

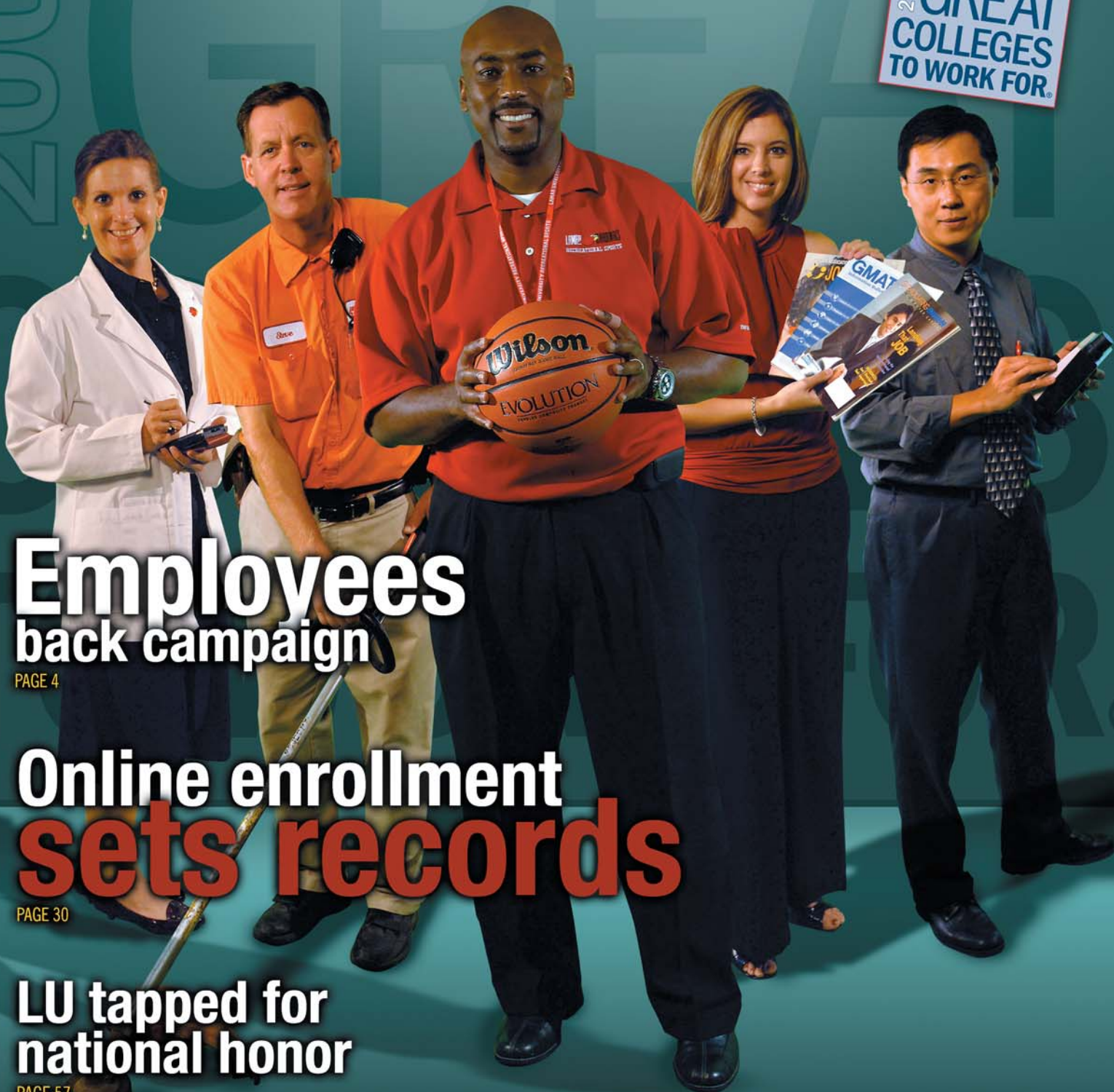
THE CARDINAL Cadence

VOL. 37 NO. 2

A PUBLICATION OF LAMAR UNIVERSITY
A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

AUGUST 2009

THE CHRONICLE
2009 GREAT
COLLEGES
TO WORK FOR®



Employees back campaign

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Online enrollment sets records

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LU tapped for national honor

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From the President

These are exciting days at Lamar University. We are again anticipating record enrollment, both on campus and online, as we begin the new academic year.

The sounds of building continues to ring across the campus, from Provost Umphrey Stadium, where state-of-the-art artificial turf is going down on W.S. “Bud” Leonard Field and the new athletic complex is going up, to the new soccer field complex at the south end of campus. Linking these is Rolfe Christopher Drive, which the city of Beaumont has beautifully updated with an esplanade.

Renovation of the music building continues, and the expansion of Cherry Engineering will begin soon. Changes on campus extend to the relocation of Lamar’s adult studies programs and the Small Business Development Center into spacious accommodations in Beaumont’s Downtown Library.

Lamar’s comprehensive campaign, now totaling more than \$58 million, is another way we’re building for the future. Included in that total is \$498,000 from this spring’s highly successful LU employee campaign.

The enthusiasm and dedication of Lamar’s people was echoed in the selection of our university by The Chronicle of Higher Education as one of its 2009-2010 Great Colleges to Work For. Lamar was one of 39 colleges nationwide, and the only public college in Texas, named by the Chronicle to an honor roll because of the number of categories in which it was recognized for best practices.

We continue to see strong enrollment in both traditional on-campus programs and in distance education. Lamar’s online courses are growing steadily, with classes filling as quickly as they can be offered. The tremendous growth in LU programs offered online is breathtaking.

Just as exciting is the expansion of Lamar’s online Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree completion program, and dual-enrollment courses offered to high school juniors and seniors statewide. Both programs are ramping up this fall. On campus or online, exciting days are ahead at Lamar University.

With Cardinal Pride,

James M. Simmons
President
Lamar University



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The employees of Lamar University are proud of their university, and it shows. Our cover celebrates Lamar’s recognition by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* as one of the top universities to work for in the nation (see related story, pg. 57). Standing in for the women and men who make it all happen are: **Gina Hale** ’04, instructor of nursing; **Steve Ford**, groundskeeper, campus services, grounds maintenance; **David Garrett**, associate director of operations, Recreational Sports; **Teresa Simpson**, director, Career and Testing Center; and **Jerry Lin**, associate professor, civil engineering.



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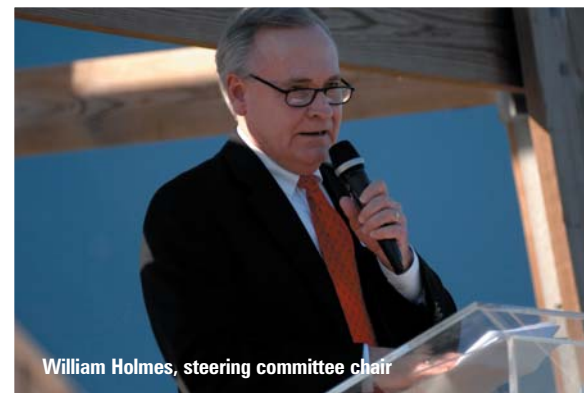
Investing in the future

Employee participation in campaign exceeds expectations

Lamar University gained an overwhelming show of support this spring from some of the people who know it best—its employees.

As part of the \$100 million Investing in the Future comprehensive campaign, faculty and staff members were asked to participate in the university's first-ever employee campaign from Feb. 16 to April 3. The seven-week effort drew donations from 827 people, or more than 70 percent of LU's employees.

by Beth Gallaspy



William Holmes, steering committee chair

"We're really excited because our campaign consultant told us that employee participation in a first-time campaign like this is generally around 30 percent," said Janice Trammell, development director and executive director of the Lamar University Foundation. "It opens up all sorts of doors for us. When donors see that everyone who works here loves to work here and wants to give back to the university, it shows that we as employees have confidence in Lamar and they should as well in making that investment in our great university."

Rather than setting a dollar goal for the employee campaign, the campaign team focused on attracting widespread participation with employees giving at whatever level they could. Collectively, employees gave \$498,068.

"We wanted this to be more about building excitement about all the progress and changes that Lamar is undergoing," Trammell said. "It allowed participation from all areas of the university, no matter what the salary level."

Leading the effort to garner employee support were a 21-member steering committee chaired by William Holmes, associate dean of the College of Education and Human Development, and 29 team captains representing departments across the university.

Carvelynne Graff, executive assistant in the College of Education and Human Development, was thrilled to receive an invitation to serve on the steering committee.

"I thought what a grand thing to do and what a wonderful honor it is to serve in that capacity. It was just exciting from day one," said Graff, who has worked at LU for nearly a decade.

Graff's message to encourage others to participate was: "Lamar has done so much for us and represents an important entity in

this city. It's a way to express that to other donors and other friends of Lamar to show them that we care about Lamar University."

For Graff, excitement about the great things going on at Lamar started with the appearance of red-and-white street signs and grew with each additional physical sign. She credits President James Simmons and his wife, Susan,

with the transformation. "It's so exciting to know that he's loved and respected by the community. They've been behind him and encouraged him in every step. To see the community and the university come and work together as a team is amazing," she said.

Steve Ford, a groundskeeper in facilities management and steering committee member, urged his coworkers to contribute to help the university and make a positive statement for their department, one of 56 departments to achieve 100 percent participation.

"It's a major accomplishment how everybody came in and gave what they had. It didn't matter the size of the gift, but they gave," said Ford, a Lamar employee for 28 years. "I'm glad I'm a part of it amongst everybody else."

Sarah Tusa, associate professor in the Mary and John Gray Library and steering committee member, said giving back to Lamar University "just seemed the right thing to do" after years of steady employment with full benefits and regular raises despite hurricanes and economic uncertainties.

"Not everybody has that kind of job security that we've enjoyed," said Tusa, who

has worked at Lamar for almost 20 years. "Financially, we're much better off than when I came here, and the campus has just had a facelift. I think, overall, everybody's been very pleased with the direction the campus has been going the past several years."

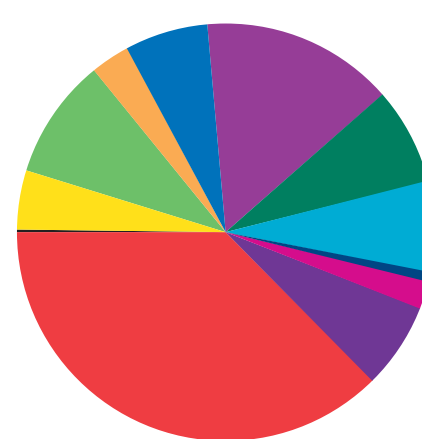
Norman Bellard, associate vice president for student affairs and a team captain, said achieving 100 percent participation for every department in the division of student of affairs was "a rather easy task."

"It wasn't so much what I did or I said as it was the type of employees that we have. It didn't take much persuasion," Bellard said. "That's a testament to the type of people we have employed here."

Bellard, a former LU basketball player who is proud to "bleed red and white," said it is a great time to be employed at Lamar thanks to Simmons. "My line about Dr. Simmons is he's the coach, and he calls the plays, and we just run them. He manages to always call the right play. We're just following his lead," Bellard said. "Of course, we've had some growing pains and some other challenges, but we're up to the challenge, and we're looking forward to great things to come."

The Lamar University family celebrated the success of the employee campaign with an April 22 barbecue at the Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum and received a hearty thank-you from Simmons for giving so generously.

"I would never have dreamed we would raise the funds we have," Simmons said at the event. "We already knew we had the best employees in the country. When I heard the results of the campaign, I was truly overwhelmed. I can't tell you how proud I am."



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE
Employee Campaign Gift Summary Report

Alumni Affairs	\$1,371	0.28%
Athletics	\$19,955	4.01%
College of Arts and Sciences	\$41,367	8.31%
College of Business	\$14,603	2.93%
College of Education & Human Development	\$32,341	6.49%
College of Engineering	\$39,567	7.94%
College of FAC	\$39,027	7.84%
KVLU	\$1,856	0.37%
Library	\$10,518	2.11%
Scholarships	\$183,656	36.87%
Restricted *	\$76,635	15.39%
Unrestricted	\$37,172	7.46%
Total	\$ 498,068.00	

Total Number of Gifts Received 879

* Restricted to an area of the University not listed above

Building a legacy, building a community



by Larry Acker

CHARLES E. “CHUCK” MASON JR. ’72 represents the third generation at the helm of Beaumont-based Mason Construction, the family business. Begun in 1939 by his grandfather, as one of its first projects this fledgling company undertook building part of the massive seawall at Galveston. During the 1950s, Mason’s father enhanced the infrastructure and improved the safety of residents in Jefferson County by building many of the drainage systems still in use today. With the help of wife Becky (Dickson) ’71, they are now advancing the economic development prospects for the entire Golden Triangle as a leading petrochemical and industrial construction contractor. Mason and his brother Brad ’74 took over operation of the company in the early ’70s with six employees and have since expanded the company to its current staffing level of more than 250 workers, many of whom are family members.

“Oh yes, nepotism is alive and well here,” said Becky, who oversees safety and human resources for the firm. “Our son is now on board, and we have brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews working for the company. It’s a true family business.”

LARRY ACKER

Mason started his college career as a biology major, dreaming of becoming the next Jacques Cousteau. After working in the family construction business over two summers, however, he realized that business problem-solving was what he really enjoyed. With his change in career paths, Chuck briefly added accounting to his academic curriculum but soon decided he preferred the vigorous science curriculum. As he says now, the sciences served as good training for business. “Deciphering what went wrong in a failed chemistry experiment and planning how to make it work the next time is great training for running a construction company.”

The couple met during high school while Becky was performing as a member of the world-renowned Melody Maids. Eloise Milam, who was also Chuck’s aunt, formed the group of musically talented young women who entertained audiences throughout the country and abroad between 1942 and 1972. Although Becky taught first grade for several years before their children were born, she now draws on her education background to guide employee safety and training. Since she joined the firm, it has won many state and national safety awards along with the Better Business Bureau Torch Award for Business Ethics as a result of her efforts.

Aside from the business, the Beaumont couple has their hands in many community projects. It was Chuck’s science background that sparked his interest in the JASON project, a nonprofit subsidiary of the National Geographic Society. He was one of the founders of the JASON Alliance of Southeast Texas, which annually provides scientific presentations in a field trip environment to more than 10,000 students in more than 20 school districts in Southeast Texas.

“Bob Ballard, the marine archaeologist who discovered the sunken Titanic, started this project for kids in grades 5-8. I heard him speak at a chamber of commerce meeting, and I was so impressed I just knew we had to have a JASON chapter in this area,” he said. “Several of us approached some of

the senior leadership at Lamar and the Beaumont school district about starting this project, and we went to work. It’s become one of the premier JASON programs in the U.S., thanks in large part to Lamar’s commitment and the great relationship they have with the community.”

The Masons have given their time and resources to many worthwhile organizations and groups. They have been active in United Way, Beaumont Community Players, Symphony of Southeast Texas, Junior League of Beaumont, Young Audiences of Southeast Texas and the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, to name a few. Chuck has also held leadership positions in the Rotary Club of Beaumont, having served as president and district governor and continues to work on committees for youth projects. They fondly recall traveling

“Both of us have always felt that Lamar was a big part of our lives, and we felt that a key to Lamar’s success was the scholarship program.”

—BECKY MASON ’71

to Copenhagen and Russia, as well as humanitarian visits to Nicaragua and Haiti as highlights of their Rotary Club service.

The Masons are also very active with their alma mater, serving on several committees and advisory boards. Chuck serves on the Lamar University Foundation Board, the Investing in the Future Campaign Cabinet and as a member of the Reese Construction Management Advisory Council. Becky has served on the LU Alumni Affairs Advisory Board, and they both serve on the Friends of the Arts Board for the College of Fine Arts and Communication.

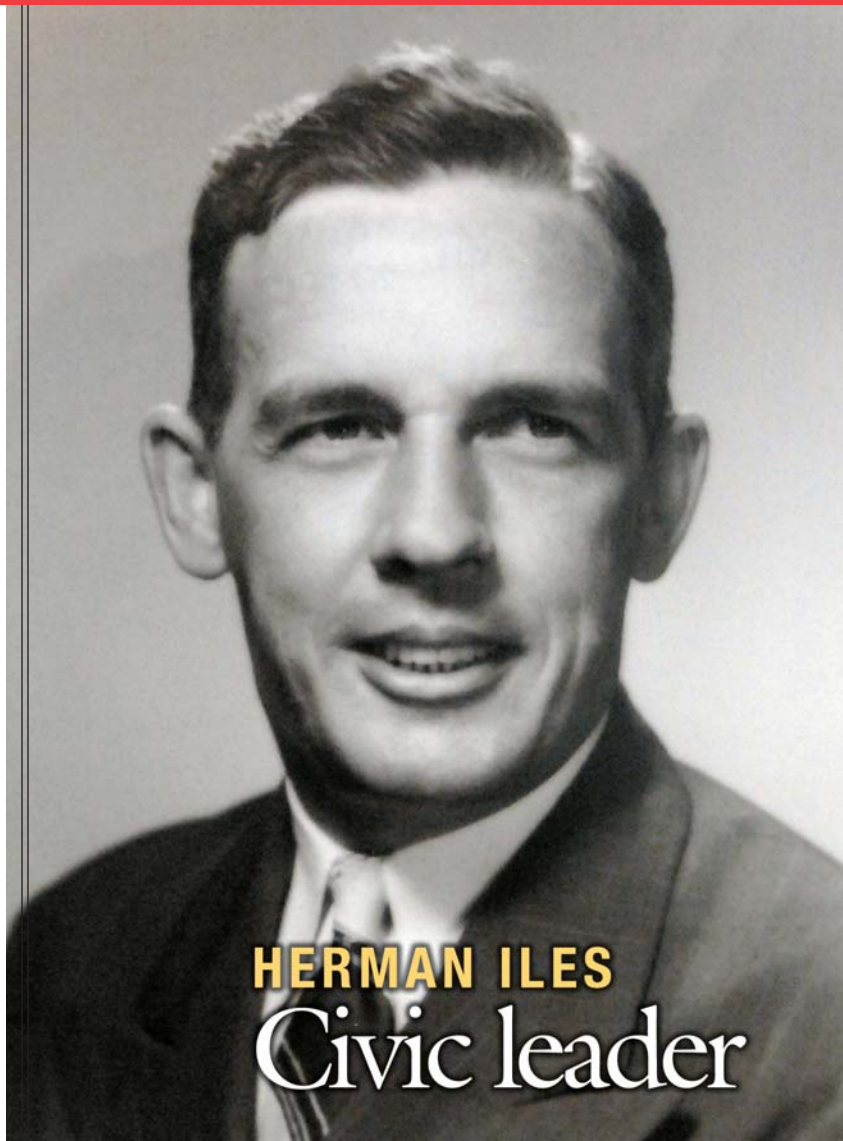
Their commitment and loyalty to Lamar goes deeper than giving of their valuable personal time. The Masons have endowed the first privately funded Mirabeau Scholarship, one of the most prestigious scholarships Lamar offers. The gift of more than \$300,000 is part of the Investing in

the Future Campaign and will continue to give the best and brightest students an opportunity to get a college education. Each scholarship recipient enjoys tuition, fees and room and board worth \$60,000 during a four-year college career. Lamar has awarded 64 Mirabeau scholarships to exceptional students since the program was created in 2006.

“Both of us have always felt that Lamar was a big part of our lives, and we felt that a key to Lamar’s success was the scholarship program,” Becky said. “It’s very exciting to see the strides Lamar has made over the past 10 years, and we’re pleased to be a part of that.”

Obviously, time for rest and relaxation doesn’t come too often for these movers and shakers, but, when it’s time to get away, their destination is the Cayman Islands where they own a beach home. Unfortunately, that purchase was completed just 10 days before Hurricane Ivan wreaked havoc on the Caribbean island in 2004. Since then, they’ve had a good deal more experience with hurricanes, remodeling and restoration. Hurricane Rita took the roof off the Walden Road office, and Hurricane Ike leveled their beach house near Bolivar and caused major damage to their Beaumont residence, which is still in the process of being repaired and remodeled.

This year, the Mason family is celebrating 70 years in the construction business in Southeast Texas. Their daughter, Kristin, broke with family tradition, choosing big city life to work as the corporate communications coordinator for the New York Times. Their son, Chad, is now a project manager for Mason Construction, and, if history is any indication, he will play an integral role as the fourth generation takes on day-to-day operations of the business. Whether building economic development in the Golden Triangle, building goodwill in Nicaragua and Haiti or building opportunities for deserving students, the Masons have proven themselves to be builders. From 1939 until today, and well into tomorrow, they are building a legacy and a community.



HERMAN ILES Civic leader

LU ARCHIVES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

A committee of the Young Men's Business League, led by Herman Iles, working closely with the officials of Lamar College and the school board of South Park, spearheaded the task of creating a junior college district.

About 65 people gathered to hear the proposal discussed at an evening meeting of the South Park Civic League in the South Park High School auditorium. There, they heard John Gray, then dean of men at Lamar College, and Herman Iles, president of the South Park Civic League and second vice president of the YMBL, speaking in favor of the proposed expansion. Iles, who was also one of seven candidates for membership on the board of trustees, said the college would be "built on a site already owned near its present location," according to a newspaper clipping from the Herman Iles papers, a special collection of the Lamar University archives. In 1938, the South Park board had purchased a 58-acre tract three blocks east of what was then the Lamar campus. The tract was most unattractive, having been used as a tank farm for oil storage by the Texaco Co., but the company was willing to sell it for \$18,000.

In an election on Sept. 21, 1940, voters approved the creation of a Lamar Union Junior College District, the issuance of bonds to construct an entirely new college facility, a new tax for support and maintenance and the election of trustees to govern the college.

Iles and his wife, Delma Lea, entertained with a post-election party at their home on Lavaca Street as a compliment to the scores of people who worked for the greater Lamar College bond issue.

The 21 months between the election and June 8, 1942, the day classes were held for the first time on the new campus, was a period of significant transition. Iles had been elected to the board of trustees, one of three men who had "been active in promoting the enlarged Lamar college plans since their inception more than two years ago, and a part of the central committee making plans for the election of the project," according to a clipping from the collection.

By December 1941, the last major construction contract had been awarded; by the end of the spring of 1942, sufficient buildings had been completed for the college to be moved to its new, and present, location. On June 1, 1942, as the college was moving to the new campus, John Gray assumed the presidency.

In 1943, the college "graduated 68 in the first class of the greater institution dedicating the new \$1 million plant to the 'youths of tomorrow who will perpetuate the democratic principles for which our boys are now giving their lives,' said Judge J.M. Combs, president of the board of trustees and commencement speaker," according to a clipping from the collection.

In December 1946, the Lamar board of trustees decided to ask the Texas Legislature to make Lamar a four-year state college. The board was under no illusion



LU ARCHIVES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Herman Iles, left, joins others in taking the oath from Judge J.B. Morris as they are sworn in as the first board of the Lamar Union Junior College District in 1939.

that securing state support would be an easy task; no junior college in Texas had ever changed to state-supported senior college status.

In 1947, Iles, then in his second term as a trustee, was elected to head the board. He was honored that year among individuals and organizations for having contributed to the building of Lamar College.

President Gray, Iles and other members of the board, attorney J.B. Morris, area legislators and many other Southeast Texas citizens helped formulate and execute a plan to secure legislative approval. Early in the legislative session of 1947, a bill to make Lamar a state-supported senior college was introduced in the Texas House by Rep. Jack Brooks, a former Lamar student.

Supporters of the Lamar bill had planned and executed well; the measure secured the approval of the Texas Legislature. But the victory proved short lived. The bill contained an appropriation of \$1 million for new construction, but could go to the governor for signing only if the comptroller certified that sufficient revenue would be available. He did not, so the bill died. The planners returned to the Legislature the following year, and with the leadership of Rep. Brooks once again found success in both houses. Gov. Beauford Jester signed the bill on June 14, 1949, creating Lamar State College of Technology and ushering in a new era of higher education in Southeast Texas.



LU ARCHIVES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Certificate of appreciation presented to Herman Iles in 1949 in recognition of his service to Lamar College.

Herman Iles died Dec. 27, 1954, after a lengthy illness. In the region's newspapers, he was recognized as a civic leader and for his service to the university. In particular, he was remembered for his role in the organization of the union district for Lamar College and as "a leader in trans-

forming it into a four-year state school known as Lamar State College of Technology," according to a clipping from the collection.

by Brian Sattler

NAMES LIKE PIETZSCH, BINGMAN, GRAY AND McDONALD are well known from the early history of Lamar University, the days from its inception in 1923 as South Park Junior College to its heady growth in the post World War-II era. Less well known, but no less pivotal was the role of civic leader Herman Iles, the assistant purchasing agent for Magnolia Petroleum Co.'s Beaumont refinery.

By 1938, it was obvious that further expansion of Lamar College (as South Park Junior College had become known) would impose an unsustainable financial burden on the South Park Independent School District. Given a choice of finding a wider financial base for the college or of curtailing what appeared to a bright future, college and community leaders turned to the idea of an enlarged junior college district. A 1929 legislative act provided for the formation of such districts through the combination of contiguous public school districts. The only requirement was the approval of the majority of qualified voters of the proposed district.

Remembering...

To honor their father's memory, Dr. Reggie Iles and Clint Iles '58, made a generous gift to Lamar University. Reggie and his wife, Mary Ann, and Clint and his wife, Ann (Tucker) '62, directed their gift to Athletics and to the College of Engineering. The gift to both areas was unrestricted to be used by athletics and the college to further their missions.

"Unrestricted gifts advance the University by allowing the funds to be used for the greatest need of the area of designation," said President James Simmons. "Every area of the university has critical needs that cannot be covered by operating budgets. Unrestricted gifts are invaluable in meeting these needs."

Reggie and Mary Ann reside in Beaumont, and Clint and Mary reside in North Carolina.



Mary Ann, center, and Dr. Reggie Iles, seated, along with Clint '58 and Ann '62 Iles join President James Simmons, right, at a luncheon celebrating the family's gift to Lamar University.

BRIAN SATTLER

Teacher of teachers

WHEN GRACE (DAVIS) ENGLAND '55 began college, women's career choices were limited—teacher, nurse, secretary, homemaker. Fortunately, becoming a teacher was exactly what she had in mind.

England was among the first Lamar students to earn bachelor's degrees in elementary education. The lessons she learned at Lamar built a strong foundation for a career that has carried her from the elementary classroom to administrative offices to college lecture halls and educational consulting work around the globe.

"Lamar was just so supportive of me," England said. "Lamar has offered some phenomenally innovative approaches to education, to seeing that good teachers are out there in deaf education and all areas of education. I think that message needs to be told."

