

Investing In The Future
THE CAMPAIGN FOR LAMAR UNIVERSITY

Now is the time to invest
in Lamar, invest in our
students, invest in the future
of Southeast Texas...

 **LAMAR UNIVERSITY**
A Member of The Texas State University System

P.O. Box 10011
Beaumont, TX 77710

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 502
BEAUMONT, TX 77710

CARDINAL Cadence

VOL. 39 NO. 2

A PUBLICATION OF LAMAR UNIVERSITY

DECEMBER 2011

A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



Trip of a lifetime

Elisabeth Maxwell spent a life-changing summer in South Africa as Lamar University's David J. Beck Fellow for 2011. The junior biology major from Beaumont worked for almost three months as an intern with the South African Shark Conservancy in Hermanus, South Africa.

One of the highlights of Maxwell's summer project was cage-diving with great white sharks. On her blog, she described the creatures as

"magnificent! It was one of the best 20 minutes of my life!" She also snorkeled to catch small pajama sharks and puffadder shysharks and designed her own research project to explore the effects of magnetic fields on demersal sharks, working closely with scientists at the South African National Space Agency Magnetic Observatory nearby.

"I learned how to take what I already knew and utilize it in a practical sense," Maxwell said. "There were so many different things that I got to experience. It wasn't just on a research level or an academic level but getting to know the culture itself."

Maxwell expects the experience to prove invaluable as she works toward her goal of obtaining a doctoral degree and pursuing a career as a marine biologist. The opportunity would not have been possible for her without the David J. Beck Fellowship. Lamar University's most prestigious undergraduate award, the fellowship provides a full academic scholarship covering all tuition, fees, books and on-campus room and board for one year along with up to \$10,000 for a summer project of the student's choosing. The program was made possible by a generous gift to LU's Investing in the Future Campaign by distinguished alumnus David J. Beck '61, founding partner of a premier Houston-based law firm.

Maxwell credits the fellowship with providing more than just financial assistance. "The support I received from people here at Lamar gave me the incentive and confidence to apply for an international internship, knowing I had that support made me feel comfortable to say, 'I can do this.'"—BG



A friend to students brings
Dauphin Athletics
Complex to life

A new adventure
on the horizon

2006 INVESTING IN THE FUTURE 2013
\$95 MILLION RAISED • NEW GOAL: \$125 MILLION



From the President

With end-of-year gifts arriving as this issue goes to press, the Lamar University Investing in the Future comprehensive campaign is now at more than \$95 million raised! Due to the incredible support and recognition that Lamar has received from alumni and friends, and the imminent opportunities that remain before the campaign ends in 2013, the campaign cabinet has voted to raise the goal from \$100 million to \$125 million! We are so thankful to everyone who is helping make the future of Lamar University

better for all.

Recent major gifts to the campaign featured in this issue include support for a new entrepreneurship lecture series by Michael Weinert, creation of a state-of-the-art financial center on campus through a gift from Craig and Judy Fecel, and a wonderful gift from Charline and Robin Dauphin to benefit athletics at Lamar. These gifts, and so many more, are making a real difference in the life of the university.

2011 has been another great year. While the \$15 million cut in state appropriations has brought significant challenges, we remain focused on our core missions of education and research. We are seeing successes, not only in enrollment, which set another all-time record at 14,522 this fall, but also in student accomplishment, research and scholarship.

To further enrollment growth and to improve student success, we created a Strategic Enrollment Management division to better serve students from the time they begin considering Lamar as their college choice to the time they receive their diplomas. Already this group is making changes that streamline our services and improve our responsiveness to students' needs.

This fall, Harley Myler, chair of the Phillip M. Drayer Department of Electrical Engineering, unveiled the university's first-ever licensing agreement with a commercial company to market and sell a patent-pending device. We are looking forward to many more partnerships in the future.

Lamar's leadership in online education continues to grow. Most recently, Lamar has brought its Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership into a 100 percent online program, complementing its successful on-campus offerings. Look for this program to grow in concert with Lamar's highly successful online master of education program that already has more than 4,000 graduates.

Thank you for all you do for Lamar University.

