the more advanced aspects. We do a lot of metal shaping, fabrication of motor mounts and various brackets then prepare for installation of engine."

The former RLC student said that his interest in street rods started in

1984 when he bought an old car and started working on it. When he was asked to teach the workshop this fall, he said it was something he was interested in because he wants to share his knowledge.

Nigel Thompson, RLC Automotive Technology Professor, added there



A similar car after having Street Rodding work done to the body. The car pictured is a model for RLC students to use as a hands-on learning tool in the classroom.

may be more classes in the spring semester due to high interest in the workshops. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

For more information on the current classes, contact the RLC Community and Corporate Education Division at 618-437-5321, Ext. 1267, or visit online



Principles of Street Rodding Instructor Jody Martin, SECOND FROM LEFT, points out different parts and features on a model 1939 Chevy Coupe for a group of Rend Lake College students. Martin has been interested in street rods for more than 25 years and uses his experience to pass on his knowledge. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Rend Lake College Clocktower Chronicle

Administration:
LuAnn Droege, Senior Editor, Centralia Sentinel
Nathan Wheeler, Editor, Rend Lake College

Advertising:
To place an advertisement, call 246-2000

Postal Information:
Published weekly on Thursdays by Centralia Press Ltd., 232 E. Broadway, Centralia, IL 62801-0627 (USPS 098-600) (ISSN: 1059-8162); periodical postage paid in Centralia; POSTMASTER: Address changes to the Centralia Sentinel, 232 E. Broadway, Centralia, IL 62801-0627

Single Copy Price:
25 cents at retailers and paper racks; \$20 for a one-year subscription; free on RLC campuses

Circulation:
Subscription and delivery information is available by calling 246-2000.



Six AmeriCorps workers take a break from painting to pose for a picture in front of the three recycling bins in the Rend Lake College Hitting Zone. Pictured is, FROM LEFT, Nathaniel Groh of Mt. Vernon, Josh Zimmerman of Ina, Cassidy Neal of Benton, Sierra Calloni of Mulkeytown, Cody Johnson of Mt. Vernon, and Sarah Ganieany of Bluford. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Recycle continued from page 1

Both events are sponsored by the Keep America Beautiful organization and the RLC Greening the Campus Committee. For more information on the committee, visit www.rlc.edu/greening-the-campus.

Not pictured are six welding students and Instructor Pete Wilce: Marcus Allen of Buckner, Tyler Laughard of McLeansboro, Aubrey Lee Jones of Bluford, Levi Marsh of Fairfield, Bryan Pace of Wayne City and Jake Reyling of Dahlgren. The students played a big part in the successful completion of the painting job this afternoon.



Mt. Vernon native Cody Johnson dons painting clothes as he works on one of three large recycling bins in honor of America Recycles Day. Johnson is an AmeriCorps student at Bethel Grade School in Mt. Vernon. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)



Nathaniel Groh of Mt. Vernon, an AmeriCorps student working at Field Grade School in Texico, paints a recycling bin dark green as a part of his efforts to help local recycling. Several AmeriCorps students participated in the painting for America Recycles Day. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

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ATHLETICS

W S E C T I O N S

National championship banner



Rend Lake College Warriors Head Coach Randy House, RIGHT, unveils the 2013 National Championship banner Sunday afternoon before the Warriors game against Illinois Central. The new feature to Waugh Gymnasium was not the only change — the team also donned new white jerseys. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)



Warrior lead scorer Jeril Taylor (Louisville, Ky.) shoots a three Sunday afternoon in Waugh Gymnasium against the Illinois Central Cougars. Taylor docked the game-high of 25 points during the matchup. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Warriors take double-digit win over Cougars

The Rend Lake College Warriors controlled the court while wearing new white jerseys during their game against the Illinois Central Cougars in Waugh Gymnasium. Though close in the first half, Rend Lake pulled out a double-digit win for their second home game.

Now 4-1 on the season, the Warriors finished the first half only three in front

of the Cougars at 38-35. Scoring nine points in the half, Jeril Taylor (Louisville, Ky.) dominated the offense. He would later finish the game with the game-high of 25 points.

Rend Lake came back stronger from halftime, increasing their lead in the first few minutes of play. Sophomore Montez Williams (East St. Louis) and Taylor scored several from behind the free throw

line, as well as in regular play. The game ended with a score of 94-75.

Rend Lake will travel to Belleville tomorrow to take on Lindenwood before moving on to Champaign to play Parkland on Wednesday. The next home game is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 23 against Lincoln Trail.

For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

All-American Warrior Macklin signs with IUPUI

Sophomore Cortez Macklin became the first National Champion Warrior to sign a national letter of intent at Rend Lake College. The All-American basketball player committed to Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) for the fall of 2014.

The 6-foot-3 inch, 175 pound shooting guard is a native to Louisville, Ky., citing the closer proximity to home as one of the reasons he chose to play for the Jaguars.

"I wanted to go to that school. It's close to home and it seems like it'll be a good fit," said Macklin.