After graduating with high honors from Lamar, England taught at a Port Neches elementary school for six years. When she and her husband, Bill, who also attended Lamar, moved to Dallas, England discovered an area of interest that has stayed with her: A pilot program for children with neurological disorders needed a substitute teacher, and England was asked if she had any experience in the field. Thanks to Lamar, she did. As a Lamar student, England had been invited by a chemistry professor to observe and tutor his son, who had a neurological disability. That encounter first sparked her interest in the burgeoning field of special education, and her work as a substitute in Dallas solidified it. England went on to earn her master's degree at North Texas State University and her doctorate at Texas Woman's University, both in education. In 1975, she became director of special education in the Klein school district, at the time the fastest-growing district in the country.

"We were working with a new federal law and, at the same time, unprecedented growth in that district. Being a special

education administrator was very challenging, but the remarkable staff that we had made it seem possible," England said. The lessons in adaptability and resourcefulness she learned at Lamar also helped. England recalls with fondness the time faculty and classmates pulled together her senior year to raise money to send her to serve as a recorder for the International Association for Childhood Education conference in Kansas City. The fundraising luncheon was so successful that they were running short of chicken salad near the end of the event. A popular teacher from the speech and drama department, Crystal Canon, solved the problem by crumbling a box of Ritz crackers into what was left of the salad, England recalled.

"She stretched that salad beyond its means," England laughed. The memory surfaced many times during her years of administration when funds ran short and work remained to be done. "I would say, 'We need some Ritz crackers.' You have to make due with what you have," England said. "At Lamar, I learned a lot of very practical, wise strategies to use as a teacher and, later on, as an administrator. There was more than just book knowledge and theory in all my classes. I learned to work collaboratively with others."

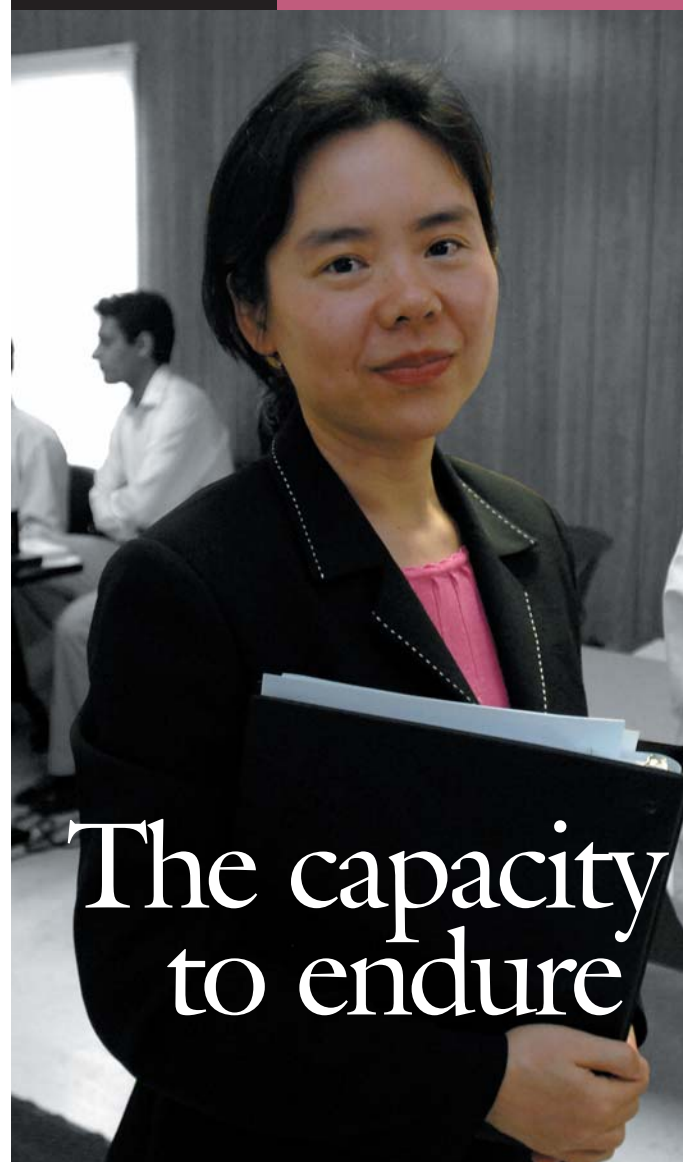
The trip to Kansas City her senior year also paid off in another way. When England stepped off the train at her destination, she had a surprise reunion with her brother, Otho Davis '57, who was stationed as an Army medic at nearby Fort Leavenworth. After completing his Army service, Davis finished his degree at Lamar and became a respected athletic trainer. As executive director of the National Athletic Trainers Association, Davis helped establish state certification requirements for athletic trainers. He worked for Duke University and the Baltimore Colts before spending 24 years with the Philadelphia Eagles. England has established a scholarship in her brother's memory at Lamar.

For the past 16 years, England has worked to educate a new generation of teachers by serving as a lecturer at University of St. Thomas in Houston. She is currently an adjunct lecturer there and is working as an educational consultant with the Spring Branch school district. She also hopes to work with Lamar's Department of Deaf Education and Deaf Studies to expand opportunities for the education of interveners to support students who are both deaf and blind.

England enjoys travel, both for professional conferences and personal enrichment. Visiting her adult children at times has meant worldwide travel. Two of her sons are electrical engineers whose job assignments have included locations in Australia, China, Mexico and Algeria. Her third son is a master electrician. Her daughter, a physical therapist who has taught the subject in Houston, Armenia and Vietnam, is also an avid traveler. England is thankful that all four children now live in the Houston area. She and Bill enjoy spending time with them, their eight grandchildren and their two great-grandchildren. —BG

BETH GALLAGHER

HELEN LOU University Scholar



industrial systems.

A Lamar faculty member since 2001, Lou is engaged in leading-edge work in sustainable manufacturing and expertly uses many modeling techniques. She is building a nationally recognized program in the frontier of sustainable manufacturing, but that is not the limit of her research interests. She also researches process systems engineering, life-cycle analysis/environmental accounting and high-performance computing.

"My objective is to empower engineers to develop sustainable products and processes to reduce resource use and minimize the adverse environmental impacts while maximizing the profitability," Lou said.

"She excels in every aspect of the

LEARNING HOW TO MEET SOCIETY'S PRESENT NEEDS without impinging on future generations is the goal of sustainability. It is, simply put, the capacity to endure. In manufacturing, it is a responsible and sustainable use of resources in processes continually improved through science and technology.

In the quest for sustainability, accurate and efficient computation models like those co-being pioneered by Helen Lou, associate professor of chemical engineering and Lamar's 2009 University Scholar, are helping aid engineers in understanding

scholar-teacher," said Jack Hopper, dean of the College of Engineering and executive assistant to the president for economic development and industrial relations. "She is, without question, one of the most productive and effective researchers to ever be in the College of Engineering at Lamar. She has consistently been at the forefront of proposals submitted and funded."

Lou has secured more than \$1.47 million in research grants as primary or co-primary investigator in 28 funded projects, said T.C. Ho, Regents' Professor and chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering. Six of those are from the National Science

Foundation (NSF), regarded as the nation's most prestigious science and engineering research funding agency, Ho noted.

Hopper said he believes Lou is the youngest faculty member at Lamar to receive a grant from the foundation, having first done so when she was 29. In 2007, the foundation appointed Lou to lead the United States delegation to an international conference in New Zealand.

Selection as University Scholar is Lamar's highest honor recognizing research and creative activity, said Stuart Wright, director of research in the office of Research and Sponsored Programs Administration. "The University Scholar Award honors a faculty member for his or her outstanding contribution to scholarship, research, grant writing and/or creative activity," Wright said. The award includes a \$5,000 grant to support future research activities.

In 2007, a chemical engineering student supervised by Lou earned the first doctor of philosophy to be conferred by Lamar.

In addition to teaching and service, said Ho, Lou's scholarly activities and accomplishments have been exceptional. "Her publication record is to be admired and respected," Hopper said. "Her service to the profession and to Lamar is exemplary for the level of activity and commitment." Her selection as University Scholar "will, no doubt, set the 'bar' for future selections at a very high level," he said.

Lou, a native of China, is active in professional organizations, most notably in the establishment and development of the Sustainability Engineering Forum within the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). She served the forum as programming chair, now serves as vice chair and will serve as chair in 2010-2011.

"I want to thank all of you who made this happen . . . my colleagues and collaborators and the strong leadership of our university," Lou said in accepting the award. "I also want to thank my students, and I wish all of them a bright future. Last but not least, I want to thank my family."

She and her husband, Michael, have a 1-year-old son, Richard. —BKS

BRIAN SATTLER

DreamMakers

Recently, alumni and friends have created more than 10 new scholarship endowments with an eye toward shaping the futures of our students in a postive way. We are grateful for their generous commitments that continue to help Lamar University students conquer the financial hurdles of a college education. Thank you for your vision and your generosity.



Named Scholarship Endowments

DR. WENDELL C. BEAN SCHOLARSHIP IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING | This scholarship was established by Hashem “Hash” Hashemian in honor of his dissertation advisor, Wendell Bean. Hashemian received his doctorate from Lamar in December 2008 and then returned to Knoxville, Tenn, where he is president of a company he co-founded, Analysis and Measurement Services Corp. Bean graduated from Lamar in 1955 with a degree in electrical engineering and mathematics. He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pittsburgh and worked as a senior engineer at the Westinghouse Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory before returning to Lamar in 1967 to serve as chair of the electrical engineering department.

STERLING CRIM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN MATHEMATICS | Sterling Crim, a native of Corsicana, was a lifelong scholar earning six degrees and, after retirement, continuing to study German and Spanish. Crim taught for 43 years at the junior high, high school, junior college and university levels. His last 31 years were at Lamar University, which included two years in Malaysia under an international teaching program. He also served his country during World War II in the Philippines. This scholarship for mathematics majors was established by his wife of 53 years, Mary Louise. The Crims had two children, Kathryn and Randy.

DR. IRVING O. DAWSON SCHOLARSHIP IN POLITICAL SCIENCE | Dawson served as professor in the political science department at Lamar University from 1951 to 1971 and was department chair from 1960 to 1971. He became the chair of the political science department in 1971 at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he worked until his retirement. He still resides in Arlington. He amassed an impressive body of research related to the field of public administration; co-authored *Governing Texas*, a widely used college textbook; and held several federal government positions. This scholarship was established in his honor by former student David J. Beck for political science majors.

DR. OPAL P. DIXON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN EDUCATION | Opal Dixon, a faculty member at Lamar University, was encouraged early on by her husband, John, to go to college. She entered Lamar

University in 1989, 15 years after graduating from high school, and graduated with high honors while raising two children. Her degree in education landed her a teaching position with Nederland school district. She returned to Lamar and worked on a master’s degree while teaching full time. In fall 2002, Dixon began work on her doctoral degree and came to work at Lamar University in the College of Education as the director of the student teacher program. After completing her doctorate in fall 2007, she became a full-time assistant professor. In October of that year, she was diagnosed with cancer and worked full time until Sept. 29, 2008. She died just 12 days later. This interdisciplinary studies scholarship was established in her memory by her husband, her children and her many friends and family.

FIRST FIDELITY RESERVE FUTURE OF AMERICA SCHOLARSHIP | First Fidelity Reserve has established the Future of America Scholarship as an extension of its education and student work initiative programs. The scholarship is designed for all majors who have graduated from high schools in Jefferson, Orange or Hardin counties. First Fidelity Reserve is a Beaumont-based precious metals and rare coins company that is locally owned and operated but serves rare coin collectors nationwide as well as precious metals investors who are seeking portfolio diversification. President and General Manager Jason Whitney, his wife, Jessica, and their family are major contributors to Southeast Texas and are excited to assist Lamar University in building future leaders through this scholarship.

DOROTHY PIERCE (STAFFORD) GEERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES | Geers was in the first graduating class of Lamar State College of Technology in 1953. She received her bachelor’s degree in home economics and completed a master’s in elementary education in 1970. Geers was an avid volunteer, assisting future teachers through Lamar’s student teacher program and mentoring one student who later became a Beaumont school superintendent. This scholarship for family and consumer science majors was established by her husband, Arthur E. Geers, in memory of his wife, who died in October 2007.

FRED HARTMAN AND JOHN BLAIR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP | Fred Hartman and John Blair met in 1971 when Gov. Preston Smith appointed Blair to fill Lt. Gov.-elect Bill Hobby’s unexpired term on the Texas Air Control Board, of which Hartman was already a long-standing member. Their common interests forged a strong and enduring friendship. Hartman began his career as a sportswriter and eventually became the editor and publisher of the Baytown Sun. Blair was a prominent businessman in Hardin County as the owner of Kountze Insurance Agency and engaged in property and timber investment and management. Blair also served on the John Gray Foundation as chairman until his death. During his tenure, the John Gray Institute was created. This scholarship was established in loving memory of Fred Hartman and John Blair by Blair’s daughter, Frances Bethea and her husband, Sam Bethea. The scholarship will benefit a print journalism student who is interning at a newspaper.

BETTY KUBALA SCHOLARSHIP IN NURSING | Betty Fertitta Kubala graduated from Lamar in 1957 with a bachelor’s degree in medical technology. Immediately after graduation, she married Mark Kubala and supported her family while he was a medical resident. Betty and Mark have three sons and one daughter. In 1966, Mark established a private neurological surgery practice in Beaumont. Betty is an active community volunteer and activist, having served as president of the Kelly Catholic High School Foundation and as treasurer for Some Other Place, where she is now an honorary board member. She also gives her time to the Julie Rogers “Gift of Life” program and the cancer center at Christus Hospital St. Elizabeth. Betty has survived several medical conditions, and, although these events have altered her life, she continues to enhance the lives of those around her. This scholarship was established in her honor by her husband, Mark.

COACH JOHN PAYTON SCHOLARSHIP | Coach John Payton’s career at Lamar University spans 38 years. He came to Lamar in 1970 as an assistant football and track coach after a 14-year career at the high school level. He was the first African-American coach in any sport at Lamar. Payton’s impact on race relations has been enormous. For many students, Payton was their first teacher of another race. His knowledge, skill and preparation, combined with an attitude of love and consideration for all, have made Payton an icon for the Health and Kinesiology Department. Inducted into the Prairie View A&M

Athletic Hall of Fame and the Lamar University Cardinal Hall of Honor, he also holds honors in the Prairie View A&M Interscholastic League Hall of Honor, the Southeast Texas Coaches Association Hall of Honor and the State of Texas Distinguished Service Award for basketball officials. In 2005, Payton was inducted into the Texas Black Sport Hall of Fame. This scholarship for health and kinesiology majors was established by students and friends of Payton.

CYNTHIA BOOKER WEST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN ART | A 1984 graphic design graduate of Lamar University, Cynthia (Booker) West died in 1999 of breast cancer. She was a loving mother and wife to her husband, Roy West Jr. ’83, and her two children, Whitney, a junior at Lamar, and Evan, who entered Lamar in fall 2009. This scholarship was started by her parents, Jimmy ’56 and Merle (Merritt) Booker ’59; husband, Roy; brother and sister-in-law Bryan and Anita Booker; sister and brother-in-law, Sherrie ’81 and Jeff Branick –81; and her aunt Margie Booker Gray. They have all contributed to honor and memorialize Cynthia’s life through this scholarship that will help art majors at Lamar realize their dream of a college education.

Endowed Scholarship Giving Levels

MIRABEAU
\$300,000

REGENTS
\$100,000

PRESIDENTIAL
\$50,000

NAMED
SCHOLARSHIPS
\$15,000

Presidential Scholarships

MARIE CONCETTA CLONINGER PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN THEATRE | A native of Beaumont, Concetta graduated from Lamar Junior College in 1938 and was then awarded a scholarship to the Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts where she graduated cum laude in 1941. Her acting career took her to New York City where she acted in plays and worked at the National Broadcasting Co. while also modeling. When the Beaumont Community Players was reorganized in 1947, Concetta directed her first play and met her husband, Morris, when she cast him for one of the roles. In addition to her love of acting, she has worked as a legal secretary and is a published author. *From Calabria, Italy, to Beaumont, Texas, U.S.A.* details her grandparents emigration from Italy and is fondly referred to as the “Mazzu Bible.” The Cloningers raised one son and three daughters. This scholarship was established by a bequest from her husband, who died in December 2008.

To begin your own scholarship endowment or to add a gift to an existing scholarship, please contact the Lamar University Foundation at (409) 880-2117.

Pursuing victory

In his students' eyes,
Coach John Payton is always
Coach of the Year.



by Larry Acker

One of the fondest memories in the 39-year career of coach and educator John Payton was the 18-17 win over the top-ranked Baylor Bears in 1981 at Cardinal Stadium. Larry Kennan was the Cardinals' head coach at the time. Payton would eventually serve as assistant coach for four Cardinal head coaches before hanging up his own coach's whistle in 1982.

A two-time All-American running back at Prairie View A&M University, Payton still holds the distinction of second all-time leading rusher in school history. He played basketball and ran track for the Panthers and earned All-Academic Athletic Team honors in 1955. The 1952 graduate of Dunbar High School in Livingston earned the bachelor's and master's degrees at Prairie View before embarking upon an impressive coaching career.

"I was drafted by the Chicago Bears, but an injury kept me from playing pro football," he said. "That injury ended my football career. So, I decided to do the next best thing, and that was to coach."

He began his career at Scott High School in Woodville, where he posted back-to-back state championships in 1957 and 1958, compiling an amazing 77-7 record. After one year as a head coach at Dunbar Junior High School in Beaumont, he spent the next 11 years at Beaumont's Charlton-Pollard High School as head coach for the basketball and track teams and offensive coordinator for the football program. His basketball teams won a district championship in 1962 and a state championship in 1964. His track squads were successful as well, winning University Interscholastic League district and regional championships.

Payton joined the Lamar University coaching staff in 1970 as the running backs coach, the first black coach in university history, at the urging of then-athletics director J.B. Higgins. He split time between the football and track programs as an assistant coach. During his first year coaching track, the Cardinals won the Southland Conference championship. In his second year as coach, they tied for the conference crown.

"I was a little apprehensive about making the move to coaching in the college ranks," he confided. "I had never coached white players, and I didn't know what to expect. But, every year, things just kept getting better as the players began to realize you knew your business and were there to help them succeed."

After a successful 1981 campaign, head coach Larry Kennan left the Cardinals for the pro ranks, and Payton stepped in during spring workouts as interim head coach. Ken Stephens was eventually tapped to lead the Cardinals and immediately named Payton his assistant head coach. The 1982 season would be his last year coaching on the grid-

iron, and, after more than 25 years, he retired from coaching to focus his attention on the classroom. Serving as associate professor in the department of health and kinesiology, Payton has recently been honored by his colleagues with a named endowed scholarship.

"For many students in Southeast Texas who were enrolled at Lamar in the '70s, he was their first teacher of color, and his impact on race relations at Lamar has been enormous," said Bernadette Moore, assistant



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“Coach Payton has been more than a teacher and coach for many students who have been under his wings. He has been a mentor and surrogate father to students at Lamar and Charlton-Pollard . . . Coach Payton taught me about having the capacity to do things that I thought I couldn't do.”

—SPENCER CHARLTON '76

professor in health and kinesiology and a member of the scholarship committee. "This is the first scholarship to be offered in the department, and we thank Coach Payton for allowing us the honor of establishing the scholarship in his name."

Laurie Ritchel, associate director for development, assisted in setting up the scholarship fund for the health and kinesiology department. Often, named scholarships take many months or sometimes years to

reach the threshold of becoming endowed. But the Coach John Payton Scholarship fund took off like a rocket, with donations pouring in from colleagues, businesses and organizations who had worked with Payton and even his former students. According to Ritchel, most of the donation forms that came into the development office had personal notes of admiration, love and praise for Coach Payton. She said his has been the named scholarship to reach endowed status fastest in recent memory.

During his career, Payton has been inducted into numerous halls of fame, including the Prairie View A&M Athletics Hall of Fame, Prairie View A&M Interscholastic League Hall of Fame and the Southeast Texas Coaches Association Hall of Honor. In 2003, he was inducted into the Cardinal Hall of Honor, and, in 2005, he was honored as an inductee into the Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame. He also received the State of Texas Distinguished Service Award for basketball officials.

"I really appreciated the award for officiating, probably more than any other award I've received," he said. "When you're officiating, you try to be as fair as possible to everyone in all circumstances. This award, to me, is an acknowledgement by my peers of being fair and impartial throughout my many years of officiating. That's a good feeling."

His most recent award came in 2008 when he earned the Lamar University Merit Award.

With recipients selected by a university-wide committee from nominees from each college, the award recognizes outstanding classroom performance and excellent interactions with students.

"Students who have taken John Payton's classes praise his expertise, his accessibility and his attention to their personal needs," said Hollis Lowery-Moore, dean of the College of Education and Human Development.

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BRIAN SATTLER

Engineering excellence

by Louise Wood

As an engineer and as a teacher, Ku-yen Li is changing the world. He works with industry in his hometown and around the world to produce chemicals that are safer, better for the environment and more cost-effective. And he is passing his expertise and devotion to the field of chemical engineering to generations of Lamar students.

"I am amazed at the influence of education, and I also feel proud of our students," Li said. "For example, a student changed the traditional insulin injection into mouth dosage by using molecular diffusion theory he had learned from my class."

As a professor in the Dan F. Smith Department of Chemical Engineering, Li has served Lamar University more than 30 years. Lamar honored him as the 2009 University Professor, the university's most prestigious faculty honor, awarded for life to recognize an outstanding senior professor for academic excellence. President James Simmons conferred the medallion of University Professor presented "as a lasting symbol of this high honor and esteemed title."

Soon after accepting the medallion, he was off to Taiwan where he is leading a "flare minimization" research group to work with the chemical industry in the Asia-Pacific area, including Taiwan, Malaysia and China, to promote safety, economic and environmental impacts. He is doing so under a one-year developmental leave.

Li has worked with the United States chemical industry on flare minimization for many years, presenting the results at international conferences. "Several chemical companies in Asia showed their interests," he said. "I believe the experiences here will benefit the U.S. chemical industry."

Li selected National Cheng-Kung University as a base for the research because it is his alma mater. He was born and educated in Taiwan before coming to the United States, where he earned his Ph.D. from Mississippi State University. His interests lie in both fundamental theory and industry applications.

"I love molecules (chemicals), reaction and purification, which is the heart of the chemical engineering field," he said.

Li was department chair for seven years, led the effort to gain Lamar's only Ph.D. program, worked to maintain accreditation from ABET Inc. (formerly the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) and guided the master's program to national prominence.

He and his fellow investigators have received more than \$2.6 million in external funding for 20 projects. These funds have supported dozens of graduate students.

"His touch of excellence is apparent throughout the chemical engineering program in the courses he has taught, the leadership he has provided, the faculty he has hired, the research he has conducted, the relations he has cultivated with industry and, in big ways and small, the students he has educated," said Stephen Doblin, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Li has supervised almost 50 graduate students and has advised and directed hundreds of undergraduates. Last year, Li received a two-year National Science Foundation teaching grant to improve Lamar's chemical engineering curriculum and align it with industry practices.

His honors include the Outstanding Educator Award from the American Institute of Chemical Engineering, Texas-Sabine Section; the Amoco Outstanding Teaching Award; and the University Teaching Excellence Award from Lamar. Li is a long-standing member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineering, holding several offices. He is a member of the American Chemical Society, Blue Key, Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society and Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society of America. His wife, Sherry, retired from Texaco and is an instructor of chemistry at Lamar. They have two children, Joey, 32, and Joanna, 26.

"Dr. Li is an outstanding professor who has devoted his entire career to Lamar University," said T.C. Ho, chair and professor of chemical engineering. "He is recognized as an effective and knowledgeable instructor who sets high standards and is remembered by his students long after they graduate."

Meritorious service

Lamar University honored four junior faculty members with 2009 University Merit Awards in recognition of scholarship, service, classroom performance and interaction with students.

PAUL BERNAZZANI

Assistant professor of chemistry and physics

Ph.D. from University of Quebec in Trois-Rivieres, master's from University of Quebec in Montreal, bachelor's from University of Montreal . . . Web sites, engaging experiments, new courses and commitment to research contribute to his success . . . founder of Lamar's Society of Plastics Engineers' student section, cultivating academic interests of students . . . recipient of scholarship and operational funds to promote polymer research among students . . . resume includes articles, papers, research presentations and external support totaling more than \$100,000, including a prestigious Advanced Research Program grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

"Paul is a very good classroom teacher, whose courses are rigorous and demanding. Even though his classes are difficult, he is well liked by his students because he is always well prepared, patient and accessible."
— KEITH HANSEN, chair, Department of Chemistry and Physics.

ASHRAF EL-HOUBI

Assistant professor of information systems and analysis

Ph.D. from University of Wyoming, master's from Iowa State and Kansas State universities and bachelor's from Al-Fateh University in Tripoli . . . developed new course materials, assigned student projects and employed the latest statistical software and technologies . . . created an online course, guest-lectured in colleagues' classes and has been involved in Lamar's annual Education Research Conference . . . solid research foundation, with articles and presentations to local, regional and national professional groups to his credit . . . member of many college committees and has a strong record of professional service . . . faculty sponsor of Lamar's Muslim Student Association.

"He has made difficult concepts easy to learn by emphasizing real-life business problems and by bringing into class projects which involve interpretation of the results and processes of statistics."
— KAKOLI BANDYOPADHYAY, chair, Department of Information Systems and Analysis.

XIANCHANG LI

Assistant professor of mechanical engineering

Ph.D. from Clemson University, bachelor's and master's from Tsinghai University in Beijing, post-doctoral studies at Lehigh University . . . thermodynamics and energy management are areas of expertise, working with undergraduates on wind power and related sources of

clean, renewable energy . . . employs a teaching style that complements Web-enhanced and multimedia class materials . . . served as a National Science Foundation proposal reviewer, an honor received by few young faculty

members . . . primary or co-primary investigator of 12 projects totaling almost \$2 million with support from the National Science Foundation, Department of Defense and Texas Space Grant Consortium.

"Dr. Li has participated in a variety of scholarship and creative activities, including research proposals, funded research projects, journal articles and conferences. He has excellent credentials in teaching, service and scholarship."

— HSING-WEI CHU, chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering.

WEIHANG ZHU

Assistant professor of industrial engineering

Ph.D. from North Carolina State University, bachelor's and master's from Zhejiang University in China . . . described as a "work horse" for the industrial engineering department . . . areas of expertise include manufacturing and haptics (technology that interfaces with the user through the sense of touch) . . . is organizing a symposium on advanced process planning for American Society of Mechanical Engineers' International Manufacturing Science and Engineering Conference at Purdue University in October 2009 . . . used engineering education grant from the National Science Foundation to improve core engineering courses . . . revised and updated engineering laboratories, employing latest technologies . . . serves on Department of Industrial Engineering Advisory Council.