With Cardinal Pride,

James M. Simmons
President
Lamar University



THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS

Brian McCall, *Chancellor* | Plano

Charlie Amato, *Chairman* | San Antonio

David Montagne | Beaumont

Donna N. Williams, *Vice Chairman* | Arlington

Trisha S. Pollard | Bellaire

Jaime Garza | San Antonio

Rossanna Salazar | Austin

Kevin J. Lilly | Houston

William E. Scott | Nederland

Ron Mitchell | Horseshoe Bay

Ryan Bridges, *Student Regent* | Huntsville

Cardinal Cadence

The Staff

Cardinal Cadence is published by the Division of University Advancement, Lamar University, a member of The Texas State University System and an affirmative action, equal opportunity educational institution.

Brian Sattler, Executive Editor, Director of Public Relations

Cynthia Hicks '89, '93, Editor, Publication Specialist

Larry Acker '10, Assistant Director, Writer

Beth Gallaspy '09, Marketing Specialist, Writer

Louise Wood, Media Specialist, Writer

Frances Simpson '95, Senior Administrative Associate

Contributors

Erik Cox, Elizabeth Havard, Ashlynn Lalonde, Pat Murray, Rush Wood, *writing*

Matt Billiot, Michelle Cate, Tom DuBrock, Joe Gaylor, Joel Gothe, Brandon Gouthier, Elizabeth Havard, Keith Huckabay, Pat Murray, Stephen Pinchback, *photography*

Circulation includes 68,000 copies distributed to alumni, faculty, staff and friends of Lamar University. If you have received more than one copy of this publication, please let us know.

Changes of address may be sent to:
University Advancement,
P.O. Box 10011, Beaumont, Texas 77710, or by
E-mail: alumni@lamar.edu

Division of University Advancement

Camille Mouton, Vice President

Floyd F. McSpadden Jr., Director of Planned Giving

Janice Trammell '85, '93, Director of Development

Tracie Craig, Director of University Reception Centers

P.O. Box 10011

Beaumont, Texas 77710

(409) 880-8419 or fax (409) 880-8409

Lamar University Alumni Office

When visiting campus, you're invited to stop by the Alumni Office at the John Gray Center, Building B, Suite 102, 855 Jim Gilligan Way.

Juan Zabala '07, Interim Associate Vice President for University Advancement

LU Alumni Office

P.O. Box 10005

Beaumont, Texas 77710

(409) 880-8921, or (800) 298-4839

E-mail: alumni@lamar.edu

www.lamar.edu/alumni

Janice Trammell, Executive Director

Lamar University Foundation

P.O. Box 11500

Beaumont, Texas 77710

(409) 880-2117

Cardinal Cadence (USPS 017-254) is published biannually by Lamar University, Division of University Advancement, 855 Jim Gilligan Way, Beaumont, Texas 77705.

Magazine Design: Mike Rhodes

On the cover: Front row from left: Monique Whittaker, Livingston, interdisciplinary studies; Alexis Werner, Port Neches, general business, marketing, entrepreneurship; Marcus Jackson, Tyler, general studies; Virgie Norris, Nederland, special education; Doug Prewitt, Beaumont, marketing Back row from left: Jonathan Dzedzic, Humble, kinesiology; Amber Thornhill, Katy, accounting; Brooks Livingston, Fannett, chemistry; Kevin Rash, Saginaw, Texas, music education

DEPARTMENTS

22 On campus

30 Arts & Culture

38 Athletics

42 Class notes



THE FACE OF THE CAMPAIGN INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

4 Legacy Society

Partnership helps donors select the best option for them

6 DreamMakers

Alumni and friends choose to create vibrant legacies through a variety of endowments

8 My dream

Fred Vernon's determination inspires

9 Virtual finance

Craig '66 and Judy Fecel create high-tech financial center for students

10 Forever fan and friend

Dauphin Athletic Complex dedicated in honor of Dauphin family

12 Inspiring the spirit of entrepreneurship

Michael Weinert '07, '09, hopes lecture series will inspire individual achievement



LAGNIAPPE

20 Cardinal Views

40 Cardinal Adventures

42 Reunion 2011

Cardinals ready to fly: Next stop—Italy's Amalfi Coast

42 Reunion 2010

Pics can be found throughout Class Notes

FEATURES

13 Monroe Hall joins historical lineup

Residence halls gain noteworthy names

14 Westgate earns elite honor

Science is a verb for this Piper Professor

16 Making physics real

For George Irwin, it's all in the demo

18 Inspired and inspirational

Doerschuk's mother taught her strength and courage and to do things she never thought she could