Last year, Macklin was named to the Division II Second-Team All-American. He was the team's leading scorer at 13.1 points per game, which helped lead the Warriors to a 30-win season, the program's first national championship, the 2013 Great Rivers Athletic Conference Championship (14-2) and the NJCAA DII Region XXIV Championship.

He finished the season with 379 points and averages of 43.9 percent from the field, 32.5 percent from three-point range, and 66.9 percent from the free-throw line. He also averaged 3.3 rebounds and 1.7 assists per game. His season high of 28 points came in RLC's first game of the year against Southern Institute,



Sophomore Warrior Cortez Macklin (Louisville, Ky.), signs a national letter of intent Wednesday afternoon to play basketball for the Indianapolis University - Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Jaguars next fall. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

with a close second of 27 against Wabash Valley College. Additionally, he led the Warriors with 19 points in its 87-69 national championship win over Moraine Valley Community College on March 23.

As for this season with the Warriors, Macklin said he's focusing on growing with the team and working together to get back to Nationals.

"We're going to continue to grow and work hard. We're going to get where we can," he said.

The undecided major previously played for the

Pleasure Ridge Park High School Panthers in Louisville, Ky., where he averaged 13.4 points per game and 5.1 rebounds per game.

Warriors Head Coach Randy House and Athletic Director Tim Willis were present for the signing. House recruited Macklin in the spring of 2012.

"He's a great guy and a great player," House added.

RLC Board

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I don't have any specific goals in mind, but I want to support the administration, because I think they're doing a great job," said Crocker.

"We are glad to welcome Randall back to our board," said Wilkerson of Crocker's appointment. "He brings plenty of experience from his earlier service, and he continues to be a strong supporter of Rend Lake College."

Crocker will fill the seat until the next Rend Lake College Board of Trustees election, which will be held in 2015.

With Drew leaving the board, board member Eric Black was appointed the new chair.

Title III work begins: three new positions created, bids to go out for new lab

The board authorized actions related to the Title III Pathways to Success in Health Careers grant Tuesday evening, including the creation of new positions and the authorization to proceed with lab renovations.

The board granted permission to create three positions and advertise to fill them, and approved the accompanying job descriptions. The positions sought are:

- Coordinator of Title III Health Studies Support
- Title III Activity Director / Curriculum Specialist

• Title III Project Assistant
The Coordinator and Activity Director positions will have start dates in January 2014. The project assistant position will be hired and ratified at the Dec. 10 board meeting.

The board granted permission to advertise for bids for a new Anatomy / Physiology / Cadaver lab to be constructed inside the existing Science Building. The new lab will better serve the needs of students and will help alleviate the current overcrowding of the existing labs in the building. The new facility also will help meet the demands of pre-Allied Health students, and will meet objectives contained in the Title III grant. The estimated budget is \$246,891.98 and will be paid with Title III grant funds.

The Title III Pathways to Success in Health Careers Grant is worth up to \$2.25 million in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education over a five-year period.

By the end of the grant, RLC expects to see an increase in the number of Health Studies degrees and certificates awarded, as well as an increase in overall enrollment and enrollment-based revenue.

Plans include the above-noted establishment of a new Anatomy & Physiology (A&P) lab and revision of A&P I and II curricula, revisions to the Practical Nursing program curricula to incorporate educational simulation and web-based interactive instructional modules, development of a new Health Studies advising and tutoring system, and the establishment of a new Health Studies Success Center.

Agreement approved between Army Corps of Engineers, RLC

Approved a memorandum of understanding between

A&P lab
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Alumni Dinner, Weekend brings out dozens to Rend Lake



Almost a dozen Rend Lake College alums took to the court once more Sunday afternoon as a part of the RLC Men's Basketball Alumni Weekend. The game ended with a score of 94-78. Pictured is, BACK TO FRONT, Brian Gamber, Josh Davis, Shane Garner and Tommy Holder. Also playing in the game were Kyle Martin, Roger Phelps, Justin Raby, Andre Spraggins, Jared Staple, CJ Trotter and Josh Webb. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Rend Lake College alums from near and far gathered Nov. 16 at the Rend Lake Resort to celebrate years gone by and give advice to current students. The alums also met on the court Nov. 17 for a scrimmage before the Warriors took on Illinois Central College.

During the dinner, former head coaches Wayne Arnold (1963-65), Mitch Haskins (1981-1992) and Tim Wills (1992-2010), as well as current head coach Randy House (2010-present), all took a moment to thank their players and encourage current teammates with words of wisdom. Former coach James "Hummer" Waugh (1966-1981) was not able to attend the dinner.

First up was Coach Arnold who spoke of working and coaching at Mt. Vernon Community College, as well as his many years at RLC.