"Dr. Zhu has been very productive in our teaching program . . . He is constantly improving teaching methods and course content."

— VICTOR ZALOOM, chair, Department of Industrial Engineering.



Ashraf El-Houbi, Weihang Zhu, Xianchang Li and Paul Bernazzani



2008-2009 Faculty Senate President Terri Davis presents President Simmons a plaque of appreciation.

McSpadden joins LU in planned giving

Floyd McSpadden of Beaumont joined the advancement division as director of planned giving June 1.

As director, McSpadden provides leadership in the area of planned giving on behalf of Lamar University and the Lamar University Foundation. He will provide constituents with information on charitable giving opportunities, including gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, bequests, life insurance and retirement benefits.

"Floyd has contributed greatly to the university in voluntary service with the LU Foundation and Friends of the Arts. Now, his legacy at Lamar will grow even more though this expanded role," said Camille Mouton, vice president for advancement at Lamar.

McSpadden has been an attorney with Benckenstein, Norvell & Nathan since 1989. He has been board certified in estate planning and probate law since 1994 and has been a member of the College of the State Bar of Texas. He is a member of the Real Estate, Probate & Trust Section of the State Bar of Texas.

"Floyd's expertise in estate planning and probate law will be a real asset to our team," said Janice Trammell, executive director of the Lamar University Foundation.

McSpadden has served in numerous leadership positions in Southeast Texas including president of the Lamar University Foundation, the Rotary Club of Beaumont, the Symphony of Southeast Texas, Three Rivers Council-Boy Scouts of America and as chair of the board of trustees for First United Methodist Church of Beaumont.



FLOYD McSPADDEN

Simmons earns educational leadership award

President James Simmons received the Chief Executive Leadership Award from District 4 of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), which includes Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Mexico.

The Chief Executive Leadership Awards were created in 1999 to recognize leaders of CASE-member institutions for outstanding efforts to promote understanding and support of education. Nominees must demonstrate the ability to create a vision and inspire others and must establish a positive image for their institution while leading it to even higher levels of success.

Simmons received the award April 5 during the annual district conference in Oklahoma City, at which he also delivered the keynote address. Simmons has been president of Lamar since 1999.



"A team builder who puts students first, he has transformed the university from tough times to highly successful times," wrote Dan E. Smith, former CEO of Lyondell and a graduate of Lamar, in a letter recommending Simmons for the honor. "You need look no further than the Southeast corner of Texas to find world-class leadership."

This past May, the Faculty Senate honored Simmons by hosting a reception thanking him for 10 years of leadership.

Faced with falling enrollment for more than a dozen years when he accepted the presidency, Simmons has seen Lamar's enrollment grow 64 percent in the past decade despite the impacts of two major hurricanes. Lamar's enrollment of 13,485 in spring 2009 was the largest in Lamar's 85-year history. Under his direction, Lamar has added numerous academic programs, including three new doctoral programs and its first Ph.D. program. He has steadily improved the campus with systematic renovations of academic buildings and the construction of new residence halls for 2,000 students, a state-of-the-art recreational sports center and dining hall.

Lamar's athletics programs have grown with the addition of women's soccer and, soon, the return of football after a 20-year absence. Simmons initiated Lamar's first comprehensive campaign, already raising more than \$58 million toward a goal of \$100 million. During the past decade the Lamar endowments almost tripled, from \$22 million to more than \$65 million.

Master of Science in Health Promotion offered

The Department of Health and Kinesiology has introduced a new Master of Science Degree in Health Promotion. The online degree program, which begins this fall, is a comprehensive examination of community health theory, including research and practice in health promotion program assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation.

With a curriculum focusing on subject areas such as epidemiology and disease statistics, students are introduced to an all-inclusive field of study that prepares them for employment opportunities with health-related international, government, community and non-profit organizations, such as the American Red Cross, Centers for Disease Control, American Cancer Society, corporate wellness centers, and state, county and municipal health departments.

Offering convenience and flexibility, it is the first degree program offered completely online by the department. Barbara Hernandez, graduate coordinator for the department, said the program's accessibility allows students who live out of state or are deployed overseas to remain enrolled in their classes. More information is available by contacting Hernandez at (409) 880-7725 barbara.hernandez@lamar.edu or by visiting dept.lamar.edu/healthkin.



BARBARA HERNANDEZ

Appropriation increases 28.5 percent

With the signing of Senate Bill 1 into law June 19, Gov. Rick Perry provided a balanced budget for the 2010-2011 biennium, funding key priorities from higher education to job creation to border security.

During the two-year period, Lamar University will receive \$118.5 million in state appropriations, which includes \$86.6 million in general revenue. The appropriation is up 26.5 percent over the last biennium, and the general revenue portion is up 28.5 percent.

"It was a good legislative session for Lamar thanks to the support of our strong legislative delegation and the continuing commitment of the state to higher education," said President James Simmons.

Lamar will receive \$2.5 million in institutional enhancement funding and \$2.8 million in supplemental appropriations for costs due to Hurricane Ike. Lamar's Higher Education Assistance Funds for the biennium total \$16.3 million and allow purchase of land, construction, repair or rehabilitation of buildings and other permanent improvements, acquisition of capital equipment, and library books and materials.



Tuition assistance program announced

Lamar University is providing tuition assistance for spouses and dependent children of its employees beginning with the fall 2009 semester. The university is continuing its employee education and training plan that provides employees with assistance in obtaining additional college-level education and training, said Kevin Smith, senior associate provost.

The LU Tuition Assistance Program, or LUTAP, covers family members of full-time employees, whether they are members of the staff or faculty. All courses must apply and be credited toward Lamar University degrees.



The Department of Earth and Space Sciences has a detailed, 16-foot panoramic photograph of Bolivar Peninsula on display showing the devastation wrought by Hurricane Ike. The photograph is on permanent display on the second floor of the LU Geology Building. Composed of 54 separate aerial photographs taken by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the photo shows the upper Texas coast between High Island and Crystal Beach the day after Ike passed over the peninsula.



DOROTHY SISK

Sisk named Distinguished Faculty Lecturer

The 2009 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer is Dorothy Sisk, professor of professional pedagogy. Sisk holds the Conn Chair for Gifted Education in the College of Education and Human Development.

Making Great Kids Greater: Easing the Burden of Being Gifted will be the topic of her

lecture, sponsored by ExxonMobil, to be presented at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 2 in the University Theatre.

A 20-year veteran of the Lamar faculty, Sisk is the 23rd recipient of the honor—one of the highest accorded a Lamar faculty member.

“This lecture will address the unique perception of gifted students and suggest ways that great kids can become greater, thus easing the burden of being gifted,” Sisk said. “A gifted kid with the mental maturity of a 14-year-old and the physical maturity of an 8-year-old faces enormous emotional and social challenges. Gifted students may appear to be great kids and well-adjusted, receiving good grades in school, but they may suffer from feelings of inadequacy because their successes fall short of their ideals.”

When she accepted the Conn Chair in 1989, Sisk brought a wealth of experience in education for gifted and talented students, ranging from teaching in public schools to service in Washington, D.C., as director of the Office of Gifted and Talented Education and as professor of special education and coordinator of teacher training in gifted education at the University of South Florida.

She is an accomplished researcher and prolific author in pedagogy for gifted and talented students and has spoken all over the world. Sisk also has been project director for significant educational initiatives, receiving federal and state grants totaling \$10,119,500 from 1990 to 2009. These grants have supported programs and research with gifted and talented students and their teachers.

Sisk’s topic parallels that of her 2009 book, *Making Great Kids Better: Easing the Burden of Being Gifted*. She spoke on the topic to the International Reading Association in May in Minneapolis and in August in Vancouver, Canada, before the World Council for the Gifted and Talented, an organization representing more than 55 member countries.



Stewart, Pate, Tran, Solis, Brodnax

Five honored as Distinguished Staff

Five Lamar University employees earned Distinguished Staff Awards at Lamar’s annual staff recognition program this spring organized by the Staff Senate. President James Simmons presented the Distinguished Staff Awards to **Diann Brodnax** of Orange, coordinator of advising in the Department of Developmental Studies; **Charla Pate**, Port Neches, Web specialist with the division of academic affairs; **Patrick Stewart**, Beaumont, manager of network services for the Department of Infrastructure and Security Services; **Henrietta Solis**, Nederland, executive assistant to Kevin Smith, senior associate provost; and **Tuyet Tran**, Nederland, director of records.

Open House dates set

High school and transfer students will be able to choose from three Saturday open houses in the upcoming academic year to gain an overview of the opportunities at Lamar.

Fall Academic Open Houses are scheduled for Sept. 26 and Nov. 21. These events are designed to allow high-ability students to explore the generous scholarship opportunities and excellent academic programs offered at LU. Spring Open House is scheduled for Feb. 27, 2010. This event will cover all aspects of college life from academics to financial aid to campus organizations and activities.

Prospective students who wish to be placed on the mailing list to receive more information about these and other events may contact the Recruiting Office by phone at (409) 880-8316 or by e-mail at recruitment@lamar.edu.

At the podium



JOHN SAGE

Bridges to Life founder featured entrepreneurial speaker

John Sage, founder and executive director of “Bridges to Life,” a prison rehabilitation program, was guest speaker at the Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies April 7. Sage discussed the business of rehabilitating inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice System and explained how “Bridges to Life” has become one of the most successful private rehabilitation programs contracted by TDCJ.

Engineering hosts Entergy Texas CEO

The College of Engineering hosted **Joe Domino** ’75, president and chief executive officer of Entergy Texas as the guest speaker for its spring 2009 All College of Engineering Seminar April 28.

Domino, who earned a master’s in engineering science from Lamar and was named a distinguished alumnus in 2005, spoke to students on “what you did not learn in engineering that you need to be successful in industry.”



JOE DOMINO

\$4 million appropriated for fuel cell research

Lamar’s Advanced Fuel Cell project has received \$4 million in federal funding in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for 2010.

“I am proud to announce this funding for Lamar University and my continued support of this important research project. This project is important not only to the university and Southeast Texas, but also to the advancement of our nation’s renewable energy technology,” said U.S. Rep. Poe, who worked to secure the funding.

The Advanced Fuel Cell project is designed to develop, test and validate technologies necessary to enable lightweight, power-efficient, environmentally clean and cost-effective renewable energy technology and products for Army space and missile defense systems, as well as border, port and chemical facility surveillance. In addition to this year’s funding, Poe secured \$3 million in FY 2009 and \$2.4 million in FY 2008.

CPA chapter honors Lamar accounting, business law students and faculty

The Southeast Texas Chapter of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA) has honored several students and faculty in the Department of Accounting and Business Law. **Cornelia Lyons** of Houston was the recipient of the Accounting Excellence Award. **Melissa Henry** of Port Neches received the Southeast Texas Chapter of TSCPA Endowed Scholarship. The chapter awarded scholarships to

Elizabeth Bryan and **Nisha Dayama** of Beaumont, **Jennifer Do** of Port Arthur and **Whitney Winder** of Orange.



Ann Watkins, chair of the Department of Accounting and Business Law, presents the SET TSCPA Endowed Scholarship to Melissa Henry.



Provost Steve Doblin with two East China University administrators

LU partners with China university

Lamar University welcomed several administrators from East China University of Science and Technology to campus recently to develop a partnership and exchange program between the two schools.

The Shanghai university is considered one of the top engineering schools in China. Its president, Xuhong Qian, was a post-doctoral fellow in chemistry at Lamar University in 1989-90.

Three undergraduate chemical engineering students from the university just completed an academic year at Lamar. “From Lamar’s point of view, it’s valuable and beneficial to both programs,” said Thomas Ho, chair of chemical engineering at Lamar. “It attracts good students who raise the level of competition in the classroom. It also provides opportunities for these students to attend our graduate program after they receive a bachelor’s degree from East China University of Science and Technology.”

This summer, LU sent its first student to Shanghai to study. Rajiv Jaini, a chemical engineering major from Baytown, will assist a professor at East China with research on surfactants.

Center conducts studies

Students in the master of public administration program presented findings and recommendations regarding the revitalization of historic downtown Silsbee during a community forum May 20 at the Silsbee Chamber of Commerce.

The Lamar University Center for Public Policy Studies, at the invitation of the Silsbee Economic Development Corp., coordinated a study for the purpose of making recommendations for the revitalization of historic downtown Silsbee, said James Vanderleeuw, director of the center. Student teams were involved in numerous aspects of the multi-part project.

The center, in collaboration with the Substance Abuse Division of the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, also conducted a regional survey on alcohol and marijuana use. Southeast Texans rank alcohol use and marijuana use as the dominant problems among teenagers, survey results showed. The survey also covered pregnancy, violence, truancy and tobacco use.



Beyond the classroom

Students earn top honors . . . In competition at the 2009 Texas Water Conference in April in Galveston, three students earned top honors and had an opportunity to discuss current issues regarding the wastewater field. **Jerry Lin**, faculty advisor and associate professor of civil engineering, led the team. **Qianzhen Xie** and **Ruolin Zhang** both of

China, and **Sehul Patel** of India, won second place in the design contest. They presented a thorough nutrient removal plan to meet the 2015 discharge standard for a plant treating 162 million gallons per day of municipal wastewater. With the win, the team brought back a \$650 award, part of which will be used toward membership fees for the Water Environment Association of Texas. "To receive an award among hundreds of people who are actually professionals working in the wastewater field for 15-20 years, is really a proud moment for me as a Lamar University student," said Patel . . .

Students enter competition with car they designed, built . . . Seven mechanical engineering students designed and built an off-road vehicle to compete with students across the country and beyond in the Society of Automotive Engineers Collegiate Design Series – Baja SAE Alabama competition hosted by Auburn University. LU's mini baja team was one of 100 teams from five countries. Team members are **Josh Durham** of Bridge City; **Tyler Hamilton**, Nederland; **Jeremey Hayes**, Fannett; **Cody Heironimus**, Fannett; **Brent Klima**, Vidor; **Jeff Ratliff**, Lumberton; and **Caleb Riu**, Port Neches . . . **Gospel choir reaches 25th anniversary** . . . The award-winning Psalm 150 Gospel Choir marked a 25th anniversary with its annual youth and young adult gospel music retreat in July. With a theme of "Access Granted: Spiritual Reality Edition," the retreat enhanced the musical abilities of young ministers of music, vocal performers and musicians by teaching music theory and techniques such as direct-



FREDDIE TITUS



ing and solo/choral performance. Since its inception in 1984, more than 2,000 youth from across the country have attended, said **Freddie Titus**, retreat director and instructor of mathematics at Lamar . . . **China trip enhances education for MBA students . . .** MBA students immersed themselves in Chinese culture and broadened their understanding of international business this summer during the 10-day trip . . .



MATT MCCALLON

McCallon earns scholarship . . . The College of Business selected **Matt McCallon** of Buna as the William G. McGowan Scholar for 2009-2010. "I work a part-time job and study hard to succeed in school and my professional development," said McCallon. "The scholarship relieves a lot of the financial burden that would be placed upon my family." The scholarship is the only full-tuition scholarship available in the College of Business, said Enrique "Henry" Venta, dean of the College of Business and professor of management. Funded by the William G. McGowan Charitable Fund, it is only awarded to business students at select colleges and universities nationwide . . . **Students complete legislative internships** . . . Four students participated in the Texas Legislative Internship Program during the legislative session that ended June 1. **Morris Williams** of Arlington, **Curtis Smith** of Beaumont, **Melinda Griffith** of Bridge City and **Dimetrius Holland** of Longview were awarded stipends to participate in Texas' premier internship program and received academic credit from Lamar's political science department. The Beaumont Foundation of America provided \$35,000 to enable the students to participate . . .

First Mirabeau Scholar graduates . . . **Jill Hamilton**, a Port Neches native, completed her bachelor of science in mathematics in three years and is a member of Lamar's inaugural class of Mirabeau Scholars. She is considering a career in education and plans to pursue a master of science in mathematics from Lamar. During her second year at Lamar, she assisted in research on abstract algebra with graph theory



JILL HAMILTON

Community Outreach Program earns top awards

The Community Outreach Program recently received two prestigious awards recognizing the organization for its work in the community. The Internal Revenue Service's Community Service Leadership Award and President's Volunteer Service Award honor the program's commitment to empowering families with the knowledge and skills needed to achieve personal, social and economic independence and enhance the communities in which they live.

The Community Service Leadership Award acknowledged the program's volunteer work during the 2009 tax season. The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes the program's work in addressing the needs of the community, specifically in the areas of health, housing, finances and education. Elton Payne is program manager.



ELTON PAYNE

LU provides base for student explorations

Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp

Fifty area middle school students participated in the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp. Lamar was one of 30 campuses nationwide to host the camp, which aims to attract middle school students to math and science fields. The two-week residential camp offers hands-on, real-world, lab activities to enhance middle school students' knowledge in science, technology, engineering and mathematics while encouraging youth to stay in school and develop their leadership potential and citizenship skills.



Hands-on computing INSPIRED

Lamar hosted three computing academies for middle and high school students recently with the support of a National Science Foundation Broadening Participation in Computing grant, said Peggy Doerschuk, professor of computer science. INSPIRED (Increasing Student Participation In Research Development) seeks to increase the number of U. S. women and

minorities who earn computing degrees to help meet the demand for computing professionals in today's high-tech society. INSPIRED supports teams of Lamar undergraduates as they perform research and outreach under the direction of Lamar's computer science faculty.



Future teachers gain perspective

Nearly 150 high school students interested in becoming teachers visited campus in May for "A Celebration of Teaching." This event, sponsored by an ExxonMobil grant and hosted by the College of Education and Human Development, introduced Lamar faculty and provided students with admissions and scholarship information. Students heard presentations such as "Nuts and Bolts of Teaching" and "Teaching Around the World."

Nightingale Experience preps future nurses

Fifty high school students from 18 area schools visited campus and CHRISTUS Hospital St. Elizabeth and St. Mary June 12 and 13 to learn first hand about the medical profession. Participants practiced nursing skills in the JoAnne Gay Dishman Department of Nursing and at St. Mary and St. Elizabeth.



Teachers gain lab and field time

Middle school science teachers in Southeast Texas took the opportunity to boost their knowledge of earth and space sciences, thanks to a \$190,000 Teacher Quality grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Lamar professors Dorothy Sisk, Conn Chair for Gifted Education, and Jim Westgate, University Professor of earth and space sciences, were awarded the grant to fund Project Earth Science Explorations for sixth- through eighth-grade science teachers. "The grant provides funds to enhance content knowledge in the earth and space sciences through both classroom and outdoor field experiences," Westgate said. Texas science standards require that at least 40 percent of science classroom time be lab or field activities.



Science teachers experience environment

Seventeen Southeast Texas science teachers explored the wonder of the natural world and the environmental challenges it faces as the Department of Earth and Space Sciences hosted the 14th annual Teaching Environmental Science summer institute.

The 10-day field institute is offered in conjunction with the Region 5 Science Collaborative and 24 local industries, state and federal agencies, and environmental non-governmental organizations. Participants in the graduate-level, summer course included teachers from Beaumont, Hardin, Jasper, Kirbyville, Kountze, Liberty, Port Arthur, Sam Rayburn, Silsbee, Tarkington and Woodville.

The teachers will explore environmental topics such as industrial, agricultural and domestic wastes and emissions that affect the Neches, Trinity and Sabine River watersheds and air sheds.



A voice before... and after... the storm

by Rush Wood

ON THE VERY DAY GARY STELLY '90 became the owner of KOGT Radio in Orange, Hurricane Andrew crossed the state of Florida and headed into the Gulf of Mexico.

"It was predicted that Andrew would pick up force and hit land again on the upper Texas coast," said Stelly, a mass communication graduate, in recalling that day in late August of 1992. "My first thought was, 'Oh, my gosh, I've just purchased a radio station that's going to be blown off the map in just a couple of more days.'"

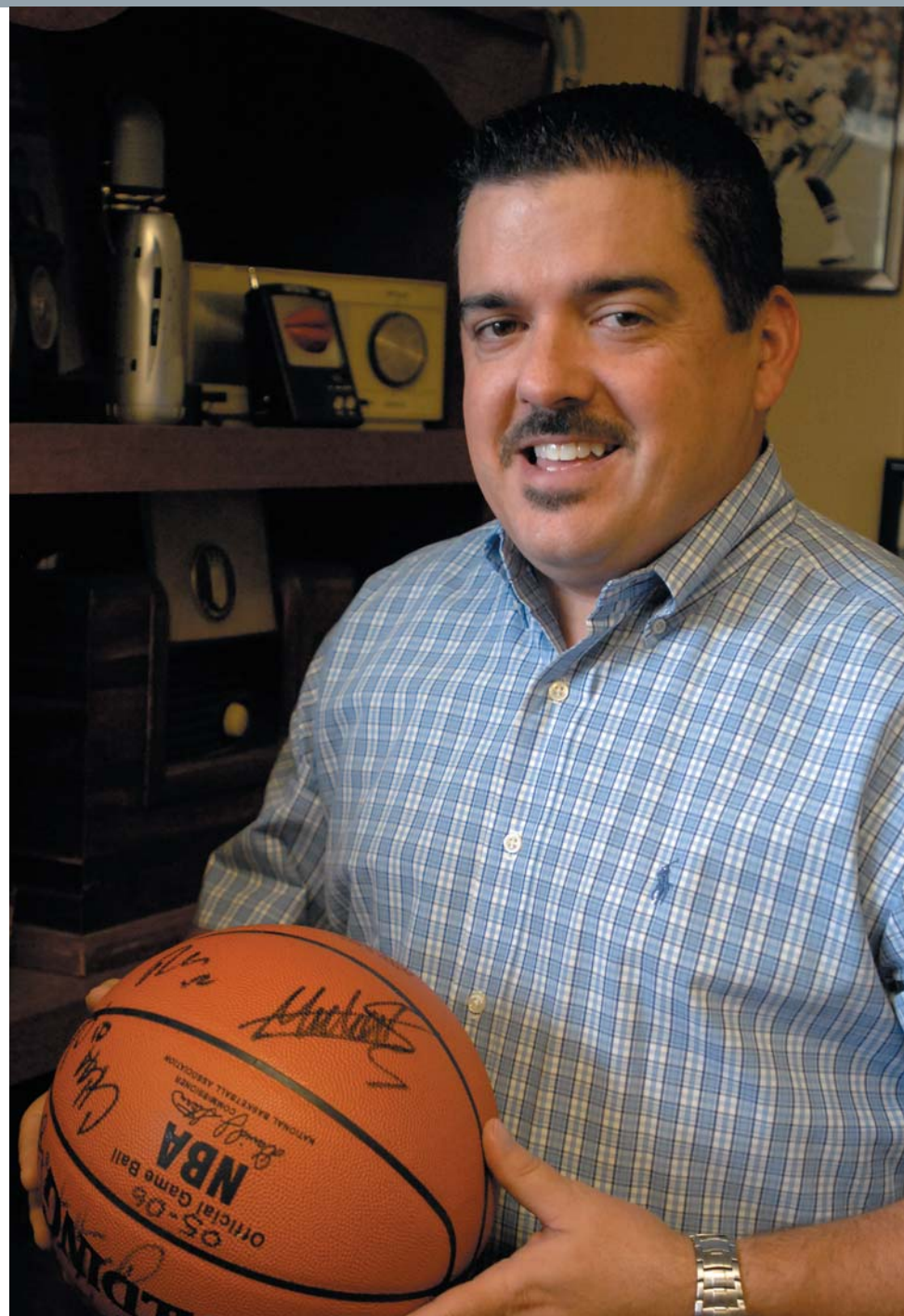
Well, history tells us Stelly's station was not blown off the map as Andrew graciously detoured and did no damage, whatsoever, to the Texas coast.

Since that time, however, Stelly's voice has guided residents of Orange County and beyond through two major hurricanes—first Rita in 2005 and, most recently, Ike last fall.

That resonant voice has described destruction, despair, displacement, desperation and pure devastation. On the other hand, that voice has also passed on inspiration, invigoration, encouragement, optimism and a belief in a rejuvenated Orange County.

That voice has also kept Orange Countians in close contact with their athletic teams. It regaled listeners with the exploits of West Orange-Stark's football team during the Mustangs' march to the 2000 Class 4A state championship game, climbs by Orangefield and Bridge City to the state baseball tournament and a state championship by Little Cypress-Mauriceville's 2006 softball team.

In Orange County, Stelly's voice is a constant. He hits the air at 5 a.m. for his four-hour morning show. He jump starts his listeners' days by delivering overall newscasts, sports news, commercials and other items of local interest.



BRIAN SATTLER

When off the air, Stelly is busy meeting with clients, selling the station's programming, handling the business end of the operations, doing on-the-site news reporting and preparing for his next sporting event. There's never an idle moment.

"It's easily 18 hours a day, six days a week," said Stelly in describing his workload. "Unlike what some people think, though, I no longer jump out of bed in the middle of the night to go to a wreck scene or a fire—unless, of course, it's a major one."

In Stelly's eyes, though, all news in Orange County is major news, and it's his obligation to report it to his constituents, both on the air and through KOGT's Web site.

"I'm just doing the job," Stelly modestly said. "We provide a service. It became addictive to me years and years ago. If there's a story out there, the people depend upon me to provide it, and I

don't want to disappoint them. Most importantly, I want it to be accurate. It's imperative that I keep up to speed on everything."

Stelly really had to get up to speed on that early morning in late September of 2005 when Hurricane Rita slammed into Southeast Texas.

"Rita was something new to me, new to you and new to everyone," said Stelly. "We knew what it was like to have threats of hurricanes, but we had never experienced an actual, full-blown hurricane. By the time Ike got here last year, though, we knew what to expect, and we were much more prepared."

"First off, after Rita hit, I didn't even know if I had a radio station to go back to. I live in the Little Cypress area a little north of Orange. There were so many downed trees, it took us four hours with chain saws to cut our way out of the neighborhood. In my mind, I was cutting my way out to nothing."

"Fortunately, the station had withstood the storm with relatively little damage, and we were able to get back on the air. Sometimes, I want to tear up when I think about some of the things I had to report, but it was my obligation. The people had to know."

"In retrospect, though, I sometimes think Rita was good for us as a community, because it brought us together. After getting over the initial shock of what had hit us, I became so fired up. We had messages we had to get to the people. They were starved to know, and we thrived on knowing we were providing them with the information."

"Richard Corder (longtime KOGT disc jockey and newsman) and I were a two-man crew. We got a couple of mattresses and set up camp in the station. We went out and took pictures for our Web site; we interviewed it seems like hundreds of citizens, and we worked closely with officials of Orange County and the Red Cross in getting out the news."

"Up until that time, the worst natural disaster situation I had covered was the ice storm of 1997. This was 10 times worse. There was tremendous devastation, and it tore at my heart."