34 Making a difference in people's lives

Paul Rizk sets sights on medicine

35 Brown discovers passion through hippotherapy

Ashley Brown helps treat children at Stable-Spirit

36 A new day with Knight

Pat Knight joins the Cards to build a powerful team

54 The power of touch

Dr. Alan Coleman '80 and his wife, Julie (DuBois) '80, are changing lives one trip at a time

56 Building anew

Sina Nejad '80, '81, has built a life and business in a home away from home

58 The right direction

Alan Johnston '99 followed his own spirit of entrepreneurship to success

60 Trip of a lifetime

Beck Fellow Elisabeth Maxwell dives with great whites





SATTLER

LEGACY SOCIETY ROSTER

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mr. and Mrs. Mike Aldredge | Mr. M. L. Lefler, Jr. * |
| Mr. David J. Beck | Mr. and Mrs. W. S. "Bud" Leonard |
| Ms. Joan E. Brenizer* | Mr. J. T. Leone |
| Mrs. Beatrice R. Buller* | Ms. Vivian Liddell* |
| Mr. and Mrs. Dennis E. Carl | Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred H. Long, Jr. |
| Dr. Joseph B. Carlucci | Dr. and Mrs. Don M. Lyle |
| Mr. Morris S. Cloninger* | Mr. John Robert Mansinger* |
| Dr. Jane and Mr. Horace Davidson | Mr. Ralph D. Massey* |
| Dr. Irving O. Dawson* | Mrs. Sharon K. McCabe |
| Mr. and Mrs. George A. Dishman, Jr. | Mr. and Mrs. Floyd E. McSpadden, Jr. |
| Mr. Keith Dorman | Drs. Marilyn and George Mehaffy |
| Mr. and Mrs. Phil Drayer | Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mitchell |
| Mr. and Mrs. Milton J. Dunnam | Mr. and Mrs. Ray M. Moore |
| Mr. and Mrs. Byron E. Dyer, Jr. | Dr. and Mrs. Terry Morris |
| Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Flaherty | Dr. Jack Orrick, Jr. * |
| Mr. and Mrs. Bill Frank | Ms. Jane Plumley* |
| Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Frank | Mrs. Margaret A. Randall* |
| Dr. and Mrs. Jack M. Gill | Mrs. Grace Riley |
| Mr. Rex Goode* | Mrs. Martha J. Salim |
| Mrs. Ruth K. Goode* | Ms. Chloe D. Scott* |
| Ms. Norma S. Hall* | Mr. and Mrs. Dan F. Smith |
| Mrs. Josephine C. Hebert* | Ms. Patricia A. Snyder |
| Mr. Wilbur A. Hebert* | Mr. and Mrs. Mark Steinhagen |
| Mr. and Mrs. Alan R. Hefty | Dr. and Mrs. James L. Thomas |
| Ms. Lucille E. Jarisch | Dr. R. Blaine Thomas* |
| Mrs. Helen D. Johnsen | Mr. Harry L. Thompson* |
| Ms. Maxine Johnston | Mrs. Pirooska B. Tullos* |
| Ms. Charlotte M. Jungen | Mr. Homer L. Waller* |
| Dr. Sallye J. Keith | Mr. Michael G. Weinert |
| Mr. and Mrs. William J. LeBlanc | Mrs. Sue S. Weisenfelder |
| Mrs. Katherine Beck Lefler* | Mr. and Mrs. Rudy C. Williams |

* Deceased

Legacy Society

Learn about the planned giving options that are right for you by visiting the Lamar University Foundation link at advancement.lamar.edu

Planned gifts are a terrific tool through which Lamar University alumni and friends can provide a lasting benefit to LU students, and they can offer donors stable and tax-saving estate planning options. There is a potentially bewildering array of planned giving options available. Deciding what is best can be a real challenge, especially in the shifting sea of rules and regulations. To help you, and your financial advisor, in planning your estate, LU has partnered with the Sharpe Group of Memphis, Tenn., to provide up-to-date information on the web, making the latest guidance accessible as tax laws are anticipated to change in 2013. You can find this information online by visiting advancement.lamar.edu and following the Lamar University Foundation link.