"When I first started coaching, we had to play around the Mt. Vernon High School team, because we shared their gym with them," said Arnold. "The big thing that comes to mind when I think about coaching Mt. Vernon Community College is the good players I had. They were good kids. I always told my students to be persistent



Former Rend Lake College Coach Mitch Haskins stood next to the National Championship trophy Saturday night to speak during the Men's Basketball Alumni Dinner, held at the Rend Lake Resort. Haskins was the head coach for the team from 1981 until 1992. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

but also be patient. It's been a great ride and I see that the College continues to grow in every aspect. I think

this is a great thing that the Rend Lake Athletic Department is going, and I appreciate the opportunity to speak here tonight."

Arnold was followed by Haskins, who gave plenty of advice to the current players.

"Just remember to take care of your teammates and look out for them," said Haskins. "Help each other and do what you love to be an example. If you can't give 100 percent at something, then don't do it. The Rend Lake basketball team is a solid program with a very longstanding tradition, and I am proud to be a part of that."

Current Athletic Director Wills added the importance of alumni events and the legacy that is the men's basketball team when he addressed the audience.

"It's very important to keep people connected to the college they attended, and I'm proud to be a part of what these guys have done," said Wills. "We hope to make this Alumni Weekend an annual thing, and I do appreciate everyone coming out tonight."

Coach House added, "Basketball has blessed me a lot in my life, as it has all of you in this room. This [National Championship] tro-

phy up here is real nice, but it's for all of you guys. It's a testament to you guys. It doesn't have my name on it; it has Rend Lake College. The program is only as good as the people who were there before, and it's a great honor to be here and to be the coach of this great group of guys."

On Sunday, the alums came back to Waugh Gymnasium to compete in a scrimmage game against one another. Eleven former players went hard for a final score of 94-78. Those who played included Josh Davis, Brian Gamber, Shane Garner, Tommy Holder, Kyle Martin, Roger Phelps, Justin Raby, Andre Spraggins, Jared Staple, CJ Trotter and Josh Webb.

Finally, before the Warrior's game, the 2013 National Championship banner was unveiled for all the basketball fans and alums in attendance. The Warriors would move on to win the game over the Cougars 94-75. To read more about the game, visit <http://www.rlc.edu/mens-basketball/basketball-headlines/4318-warriors-take-double-digit-win-over-cougars>.

For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Rend Lake College women's basketball suffers loss to McKendree JV

The Rend Lake College Lady Warriors basketball team suffered a close loss against the McKendree JV Lady Bearcats. Rend Lake lost 72-56 and is now 2-3.

RLC started off strong in the first half, but went through a dry spell toward the end, scoring 21 points to McKendree's 35. Sophomore Alexa Capps (Woodlawn) led the team with six points, two 3-point shots,

for the half.

The second half was plagued with fouls as both teams racked up one or two points at a time. McKendree docked six fouls in the first 5 minutes of play, all before Rend Lake made one. Together, the teams fouled 49 times during the game.

Sophomore LaNeice Cannon (Madison, Wis.) scored 11 points in the second half, followed

closely by fellow sophomore Kristina Henley (Metropolis), who had 9. Henley scored the game-high of 12 points.

The Lady Warriors will head to St. Charles, Mo. Wednesday to take on Lindenwood before returning home to join the Men's team in playing Lincoln Trail next Saturday, Nov. 23. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit RLC online at www.rlc.edu/warriors.



Lady Warrior sophomore Denise Johnson (Memphis, Tenn.) lunges for a shot Saturday afternoon against the McKendree J.V. Bearcats. Johnson scored 8 points during the game, the third highest for the team. Also pictured are Lady Warrior freshmen Natalie Williamson (Mt. Vernon), LEFT, and Alexa Capps (Woodlawn), RIGHT. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

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R&P Lab
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the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District and Rend Lake College. This agreement establishes a general framework of cooperation to plan and implement mutually beneficial programs, projects and activities which educate, maintain and enhance the natural resource management program.

Capps joins Children's Center staff

Employed Erica Capps as temporary full-time Lead Child Care Provider for the preschool classroom at the RLC Foundation Children's Center. She currently serves as a part-time substitute teacher at the center, and will move to temporary full-time to accommodate a staff member on maternity leave. In other business, the board ...

- Granted in-district resident status for tuition purposes to those students using Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, per Public Act 098-0306.
- Accepted the Fiscal Year 2013 audit as presented.
- Approved revisions to the job description and salary of the Coordinator of Special Projects to account for changes in the reporting structure.
- Approved an amended retirement resignation date for Curt Mowrer, Director of the Small Business Development Center at Rend Lake College. The date was changed from Dec. 31, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2015, to coincide with the expiration of the current Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant.
- Approved revisions to

board procedure concerning job descriptions and stipends, and revisions to board policy concerning nepotism (first reading).

- Approved revisions to board policy and procedure concerning campus security (first reading) and created board policy and procedure concerning use of force (first reading).
- Accepted the resignation of Caroline Smith, Subsidized Child Care Specialist at Project CHILD.

Mark your calendars ...

- Rend Lake College Foundation Annual Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn.
- Rend Lake College Board of Trustees Mini-Retreat, 3-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, RLC Student Center.
- Rend Lake College Annual Faculty / Staff Holiday Dinner, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, Waugh Gymnasium.

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