"We had evacuees out there, and they had lots of questions. They wanted to come home, and it was difficult to tell them there wasn't a whole lot for them to come back to at that time because of the lack of power and the sweltering heat. They were probably better off where they were. I wanted to paint as positive of a picture as possible, but I also had to paint an accurate picture."

While the brunt of Rita's damage came

from the wind, Stelly said Ike was, "a completely different creature," in that most of its destruction in Orange County came from the storm surge.

"Early in the morning after Ike hit, I was on the telephone getting an update from (Orange mayor) Brown Claybar, and, all of a sudden, he said, 'I have to let you go,'" said Stelly, a 1984 graduate of Orangefield High School. "Water was overtopping the levee and beginning to come in. It was already 2 to 3 feet high in Bridge City, and it was rising by the minute."

"Fortunately, I have a friend, Pete Cloeren, who has a large, all-terrain vehicle—I call it a Hummer on steroids—and my wife, Angie (Caples) '88, and I went out in it with him to do live reports. By the time we got to Bridge City, the water was at the top of the Cow Bayou Bridge."

"We had to take an alternative route to get there, and a deputy (Orange County) sheriff stopped us and told us they needed to use our vehicle to get into town because they hadn't been able to get there with what was at their disposal at that time. I'll never forget the sight of Bridge City when we first got there. It looked like the town had moved into Sabine Lake. It looked like nothing was left."

For the next few hours, Stelly was more than a newsman. He was also part of the rescue effort.

"We had two firefighters with us who started pulling people off rooftops and getting them out of their attics," said Stelly. "There were so many people in need of help. We probably helped get 50 people and at least 30 dogs and other pets to safety. The wind was still so strong it would literally pick up the truck, but it was like a military vehicle, and it got us through the ordeal."

"To this day, I don't know how Fox News got my cell phone number, but they called me, and I did a live interview with them. It was my duty to let as many people as possible know what the situation was in Bridge City and in Orange County."

"It was a difficult time for me because I knew so many people in Bridge City. The things I had to tell them made me sick. I had to tell them about lost homes and lost

businesses. Fortunately, I did not have to tell them about lost lives."

One thing that particularly touched Stelly during his coverage of Hurricane Rita's aftermath was the loyalty of left-behind pets.

"I've always had a soft spot for pets, and I saw so many over the first few days after Ike," said Stelly. "There were dogs so wet and so hungry and so scared, but they were still protective of their owners' property. When you first approached, they were still protecting their yards."

"Our station became a drop-off point for people who wanted to donate dog food and cat food and other pet items. The halls were cluttered with it, and I distributed it as best I could while I made my daily rounds. It was gratifying to see how the community responded to pets in need."

On the evening of April 24, Stelly broadcast what most people would think

was a routine West Orange-Stark-at-Orangefield baseball game. To Stelly, however, it was special, because it was his 1,000th-called game since he first started on a part-time basis at KOGT while still in high school in 1983.

"It was a fitting game to have as my 1,000th," said Stelly. "I thought it was nice to be able

to make that call in what had been my home stadium."

Although still serving as the lead man on KOGT's sports coverage adds hours to Stelly's workload, he says it's a labor of love—one he would not even consider relinquishing.

"I still get excited with almost every game I call," said Stelly. Recently, he called LC-M's baseball playoff game against Buda Hayes in College Station.

"They (LC-M's Battlin' Bears) were down 4-0 to a 26-1 team, and they hadn't even been close to getting a hit since the second inning. Somehow, they managed to score four runs in the bottom of the seventh, and they eventually won the game 5-4 in the ninth. If you can't get excited about something like that, you can't get excited about anything."

Chances are Orange Countians are hoping the 43-year-old Stelly continues to stay excited for many years to come.





STEPHEN MORTON

Ports authority

Doug Marchand '70 knows how to get things moving. As executive director for the Georgia Ports Authority, Marchand oversaw the comings and goings of 2.7 million boxes of containerized cargo at the country's fourth-largest container port last year. Georgia poultry, kaolin clay and forest products headed out toward countries on the Pacific Rim and elsewhere. Clothing and electronics headed in, bound for retailers up and down the East Coast.

It wasn't always this way. When Marchand arrived in 1994, the Georgia Ports Authority enjoyed a strong export business, especially in forest products, kaolin clay and frozen poultry. Missing were the imports. He decided to change things at the quasi-state agency that oversees deepwater ports at Savannah and Brunswick and two inland barge ports.

"We set out to market to the beneficial owners of the cargo," Marchand said. "We worked with the big box retailers and were able to land a couple of those. Then imports were driving the ships to come to Savannah. You could take that empty box and reload it with the traditional cargo. Once we got it rolling and had the ships coming, more imports would start riding on the same ships. It started feeding on itself. The more ships you got, the more cargo you got. The more cargo you got, the more ships you got."

As a result, everyone benefited from lower shipping costs and a more efficient operation. Other ports around the country saw the wisdom of Marchand's

approach—now known in the industry as the Savannah model—and began to copy it.

The competition has not hurt the Georgia ports though. Building on the waterfront success, many retailers, including Home Depot, Target, Wal-Mart and Ikea, have invested in the area by locating major distribution centers in Savannah.

"The non-traditional approach was to market to the people who were actually importing from around the world," Marchand said. "The strategy is still working and can continue to work given the natural assets and abundance of land in close proximity to the port that we enjoy."

A native of Galveston, Marchand grew up in a port city and got his introduction to port operations before he completed his bachelor of business administration degree in marketing at Lamar. He spent the summer before his senior year working at the Port of Galveston, which led to the offer of a full-time job upon graduation. He started work the day after his last final exam.

"None of my family was in this business, but it was always interesting to see it and be on the periphery of it," he said.

Marchand advanced from his entry-level job to serve as general operations manager in Galveston before leaving in 1984 to become managing director at the Port of Corpus Christi. He returned two years later as general manager and port director. Then, in 1994, he was approached about the opportunity in Georgia. Marchand said he was not looking for a job, but the more he looked at the potential there, the more interested he became.

The aspects of the port industry that first attracted Marchand to the field are still what keep him engaged in his work today. "It's a lot of different things every day. There's absolutely no monotony to it," he said. He even enjoys the extensive travel his job requires, mainly to countries where ocean carriers serving his ports are based. That includes countries such as Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Norway, Germany, France, Israel, Kuwait, Switzerland, Australia and New Zealand where imports originate and exports end up.

"I enjoy the challenge," Marchand said. "If you own and operate this place, how can you make it better? How can you get more out of it? How can you put more people to work and at the same time generate an income that you can plow back into your facilities to make them better? I enjoy the challenge as well as the whole scene that we operate in."

Marchand's dedication to and expertise in his field have attracted recognition from

his peers. He was inducted this year into the International Maritime Hall of Fame, one of the few port directors to ever receive the honor. He has held numerous leadership positions in the American Association of Port Authorities and in the 1990s helped establish the organization's professional port manager accreditation program, an accreditation he holds. Recognizing the importance of succession planning and the value of the early opportunities he received, Marchand has made training for the next generation a priority. Each summer, 12 to 15 college students are chosen through a competitive process to work as interns throughout the

“The non-traditional approach was to market to the people who were actually importing from around the world”

—DOUG MARCHAND '70

Georgia Ports Authority's operations. "It gives them an opportunity to see if this field is something for them and gives us a chance to look them over as potential employees," he said.

Marchand's business leadership has even had an impact in his own family. His son, Jack, received his degree in logistics and intermodal transportation from Georgia Southern University and is now a manager with Ikea's operations in Savannah. When he chose his major, Marchand asked, "Are you sure?" His son answered, "Yeah, I don't know anything else."

The rest of the family remains in Texas. Marchand and his wife, Brenda Gail Marchand, return to the Galveston area a few times a year to visit relatives, including daughter Kristen, who is employed by Rolls Royce Global Marine, grandson Preston, Doug's siblings and Brenda's parents.

Marchand's brother, George Marchand '64, deserves the credit for Doug's decision to attend Lamar, where his younger sister, Cathy (Marchand) Nerios also received her degree. Sister-in-law Leah Rae (Magliolo)

Marchand, brother-in-law Manuel Nerios, and two cousins, James D. Neaton and Dennis J. Neaton, also earned degrees from Lamar. His niece, Amanda Gail Piletere, is now a junior at Lamar.

Doug had been accepted to both the University of Texas and Lamar. His brother urged him to choose Lamar because of the smaller size and his own good experience as a business major there. Doug decided to start at Lamar, planning to transfer to UT later. "I went and never left," Doug Marchand said. "We had to do our work, but we also played hard. Looking back on it now, it was a really good time. I feel good about my training in marketing and sales. College in general gives people a chance to mature. It gives them a chance to determine what it is they really want to do. I think it did that for me. I wouldn't trade it for anything. It was a great time. I have lifetime friends that I've kept as a result of meeting them at Lamar."

Marchand's fond memories of his time at Lamar include many golf games at Tyrrell Park, sometimes during park hours and sometimes after dark. He still enjoys golf and tries to squeeze in a round on Saturdays.

During the week, he stays busy trying to constantly improve the operations of the ports he oversees and anticipate what changes might be coming next in an industry that he has seen move from clipboards used to track inventory to automation at every stage of the process. More improvements in technology, cargo handling and safety are just a few of the challenges that he believes lie ahead for the port industry.

Port managers also have the challenge of determining how to pay for expensive improvements that are constantly required. A single new ship-to-shore crane to move the 20-foot containers standard in the industry costs more than \$9 million, and Marchand has 23 of them on a single 1,200-acre terminal. Balancing all those interests while remaining at the forefront of the industry is at the heart of what Marchand does.

"There's always something more you can do to streamline things," he said. "I challenge our information technology people to stay three to four projects ahead of our competition. While they're catching up, we're putting another three to four on the books."

by Beth Gallaspy



Family affair

Mother, dad, daughter & son-in-law earn master's degrees online

Commencements are often a family affair as parents and extended family celebrate the graduates' accomplishments. But it is a bit unusual when generations graduate together. On Aug. 15, four members of one family made the trip to the Lamar University campus and joined in accepting their hard-won diplomas.

Rhonda and Eddie Livingston of Hilltop Lakes and their daughter Jessica and her husband, Chris Jahn, of Houston crossed the Montagne Center stage, each receiving master's degrees in education through Lamar University's partnership with Higher Ed Holdings. Joining in the celebration were Rhonda and Eddie's grown sons, Jeremy and Joel, their families, and daughter Janell, a student at Texas A&M.

Eddie and Chris both became interested in the 18-month online program when it was introduced in their school districts. Chris learned of the program in an informational meeting held by the Cypress-Fairbanks school district. Eddie saw a poster announcing the program in the teacher's lounge at his school in the Aldine school district and called the toll-free number.

"I just compared (Lamar's M.Ed. program and one offered by another university), and the price was right. It fit my schedule. It was online. So I decided to go with Lamar," Chris said.

It wasn't long before Jessica, who teaches fourth-grade math and science at Horne Elementary in the Cy-Fair district, got excited about joining the program with her husband Chris, who also teaches fourth-grade math and science and will be the campus math at-risk specialist this year.

Although the program wasn't yet offered by her district, Rhonda signed up after Eddie completed the first class. She became the first teacher in the Houston school district to do so. Now, several other teachers in her school are pursuing the M.Ed. in the program. "It's been really nice," Rhonda said. "We have had some interesting discussions. It has been very enlightening." Although getting a little later start, Rhonda was able to double up so she would graduate with her husband, daughter and son-in-law.

The four found the schedule and convenience of online learning suited them well throughout the year. The flexibility of online learning especially suited their summer plans.

"We like to travel during the summer with our trailer," Rhonda said. "We would go to different campgrounds all over Texas, and, as long as we had wireless Internet access, we could do our coursework. We were even in Washington, D.C., at one point and did our work there. It's been very convenient."

Not only did they find that the program worked great for them, but they also found its content challenging both for the young teacher and the veteran alike.

"My husband, parents and I have talked so much through this program about how it gives you a systematic view and a more global view about what's going on," said Jessica, who just completed her third year of teaching. "You are able to look beyond decisions that affect your grade level and see why things are done the way they are. I've certainly learned a lot through this program."

"I've been teaching for 22 years," Eddie said, "and, in retrospect, I wish I had done the educational master's in administration a lot earlier in my career. It has given me a lot of insight. The knowledge I've gained is going to make me a better teacher."

"It was a lot of hard work, that's for sure," Chris said. "But it was exciting."

What was it like, sharing the experience as family?

"We spent a lot of time talking and working together, discussing the reading and arguing the different points that were presented in the coursework," Eddie said. "It really gave us a lot to do in common for the 18 months."

"When I was younger, my siblings and I were always held accountable for doing our homework with both our parents being teachers," Jessica said. "So this was a fun turn for me to get to tell my parents to do their homework." —BKS



Online offerings expand

1,009 teachers graduate in August

Through its partnership with Higher Ed Holdings, Lamar offers the 18-month program leading to a Masters of Education in Teacher Leadership, Educational Leadership or Educational Technology Leadership. More than 1,000 teachers from across the state graduated with the degree this August. Of those, about 400 walked across the Montagne Center stage to receive their diplomas.

High school and college credit

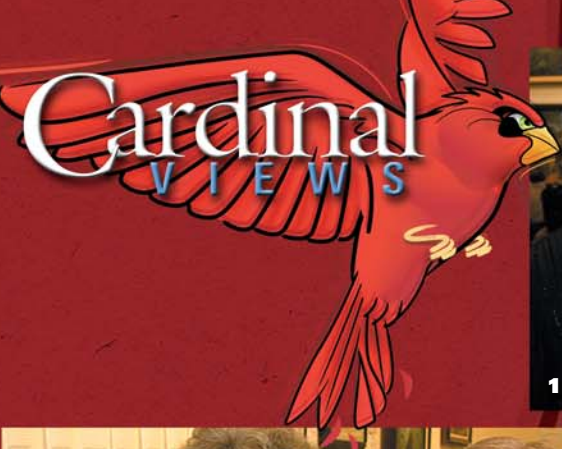
Lamar is expanding its Dual Credit programs to school districts across Texas, with the first course to begin Sept. 14. Dual Credit courses allow high school juniors or seniors to enroll in a college course and receive simultaneous academic credit from both the college and the high school. Participants will be drawn from the 568,028 students in 11th and 12th grades in Texas.

B.A.A.S. now online

Lamar is also expanding its offering of the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree entirely online. The first course will begin Oct. 12. The potential for students in the program is huge. Data from the 2000 census shows there are 2,144,625 Texans with some college hours but no bachelor's degrees, and an additional 681,363 with associate degrees. A great number of these Texans could qualify for the online degree completion program.

In addition to the programs above, Lamar University online programs include five undergraduate degrees – Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences, Bachelor of General Studies, RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology, and the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science — and two graduate programs — the Master of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Health Promotion.

www.academicpartnership.com/lamar



Le Grand Bal

1. Pat Willard '60 and Susan Schultz. 2. Allison and Michael Getz '78. 3. From left, Mary Flannigan, Kathryn Cherry '82, Sallye Keith '09 and Wanda Echenhofer '68. 4. Paul Henderson and Susan Byrom. 5. Monica and Jimmy Broussard and Janet and Regent David Montagne '74. 6. Nita Biscamp and Toliver House '49. 7. Jerry and Iris Nathan. 8. Sherry (Magee) Dishman '81 and Christy Persia. 9. Dennis and Jean Moncla. 10. Pat Avery and Sonny Perkins. 11. Julia and Matt Matheny. 12. Dorothy and Sonny Sherman.



Featured performers, from left, Travis Harris '90, Jimmy Simmons, Maria Harris and Don Rollins '83 talk about old times before the *Lamarissimo!* Jazz Concert.



Tim Sudela '85, president of American Valve & Hydrant, poses with his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Casey, before the *Lamarissimo!* Faculty Artists Concert, which his company sponsored.

Lamarissimo! sponsor Joe Domino '75, president and chief executive officer of Entergy Texas, pauses for a photo with the Cardinal Singers at a television taping in the University Reception Center.

President James Simmons and Susan (Williams) Simmons '68 give commencement speaker Roger Williams lessons in displaying the "LU" sign before the May ceremony.



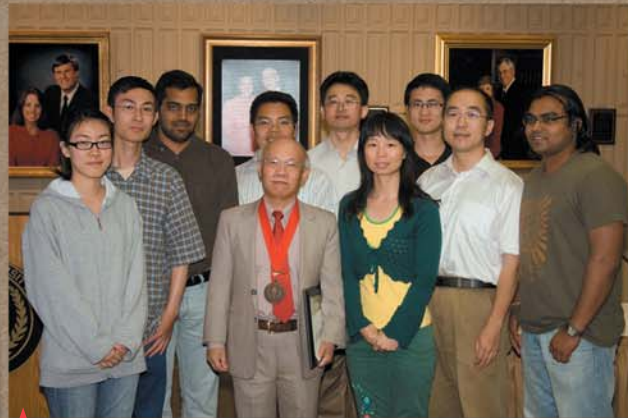
University Scholar Helen Lou proudly displays her award plaque, joined by her department chair, Regents' Professor T.C. Ho.



Professor of business law Frank Cavaliere '76, the 2006 University Professor, from left, joins retired professor of accounting Celia Varick, professor of accounting Howell Lynch and Dean Enrique "Henry" Venta at the University Professor/Merit Awards reception.



Retired professor of communication Mary Alice Baker, the 2005 University Professor, receives well wishes from longtime colleague Patrick Harrigan, then interim chair of the Department of Communication and professor of communication.



Professor of chemical engineering Ku-yen Li, 2009 University Professor, is surrounded by his students and faculty colleagues: Yanqin Wen, front row, and, standing, from left, Chuanyu Zhao, Chaowei Liu, Shahikanh Chegabandi, Xiongtao Yang, assistant professor Qiang Xu, Jie Fu, Jian Zhang and Nageswara Kota.



A graduating Zeta Tau Alpha member shows off her sorority's Greek letters.

Graduation candidates await their big moments at May commencement.



A life of examination

Dr. Karen Geheb '81, '86, '91, draws upon a tenacious spirit, keen intellect and analytical approach to problem-solving as a passionate patient advocate.

by Cynthia Hicks

For Dr. Karen Geheb and her husband, Michael Harris, the lure of the Northwest was too attractive to ignore. Avid fly fishers and native Texans, they were both eager, Geheb says, for a place with “a little more geographical relief.” When an opening became available in a residency program in Spokane, Wash., Geheb, armed with a medical degree and specialty in internal medicine, happily hooked it, and the couple was northwestward bound.

When she completed her residency, Geheb wanted to practice in a rural setting, “more farming related because that’s where I came from,” she said. So, from Spokane, the couple moved south to Pullman where she is now director of hospitalist services for Pullman Regional Hospital. Like many of the hikes she now enjoys, Geheb took a somewhat circuitous route to begin her life as a physician.

Hard work, resolute determination and an indefatigable interest in caring for others are in her blood. Her Irish mother and Texan father met and married in England, where her father was stationed with the Air Force. Her mother trained as a certified nursing assistant, and, when they returned to Texas, her father became a mechanic and worked for International Harvester. At 73, he continues to work a 40-hour week. Her mother raised her and her siblings and used her training to care for people before home health became a health care staple.

The eldest of six children, Geheb remembers always wanting to be a doctor. “I took a keen interest in my baby sister when she came home from the hospital, and I was only 2. I’ve always been fascinated by the human body,” she said. In high school, Geheb first settled on becoming a nurse and volunteered at Beaumont Medical and Surgical Hospital, where she discovered two things: Nursing wasn’t for her, and her interest in medicine, coupled with her potential abilities, indicated she could become a doctor. Stellar high school grades led her to begin a semester at Stephen F. Austin State University, but homesickness and literally counting pennies

created stress too difficult to endure.

She returned home, began work at the hospital as a clerk and enrolled at Lamar University. Searching to regain confidence and feeling her way toward a career, Geheb took a drafting class and began EMT certification. She worked for an ambulance company that summer, finished her degree in drafting and then began work for Dresser Industries in research and development for oil field equipment. But, as one of the last hired before the oil industry collapse in the ’80s, she was one of the first to get a pink slip. “There’s nothing worse than having worked to begin a career—especially as a woman in a traditionally male profession—and being laid off. I felt so disheartened. But always in the back of my head, I could hear my mom pushing, ‘Go back to school. Be a doctor.’”

After a semester in Lamar’s pre-nursing program, she chose to pursue a dual degree in biology and chemistry, partly at the urging of a chemistry professor who recognized her potential. That fulfillment would be delayed again, however. “I kept looking at all the classes I needed to take and thinking how old I felt. I decided I needed to finish school,” Geheb said. She changed her major to education, and, as she finished her first year teaching chemistry at West Brook High School, the scientific honor society Sigma Xi selected her as teacher of the year. But something was missing. “At the end of my third year of teaching, my heart was still saying, ‘There’s something else; there’s something more.’”

She returned to Lamar and earned a master’s in biology, deciding to apply to medical school. “This time,” she said, “the decision was a thoughtful one, and it was with the intent of being a researcher, not a physician.” After several interviews, she chose the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, and, later, while preparing her thesis, took a job as a microbiologist for Helena Laboratories. There, she met her husband, who had worked in medical research, and focused on choosing a residency.



MICHAEL HARRIS

Evolving career

Today, as a hospitalist—the newest outgrowth of internal medicine—Geheb often treats patients with complex conditions, an inefficient and expensive effort within the typical physician’s office setting. “When you have someone who is elderly, who has multiple medical problems, with many organ systems involved, the problem becomes that internal medicine doctors spend more time taking care of the oldest and the sickest,” she said. On a good day, a doctor in family practice will see many more patients than the 20 or so an internal medicine doctor sees. To that 8-to-5 day, add on a couple of hours of paperwork to check labs, communicate results, request refills, write orders and complete Medicare paperwork, in addition to making rounds in the hospital before that day begins and after it ends. As a result, physicians make a choice between committing to a clinic or to a hospital.

Out of this reality came the hospitalist focus—a way to not only improve efficiency for the clinician, but also improve efficiency for hospitals by decreasing wait times in the management of patient care. “You might have a three- to four-hour wait because you have someone waiting in the emergency department to go to a floor,” Geheb said. “If the patient on the floor was ready to be discharged but is waiting for the physician who is in clinic all day, and a social worker is waiting to arrange a patient’s home health, call in medications and explain follow up, it becomes very rushed. The

patients wind up suffering because they aren’t comfortable with their instructions.”

When a clinic assigns a doctor to work in the hospital, that doctor takes responsibility for the clinic’s hospital patients, ensuring they are treated in a timely fashion, which improves flow and continuity of care.

She loves interacting with patients most. Geheb left a successful, but wearying, clinic practice. When on call, it was for two hospitals and seven doctors. “I would have rather been on call twice as often for one hospital,” she said. When Pullman Regional decided they wanted a physician on call capable of seeing high-acuity, intensive-care patients, Geheb accepted the position. By keeping the patients and consolidating care, the hospital captures that billing, and patients receive prompt, quality care.

After a year and a half, Geheb became the program’s full-time director. “I love helping patients get better,” she said. “I love educating patients about what medicine is, what is wrong with them, how medication is going to work, what someone has to watch out for, what someone can do better without having to be on a medication, what their choices are.”

In the clinic, Geheb felt she could only affect one person at a time, but in the hospital setting, she could influence people and programs as she became part of the team to write policy and protocols to ensure patient safety. She championed the 5 Million Lives campaign the Institute for Healthcare Improvement developed, believing there are a lot of needless accidents that can be prevented through more attentiveness and drilled procedures. “Patients who

have heart attacks should get aspirin. They should get oxygen. They should get certain medications. Unless there is a reason not to, they should get that because evidence shows that they are going to have a better outcome,” she said. “That leads to fewer complications, which leads to going home sooner. There’s no reason a patient should

develop a pressure sore in your facility. There’s no reason there should ever be a wrong-site surgery.”

Through her involvement with the Washington State Hospital Association, she helps craft and refine initiatives for patient safety. The movement is away from a hierarchy and toward a team approach to patient care, encouraging communication.

When Geheb sets aside her stethoscope, she bikes and takes ballet three days a week. And, even after three degrees, she continues learning. She’s pursuing a master’s in medical management. With the winding road she took, “I am most proud of the fact that I’ve come from a very meager background and am able to now work at the state level to try to influence these decisions. As far as I was concerned growing up, being a physician was probably the highest thing I could be called to do. Having accomplished that, I feel very good,” she said. “Yeah, I love what I do.”

“At the end of my third year of teaching, my heart was still saying, ‘There’s something else; there’s something more.’”

—DR. KAREN GEHEB

Top chef

by Louise Wood

By the time Chuck Harris was 7, he was climbing onto a stool to cook scrambled eggs or a batch of macaroni and cheese. At 12, he was preparing family meals. And on Lamar's fraternity row in the 1990s, he was chilling and grilling to turn out feasts for his brothers in Alpha Tau Omega.

At 32, Harris '99 is a certified chef—one of fewer than 5,000 in America—and owner of the Spindletop Steakhouse and Continental Cuisine on Crockett Street in downtown Beaumont.

Colorful attractions grace the menu, including seafood flamingo, smokey seared salmon Oscar and a variety of steaks—Japanese-crusted with sesame seeds or in the classic bayou style with crawfish and shrimp creole sauce, to name two options. For lighter fare, there are oyster nachos, shrimp tamales, and his favorite, eggplant rollo. Mac-n-cheese remains close to his heart as a side dish.

"I love the food, and I love being in the kitchen when you're really busy and don't think you'll see the end," Harris said. "You have 20 pans going and 30 steaks on the grill. It's all in the moment."

In presiding over an upscale restaurant with 30 employees, Harris wears far more

than a chef's hat. "Chuck is the executive chef-owner, but he's also general manager, landlord and groundskeeper," said Ty Gwynn, his chef de cuisine. "He's human resources. He's payroll. He does it all."

On a Monday morning in August, Harris eases into the work week. He's just returned from a cooking school in Cuero and a Texas Chefs Association convention in San Antonio. It is his slow day, closed in the evening, but the kitchen is abuzz in anticipation of the lunch crowd. Personnel arrive. The aroma of lemon wafts into the air as a worker fastidiously polishes each surface. The wait staff dons aprons as the pace quickens.

Harris's favorite spot is "in the window," where food is handed from the cooks. He's the expeditor, who keeps the flow. "I see every plate," he said. "I can see almost every table from here and all the guests. If they're eating slowly, or not done with their appetizers, I move things around. We're always trying to watch the flow and make it better."

On Nov. 12, 2009, the restaurant will celebrate its first anniversary. And Harris has traveled a dizzying roller-coaster ride since he bought the downtown landmark last October – and opened it less than a month later. "It was a whirlwind," he said.

"I started to think it wasn't going to happen. This was right after Hurricane Ike. We had started negotiations before the hurricane (after the original Spindletop closed in July). I was busy at the Elegante trying to feed 200 people breakfast, lunch and dinner with no power. When things finally start getting back to normal, I come down to go over the final paperwork. I sign and drive away from downtown, thinking, 'I'm a restaurant owner now.' It was surreal."