For more information about planned giving options, please contact
Floyd McSpadden,
Director of Planned Giving,
at (409) 880-8422 or
floyd.mcspadden@lamar.edu

DreamMakers

Through the years, many alumni and friends of Lamar University have chosen to establish vibrant legacies through endowments that support scholarships, programs and academics. The newly established permanent endowments listed below are the latest additions that will provide for the future of this great university and its students. An endowment can be established with as little as \$15,000. Awards are made from the interest earned on the endowment—effectively making the donation an eternal source of funding.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The **MARIE E. GORDON PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN NURSING** was established by her daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Alan McNeill. Marie Gordon served as a volunteer at Baptist Hospital for 30 years, assisting and understanding the important work of the nurses employed there. She loved to sing in her church choir and at community events and received voice lessons from Lamar University. Alan is in private law practice in Beaumont, and Barbara is a retired nurse.

NAMED SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS

The classmates from the Lamar University 1957 graduating class celebrated their 50-year reunion at the homecoming festivities in February 2007. To commemorate this historic event, the classmates gifted to the university the **CLASS OF 1957 SCHOLARSHIP** that will leave a legacy for students that salutes these great alumni and their loyal dedication to their alma mater.

Catherine (Robinson) Baj '74, '83 established the **JOSEPH ADAM BAJ II MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN MATHEMATICS** to honor the memory of her husband's passion and commitment to higher education. Joseph Baj served as faculty in the mathematics department at Lamar for 33 years, including as faculty advisor to Pi Mu Epsilon mathematics honor society and the mathematics club.

Baytown residents Ronald "Ronn" '64 and Anna Lee (Dunn) Haddox '64 created the **RONALD AND ANNA LEE HADDOX SCHOLARSHIP IN BUSINESS**. Ronn is in private law practice in their hometown. Anna Lee was a homemaking teacher before retiring. An active community leader in Baytown and Houston, Ronn serves as chairman of the Baytown Industrial District Appraisal Board and as a regent for Lee College.

Margaret Ann Randall '72 left provisions in her estate to create three scholarships. The **Alan Randall Howard Memorial Scholarship** was created in memory of her grandson, who died in an automobile accident days before his graduation from West Brook High School

in Beaumont; the **CURTIS AND THELMA SHELTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** was created to honor her parents; and the **WILLIAM MICHAEL RANDALL SCHOLARSHIP** was created in honor of her son, Mike '81.

The Jefferson County Medical Alliance, which operated for more than 60 years, provided funds to nursing students for uniforms, shoes and other school expenses. Later, it formed a scholarship fund for qualified students in health-related fields. In December 2010, the Alliance voted to contribute all its assets to create the **JEFFERSON COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE SCHOLARSHIP** for nursing, pre-med and pre-physical therapy students.

A bequest through his estate created the **JOHN ROBERT MANSINGER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**. He was a World War II veteran and served in the U.S. Air Force. He was a lifetime member of the Lions Club and a member of the United Methodist Church.

Gene '56 and George Anne Monger established the **GEORGE ANNE AND GENE C. MONGER SCHOLARSHIP IN ACCOUNTING IN MEMORY OF NORMA HALL** in recognition of and appreciation for Hall and the impact that her care and concern for her students had on Gene and his successful banking career. George Anne is a retiree of the Mary and John Gray Library. Norma Hall, who died in 2005, was a retired professor and department chair, and was named professor emeritus by the Lamar University board of regents in 1988.

Sina '80, '81 and Sohelia Nejad established the **AMIR AND LAYLA NEJAD SCHOLARSHIP IN CIVIL ENGINEERING** in honor of their children. In 1993, Sina launched Sigma Engineers Inc., an architectural firm in Beaumont. Sohelia manages the daily operations of the business while Sina designs structures, many of which may be found throughout southeast Texas. Sina serves as a trustee for the Lamar University Foundation.

To honor friend and professional colleague Don Shaver '76, Keith Kebodeaux '78 established the **DON S. SHAVER SCHOLARSHIP IN ACCOUNTING** in

recognition of Shaver's professional accomplishments, standing, and contributions to Lamar. Shaver is chief financial officer of GulfStar Rental Solutions LP. Kebodeaux is a Beaumont lawyer and serves as the finance committee chair for the Lamar University Foundation.

Family and friends established the **JAMES G. SMITH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** in celebration of the life of the Beaumont educator. Smith '55 spent 27 years as a physics and chemistry teacher at Beaumont High School (later Beaumont-Charlton-Pollard.) In his spare time, he served as a docent at the John J. French Museum, McFaddin-Ward House, Texas Energy Museum and Art Museum of Southeast Texas. He was active in several civic and professional groups. Through the years, Smith established five Lamar scholarships.