Ninety minutes later, he was typing his resignation letter at the Elegante, where he was executive chef. His career had taken him from David's Upstairs to Carrabba's, Beaumont Country Club to Post Oak Grill, Holiday

Inn Beaumont Plaza and LAberge du Lac in Lake Charles.

What makes Harris tick? Gwynn, who has also studied at Lamar and worked with Harris at Holiday Inn and LAberge, explains: "It's a challenging field. When we get compliments, it's like with people addicted to extreme sports – that rush, that feeling of, 'It's good, and I impressed somebody.'"

A big compliment came Harris's way when the Go Texas Committee selected him to represent Texas at the 2009 Great American Seafood Cookoff in New Orleans in July. He placed fifth with a creation that was strictly Southeast Texas: beer-battered shrimp and a shrimp and risotto panko-covered shrimp cake with shrimp-flavored sauce—garnished with a barbecued shrimp on top of roasted-corn salsa.

Schedules permitting, his wife, Jammie Marie (King) '00 joins him. "She was in New Orleans to cheer me on." High school sweethearts, they married in 2000 and have two daughters, Kynslee, 4, and Addyson, who will be 2 in October. A foods and nutrition graduate, Jammie is director of the Women, Infants and Children program in Beaumont.

"She's had to stick with me and raise our kids so I can do what I'm doing," Harris said. "It's been tough, but it's starting to get better. Now, I can promise Sundays with my family. I know I am going to be off 56 days in 2009.

That might not sound like many, but, in my field, that's a lot. Between 2004 and 2008, I had 60 days off."

Harris harkens back to his own childhood. "I loved to eat," he said. "There was always a lot of food around, and I was fortunate my mother and grandparents were good cooks."

His maternal grandmother specialized in desserts and fried shrimp. His paternal grandmother lived on Lake Rayburn at Zavalla, where some of his favorite memories originated. "I could sit on the counter and watch without getting in the way," he said. "She had acres of gardens, and included lots of things she grew. She always had all the burners going. Those were such good times, and they inspired me to know food."

During his early adventures in cooking, adults trusted Harris to fix easy dishes. As he advanced to cooking dinner, "I'm sure my mom always had a watchful eye on me, but I could pretty much produce everything," he said.

The fraternity house had no kitchen—just microwaves and hotplates. "I'd have something going in every room. I could publish my own microwave cookbook," he said. "I'd put out a buffet. That's when I started creating. Probably the best thing that came out of it was my recipe for bacon-smothered red, new potatoes, one I use to this day."

But, said Harris, "I didn't know I'd be a chef until I was 18 or 19. I wanted to be in the restaurant business. I think when you own something, you should know every aspect of it, so I wanted to know the kitchen. But I didn't think I'd come to work every day in a chef's jacket."

While his menu includes classical dishes—Oscar, Diane and Caesar—"we try



MARTIN MANUEL

to put a twist on everything," Harris said. He's a veteran of cooking classes and is, in fact, collecting photos and writing recipes in hopes of publishing a cookbook next year. "Some people have a bunch of novels. I have thousands of cookbooks."

Harris was born in Port Arthur but lived in West Palm Beach, Fla., from age 5 until he was almost 17. He enrolled as a junior at Nederland High School where he joined the Bulldogs' baseball team, which advanced to the state tournament his senior year. Several teammates earned LU baseball scholarships, but a shoulder injury prevented his competing. With other scholarships and grants, he enrolled at Lamar.

He became ATO president and served in the Student Government Association and on the Greek Council. He was an engineering major, but, as a junior, started thinking about the restaurant business. "I was going to become an engineer, make a lot of money and open a restaurant."

Harris worked at a service station owned by his stepfather, Tommy Spires '71, who

offered advice: "Do what you believe in. Do what you love, and the money will come." A customer told him that if he wanted to be in the restaurant business, he needed to work in a restaurant, and recommended him for a job at David's Upstairs. Harris interviewed with the legendary Chef Alex Pickens. "He gave me three days to prove myself." Harris remained at the iconic restaurant in Gaylynn Shopping Center until the night it closed.

He switched his major to hospitality management, and determined to graduate on schedule, worked as much as he could. "It was a lot of cramming, a lot of staying up late, but it was the right way to do it."

Harris maintains strong ties to the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, where, he said, "The culinary program is constantly growing. It's accredited by the American Culinary Federation, putting it on a par with the country's best culinary schools."

Today, his lunch menu caters to employees of nearby businesses, with quick service, homestyle cooking and blue-plate specials. Dinner is upscale, and specialties include 14 cuts of steaks, cut in house, including Kobe beef, plus gourmet seafood and other dishes. A chef's tasting is generating a lot of buzz. "It's a new concept in Beaumont, and we're doing more and more," Harris said. "It helps me be creative."

Harris loves what he does and does what he loves. He has big dreams.

"This is real life. It's definitely not 9 to 5," he said. "I think people get into the restaurant or hospitality business because they want to serve people. It makes me happy to know they're happy. That was the beginning motivation. Now, it's about trying to have the best restaurant in Beaumont and, eventually, the best in Texas."



PHOTOS BY MARTIN MANUEL



MICHAEL CARPENTER

Power to protect

The trade journal *Gas Daily* reports that a Dallas-based gas marketing and pipeline company is currently attempting to resolve charges brought by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) investigators in July 2007 that it illegally manipulated gas prices at the Houston Ship Channel to its financial benefit just after Hurricane Rita made landfall along the Gulf Coast.

by Cynthia Hicks

This high-profile case exemplifies many involving energy regulations of the electric, hydropower, gas, liquefied natural gas and oil industries that come before the Commission and, more specifically, before the bench of Deputy Chief Judge Bobbie (LaFond) McCartney '76.

As deputy chief and one of 14 U.S. administrative law judges (ALJs) appointed to decide cases arising under the Federal Power Act, the Natural Gas Act, the Interstate Commerce Act and the Energy Policy Act under the commission's jurisdiction, McCartney has heard some of the most highly visible and complex cases. Litigants won't find a more impartial ear than that of McCartney, who diligently assesses the record to make a fair decision, striving for a result consistent with statute, regulations, applicable case law and commission policy.

Her skills have evolved over the years, first with the Department of Labor, then the Social Security Administration and now with FERC. Cases that come before the commission are usually multi-party, involve millions—sometimes billions—of dollars and are of national import. One electric power case before her required six weeks of hearing, had more than 22 expert witnesses and culminated in an initial decision almost 300 pages long. "It requires strong analytical skills," she said. "I think it takes patience and the ability to maintain focus so you can work through the issues and make sure you've got a good, solid record for the commission to support your decision."

McCartney knew at 13 that she wanted to be a lawyer. She saw her brother, a construction worker, being unfairly treated. "If we had had a lawyer, it might have gone a different way. And it really motivated me to try to do something for my family and to dedicate my career objectives to public service," she said. She joined the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of the Solicitor as a trial attorney right after completing her law degree at the University of Houston to pursue those public service interests. She has found her strong background in litigation extremely valuable. "I found it very useful in mastering multi-party presentations dealing with voluminous and complex exhibits, evaluating and weighing expert opinion testimony, and running an orderly hearing room," she said.

Her family came from the Lake Charles area, and she grew up in New Orleans. When it came time to choose a college, she was careful to consider her goals. She found that Lamar suited her needs perfectly. She recalls how supportive Boyd Lanier, associate professor of political science, was in making certain she took the right courses to stay on track. "I felt very well prepared when I went into the law program at the University of Houston," she said. "I think I have come a long way, and Lamar was the beginning. The vision I created for myself with the help of mentors such as Dr. Lanier in the pre-law program was a very important aspect of my career."

Administrative law judges are an elite breed. They must be certified for eligibility of appointment through an extensive selection process by the Office of Personnel Management. McCartney recalls that when she applied for certification and inclusion on the ALJ register, fewer than 500 lawyers of more than 7,000 nationwide applicants were accepted for placement. The positions are competitive, selective positions for life tenure.

In her first appointment, she served as the chief judge of the Billings, Mont., Office of Hearings and Appeals with the Social Security Administration. From Billings, she returned to New Orleans, and, as that hearing office's chief judge, she reenergized and

revolutionized the office's outlook and output. On her arrival in October 1996, she faced a huge backlog. Claimants were waiting for more than two years for disability hearings. "I was able to initiate some very innovative programs that involved a large degree of cooperation from the other judges and the private bar to get that backlog reduced significantly," she said. By the time McCartney left to accept her new appointment as the deputy chief judge of the Office of Hearings and Appeals for SSA in 1997, the case load had been reduced by half and the waiting time for a hearing reduced from more than two years to an average of six months. As the deputy chief judge for SSA,

“
I have been fortunate in my career
in that I have been able to do all
the things I dreamed of doing in
terms of public service.
”

—JUDGE BOBBIE MCCARTNEY '76

she shared full responsibilities with the chief administrative law judge for managing its nationwide operation of more than 1,100 judges in 140 hearing offices.

As FERC's deputy chief judge, McCartney resolves contested cases, either through impartial hearing and decision or through negotiated settlement, ensuring that the rights of all parties are preserved. She conducts fair and impartial investigations and also performs various alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedures, including mediation, arbitration, facilitation and acting as settlement judge. In addition, when acting on behalf of the chief judge in his absence, her responsibilities expand to include the administrative and oversight functions associated with running the office.

McCartney enjoys unraveling the Gordian knots of an intricate case. It is the cutting-edge nature of cases before the commission that continues to capture her interest and challenge her skills.

As an example, one of her cases went to the U.S. Supreme Court this past February. It involved the legal standard of review to be applied to long-term contracts between the state of California and electric power suppliers and producers that had been negotiated during that State's energy crisis in 2001-2002. After a prolonged evidentiary hearing, McCartney found that the contracts should only be set aside by the commission if the terms and conditions of the contracts when considered as a whole were found not to be "in the public interest." In the companion case before the Supreme Court this past February, the Court affirmed these findings, a ruling and legal precedent in which she takes great pride.

The intricacies of such cases keep her on her toes. "Then I have some cases that are a little more fun, like wind power cases," she said. "One settlement involved wind power and how you integrate renewable wind energy onto the electric power grid. Another interesting area is liquefied natural gas and how sources outside the country pose quality control issues in terms of integrating that gas into our domestic gas supply lines."

Not yet 55, McCartney recently received her 30-year service pin. "I have been fortunate in my career," she said, "in that I have been able to do all the things I dreamed of doing in terms of public service."

Although she says you never know what the future may hold, McCartney reports she is happy at the commission. She and her husband live in Vienna, Va., just outside D.C., and together enjoy its many great restaurants, museums, art galleries, jazz venues and other cultural opportunities. With all of her professional accomplishments, she is most proud of her children: son, Chris, 25, is employed with Gartner Inc., an information technology research firm, and daughter, Denver, 16, attends The Field School in D.C.

Off the bench, McCartney likes to travel. She and her husband sojourn in Paris each October and would like to extend their time there, but she's not slowing down. Even after a vigorous 30-year career, she said, "I feel I'm only halfway there."

Airplane art takes off



The attractions of Minnesota’s Franconia Sculpture Park, just northeast of the Twin Cities, are many, but Kurt Dyrhaug, associate professor of art, is especially drawn to its size.

“Franconia allows you to work on a scale that just isn’t possible in most places,” said Dyrhaug. “They have cranes and forklifts and overnight lodging to support artists over the many days or weeks it can take to construct/build and install large-scale sculptures.”

These resources were invaluable when it came to building Tractor Fin, a curved, gleaming wood structure that stands at a striking 18 feet in height and 25 feet in length. Its impressive wingspan, tailfin and wheels are reminiscent of a jet airplane, yet the John Deere-green tractor seat jutting from the back suggests not only another mode of transportation, but another era altogether.

“It has a playful quality that I think draws people in,” Dyrhaug explains. “It implies movement through the formal wing shape, and placing the tractor seat on it adds functionality. It’s modern art, but there is certain recognizability to it. Young children get it right away.”

Dyrhaug received both a Research Enhancement Grant from Lamar and a fellowship from the Jerome Foundation to work at Franconia Sculpture Park.

“It was also a great experience to share with Chelsea Manak, my student assistant,” said Dyrhaug. “She was able not only to help with the



CHELSEA MANAK

construction and installation, but get terrific hands-on knowledge of the process of contemporary working artists.”

Manak, who hails from Buna, is pursuing a bachelor of science in graphic design. She said the assistantship provided an invaluable learning experience.

Dancing Games

Lamar’s Department of Theatre & Dance has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to present the



DONALD MCKAYLE

groundbreaking work of choreographer Donald McKayle.

The \$15,000 grant will support the restaging and performance of McKayle’s *Games*, a seminal dance work, first performed in 1951, that explores childhood and youth-

ful play set against themes of poverty and discrimination.

“Don McKayle is one of the preeminent choreographers of the 20th century,” said Michelle Ozmun, assistant professor of dance. “He is a pioneer of African-American themes in choreography, and we are honored to introduce his work to the Southeast Texas community.”

McKayle will visit the Lamar campus in October 2009 to work personally with the dance troupe. *Games* will then be performed during the annual fall dance concert Nov. 19 and 20 in the University Theatre. In spring 2010, the dancers will present the work at area schools.

Han named director

As he assumes duties as the new director of choral activities at Lamar University, James Han’s goal is to provide enriching cultural experiences to the leaders of tomorrow.

“I want to introduce students to our treasures from the past, and also always try

to find the new work and the new sound, which can often be the most compelling and challenging to a choir,” said Han, who joins the Department of Music this fall as an assistant professor.

Han will conduct both the A Cappella Choir and the Grand Chorus.

“When Dr. Han came to campus and directed the choir, there was an immediate enthusiasm for his style and knowledge, and a strong belief that he would elevate the choir from the successes they have experienced to new heights,” said Russ Schultz, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication.

A native of Seoul, South Korea, Han has taught at the University of Illinois and at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill. He has also trained many church choristers. He earned a master of music with honors in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, N.J.

Reveling in Red Piano

A talented line-up of keyboard artists performed March 30 on the Elton John limited-edition Red Piano, a hybrid acoustic/digital piano created for John’s hit Las Vegas show. The Department of Music presented the special recital in the University Theatre. Featured performers included music faculty members Betsy Burleson Hines and Nick Rissman, President Jimmy Simmons, the Ken Ward Trio and alumni Wade Daniel ’81, Craig Escamilla ’06 and Joel Love ’07, among others.

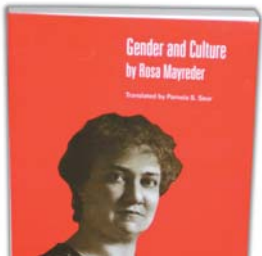


WADE DANIEL '81

JAMES HAN



ArtsNotes



Member of Lamar Dance Company April 2009

Pamela Saur, professor of English and modern languages, has translated a book of essays by Austrian scholar and writer Rose Mayreder (1858-1938). The volume, *Gender and Culture*, is the first English translation of this 1923 collection, containing some of Mayreder’s most important writings. Saur has taught English and German at Lamar since 1988. Mayreder, a feminist and peace activist, explores ideas and viewpoints about gender in a broad context, reaching back to Greek and Roman antiquity as well as tracing church history and interweaving views of philosophers, writers and the intellectuals of her day . . . Noted British poet **John Whitworth** read from his work April 23 at the Dishman Art Museum. The event



JOHN WHITWORTH

included a book-signing and reception, sponsored by Sigma Tau Delta, English honors society. Whitworth also was honored with the first Eleanor Poetry Room Award, funded by the family of the late

Eleanor Perlstein Weinbaum, longtime supporter of poetry at Lamar . . . **Lamar Opera Theatre** presented excerpts from opera, operetta and musical repertoire March 5 on the Lamar campus. Highlights included scenes from Mozart’s *Don Giovanni* and *The Magic Flute*, Gilbert and Sullivan’s *The Mikado*, Rossini’s *Barber of Seville* and Broadway hits *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Kiss Me Kate* . . . **Noel (Husband) Turner** ’93, ’94, ’95 has completed her debut season as director

of the Cardinal Singers. Turner was a member of the popular show choir from 1988 to 1993, studying with Barbara Mathis. She is an adjunct instructor of voice at Lamar, teaches private lessons and is music ministries director at Wesley United Methodist Church . . . In the early 1970s, fewer than 2 percent of art galleries in the United States displayed the works of female artists. Painter **Janet Fish** banded



NOEL TURNER

together with other artists to display their work in supportive, cooperatively owned galleries in New York City’s SoHo neighborhood. The Dishman Art Museum hosted an exhibition in April titled *Better Than Ever: Women Figurative Artists of '70s SoHo Co-ops* that reunited 19 of these artists. “A recent study found that female artists’ representation in galleries has edged up to 15-20 percent, but we still have a long way to go,” said **Fu Chia-Wen Lien**, director of the Dishman Art Museum . . . **The Dishman Art Museum** presented the Senior Thesis Exhibition May 1-14 with projects ranging from painting, sculpture, printmaking and drawing to computer graphics. The exhibit showcased works by **Trishalana Adair** of Altus, Okla.; **Jack Charles Comeaux**, Port Arthur; **Jillian Day**, China; **Robert Day**, Fort Worth; **Katy Dubuisson**, Groves; **Patricia Gil de Garcia**, Monterrey, **Nuevo Leon**, Mexico; **Sarah Mannino**, Beaumont; and **Anna Myers**,



Bridge City . . . An exhibit of portfolios from Lamar’s interior design program was on display June 26-July 11 in the Dishman Art Museum . . . **Lamar dance students** enjoyed an active spring with a jazz workshop/master class and performances. Acclaimed choreographer and dance instructor Lauren Thompson led the master class, then worked with the Lamar Dance Company to choreograph a piece for its spring concert, *AttenDANCE*, April 16 and 17. Dance faculty members **Lou Arrington**, **Harriet Lihs**, **Julie Parker** and **Golden Wright** created the program for the concert, which featured ballet, modern and jazz. Among highlights were student compositions by **Jalissa Williams** of Missouri City and **Angel-Marie Goines** of La Porte, incorporating live music by another dance student, **Amanda Kelly** of Beaumont. As a finale to the spring season, the Repertory Dance Theatre presented a demonstration on the history of modern dance, led by artistic director **Michelle Ozmun** . . . *Driftwood*, a musical for broadcast and compact disc, premiered Aug. 22 on Lamar public radio KVLU. Billed a “Gulf Coast musical for the mind,” *Driftwood* is a collaboration by **Johnny Edson**, an Austin singer-songwriter and Beaumont native, and **Herman Bennett** ’72, a veteran Austin performer and Port Arthur native. They are among 26 actors and musicians featured on *Driftwood*, a radio play in the format of 1940s programs.

City honors Simmons with lifetime music achievement award

President James “Jimmy” Simmons became the inaugural recipient of the Dr. Raul Ornelas Lifetime Music Achievement Award, presented May 9 at the fourth annual Beaumont Jazz + Blues Festival.

The city of Beaumont honored Simmons “for his contributions to music and for being an exemplary citizen and ambassador to the city of Beaumont,” according to a proclamation Mayor Becky Ames read during the festival.

Mayor Becky Ames and President Simmons

The award was established to recognize the many contributions of Ornelas, who was a professor of music at Lamar University from 1972 until his death in 2008. An internationally known trumpet virtuoso and arranger, Ornelas furthered music education at Lamar, teaching and mentoring music students who went on to national prominence as performers and teachers.





Lamarissimo! marks musical milestone ...

The *Lamarissimo!* concert series will bring the curtain up this fall on its 20th-anniversary season. Lamar's acclaimed off-campus showcase for student and faculty talent will celebrate the milestone beginning with the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band Oct. 6. Season tickets are \$40 for adults and \$20 for students and are on sale, along with gift certificates, in the Department of Music, (409) 880-8144.

... after a swinging spring season



▲ Graduate assistant Michelle Melancon of Nederland, on saxophone, shares the spotlight at the Jazz Bands Concert with guest artists Don Rollins '83, Travis Harris '90, Maria Harris and President Jimmy Simmons.



▲ Faculty artist Robert Culbertson, horn, now interim chair of the Department of Music, has been part of *Lamarissimo!* since the concert series' inception in 1990. He coordinated the Faculty Artists Concert, *Music of the Americas*.



▲ Soprano Debra Greschner entertains and enchants the audience with the Gershwins' *My Cousin in Milwaukee*.



▲ The Lamar Dance Company and Cardinal Singers dazzle their audience at the *Lamarissimo!* 2008-2009 season finale.

'Red and White' elegance

The "Red and White" Le Grand Bal presented by the Friends of the Arts brought an evening of grace and elegance to Southeast Texas March 21. The Bal attracted about 400 patrons to the Dishman Art Museum and Montagne Center. Albert Nolen was chair for the event, which honored Tommy Vance and his wife, the former Jo Shear of Beaumont, longtime supporters of the arts at Lamar. Entertainment at the Bal was provided by The Night & Day Orchestra, under the direction of Wayne Dyess, professor of music, and Commercial Art, a Houston band specializing in vintage soul and classic rock. The major annual fund-raiser provides valuable support to the College of Fine Arts and Communication, including scholarships and educational enhancements such as master classes, visiting artists, and trips to clinics and workshops.



▲ Art auction overview in Dishman Art Museum



▲ Melanie Dishman and Bal chair Albert Nolen



▲ Honorees Jo and Tommy Vance take center stage.



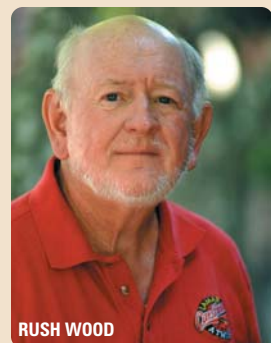
IN THE DISHMAN AND ON STAGE

ART	MUSIC	THEATRE & DANCE
Sept. 23-Oct. 21, Bill Pangburn & Renee Magnanti Art Exhibition, reception 7-9 p.m. Sept. 25	Oct. 6, <i>Lamarissimo!</i> Wind Ensemble and Concert Band, 7:30 p.m., Julie Rogers Theatre	Oct. 8-10, <i>The Wicked One</i> , 8 p.m., Oct. 11, 2 p.m., written by Christopher Murray, University Theatre
Oct. 30-Nov. 20, Honwen Lin Art Exhibition, reception 7-9 p.m. Nov. 13	Oct. 19, Industrial Carillon, 7:30 p.m., Mobil Oil Federal Credit Union	Nov. 19-20, Dance Concert: Donald McKayle's <i>Games</i> , 7:30 p.m., University Theatre
Dec. 4-17, Senior Thesis Exhibition, reception, 7-9 p.m. Dec. 4	Oct. 25, Masters Concert Series, 2 p.m., Wesley United Methodist Church	Nov. 12-14 & 16-17, <i>All in the Timing</i> , 8 p.m., Nov. 15, 2 p.m., written by David Ives, Studio Theatre
Jan. 11-Feb. 18, Meredith "Butch" Jack Art Exhibition, reception 7-9 p.m. Jan. 14	Nov. 1, Choir Concert, 3 p.m., First United Methodist Church	Feb. 11-13 & 15-16, <i>An Evening with Horton Foote</i> , 8 p.m., Feb. 14, 2 p.m., three one-act plays by Horton Foote, Studio Theatre
Exhibit location: Dishman Art Muesum unless otherwise noted	Nov. 3, Jazz Bands Concert, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre	
	Nov. 5, <i>Lamarissimo!</i> Faculty Artists, 7:30 p.m., Julie Rogers Theatre	
	Dec. 6, <i>Lamarissimo!</i> A Cappella Choir Holiday Concert, 3 p.m., Jefferson Theatre	
	Dec. 8, Lamar Civic Orchestra, 7:30 p.m., Setzer Student Center Ballroom	

Rush Wood rejoins Lamar University athletic staff

Longtime Southeast Texas sports journalist Rush Wood has come out of retirement to assume the duties of assistant athletic director for sports information at Lamar.

Wood, who began his sports journalism career in 1967, formerly served 12 years as sports information director at Lamar from 1979-1991. In May, Wood retired



RUSH WOOD

from The Beaumont Enterprise after more than nine years as assistant sports editor.

As Lamar's assistant AD for sports information, Wood will oversee the media relations efforts of Lamar's men's and women's athletic program. He will be

the school's primary contact for football and baseball.

"We are confident in Rush's ability to help us make a smooth transition in the resurrection of our football program and in helping to provide a stabilizing force for the sports information department," said Billy Tubbs, Lamar's director of athletics.

Coaches, trainer come on board

Former standout **Emily Spickler** is the new assistant coach for Lady Cardinals basketball. The



EMILY SPICKLER

Salina, Kan., native spent the last two seasons as the top 3-point threat for the Lady Cardinals. "With Emily, we are getting the complete package as her court awareness

and knowledge of the game, displayed while playing for the Lady Cardinals, was amazing," head Coach Larry Tidwell said . . . **David McDonald**, who most recently worked with TCU's Horned Frogs program, has joined the staff as assistant athletic trainer to work primarily with the men's basketball

program . . . **Angie Nickens** has joined the Cardinals as an assistant women's soccer coach after spending the previous six seasons as a student-athlete and staff member at TCU. After starring on the field for the Horned Frogs from 2003-07, she served as director of operations for the program.



ANGIE NICKENS



CHRIS STROUD

VALENTINO MAURICIO

Stroud nears \$1.7 million; Stefani earns first title

Team Stroud turned out in force when Lamar's favorite son of the PGA Tour had the rare opportunity to play in his own back yard—just three miles from the home in North Houston he shares with wife, Tiffany.

For Chris Stroud '04, the Shell Houston Open at Redstone Golf Club was like a reunion, attracting a hundred or more family, friends and fans. "Team Stroud is coming with full impact this week," said Stroud, taking a break from a day of practice that often involves chipping or putting up to 400 balls. "It's awesome. I just have great support."

Brian White '89, Lamar's head golf coach, stayed close to Stroud's side. "He's been my swing coach forever, and we have had good success together," said White's student.

Through mid-August, the two-time Lamar All-America golfer had collected season earnings of \$533,890, bringing his career total to \$1,699,751. His best finish this season was a tie for sixth at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. At Redstone, Stroud tied for 31st.

For Stroud, the PGA Tour is a seven-day-a-week commitment. "Monday is a travel day, and Tuesday through Sunday is the tournament," he said. "The travel part is a little bit tough. But being with all these great people and everybody who is part of the PGA Tour is just a fantastic deal."

In a season highlight, Stroud and former Lamar teammate Shawn Stefani '05 both qualified for the U.S. Open, though neither made the cut.

Stefani, a Baytown resident, won his first title on the NGA Hooters Tour in the Onion Creek Classic July 27-Aug. 2 in Austin, shooting a 7-under-par 63 in the final round.

"I made some nervy swings," Stefani told the Austin American-Statesman. "When I hit good shots, I took advantage. When I hit bad shots, I got lucky breaks and took advantage of those too."

The win at Onion Creek earned Stefani a \$33,566 paycheck. "The money's just a bonus," he said. "You play golf to win."



SHAWN STEFANI

New facilities take shape

Construction begins on new LU Athletic Complex, playing field and soccer complex

Lamar University's construction boom has begun a new phase with preparations for the new Athletic Complex adjacent to Provost Umphrey Stadium. The old J.B. Higgins Field House will be reborn, and the heritage embodied in the Higgins name will be incorporated into the new Athletic Complex, a 44,000-square-foot facility.

In early June, Hellas Construction of Austin began demolition of the natural turf field at W.S. "Bud" Leonard Field to make way for a state-of-the-art, artificial-turf playing surface. The same "Matrix" turf is used at the new Dallas Cowboys stadium.



LAMAR UNIVERSITY SOCCER FIELD AND SOFTBALL/SOCCER FIELDHOUSE- SITE PLAN

Renovations to Provost Umphrey Stadium, which will be home to the new Cardinals football program, also began in June. A new field lighting system will be installed.

Farther south on campus, work began in mid-June on a new soccer complex at the

intersection of Cardinal Drive and Rolfe Christopher Drive. Crews from Pepper-Lawson Construction of Houston expect to have the field completed in time for the team's third season this fall. When the women take the field under second-year head coach Dewi Hardman, it will be on a full-size, natural-grass field capable of hosting post-season competition. It includes permanent seating for 500 with lighting for night games. Construction on a field house for the program will continue through November. The new field house will include offices for the soccer program, as well as dressing rooms for home and visiting teams. It will also include facilities for equipment storage, laundry and athletic trainers.

Lamar University Athletics has begun a Construction Blog and installed a Web cam to help Cardinals fans keep up with construction projects on campus to improve athletics programs. These may be found at lamarcardinals.com/blog/constructionblog.html.

LU Pitchers get drafted

Lamar pitchers **Kevin Angelle**, **James Brandhorst**, **Brian Needham** and **Ricky Testa** were selected by clubs in the 2009 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft.

Testa plays for the Colorado Rockies organization, the third Cardinal to do so. The Mesquite native was the 10th pick of the 18th round, becoming the highest LU draftee since Michael Ambort was a sixth-round choice of San Francisco in 2007.

San Antonio right-hander Brandhorst was picked by the Baltimore Orioles with the fifth choice of the 20th round. This is the second-consecutive year for a Cardinal junior to be selected, after Justin Walker's selection



KEVIN ANGELLE



JAMES BRANDHORST



BRIAN NEEDHAM



RICKY TESTA

in the 41st round by the Cincinnati Reds in 2008.

The New York Mets selected Needham as the 23rd pick of the 28th round, making him the fourth Cardinal all-time to be picked by the organization. The righty from Sugar Land, Texas, was previously drafted by the Astros in the 18th round of the 2005 draft out of Dulles High School.

Angelle had to wait until the final day, but not too long into the process, as the Philadelphia Phillies made their first-ever pick of a Lamar player with the 26th selection of the 31st round. The Bridge City native was previously drafted by the Texas Rangers in 2006.

Lamar has now had at least one player drafted for eight consecutive years and in 16 of the last 17 drafts. LU leads the Southland Conference in all-time draftees, with 59 in 32 years as a league member.

We hope you enjoy reading about former classmates. If you have news to share – a position announcement, milestone, achievement, wedding, baby – or know the whereabouts of a lost alumnus, we want to hear from you.

Send us your news:
Write to Cadence, P.O. Box 10011, Beaumont, TX 77710,
e-mail cynthia.hicks@lamar.edu or call (409) 880-8421.

40s

Paul Johnson '47, A.A. general studies, is retired and lives in Houston with his wife, Joan.

Tom Whitson '47, A.A. general studies, retired as a band director in the Cleburne school district and lives in Beaumont.

Tony Crutchfield '49, A.A. general studies, is owner of Crutchfield Engineering and lives in Corpus Christi with his wife, Helen.

Leonard Davis '49, A.A. general studies, received the Governor's 2009 Criminal Justice Volunteer Service Award in recognition of the extensive time he has spent ministering to inmates incarcerated in Texas prisons. He lives in Orange.

Martha (Madole) Withers '49, certif. general studies, has lived in California for 43 years. She is retired and lives in Murrieta, Calif., with her husband, Norman.

50s

Mary Louise (Jones) Humphrey '51, B.S. elementary education, teaches in the Beaumont school district, where she lives with her husband, **Stanley** '51, A.A. general studies.

Bill Lierman '53, B.S. health and physical education, is retired and lives in Rosebud with his wife, Mary.

Harley Courtney '55, B.B.A. accounting, earned a master's degree in business from Texas A&M and a doctorate degree in accounting from the University of Illinois. He is retired and lives in Arlington with his wife, Ann. They have spent the last four years living and traveling in their motor home.

Al Henderson '56, B.B.A. general business, earned a law degree from the University of Houston and is retired. He and his wife, Jan, live in Spring.

Barbara (Britt) Thompson '56, B.S. music, lives in Cloudland, Ga., with her husband, Hugh.

Bonnie (Sohlinger) Kokinos '57, directed the Beaumont Ballet Theatre dancers as they represented Southeast Texas at the Regional Dance America/Southwest Ballet Festival at the Stafford Center in Sugar Land. She received the 2009 Dance Masters of America President's Award in honor of the organization's 125th anniversary. She lives in Beaumont.

Robert Emery '57, B.S. health and physical education, retired after a 30-year teaching career and lives in Beaumont.

George Dunlop '59, B.A. geology, is retired and lives in High Island.

Betty (Allen) Iles '59, B.S. elementary education, '65, M.Ed. elementary education, '94, M.A. visual arts, serves in the Place 1 seat on the Lumberton school board.

Jerry Rollins '59, B.S. electrical engineering, is retired and lives in Panama City Beach, Fla.

60s

Annette (Valentino) Clark '61, B.S. graphic design, is owner of Design Associates in Houston. She lives in Missouri City.

Nancy (Gordan) Hooker '61, B.B.A. secretarial science, is tech prep director at Lamar State College in Orange, where she lives with her husband, James.

Lee Joseph '61, B.B.A. management, earned a law degree from Akron University and is a lawyer at Matthews Law Firm in Houston. He lives in Spring with his wife, Carolyn.

Maydell King '61, B.B.A. secretarial science, retired as a teacher at Nederland High School and now teaches part time at Lamar State College-Port Arthur. She lives in Groves.

Tom Giannopoulos '62, B.S. electrical engineering, has been inducted into the International Hospitality Technology Hall of Fame by the Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals. He is chairman, president and chief executive officer of MICROS Systems.

Anna (Andrews) Horton '62, B.S. music, is retired and lives in Longview with her husband, Dale.

Pike Powers '62, B.A. government, was the recipient of the Distinguished Lawyer Award from the Austin Bar Association and Foundation. He managed the office of Fulbright & Jaworski for more than 28 years in Austin, where he lives.

Juanita (Whittington) Brownlee '63, B.S. home economics, '73, M.Ed. secondary education, is a retired math teacher from the Beaumont school district and lives in The Woodlands.

Richard Henson '63, B.S. biology, earned his master's and doctorate from Texas A&M University and lives in Sugar Groves, N.C., with his wife, Betty.

Marilyn (Stephenson) Singleton '63, B.S. elementary education, lives in Vidor with her husband, Joseph.

Robert Tolar '63, B.S. mathematics, earned a master's degree from the University of Texas and a doctoral degree from Texas A&M. He is a professor at the College of the Canyons in Valencia, Calif., where he lives with his spouse, Debra.

Sandra Whyte '63, B.S. health and kinesiology, is retired and lives in Houston.

Timothy Campbell '65, B.A. French, is retired and lives in Houston.

Charlotte (Watson) Collins '65, B.S. elementary education, retired from teaching and lives in Brookeland with her husband, Gary.

Don Hough '65, B.M. music education, won the Neill Humfeld Award for teaching excellence from the International Trombone Association. He is professor emeritus of music at the University of Tennessee and lives in Maryville, Tenn.

William Mashburn '65, B.B.A. general business, is retired and lives in Houston.

Brenda (Ward) Rakestraw '65, B.S. medical technology, is retired and lives in Liberty.

Sandra (Cockrell) Sherman '65, B.S. elementary education, is coordinator for the Region 6 Education Service Center in Huntsville, where she lives with her husband, Jacob.

Billy Black '66, B.S. industrial engineering, '71, civil engineering, retired and is living in Alvarado, with his wife, Joyce.

Pat (Wilson) Fry '66, B.B.A. secretarial science, is retired and lives in Kerrville with her husband, Lee.

Gail (Alexander) Krohn '66, B.S. elementary education, '71, M.Ed. elementary education, has been appointed to the board of Catholic Charities of Southeast Texas. She is superintendent of Nederland schools and lives in Port Arthur.

Jack Schneider '66, B.A. English, is vice president of instruction at McLennan Community College in Waco. He lives in Woodway.

Patricia (Weichel) Silberman '66, B.S. elementary education, earned her law degree from the University of Maryland and retired from private law practice. She lives in Westminster, Md., with her husband, Steven, and now breeds, raises and shows Tibetan Spaniels.

Alvin Stephens Jr. '66, B.B.A. accounting, lives in Colorado Springs, Colo., with his wife, Rebecca.

Lora Warren '66, B.S. speech, earned a law degree from Texas Tech and is a retired administrative law judge. She lives in Lago Vista.

Frances Hohn '67, B.S. elementary education, teaches and lives in Montreal, Quebec.

Perry Murphy '67, B.B.A. marketing, is retired and lives in Kearney, Mo.

Beverly (Landry) Parks '67, B.S. music, '78, M.M. music, retired as a music specialist and lives in Beaumont.

Fairis Samuelson '67, B.S. geology, is senior geologist at Trinity Storage Services and lives in Richmond.

Terry Barrett '68, B.B.A. marketing, is sales manager for Mosehart-Schleeter Co. in Houston. He lives in Kingwood.

John Howard '68, B.S. industrial engineering, is president of the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce. He owns Tres Hermanos and lives in Center with his wife, Merle.

Mary (Martin) Patterson '68, B.S. elementary education, is retired and lives in Bonita Springs, Fla., with her husband, Reid.

Ronald Stepan '68, certif. drafting technology, is owner of Ron's Custom Home Design in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Georgette.

Bonnie (Ownby) Longnion '69, B.S. elementary education, '70, M.Ed. elementary education, earned a doctorate from Texas A&M. She retired from the Lone Star College System after 25 years and a total of 39 years in education. She has served more than 20 years on the school board in Humble, where she lives.

Patricia (Hart) Sherman '69, B.S. elementary education, teaches in Harleton school district. She lives in Diana, with her husband, Herbert. They have three adult sons—twins, who are both pastors, and another son, who is a surveyor.

Robert Ewart '70, B.S. government, '83, M.P.A. public administration, is city administrator for Pinehurst.

70s

Carol (Heinrich) Gilchrist '70, B.S. graphic design, won Best of Show at the sixth annual East Texas Art League membership show for her pastel, *Aspens IV*. She lives in Jasper.

Karin (Monarcha) Hargis '70, B.A. psychology, and her husband, Michael, celebrated their 25th anniversary April 19. Now retired, they share four children and four grandchildren.

William Stringer '70, B.B.A. marketing, is vice president and broker at Ausvest Inc. in Austin, where he lives with his wife, **Cheri (Clotiaux)** '69, B.S. graphic design. She is a partner with Fire Fly Creatives, also in Austin.

Ronald Thurston '70, B.S. industrial engineering, is industrial sales representative for Wholesale Pump in Shreveport, La., where he lives.

Ronnie Baird '71, is owner of KBB Services in Lufkin, where he lives. He was a Cardinal football kicker from 1969 to 1971.

Billy Black '66, B.S. industrial engineering, '71, civil engineering, retired and is living in Alvarado, with his wife, Joyce.

Alice (Drake) Calloway '72, B.S. elementary education, retired from a full-time teaching

career. She teaches part time with Region 5 Education Service Center and lives in Silsbee with her husband, Art.

Linda (Graham) Morgan '71, M.Ed. guidance and counseling, earned a doctoral degree and is a therapist for Coastal Counseling. She lives in Savannah, Ga., with her husband, Dr. Robert Morgan.

Ann (McDonald) Solomon '71, B.S. health education, earned a degree in education supervision from Sam Houston State University and lives in Houston with her husband, Tommy.

Rhea Helmreich '72, B.S. elementary education, has spent 30 years in education. She directs and teaches at Pilot Grove C-4 School in Pilot Grove, Mo. She lives in Boonville, Mo.

Carol (Lowe) Lee '72, certif. vocational nursing, is a registered nurse and lives in San Antonio. She has a son and daughter serving tours of duty in Iraq.

Cheryl (Elliott) McCann '72, certif. secretarial science, is webmaster for Global Business Café in The Woodlands. She and her husband, Michael, live in Montgomery.

Richard Palmer '72, B.S. civil engineering, earned a master's degree from Stanford University and a doctoral degree from Johns Hopkins University. He is professor and chair of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, Mass., where he lives.

Betty (Clark) Smith '72, B.S. elementary education, taught kindergarten and first grade for 22 years and retired from the state of Alaska. She lives in Burkeville with her husband, Reid.

John Hasson '73, B.B.A. accounting, '79, M.B.A. business administration, is associate dean of the School of Business at Stevens-Henager College in Orem, Utah, where he lives with his wife, Rondee.

Jane (Bonnin) Ketcham '73, B.S. elementary education, is a retired elementary school teacher and lives in Pearland with her husband, Amos.

Catherine (Pierce) Parker '73, B.S. elementary education, teaches pre-kindergarten in the Devers school district. She lives in Hardin with her husband, Bob.

Karl Placetate '73, B.B.A. accounting, is retired and lives in Franklin, Pa., with his wife, Valerie.

Randy Roll '73, B.A. history, earned his law degree from the South Texas College of Law and is judge of the 179th District Court of Harris County. He has been a sole practitioner in Houston for 20 years and is fluent in Russian, Spanish and French. He lives in Houston.

Brenda (King) Squyres '73, B.S. home economics, is branch manager and vice president of the Sealy branch of Capital One Bank. She and her husband, **Dennis** '73, B.S. biology, live in Katy.

Help Morris reach his goal...one ride at a time.

Morris Lee '73, '79, is only one man, but his self-imposed mission is for every vehicle belonging to a Lamar graduate to display an LU Alumni window decal. He began with family and close friends. Now, the retired Travis Elementary School principal has moved on to businesses and friends of friends. Soon, he'll be leaving one on your doorstep.

Lee remembers the days in the mid-'50s and, later, when he was a Lamar Tech student, almost every car sported a Lamar Tech decal. Recently, he solicited a current one from Coach Steve Roccaforte, whom Lee used to umpire in Little League baseball. Lee put it on his blue Chevrolet pickup truck. Sometime later, he called the Alumni Office for another, but thought twice and asked for five or ten. Lee said, "I got rid of them instantly. I thought, 'Wait a minute. We have season tickets to Lamar baseball games. I would like some that say Lamar Cardinals and some that say Lamar Alumni.' She sends them to me. They go like hotcakes. People want more. I say, 'Well, I can take care of you.'" Since then, Lee has paired more than 400 alumni with window decals.

"I am a firm believer that in order for you to be successful, you have to surround yourself with people of like mind who are goal-oriented, that have a belief in setting attainable, measurable goals that are realistic," Lee said. "You monitor yourself as you go along; you make adjustments where you need to, and you continue to move forward. If you do that, in all probability, you're going to be successful. You've got to start somewhere. It's our responsibility to promote our own product because if we don't, no one will. Success breeds success, and the more successful you are, the more opportunities are going to be available on this campus. I just take opportunities to do what I can do to assist."

It's one way that anybody and everybody who is a Lamar graduate can help promote Lamar, Lee said.

- You can display an LU Alumni auto decal on your vehicle to show pride in your alma mater wherever you live
- Auto decals help to promote LU name recognition, especially to prospective students
- Placing an auto decal on your vehicle is a small gesture of pride in your alma mater that can have a big impact



With more than 73,000 LU graduates and counting, these auto decals have the potential to make Lamar University's name known around the world.

Please, won't you help Morris?

To get free Lamar University Alumni auto decals, e-mail alumni@lamar.edu or call the Office of Alumni Affairs at (409) 880-8921 or (800) 298-4839.

Donnie Stephenson '73, B.S. health and physical education, is a paralegal for ExxonMobil in Houston, where she lives.

Josephine (Cantu) Weber '73, M.Ed. counseling and development, lives in Tucson, Ariz., with her husband, **Warren** '62, B.S. government, '74, M.A. political science.

Christine Gordon-Hunter '74, B.S. communication, was recognized for her outstanding community service as Woman of the Year by the Beaumont branch of the National Association of University Women. She is a licensed counselor, a caseworker for the Department of Human Services, a black recruitment specialist for Child Protective Services and founder of the Black Adoption Council of Southeast Texas. She is also president of the Golden Triangle Association of Black Social Workers. She lives in Beaumont.

Judith (Fischer) Powell '74, B.S. speech, teaches in St. Tammany Parish in Covington, La. She lives in Mandeville, La., with her husband, Doug.

Richard Rafes '74, B.A. government, earned a law degree from the University of Houston and his doctoral degree from University of North Texas. He is president of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, W.Va., where he lives with his wife, Tommye.

Bobby Adamson '75, B.B.A. economics, is lead counselor in the Angleton school district. He lives in Pearland with his wife, Lisa.

Joellyn (Harper) Creamer '75, B.S. medical technology, is a medical technician at Life Share Blood Centers in Beaumont. She lives in Sour Lake.

Robert Cuddy '75, B.S. health and physical education, retired after a 25-year career with the Federal Aviation Administration and 30 years in the air traffic control field. He lives in Wichita, Kan.

Jennifer (Langston) Martin '75, B.S. home economics, '80, M.S. home economics, earned a doctorate degree from Texas Woman's University in consumer sciences. She is vice provost and dean of the Texas Woman's University graduate school.

Claudia (Cheshire) Nash '75, B.S. health education, teaches and coaches in the Warren school district, where she lives with her husband, Martin, who is a county commissioner in Tyler County.

Barbara (Fawvor) Shrout '75, B.A. English, earned her education doctoral degree from Stephen F. Austin State University. She is administrator of Calvin Nelms Charter Schools and lives in Katy.

Donald Siau '75, B.A. political science, is retired and lives in Jasper, with his wife, Sandy.

Susan (Heatley) Baldwin '76, A.A.S. nursing, '83, B.S. psychology, is vice president of peri-operative services for NS-LIJ Health System in Roslyn, N.Y., where she lives with her hus-

band, Dr. Curtis Baldwin.

Darrell Landry '76, A.A.S. mid-management, lives in Beaumont with his wife, **Carol (Wood)** '92, B.B.A. general business.

Cindy Shenk '76, certif. vocational nursing, is retired. She and her husband, Donald, live in Winnie and enjoy traveling in their motor home. They have eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Paul Bloyd '77, A.A.S. drafting technology, is design supervisor of instrumentation and control systems at CB&I in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Lynette.

Theresa (Greenhaw) Landry '77, B.S. medical technology, earned a doctoral degree in pharmacology in 2000 and is a senior director at Alcon Laboratories in Fort Worth, where she lives with her husband, Ted.

Glenn Moore '77, B.B.A. marketing, is an agent for State Farm Insurance in Pflugerville. He lives in Georgetown with his wife, Teri.

Laurence Smith '77, B.S. electrical engineering, is senior engineer at Aerotek Energy Services and lives in Humble.

Family Services of Southeast Texas named Zummo Meat Co. in Beaumont Family Business of the Year. Owner **Frank Zummo** '78, certif. respiratory technology, **Mark Zummo** '83, B.B.A. management, and **Ryan Zummo** '07, B.B.A. marketing, were among family employees honored.

Dr. Danny Addington '79, B.S. chemical engineering, earned a dental degree from the University of Texas and practices in Atlanta. He lives in Bivins with his wife, **Carolyn (Miller)** '78, certif. vocational nursing. They have one child and one grandchild.

Charles Breithaupt '75, B.S. health and physical education, '79, M.S. health and kinesiology, was named executive director of the University Interscholastic League. He lives in Georgetown.

Donald Citrano '79, B.B.A. management, owns The Coffee Shop Café in McGregor. It was named one of the 40 best small-town cafes in Texas by Texas Monthly Magazine.

James Clark '79, B.S. chemical engineering, is business director for LyondellBasell in Wilmington, Del. He lives in Chads Ford, Pa.

Roger Dimick '76, B.B.A. accounting, '91, B.S. economics, '02, M.B.A. business administration, is a German language specialist for Continental Airlines. He lives in Houston.

Sandra (McKinley) Ellington '76, B.S. elementary education, '79, M.Ed. special education, owns Administrative Leadership Development and Life Coaching in Beaumont, where she lives.

Manuel Moreno Jr. '79, B.S. communication, received the 2009 Denene Bammel Coach of the Year Award in the Spring Branch school district. The award recognized him as having the best traits of a good coach and for his

long-term commitment to the sport of tennis and high school tennis.

Freddy Richardson '79, A.A.S. mid-management, is an operator for DuPont. He lives in Village Mills with his wife, Cindy.

Anne (Wyche) Sexton '79, B.G.S. general studies, is school nurse at St. Thomas Episcopal School in Houston, where she lives.

Lee Spears '79, B.A. sociology, was reappointed to the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners. She is a social worker in the Harris County Hospital District Ben Taub General Hospital and a social work field instructor for both the University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work and Texas Southern University. She lives in Thompsons.

Andrew Washington '79, B.S. health and physical education, is head football coach at Central High School in Beaumont, where he lives. He played defensive back for Lamar University in the 1970s.

Joseph Wilson '79, B.S. elementary education, celebrates his 30th year in the education profession. He teaches and coaches at Weatherford High School, where he lives with his wife, **Laura (Crisp)** '77, certif. vocational nursing.

80s

Kandy (Anderson) Daniel '80, B.B.A. accounting, is retired and owns her own business, WineStyles, in Beaumont, where she lives.

Tom Morris '80, A.A.S. drafting technology, is principal designer at NanWorleyParsons in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. He works on the north slope of Alaska for BP Exploration, and he lives in Anchorage.

Karen (Rodrique) Varnado '80, B.S. biology, is quality assurance manager at Analytical Products Group. She retired from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. She is a board member of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference and lives in Baton Rouge.

Mitch Woods '80, A.S. law enforcement, '82, B.S. criminal justice, was named 2009 Citizen of the Year by the Neches River Festival for his resolve during Hurricane Ike recovery efforts in 2008.

Clayton Bonnett '81, B.B.A. accounting, is chief executive officer and senior administrator at Family Medicine Clinic in Copperas Cove. He lives in Georgetown.

Robert Rigdon '81, B.S. mechanical engineering, is president and chief executive officer of Synthesis Energy Systems in Houston, where he lives. He previously held positions with Texaco, ChevronTexaco and GE Energy.

Kenneth Wall '81, B.S.W. social work, earned a master's degree in public administration and a law degree from the University of Texas. He is a lawyer with Oaks, Hartline

and Daly in Houston and teaches at the University of Houston.

Cathy (Camp) Webb '81, A.A.S. dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist and works in Houston, where she lives with her husband, Jeff.

Penny (Feltman) Davis '82, B.B.A. marketing, works for Hoffmann-LaRoche in Nutley, N.J. She lives in Houston with her husband, Austin.

Rene (Hearn) Hoffpauir '82, B.S. secondary education, '91, M.E. counseling and development, is a school counselor at Georgetown High School. She lives in Georgetown with her husband, **Kenneth**, '76, B.S. health education, '82, M.S. kinesiology, who is retiring as head basketball coach at the same school to become an assistant coach for McMurry University in Abilene.

John O'Neill III '82, B.B.A. accounting, is a partner at Wathen, DeShong & Juncker. He lives in Beaumont with his wife, **Darlene (Vaughn)** '83, B.S. elementary education, who teaches at St. Anne Catholic School.

Steven Swift -82, is senior warden of the Price Daniel Unit in Snyder.

Michael Davis '83, B.S. criminal justice, earned a law degree and is in private practice in Coldspring. He lives in Houston.

Charlesie Russell '83, B.S. political science, is regional director for Old Navy and lives in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., with her husband, Jim Tom Badgwell.

Charles Taylor Jr. '83, B.B.A. accounting, is president and chief executive officer of Americatel, and lives in Dallas.

Brent Coon '84, B.S. political science, earned his law degree from the University of Houston and owns the firm, Brent Coon and Associates in Beaumont. The firm was presented with the 2009 Internet Advertising Competition award for its marketing efforts in "best integrated legal campaign" called "I Hate Ike" by the Web Marketing Association. He lives in Beaumont.

Paul Davis '84, A.S. law enforcement, was appointed police chief of Bridge City. He and his wife, **Kim (Kühnl)** '85, B.S. family and consumer sciences, live in Bridge City with their two children.

Family Services of Southeast Texas named **Debra (Dougharty) Deslatte** '84, B.B.A. finance, and her husband, **David** '83, B.B.A. personnel administration, and their daughters, Family of the Year. David was instrumental in planning the Mid-County Kindness program that brought 5,000 volunteers into Bridge City to help families after Hurricane Ike. They live in Port Neches.

Wayne Holland '84, B.B.A. finance, is executive vice president of commercial lending at CommunityBank of Texas. He lives in Beaumont.

Janis (Wagner) Linder '84, B.S. elementary education, earned a master's degree from Southwest Texas. After 24 years in the Elgin school district, she is now principal of the high school. She lives in Elgin.

Rita Bass '85, B.S. kinesiology, is athletic coordinator and coach at Lincoln Junior High School in the Coldspring school district. She lives in Onalaska.

Lee Blue Jr. '85, B.B.A. general business, published a book entitled *A Collection of Spiritual Poetry*. He lives in Missouri City.

Kay (Patteson) DeCuir '85, B.S. elementary education, is executive director of the Shorkey Center. She and her husband, Bruce, live in Nederland.

Patrick Dubord '85, B.B.A. management, is service advisor for Lamb's Tire and Automotive in Austin, where he lives.

Tony Kelleybrew -85, general business, is line-haul supervisor for ABF Freight Systems in North Little Rock, Ark. He lives in Scott.

Theresa (Ward) Matejick '85, B.S. elementary education, teaches at Big Creek Elementary school in Cumming, Ga., where she lives.

Sandi (Pennisson) McCracken '85, B.S. elementary education, '00, M.Ed. elementary education, is a reading technical assistance specialist for the University of Texas. She lives in San Antonio with her husband, Michael.

Deborah Narcisse '85, B.B.A. management, teaches business in the Arlington school district, where she lives.

Larry Simmons Jr. '85, B.S. computer and information science, earned a master's degree from Southern Methodist University and a law degree from Baylor University. He is a partner with Gerner Gertz in Beaumont. He is treasurer of the Texas Association of Business and serves on the association's state board of directors.

Brad Corley '86, A.A.S. fire protection technology, is president of the Groves Chamber of Commerce and Tourist Center. He has served 28 years as a firefighter and is a captain with the Groves fire department.

Brooke Hallowell '86, M.S. audiology, earned an additional master's degree from Brown University and her doctoral degree from the University of Iowa. She is director of the School of Hearing, Speech and Language Sciences at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. She lives in Millfield, Ohio.

Jeff Culver '87, B.S. elementary education, is an engineering specialist for Freescale Semiconductor Inc. in Austin, where he lives.

Keely Jardell School of Dance in Nederland was named the No. 3-ranked company in *Dancer Magazine's* 2008 Year In Review issue. The school is owned by **Keely (Smith) Jardell** '87, B.S. dance. She and her husband, **Bill** '87, B.S. kinesiology, live in Nederland.



The Miller sisters—then and now

The Miller sisters, **Kathleen** '50, **Helen** '46 and **Georgianne** '45, are pictured at the May 2 alumni gathering at the home of Mary and Bill Mitchell. Helen and her husband, Bill, live in Lakeway. Georgianne Campbell lives in New Braunfels, and Kathleen lives in Austin. All three Millers reigned as homecoming queen at Lamar: Georgianne as college sweetheart in 1945, Helen as homecoming queen in 1946 and Kathleen as homecoming queen twice over in 1947 and 1948. The Nov. 20, 1948, issue of the Houston Chronicle stated, "Reason there will be no more Miller girls as queen of the college homecomings is that there are no more Miller girls."

Ronda (Greig) Zowarka '87, B.S. chemical engineering, is EH&S expertise leader at Dow Chemical Co. in Port Lavaca. She lives in Bloomington with her husband, Joe.

Bettye (Albert) Grigsby '88, B.S. biology, earned her master's degree from Prairie View A&M and doctoral degree from Texas A&M. She is an assistant professor at University of Houston-Clear Lake and lives in League City.

Don Pumphrey '88, B.S. communication, is customer service manager for Entergy and is board president of the Nederland Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Elaine, have two daughters.

Jennifer (Evans) Talbot '88, B.S. communication, coaches basketball at Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School in Beaumont, where she lives with her husband, Dean.

Craig Bailey '89, A.A.S. computer drafting technology, '97, A.A.S., process operating technology, is a process operator at Invista in Orange. He lives in Port Arthur.

Charles Colvin '89, B.S. psychology, '90, B.S. sociology, coaches gymnastics at Ozen High School in Beaumont. One of his male gymnasts won the floor exercise at the 2009 Texas High School Gymnastics Championships.

Gary Leger '89, B.M. music education, is a choral director in the Katy school district. He lives in Houston.

Ane (Thonsgard) Shull '89, B.S. communication disorders, '91, M.S. audiology/speech-language pathology, works at Wright Patterson Air Force Base and lives in Centerville, Ohio, with her husband, Robert.

David Stone '89, B.S. speech, was named chaplain general of the Sons of the Republic of Texas. He is an ordained Messianic rabbi and lives in Beaumont.

Deborah (Teran) Ward '89, B.B.A. management, is a financial analyst for Lockheed Martin in Stafford, Va. She and her husband, Bradley, live in Fredericksburg, Va. He serves as a major in the Marine Corps at Quantico, Va.

90s

Rodney Cavness '90, B.S. kinesiology, earned a doctoral in education at the University of Houston and is superintendent of schools in Evadale. He lives in Beaumont with his wife, Tanya. They have six children.

Keith Davis '90, B.S. computer science, is featured in a book entitled *Industry Achievers*. He is founder of Application Factory Inc., a systems development and programming com-

pany that serves the petrochemical industry. He lives in Beaumont.

Gina Giblin '90, B.A. sociology, earned a law degree from South Texas College of Law in Houston and is an attorney at Elliott E. Burdette in Dallas, where she lives.

Chris Moore '90, B.B.A. personnel administration, is national account manager for Colgate Palmolive and lives in Rogers, Ark., with his wife, Michelle. They have been married for 20 years and have two children.

Terry Sorrell '90, B.B.A. marketing, is sales representative for Pfizer Aiminal Health and lives in Lumberton.

John Valastro '90, B.S. kinesiology, '90, M.S. kinesiology, '05, M.E. school administration, is principal of Lumberton High School. He lives in Lumberton.

Brian Andreu '91, B.B.A. marketing, is senior systems operations analyst for Total Petrochemicals in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Yvette, and their two sons.

Judy (Brookshear) Havens '91, B.S. communication, lives in Port Neches with her husband, **Robert** '91, B.S. political science.

Seven alumni honored for teaching excellence

The Beaumont Foundation of America has chosen seven alumni to receive the inaugural Reaud Excellence in Education Award in recognition of superior contributions of teachers whose leadership and dedication inspire a spirit of learning.

Those alumni are **Deborah (Commack) Amy** ’73, B.S. elementary education, a teacher at Henderson Middle School in the Hardin-Jefferson school district; **Sharon (Womack) Woolley** ’75, B.S. home economics, Bridge City High School; **Elizabeth Harris** ’78, B.S. health education, Nederland High School; **Cheryl (Mitterlehner) Adams** ’80, B.S. elementary education, China Elementary School in the Hardin-Jefferson school district; **Shelly (Kunetka) Burrell** ’85, B.S. elementary education, Hamshire-Fannett Middle School; **Carol (Fabre) Edgar** ’86, B.S. secondary education, Vidor High School; **Belinda (Wiltz) Taylor** ’98, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, Bingman Elementary School in the Beaumont school district.

Nearly half of the 15 recipients are Lamar graduates. Each winner received \$10,000.

Mary (Goudeau) Reid -91, business, is president of the Greater Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce and civil service commissioner for the city of Port Arthur. She lives in Port Arthur with her husband, Robert, and their four children.

Erik Shaw ’91, B.B.A. finance, was named the 2009 Mr. Nederland for the Nederland Heritage Festival. He is president and chief executive officer of FivePoint Federal Credit Union. He and his wife, Stacie, have three children.

Paul Stockman ’91, B.S. kinesiology, teaches in the Houston school district, where he lives.

Paula (Arceneaux) Ware ’91, B.S. elementary education, is director of grant compliance at the School of Excellence in Education in San Antonio. She lives in Live Oak with her husband, Roland.

Jamie Willetts ’91, B.B.A. marketing, is business development manager at Colgate/Palmolive in Bentonville, Ark., where he lives with his wife, Melissa.

Karla Caillouet ’92, B.S. speech, lives in Gulf Breeze, Fla., with her husband, **Kelly** ’91, B.S. industrial technology, who is in the Marine Corps.

Dana (Pringle) Gomez ’92, B.S. biology, is system safety consultant for Quality Assurance and Risk Management Services in League City, where she lives with her husband, Reynaldo.

Gurmeet Hanspal ’92, M.E. industrial engineering, is president of Texas SouthPillar Ltd. in Stafford. He recently opened a factory in India to manufacture pressure vessels for the U. S. oil and gas market. The factory was accredited with the U-stamp certification by the ASME in October 2008. He lives in Cypress with his wife, Nishi.

Brian Leshner ’92, B.S. criminal justice, works for Deputy Orthopaedics and lives in Rutland, Mass.

Marcus Norman ’92, B.S. political science, works at Met Life Resources and lives in Plano.

Mary Aubry ’93, B.B.A. general business, is a claims analyst for the University of Texas

System and lives in Houston.

James Morrison ’93, B.S. kinesiology, is defensive coordinator at Coldspring High School. He played baseball at Lamar University from 1988 to 1991.

Kirk Smith ’93, B.B.A. finance, is senior vice president of commercial lending at CommunityBank of Texas. He lives in Beaumont.

Lynette Vincent ’93, B.M. music, completed her doctorate in music education at the University of North Texas and is an assistant professor of music education at the University of Minnesota Duluth. She lives in Hermantown, Minn.

Kory Blizzard ’94, B.S. criminal justice, is a workforce counselor for the Texas Youth Commission in Crockett. He lives in Kennard with his wife, Leslie.

Sgt. Scott Gearhart ’94, B.M. instrumental music, performs in the Marine dance band that performs at the White House and travels with the band during the concert season. He performed at the Obama inaugural, which was his fourth presidential inaugural.

Dr. Toyya (Kinsey) Goodrich ’94, B.S. biology, earned her doctoral degree from the University of North Texas Health Science Center Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is a pediatrician in Fort Worth, where she lives with her husband, Frank, and daughter, Helena.

Gloria (Kolb) Solomon ’94, B.A. English, teaches in the La Porte school district. She lives in Beach City, with her husband, Harold.

Tamara deGaravilla ’95, M.Ed. counseling and development, was selected to represent the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals as their Region 5 Outstanding High School Assistant Principal of the Year. She and her husband, James, live in Silsbee.

Mitch Hardt ’95, B.S. health and kinesiology, is customer service manager at Kinsel Ford in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Christy.

Brook Hughes ’95, B.S. communication disorders, ’97, M.S. deaf studies, teaches at

Carrollton Christian Academy in Carrollton.

Stephanie Fournier-Hughes ’96, B.S. sociology, is associate pastor of Cypress United Methodist Church in Cypress, where she lives with her husband, Burnis.

James Molina ’96, B.S. political science, is legislative correspondent for U. S. Rep. Mike Turner’s office. He lives in Falls Church, Va.

Richard Slusher ’96, B.S. computer and information science, ’06, B.B.A. management information systems, is a personal computer support specialist at Dallas County Community College. He lives in Fort Worth, with his wife, **Faith (Brookins)** ’97, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, ’02, applied criminology.

Jack Williams ’96, B.S. theater, earned a master’s degree from the University of New Orleans and is a theater instructor and director of plays at Vernon College in Vernon.

Debbie (Prosperie) Woodson ’96, B.B.A. accounting, is controller for Hines in Houston. She and her husband, Carl, lives in Humble.

John Duff ’97, B.S. communication, is an associate director at ESPN in Bristol, Conn., where he lives.

Kimberly Green ’97, B.A. English, teaches for the New York City Department of Education in Brooklyn, where she lives.

Steven Lazenby ’96, B.S.W. social work, is a supervisor for the Department of Family and Protective Services in Beaumont. He lives in Port Neches.

Jay McCraw ’97, B.S. kinesiology, ’00, M.S. kinesiology, is regional vice president of Invesco Aim. He lives in Arlington, Va.

Luther Thompson ’97, M.Ed. school administration, is assistant principal of Memorial High School in Port Arthur, where he lives.

Tonya (Andris) Whitaker ’97, B.S. sociology, was appointed managing editor of Inside The Pew www.insidethepew.net, a non-profit online community religion news Web site. She lives in Irving with her three children.

Jayme (Herford) Musgrove ’98, B.S. commu-

nication, is a therapeutic specialty representative for Pfizer. She lives in Port Neches with her husband, Michael.

Chadwick Bourg ’99, B.B.A. management information systems, lives in Houston and works for LyondellBasell.

Bryce Darby ’99, B.S. chemical engineering, is district manager for BJ Services in Pearland, where he lives with his wife, Melissa, and their three children.

Alaric Harrell ’99, B.B.A. accounting, is lead auditor for Transocean Inc. in Houston. He is a certified public accountant and lives in Richmond.

Amy (Ellender) Moore ’99, B.S. chemical engineering, ’02, M.B.A. business administration, is a sales representative at Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. in The Woodlands. She and her husband, Michael, have a daughter, Lauren Elizabeth.

Raymond Myers-Kieran ’99, B.M. music-vocals, is president and chief executive office of Myers-Kieran Enterprises in Somerville, Mass., where he lives.

Debra (Peveto) Revels ’99, B.S. communication, is administrative assistant at Lone Star College-CyFair and lives in Cypress.

Christopher Rupp ’99, A.A.S. nursing, is a registered nurse in the intensive care unit at San Jacinto Methodist Hospital in Baytown, where he lives with his wife, Laura, and their two sons.

Emily (Ward) Swanson ’99, B.B.A. management information systems, teaches at Dishman Elementary and lives in Beaumont with her husband, **Thomas** ’95, B.A. general studies, who works at Fasulo Paint and Body.

00s

Stacy Clark ’00, B.M. music, ’08, M.M. music, is fine arts coordinator and director of bands in the La Vernia school district, where she lives.

Heather (Neeb) Elms ’00, B.B.A. finance, is a commercial lending assistant at CommunityBank of Texas in Port Arthur. She lives in Nederland, with her husband, Michael, and their two children.

Kellie Faulk ’00, B.B.A. management information systems, is senior client services representative for FiServ Financial Systems in Houston, where she lives.

Sanjay Kapasi ’00, M.E. chemical engineering, earned a master’s degree in business from the University of Texas and is in technical sales and marketing at KLA-Tencor in Austin, where he lives with his wife, Chhaya.

Corliss (Jones) Seals ’00, B.S. criminal justice, and **Derwin** ’03, B.S. industrial technology, married Feb. 21. She is a program specialist for the Texas Youth Commission, and he is a supervisor in the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office. They live in Beaumont.

Tricia (Jones) Times ’00, B.S. criminal justice, ’04, M.Ed. special education, is an educational diagnostician for Goose Creek school district. She lives in Baytown with her husband, Kevin.

Lori (Dorsey) Buckler ’01, M.B.A. business administration, is sales representative for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. She lives in Naperville, Ill., with her husband, **Bart** ’00, M.B.A. business administration, who is account manager for Timken Co.

Jesse Caillier ’01, B.S. earth and space sciences, is laboratory supervisor for the Lower Neches Valley Authority and lives in Groves with his wife, Jill, and their two children.

Brandi (Phelan) Coffin ’01, B.S. communication disorders, ’03, M.S. audiology, earned a doctorate in audiology from Salus University in Elkins Park, Pa. She practices at the Phelan Hearing Center in Beaumont.

Alex Eppes ’01, B.S. industrial technology, is an energy specialist in Bakersfield, Calif., where he lives.

Shannon (Hatton) Federoff ’01, B.G.S. general studies, is project manager for the U.S. Tennis Association in White Plains, N.Y. She and her husband, Christopher, live in Cedar Park.

Elizabeth Ford ’01, B.B.A. general business, is a human resource generalist at Rice University. She lives in Missouri City.

Manjula Krishnamurthy ’01, M.E. civil engineering, was named engineer of the year by the American Society of Indian Engineers. She serves on the society’s advisory board and works in the public works department of Pate Engineers.

Michael Lavespere ’01, B.B.A. management information systems, is vice president of Automated Voice and Data Solutions in Houston, where he lives.

Regina (Jacks) Lindsey ’01, B.G.S. general studies, is executive director of Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition, an economic development group for the Greens Point region to the Houston ship channel.

Amir Ovcina ’01, B.S. electrical engineering, is senior controls engineer at Benteler Automotive in Opelika, Ala. He lives in Auburn, Ala., with his wife, Lejla and one son.

Melinda (Dallas) Petersen ’01, M.S. industrial psychology, and Gerald Peterson married March 21, 2009. She is employed at Valero, and they live in Beaumont.

Jason Stepan ’01, B.S. biology, is a physical therapist and co-owner/vice president of Hands On School of Massage in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Kristi.

Carey (Tisdale) West ’01, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, teaches kindergarten in the Buna school district and lives in Bridge City with her husband, Robert.

Monica Cortez ’02, M.S. deaf studies/deaf education, is a case manager for People of Color Network in Phoenix, Ariz., where she lives.

Jonathan Crisman ’02, B.B.A. management, is area operations manager for Hospice Source and lives in The Woodlands.

Hemanth Krishnamachari ’02, M.S. computer science, is software engineer at Global Bay Mobile Technologies in South Palinfeld, N.J. He lives in Edison, N.J., with his wife, **Chandana (Mukka)** ’02, M.S. computer science, who works as a programmer analyst at Proximo Consulting Services in New York, N.Y. They have a son.

Kyle Pair ’02, B.S. electrical engineering, is sales representative for Cooper Crouse-Hinds in Houston. He and his wife, **Kacey (Dunlap)** ’03, B.G.S. general studies, live in Baytown.

Kendra Tevis ’02, B.S.W. social work, is a social worker 2 at Parkland Hospital in Dallas. She lives in Lancaster.

Tanya Boucher ’03, M.B.A. business administration, is customer marketing manager for Shell Oil in Houston, where she lives.

Willie Broussard ’03, B.S. family and consumer sciences, is coordinator of distance education programs at Lamar University. He earned a master’s degree in human resource management in 2007 from the University of Phoenix and lives in Port Arthur.

Vicente Castillo ’03, B.S. chemical engineering, is manager of engineering projects at Georgia-Pacific and lives in Lufkin with his wife, Susan, and their two children.

Heather (Gonzalez) Coe ’03, B.S. psychology, lives in Fort Polk, La., with her husband, Thomas.

Darren Cross ’03, B.B.A. management, is a manager at Conn’s. He lives in Fred with his wife, **Traci (Yawn)** ’02, B.G.S. general studies, a second grade teacher at Warren Elementary.

Lindsay Feagin ’03, B.B.A. general business, works at the University of Houston, where she lives.

Lauren (Bachelot) Martin ’03, B.S. family and consumer sciences, is interior designer for Carter and Company and lives in Beaumont with her husband, Shane.

Nicholas Patxot ’03, B.B.A. management information systems, is a pilot for the Army and lives in Fountain, Colo.

David Paul ’03, M.S. applied criminology, is unit manager for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Ayer, Mass. He lives in Leominster, Mass., with his wife, Pamela.

Austin Williams ’03, B.B.A. finance, is recipient of the Sporting Goods Business 40 Under 40 Award. He is vice president of sales and director of buying at Games People Play in Beaumont, where he lives.

Shana Carr ’04, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, earned her master’s degree in special education from Prairie View A&M and teaches in the Beaumont school district, where she lives.



Artist **Ken Mazzu** ’92 exhibited his watercolors July 11-Aug. 9 at The Galveston Arts Center under the title *Monuments of Yesterday*. The new work is based on photographs of controlled demolition sites taken in the Houston area during the past 10 years. He lives in Houston.

Brittney Champagne ’04, B.S. psychology, completed her master’s degree in occupational therapy at University of Texas Medical Branch. She works at Pediatric Rehabilitation of Texas and lives in Beaumont.

Patricia Clark ’04, M.B.A. business administration, is deployment leader for Gerdau Ameristeel and lives in Tampa, Fla.

Cesily (Caldwell) ’04, B.S. nursing, married Blake David Cormier April 25. She is a registered nurse in the intensive care unit at Memorial Hermann Baptist Beaumont Hospital in Beaumont, where they live.

Chris Coy ’04, B.S. sociology, teaches and coaches at Hyde Park Baptist High School in Austin, where he lives.

Wesley Mahon ’04, B.B.A. management information systems, serves in the Army and is stationed at Fort Myer, Va. He and his wife, Rachel, live in Alexandria, Va.

Prashanth Srinivasan ’04, M.E.S. engineering science, is project manager for Allstate Power Vac Inc. in Brooklyn, N.Y. He and his wife, Prathiba, live in Whitestone, N.Y.

Jonathan Stovall ’04, B.A. Spanish, earned a law degree and is in private practice in Beaumont, where he lives.

Christopher Tallina ’04, is national sales manager for The American Eagle Reserve in Port Arthur. He lives in Lumberton with his wife, Summer.

Sarah (Stephenson) Villasana ’04, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, is a third-grade teacher in the Beaumont school district. She and her husband, **Marco** ’02, B.B.A. general business, live in Beaumont. He is a manager for AT&T Mobility.

Paul Villforth ’04, M.S. family and consumer sciences, teaches English in Nanjing, China.

Max Windham ’04, B.G.S. general studies, is North America region manager of global learning and development for Baker Hughes in Houston. He lives in Kingwood.

Shelly (Parigi) Allen ’05, B.S. kinesiology, and Ronald Allen married March 21, 2009. She is a retail banker at Woodforest National Bank in Port Arthur, where they live.

Precious (Johnson) ’05, B.B.A. accounting, and William Armstrong married March 21, 2009. She is a financial accountant for XL Systems in Beaumont, where they live.

Sudheer Baddam ’05, M.S. computer science, is senior software engineer for Plateau Systems Ltd. in Falls Church, Va., where he lives.

Felicia (Alexander) Branch ’05, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is a utility worker and support helper at Fluor-Daniels in Port Arthur, where she and her husband, Karl, live. She was a founder of the National Association of Women in Construction.

Melissa Evans ’05, B.S. nursing, is SAP site sustainability leader for DuPont in Orange. She lives in Bridge City.

Judith (Jimenez) ’05, B.B.A. marketing, married **Curtis Smith** ’05, B.S. industrial technology, Feb. 14, 2009. She is a marketing associate at Nell McCallum and Associates, and he is an engineer at Bechtel in Houston, where they live.

Pushpal Kahar ’05, M.E.S. engineering science, is a design engineer at Drill-Quip Inc. in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Oindrila.

Aman Khurana ’05, M.S. computer science, is senior programmer analyst at FedEx in Irving, where he lives with his wife, Gurprett Kaur.

Aleta Nash ’05, B.S.W. social work, is program therapist for Memorial Herman Baptist Beaumont Hospital and lives in Vidor.

Alumni tour Terra Cotta Warriors

More than 200 Houston-area alumni took a private tour of the recent exhibit, *Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China's First Emperor*, at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Attendees met in the Cockrell Butterfly Center Lobby for a special presentation by **Wea Lee '76**, chairman and CEO of Southern News Group, who spoke about the International Trade Center in Houston and its role in trade between Houston businesses and overseas markets.

7. Dean Henry Venta, left, with Bob '64 and Kathy (Fitzgerald) Reaves '63 **8.** Gene '85 and Kathy (Duffy) Adams '85, left, with Laurie (Zampini) Brooks '85 and Rick Vice **9.** Raynell and Tony Singletary '59 **10.** Gene Feigelson '65, Gezahegn Kebede, president of the Ethiopia Trade and Investment Council, center, and Wea Lee '76 **11.** Offie '67 and Judy Walker **12.** Grace (Davis) England '56 with President Jimmy Simmons. **13.** Don '68 and Nancy (Hamil) Campbell '68 **14.** Sharon Stodghill '73 and Pat Durio '69



1. President Jimmy Simmons, Susan (Williams) Simmons '68 and Wea Lee '76
2. Kris Davis with Deborah (Martindale) Davis '87, '90, and Mike Babin '70 **3.** Dorothy (Kleinschmidt) Pledger '67, left, Camille Mouton, Robert Pledger '69, Patti and Floyd McSpadden **4.** James '62 and Jane-Page Crump **5.** Edward '62 and Patti Hurwitz **6.** Juan Zabala '07, Joan (Leavell) Lisman '66, center, and Tracy Scholz





Social studies teacher **Candice (Zummo) Haggard** '73 took the suggestion of one of her students and began an effort to raise money for the Texas Governor's Mansion Restoration Fund. News of the donation reached Texas First Lady Anita Perry, who visited the school to thank the students April 14. Haggard has taught for 36 years at Central Middle School and was honored this year as Teacher of the Year and has been chosen Middle School Teacher of Region 5. She has taught at least four students who now are teachers themselves in Nederland.

Cathy Nguyen '05, B.B.A. human resource management, is state tax analyst at TFI Resources Inc. in Houston. She lives in Pearland.

Kirsten (Richard) Soliz '05, B.B.A. management information systems, '05, M.B.A. business administration, is associate buyer for Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. in Port Arthur. She lives in Nederland with her husband, Eric.

Kasey Tanner '05, B.S. communication disorders, is a speech pathologist at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, where she lives.

Wesley Tunnell '05, B.G.S. general studies, works for Charbonnet Inc. and lives in Groesbeck.

Nicholas Wright '05, B.S. criminal justice, is an officer in the Beaumont Police Department. He lives in Vidor.

Brandy Bowman '06, B.G.S. general studies, is a financial analyst at Tax Masters Inc. and lives in Houston.

Tina Bunnell '06, B.B.A. accounting, is audit associate with KPMG in Honolulu. She and her husband, Casey, live in Mililani, Hawaii. They have one son.

Heidi (Thompson) Butaud '06, B.G.S. general studies, teaches special education at Cypress Falls High School. She lives in Houston with her husband, Reagan, and their three children.

Kristen Craig '06, B.S. communication disorders, earned a master's degree at Stephen F. Austin State University and is a speech language pathologist at RehabCare in Mount Pleasant.

Leeann (Richard) Enderle '06, B.G.S. general studies, married Scott Enderle Jan. 3. She is employed by Tiger Rentals Offshore and Industrial. They live in China.

Amy (Deaton) Howard '06, B.B.A. human resource management, '08, M.B.A. business administration, is industrial relations coordinator at Bechtel in Port Arthur. She and her husband, Joshua, live in Port Neches.

Sara Ishfaq '06, B.B.A. accounting, is auditor for the state comptroller's office in Beaumont, where she lives.

Anushree Khare '06, M.S. computer science, is a software consultant for Primus Global in Irving, where she lives with her husband, Amit.

Srikanth Kowkuntla '06, M.E. civil engineering, is an engineer at Worley Parsons in Houston, where he lives.

Larie (Hill) '06, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, and Jonathan Lockett married Feb. 28. They live in Silsbee.

Melanie (Bohacek) McDonald '06, B.S. dance, was guest choreographer for San Jacinto College Central's annual spring dance show, *Fantastical*, with a theme, *Cirque du Soleil, San Jacinto College Style*. She teaches dance at La Porte High School.

Ben Miller '06, B.S. electrical engineering, is a reliability engineer at Entergy in Conroe. He lives in The Woodlands.

Lauren Netterville '06, B.S. psychology, teaches second grade in the Cypress-Fairbanks school district, where she lives.

Pragnesh Patel '06, M.E. engineering, is a stress engineer at Bechtel in Houston, where he lives.

Eric Perez '06, B.G.S. general studies, serves in Operation Iraqi Freedom in Baghdad, Iraq. His wife, **Heather (Deaton)** '09, B.G.S. general studies, works at Keller Williams in Harker Heights.

Kimberly Pulito '06, B.S. communication, is executive of human resources for Target and lives in Lake Jackson.

Peter Pulumbarit '06, B.B.A. management information systems, is business analyst for Triplex Consulting Inc. in Bellevue, Wash., where he lives.

Rosie (Connley) Sellers '06, B.G.S. general studies, is a senior administrative associate at Lamar University in the College of Education and Human Development. She lives in Beaumont with her husband, Abron, who is a materials expeditor at Lamar University.

Shafi Shaik '06, M.S. chemistry, is a scientist for Capricorn Pharma Inc. in Frederick, Md., where he lives.

Brian Sherman '06, B.S. communication, is

owner relations technician for Southwestern Energy Production Co. in Houston. He lives in Spring.

Carrie (Hebert) Strong '06, B.S. family and consumer sciences-fashion retailing, is a human resources generalist at FivePoint Credit Union. She lives in Port Arthur.

Naga Arya '07, M.E.S. engineering science, is an international project engineer for Microsoft in Redmond, Wash., where he lives.

Amanda (King) '07, B.S. psychology, married **Dean Clower** '06, B.G.S. general studies in New Zealand. They live in Laramie, Wyo.

Jondaniel Cornett '07, B.S. communication, lives in Vidor and is a videographer.

Collin DeLome '07, health and physical education, begins his first season with the Houston Astros' Double-A affiliated Corpus Christi Hooks.

Jeannie Dupree '07, B.S.W. social work, earned a master's degree from Tulane University in social work and is a social worker at Hospice Care of the Southwest. She lives in Conroe.

Morgan Leger '07, B.S. electrical engineering, is an operator and flight controller for Barrios Technology in Houston, where he lives.

Emily Lockard '07, B.S. dance, was selected to serve as an instructor at the 48th Annual Craft of Choreography Conference in Seattle, Wash., this summer. Her choreography of the piece *The Awkwardness of Argyle*, was selected to receive the Choreography Award. She lives in China.

Whitney (Jordan) Matak '07, B.S. nursing, is a registered nurse at Christus Hospital St. Elizabeth and lives in Beaumont with her husband, **James** '06, A.A.S. processing operating technology, who works at ExxonMobil.

Penny (McDowell) Miller '07, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is federal case manager for Cornell Companies McCabe Center in Austin. She lives in Del Valle.

Julie Mooneyham '07, B.S. communication, is marketing director at American Personnel and Temps in Beaumont, where she lives.

Mustafa Rampurwala '07, M.E. mechanical engineering, is an engineer at KMM Technologies in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Fatema.

Emily (Wright) '07, B.B.A. marketing, and **Brian Shook** '07, B.G.S. general studies, were married May 2. Emily is a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker Southern Homes, and Brian works at Scallon Controls in Beaumont. They live in Lumberton.

Janet (Buck) Weinert '07, Au.D. audiology, is a clinical audiologist at Austin Diagnostic Clinic in Austin. She lives in Georgetown.

Josh Yawn '07, B.S. communication, was a guest host on the Game Show Network in April. He was selected as a finalist in the nationwide Game Show Network's "Play

Every Day Tour" Host Talent Show. He lives in Beaumont.

Angela (Odom) '08, B.B.A. marketing, and Dylan Brown married March 7, 2009, and live in Beaumont.

Lisa Chalow '08, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, was sworn in as a court-appointed special advocate for Jefferson County foster children. She lives in Beaumont.

Tiffany Ford-Tatmon '08, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is proposal coordinator for KBR in Houston, where she lives with her husband, Louis.

Amanda (Hulsey) '08, B.S. communication, and **Adam Gurski** '08, B.S. criminal justice, married Feb. 28. He is a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

Mandy Lane '08, B.S.W. social work, is an investigator for Child Protective Services in Port Arthur. She lives in Bridge City.

Melanie Lanuza '08, B.S. graphic design, is creative director/head graphic designer at Games People Play in Beaumont, where she lives.

Shannon (Wolford) Nobles '08, M.S. deaf studies and deaf education, is a deaf educator in the Alvin school district. She lives in Pearland.

Kelly (Walker) '08, B.S. nursing, and **Chase Richards** '05, B.G.S. general studies, married May 2. They live in Nacogdoches.

Jason Schmoker '08, B.S. criminal justice, is an officer in the Beaumont Police Department. He lives in Lumberton.

John Sherrod Jr '08, B.A. history, teaches in the Flour Bluff school district. He lives in Corpus Christi, with his wife, **Heather (Shores)** '06, B.S. communication disorders, '08, M.Ed. special education.

Cristina (Conwell) '08, B.G.S. general studies, and Todd Shuford married November 22. They live in Houston.

Paul Stropko '08, M.S. deaf studies/deaf education, lives in Austin with his wife, **Liz (Ramirez)** '06, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, '07, M.S. deaf studies/deaf education.

Chandra Vemuri '08, M.E. civil engineering, is a civil and structural engineer at CB&I in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, **Archana (Vaddi)** '08, M.E.S. chemical engineering. She is also employed by CB&I.

Catherine (Seidman) Warmack '08, B.M. music, teaches violin at the Texas Academy of Music. She lives in Beaumont.

Christy (Thomas) '09, B.A. history, and Matthew Jones married March 7. They live in Fannett.

Alumni gather in Dripping Springs

Mary (Greer) '58 and **Bill Mitchell** '58 opened their home in Dripping Springs May 2 for nearly 150 Austin-area alumni. Attendees enjoyed barbecue poolside and toured the Mitchell's art collection.



1. Ken '92 and Wendy Pajak **2.** Carol (Reindel) Edgerley '80, Linda (Embs) LeBlanc '75 and Janice (Bennett) Trammell '85, '94 **3.** From left, Jenny Achilles '03, Toni Nelson, Elena Korbut '05 and James Nelson '61 **4.** Paul and Phyllis Zeek, left, with JoAnne (Sellers) '74, '80, and Steve Huber '76 **5.** The view across the hills of Dripping Springs **6.** Dean Jack Hopper, left, Jake Angelo '62 and Tim Salles '74 **7.** Patricia Adams '70, left, and Marilyn (Spears) Hopper '74 **8.** From left, Bill and Mary Mitchell, First Lady Susan (Williams) Simmons '68 and Judy and David Beck '61 **9.** Janary (James) '92 and Wilmer Roberts '81

We will miss...

Friends

Catherine Clark, died April 30, 2009. Donations may be made to the Catherine Hurley Clark Scholarship in Nursing at Lamar University made payable to the Lamar University Foundation, P.O. Box 11500, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

Retirees

Dorothy Becker, vocational nursing, died March 10, 2009.

Myrtle Bell, department head and dean of the College of Health and Behavioral Sciences, died April 6, 2009.

George Bryan Jr., professor of biology, died Jan. 17, 2009.

Ed Eveland, died May 9, 2009. Memorials may be made to Lamar University, Department of Geology, P.O. Box 10011, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

Nancy Jones, died Jan. 24, 2009.

Philip Latimer, professor of mathematics, died Feb. 13, 2009.

Betty Snyder, John Gray Library, died March 7, 2009.

Alumni

Clara (Dunshie) English '34, A.A. general studies, died April 15, 2009.

Newton Hopkins Sr. '35, A.A. general studies, died Feb. 17, 2009.

Cora Davis '39, A.A. general studies, died March 19, 2009.

Claude Brown '40, A.A. general studies, died May 23, 2009.

Ole Johnson Jr. '40, A.A. general studies, died March 3, 2009.

Bessie (Woodham) Hebert '41, A.A. general studies, died April 26, 2009.

Fred Fontana Sr. '42, A.A. general studies, died May 24, 2009.

Mary (Eubank) Carper '43, A.A. general studies, died Feb. 3, 2009.

Alce Cortez '42, occupational training, died Feb. 8, 2009.

Joseph Condon Sr. '42, died February 16, 2009.

William Fuller Jr. '44, A.A. general studies, died May 21, 2009.

Robert Bobbitt '47, A.A. general studies, died April 28, 2009.

Oliver Bertram '48, A.A. general studies, died Feb. 19, 2009.

Patricia (Lybarger) Brown '48, certif. general studies, died Feb. 3, 2009.

Rufus Mills Sr. '48, A.A. general studies, died March 22, 2009.

William Orr '48, certif. general studies, died Jan. 16, 2009.

J. P. Savarino '49, A.A. general studies, died Jan. 14, 2009.

Bill Daughtry '56, B.B.A. management, died May 21, 2009.

Ann (Manry) Hentschel '56, B.S. music, died March 19, 2009.

Earl Smith Sr. '57, B.B.A. general business, died Jan. 22, 2009.

Bob Dismukes '58, B.S. mechanical engineering, died May 5, 2009.

Mildred (Long) Mallett '58, B.S. elementary education, '63, M.Ed. elementary education, died May 13, 2009.

Hunter Schmidt Jr. '58, B.A. history, died March 2, 2009.

Robert Czaja '59, B.S. electrical engineering, died April 28, 2009.

Charles Gibbs '59, occupational training, died Jan. 26, 2009.

James Moxon '59, B.S. geology, died Jan. 23, 2009.

Paul Pierson '59, B.B.A. general business, died Feb. 5, 2009.

Dorothy (Dougharty) LaHaye '60, B.A. English, died Feb. 18, 2009.

Dick Phelps '60, B.S. civil engineering, died Nov. 25, 2008.

James Andersen '61, B.S. electrical engineering, died March 21, 2009.

Howard Collins Jr. '61, certif. diesel mechanics, died May 20, 2009.

William Cook Jr. '62, B.S. industrial engineering, died May 4, 2009.

Eleanor Dippel '62, certif. vocational nursing, died Feb. 4, 2009.

Kenneth Spidle '62, B.B.A. business administration, died May 4, 2009.

Donald Hicks '63, B.S. mathematics, died Jan. 4, 2009.

Josephine (Eversol) McDaniel '63, B.S. elementary education, died March 8, 2009.

Helen (Focht) Reebergh '63, B.A. English, '89, B.E.A. studio art, died Feb. 24, 2009.

Tom Gossett '64, certif. machine tools, died May 12, 2009.

Thomas McGill Jr. '64, B.S. electrical engineering, died March 19, 2009.

Thomas Minaldi Jr. '64, business, died May 3, 2009.

Glenn Montet '64, B.S. biology, died May 6, 2009.

Mary (Harmon) Milner '65, B.S. elementary education, died March 5, 2009.

Sandra (Nobles) Scott '65, B.E.A. graphic design, died March 7, 2009.

James Shelton '66, certif. diesel mechanics, died April 27, 2009.

Doris (Dodd) Velasquez '66, B.S. speech, died March 30, 2009.

Bobby Wise '66, certif. refrigeration and air conditioning technology, died April 16, 2009.

Robert D'Armond '67, certif. refrigeration and air conditioning technology, died

April 12, 2009.

Judy (Premeaux) LaBauve '67, B.B.A. accounting, '68, M.B.A. business administration, died March 26, 2009.

Glenn Bailey '68, B.B.A. management, died March 5, 2009.

Mary Colletti '68, B.S. elementary education, '69, M.Ed. elementary education, died May 27, 2009.

Louis Cantu '69, B.A. government, died April 2, 2009.

James Nicholas '69, B.S. electrical engineering, died March 25, 2009.

James Wren '69, B.B.A. marketing, died May 28, 2009.

Patricia (Heard) Fort '70, certif. vocational nursing, died April 24, 2009.

Vivian (Thomas) Gibson '70, M.Ed. elementary education, died March 14, 2009.

Eleanor (Hubbard) Hasson '70, B.S. elementary education, '76, M.Ed. elementary education, died March 6, 2009.

Harshad Shah '70, M.B.A. business administration, died May 12, 2009.

Bessie (Corfmann) Yarbrough '70, M.Ed. counseling and development, died April 14, 2009.

Sadie (Harris) Forston '71, B.S. elementary education, '76, M.Ed. elementary education, died April 17, 2009.

Randy Arnaud '72, B.S. secondary education, died May 11, 2009.

Jessie Gonzalez '72, B.A. Spanish, died March 15, 2009.

Lonnie McCain '72, A.A.S. mid-management, died May 31, 2009.

Marjorie (Parker) O'Krongly '72, certif. vocational nursing, died April 5, 2009.

Emilio Rogo Jr. '72, B.A. history, died May 28, 2009.

Jane (Carlsen) Short '72, B.S. mathematics, died Feb. 10, 2009.

Larry Boyette '73, B.S. health education, died March 4, 2009.

Barbara (Jordan) Lott '73, B.S. elementary education, '81, M.Ed. elementary education, died May 5, 2009.

William Simonton '73, B.S. industrial engineering, died April 20, 2009.

Debra (Leger) Dean '74, B.S. elementary education, died April 14, 2009.

Anne (Castillo) Jordan '74, B.B.A. office administration, died March 4, 2009.

James David Spreckels '74, B.A. English, '89, M.A. English, died May 25, 2009.

Porter West '74, B.S. electrical engineering, died April 12, 2009.

Betty (Lindsay) Bell '75, certif. vocational nursing, died March 13, 2009.

Adarena (Green) Johnson '75, M.Ed. special education, died May 29, 2009.

Mary (Carter) Lowe '75, certif. vocational nursing, died April 26, 2009.

John Hamilton '76, A.A.S. drafting technology, died Jan. 25, 2009.

Arnold Smith Sr. '76, B.A. psychology, died April 2, 2009.

Ellen (Anderson) Vickery '76, certif. vocational nursing, '82, A.A.S. nursing, died April 23, 2009.

Ella (Smith) Young '76, B.S. home economics, died Jan. 1, 2009.

Steven Herod '77, A.A.S. refrigeration and air conditioning technology, died March 14, 2009.

Bryan Lewis '77, B.S. health education, died March 14, 2009.

Willie Myrick '77, A.A.S. mid-management, died March 2, 2009.

Leta (Currie) Marshall '78, B.A. French, died Feb. 20, 2009.

Ellenore Yellott '78, certif. nursing, died May 25, 2009.

Roger Pearce '79, B.B.A. accounting, died March 4, 2009.

Richard Rice Jr. '79, B.S. elementary education, '87, B.E.A. studio art, died April 8, 2009.

James David '81, B.B.A. marketing, died March 12, 2009.

Sheila Perry '84, M.Ed. special education, died May 22, 2009.

Lawrence Hartzell '86, B.S. industrial technology, died March 26, 2009.

Walter Meredith '86, A.A.S. industrial supervision, died April 7, 2009.

Marian (Kestler) Wall '86, B.S. secondary education, died May 15, 2009.

Theresa (Bourda) Narcisse '87, A.S. law enforcement, died March 8, 2009.

Kevin Gunn '90, A.A.S. business data processing, died Feb. 7, 2009.

Leslie (Bowles) Rasnick '92, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, '97, M.Ed. counseling and development, died May 27, 2009.

Gwendolyn Bruno '94, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, died March 7, 2009.

Tanya (Loftin) Musick '99, B.S. criminal justice, died May 19, 2009.

John Pigg '02, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, '02, B.S. computer and information science, died March 29, 2009.

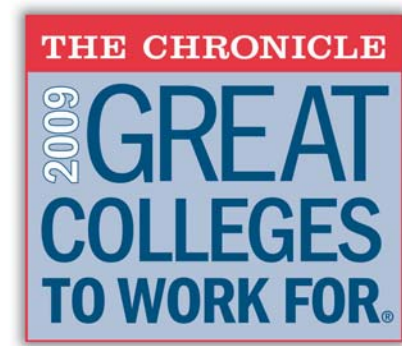
Tara (Knobloch) Swanson '04, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, died Feb. 14, 2009.

Terry Burleigh '04, B.S. communication, died March 31, 2009.

Mary (Phil) Moore '06, B.G.S. general studies, died April 27, 2009.

Lamar earns spot on national list

LU only public college in Texas to do so



“What’s gratifying to know is that our faculty and staff—the people who make this university run—feel that way, too.”

—STEVE DOBLIN

- HONOR ROLL
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Emory University
- George Mason University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Lamar University
- University of Mississippi
- University of Notre Dame
- Webster University

Lamar University gained national attention this summer as one of 2009’s Great Colleges to Work For. *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, the nation’s leading source of news for and about colleges and universities, named Lamar to its Great Colleges honor roll because of the number of categories in which it was recognized for best practices. LU was one of 39 colleges nationwide—and the only public college in Texas—on the list. It joined institutions including Cornell University, Duke University and the University of Notre Dame on the Honor Roll.

Valentin Andreev, 2009-2010 Faculty Senate president, said he was extremely happy but not surprised to hear the news because of the tremendous spirit and high morale among Lamar employees in recent years.

“It is very easy to work on campus. It gives you a positive feeling when you see how the campus has improved and see these new buildings. We hire good faculty and good staff, and that helps very much,” said Andreev, associate professor of mathematics. “The president and provost have really shown their ability to be effective and positive. Faculty and staff have responded.”

Andreev said the challenge now will be for Lamar to continue to meet these high standards and improve the atmosphere even more.

Overall, the Great Colleges to Work For survey recognized 150 colleges and universities nationwide for best practices in one or more categories based on responses from administrators, faculty and professional staff.

Among the categories in which LU was recognized for best practices were healthy faculty-administration relations; respect and appreciation; collaborative governance; job satisfaction; confidence in fair treatment; internal communications; work/life balance; professional/career-development programs; confidence in senior leadership; policies, resources and efficiency; and supervisor relationship.

Steve Doblin, provost and vice president for

academic affairs, said he knew that Lamar University was a great place to work from the time he arrived in 2001.

“What’s gratifying to know is that our faculty and staff—the people who make this university run—feel that way, too,” Doblin said. “They’re the people who make this a great place to work.”

Recognition in a national publication like *The Chronicle of Higher Education* will alert others, such as potential employees and potential students, to the great atmosphere Lamar University offers, Doblin said.

Jana Daigle, president of the LU Staff Senate, also saw the recognition as confirmation of something the university’s 1,200 employees already know.

“It is an honor to work here. It’s fun to work here. It’s like a giant family,” said Daigle, who works in IT customer support services. Staff members know they have support from all levels of administration, starting with the president, she said.

“If you have happy employees, you have an efficient workplace, and that’s going to show with your customers,” Daigle said.

More than 300 colleges signed up for the Great Colleges to Work For program and 247 completed the entire process this spring. The program recognized 122 four-year colleges and universities in at least one of 26 categories and honored 28 two-year colleges in at least one of 15 categories.

The Chronicle worked with human resources consulting company Modern Think to conduct the survey, which was based on an assessment tool used in more than 55 Best Places to Work programs with more than 4,000 organizations.

“Despite the down economy, colleges are still hiring,” said Jeffrey Selingo, editor of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. “Through this program, The Chronicle is able to provide more information to job seekers about the colleges that are the leading innovators when it comes to providing a rewarding work environment.”—BG

The best of Lamar

by Larry Acker

These three Cardinal alumni join the leading ranks of Lamar University Distinguished Alumni.



“

Southeast Texas is a great place to live and raise a family, and a big draw for this area is Lamar University. To me, Lamar is a prime catalyst for undergirding and supporting economic and industrial development in this area. I'm not sure I've done anything to be worthy of this great honor, but it's humbling for me to be named a distinguished alumnus from an institution that has the respect and prestige that Lamar enjoys.

”

LARRY BEAULIEU '77

LARRY BEAULIEU took a roundabout path to Southeast Texas and Lamar University. Born and raised in the Dallas area, he initially enrolled at Texas Tech University with the intent to study electrical engineering. Once he realized the math requirements involved in an engineering degree plan, he changed the channel to another love, mass communication. His work as an announcer at both the Tech and local radio stations led him to his first real job as a television producer, photographer, reporter and eventually to the anchor desk. In 1974, made the move to Beaumont, where he would build a television career regarded by his peers with admiration. Last year, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Lone Star Chapter welcomed him into its Silver Circle for his quarter-century in broadcasting.

Beaulieu came to CBS affiliate KFDM-TV as the news director, producer and anchor. Although gainfully employed in his chosen field, he continued his mass communication studies at Lamar and graduated in 1977. He was named general manager in 1983. Along the way he married Nancy, his wife and companion of 41 years. They have two children, Lara and Brad, and one granddaughter, Maggie.

“I didn't want to leave my degree hanging, so it was more of a personal accomplishment for me to complete my degree at Lamar,” Beaulieu said. “They allowed me credit toward my degree if I taught an introduction to radio class. I found out quickly how difficult it is to teach, even teaching something you know very well.”

Beaulieu has been active in the community in many leadership positions. He also serves Texas Tech and Lamar as a member of their respective mass communication advisory councils. He represented Lamar University as a Texas State University System legislative liaison. The Lamar graduate has been named a distinguished alumnus of LU and Texas Tech Department of Communication, a recipient of the Freedom Leadership Award and Pioneer Broadcaster of the Year and was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International.



“

Lamar hadn't been a four year college very long when I enrolled back in 1955. The geology department was perhaps the strongest on campus at the time because of the petroleum industry. It's a real honor to be recognized in this fashion. I appreciate what Lamar has done for me in my career. I became president and CEO of one of the leading petroleum companies in the industry, so Lamar must have done something right by me.

”

BYRON DYER '57

BYRON DYER spent his childhood and teen years in Mont Belvieu and around the surrounding Houston environs. He initially enrolled at Baylor University before his education was interrupted and he served in the Army during the Korean War. Upon his return in 1955, he enrolled at Lamar and graduated with a bachelor's degree in geology in 1957. His first jobs were with oil exploration companies that eventually landed him a district manager position with King Resources in Houston.

Dyer jumped at the chance to work for T. Boone Pickens and Mesa Petroleum as a division manager, but, after several years, decided to become an independent geologist and formed the Sierra Production Co. In 1982, he was presented the opportunity to develop a U.S subsidiary for Norcen Explorer Inc., a Canadian oil and gas company. He spent the next 15 years as president and CEO of Norcen before retiring. Under his leadership, Norcen became a leading company in offshore oil and gas exploration in the Gulf of Mexico. His retirement, however, was short lived. He moved into the banking industry, where he enjoyed a second career as chairman of the Community Bank of Katy until Sterling Bancshares purchased the bank in 2002, leading him, at last, into an enduring retirement.

In 1957, Dyer was credited with the discovery of a new mineral called Chambersite, named for the county in which it was first found. Brine returns from a gas storage well yielded mysterious crystals, the likes of which he had never seen. He and a mineralogist provided a complete scientific description of the new mineral.

Dyer has been married to the former Connie Mayes for more than 50 years, and they have three children, Jeff, John and Kelly. They are also blessed with six grandchildren, Blaine, Sheridan, Grayson, and triplets Mackenzie, Madison and Lane.

Lamar University Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner

Saturday, September 19, 2009 | 6:30 p.m.

\$40 per person | Reservations required

For reservations and information, please call the Alumni office, (409) 880-8921.

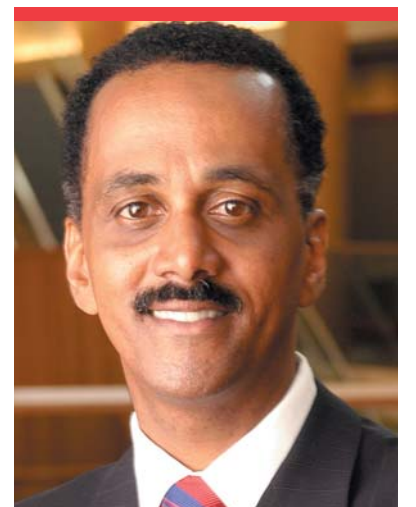
PAUL FREGIA grew up with his maternal grandmother's southern “comfort” food on the Sunday dinner table. As a tribute to her, in 1994, Fregia established Grandma Maud's Inc., a Chicago-based company dedicated to bringing this traditional American cuisine to the masses with convenient preparation that even his grandmother would endorse.

His career began as a 1981 graduate of Lamar University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He also earned a master's degree in business administration from the Krannert Graduate School of Management at Purdue University.

“Going from electrical engineer to food service really isn't as dramatic as one may think,” he said. “Like most engineers, I ended up in management. Container Corp. of America was owned by Mobil Oil, and I was being trained as an officer of the company. It was that experience that led me to earn the MBA.” Corporate and entrepreneurial management have become hallmarks of his career. He has served as a business confidant to Tiger Woods for more than five years. He was an original member of “Team Tiger,” responsible for orchestrating the transformation of the young phenom into a professional golfer. He was the agent for the best-selling book *Training a Tiger*, authored by Earl Woods, and was the founding executive director of the Tiger Woods Foundation. Fregia has also held management positions with Hewlett-Packard and Damron Corp. He is a recipient of the prestigious Chicago Tribune's Good Eating Award and is an inductee into the National African-American Culinary Arts & Hospitality Museum.

The attrition rate for black students in engineering became a matter of concern for Fregia, and, with the guidance of Richard Price, retired Lamar University professor of mathematics, he was instrumental in chartering the Lamar chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. His involvement with this organization and with other student organizations on campus continues today. Fregia said, “With all the positive changes that have happened at Lamar in the past 10 years, it's practically a new school.”

Fregia is married to Dr. Adrienne Fregia and they have two children, Danielle and Preston.



“

It's a wonderful distinction to be honored as a distinguished Lamar alum. I think the world of Lamar and to be recognized for some of the work I've done is an extraordinary feeling. I feel like I'm representing more than just myself.

”

PAUL FREGIA '81

Now is the time to invest
in Lamar, invest in our
students, invest in the future
of Southeast Texas...

LOOK AHEAD *and give back*

Want to leave a legacy? **Create opportunity for others?**
Help future generations realize their potential through the
gift of education? **Make your dream come true for the
university you love.**



"Properly structured planned gifts can allow you to realize income tax and capital gains tax savings as well as reduce your exposure to estate taxes. They can provide lifetime income for you or future benefits for your family."

—FLOYD McSPADDEN

A growing number of Lamar University's friends are enjoying the benefit and satisfaction of planned gifts that help both donor and student.

"With a little planning, a gift to the university can help achieve your financial, philanthropic and estate-planning goals," said Floyd McSpadden, director of planned giving at Lamar since June 1.

"Properly structured planned gifts can allow you to realize income tax and capital gains tax savings as well as reduce your exposure to estate taxes. They can provide lifetime income for you or future benefits for your family. Planned gifts can be much larger than other gifts, so you can leave a legacy that fits your philanthropic goals," McSpadden said. "These goals can be met through established planned giving strategies."

Planned giving is a significant part of Investing in The Future: The Campaign for Lamar University. More than \$58 million has been raised in the comprehensive campaign. Planned gifts are expected to become an important part of the funds raised toward the campaign's \$100 million goal, said Camille Mouton, vice president for university advancement.

Planned Giving is a complex program of various financial instruments that can be adapted to each donor's needs and requires consideration and planning in light of the donor's overall estate plan, McSpadden said.

"With your goals in mind, we can work with you and your professional advisors to find the strategies that work best for you," McSpadden said. "Just give us a call."

Floyd F. McSpadden Jr.

Director, Planned Giving, University Advancement
(409) 880-8422 | Floyd.McSpadden@lamar.edu

A member of the state bar since 1973, McSpadden has been board certified in estate planning and probate law since 1994 and was a member of the College of the State Bar of Texas. He is a member of the Real Estate, Probate & Trust Section of the State Bar of Texas.