The **HONORABLE JOHN B. AND MARCIA M. STEVENS SCHOLARSHIP** is available to all students in any major, with preference being given to fine arts, education and pre-law majors. Stevens '74 and his wife, Marcia (Miller) '84, have been actively involved in the life of Southeast Texas over many years through their service to the legal, educational and non-profit communities. Marcia was named superintendent of the Diocese of Beaumont Catholic Schools in July 2011. John serves as judge of the Jefferson County Criminal District Court.

Leland Bellot '58 and his wife, Marlita (Duncan) Bellot '58, established the **PRESTON WILLIAMS/RALPH WOOSTER SCHOLARSHIP IN HISTORY** to honor the two history professors who made such an incredible impact on the Bellots' careers. Leland Bellot's 42-year tenure at Cal State University, Fullerton, ranged from professor of history and chair of faculty council to dean of humanities and social science and, ultimately, vice president. Marlita Bellot taught elementary school in Texas and California for almost 20 years. Preston Williams began teaching at Lamar State College of Technology in 1949 and retired in 1977. Ralph Wooster joined the Lamar faculty in 1955. He retired in 1991 but continues to teach one class each semester.

ACADEMIC AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

The **ANN DIE HASSELMO FACULTY EXCELLENCE ENDOWMENT** provides funds for faculty awards at Lamar. From 1977-88, Hasselmo '66 served as a faculty member and administrator at Lamar. She was selected as a Regent's Merit Award recipient, named Regent's Professor of Psychology, appointed assistant to the provost, and elected president of the faculty senate. Hasselmo currently is president of the American Academic Leadership Institute headquartered in Washington, D.C.

The **MICHAEL G. WEINERT ENTREPRENEURSHIP LECTURE SERIES ENDOWMENT** provides funds to bring dynamic, high-profile entrepreneurs to campus for lectures in entrepreneurship. It is the hope of Weinert '07, '09, that these lecturers inspire Lamar University students to embrace the spirit of entrepreneurship and to reach their true potential. Weinert has served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army and U.S. Coast Guard for more than 30 years.

PLANNED GIFTS

Joan Brenizer '54, a former mathematics professor at Lamar, made provisions in her estate for an unrestricted gift to the Lamar University Foundation. Born and raised in Port Arthur and a math teacher at Lamar for almost 40 years, she was a long-time resident of Beaumont and attended Calder Baptist Church. Brenizer was a generous, yet anonymous, provider for many charitable causes in the area. She died Oct. 10, 2010.

Jane S. and Horace C. Davidson Jr. created a charitable gift annuity that will benefit the existing **DR. JANE S. DAVIDSON ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP IN FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES**. Horace Davidson originally established this scholarship in 1988 in honor of his wife's distinguished teaching career at Lamar. Jane Davidson retired from Lamar University in 1988 after 34 years, the last 17 of which were as an outstanding member of the Lamar University home economics faculty (now known as Family & Consumer Sciences).

Former Professor Irving O. Dawson provided additional funding for the existing **DR. IRVING O. DAWSON SCHOLARSHIP IN POLITICAL SCIENCE** through his estate. Dawson came to Lamar University in 1951 and taught until 1971 as an instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, full professor, and department chair in the political science department. From 1971 until his retirement, he was political science department chair at the

University of Texas-Arlington. Dawson has been a credit to his profession, contributing to the advancement of research and demonstrating the exceptional qualities of a successful teacher and administrator. He died May 8, 2011.

Myrna (Pirnack) '67 and Milton Dunnam have designated the Lamar University Foundation as a contingent beneficiary of a portion of their estate in their respective wills to fund an endowment called the **MYRNA J. AND MILTON J. DUNNAM ENDOWMENT IN BUSINESS**. Myrna serves on the board of advisors for the College of Business. She is board certified in family law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and has a private practice in Baytown. Milton worked many years as an engineer for NASA contractors at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. He worked on several Apollo moon missions, including the memorable Apollo 13 mission.

William "Bill" '68 and Nancy Frank have designated the Lamar University Foundation as a contingent beneficiary of a private annuity to fund the **NANCY AND BILL FRANK SCHOLARSHIP IN BUSINESS**. Bill was born and raised in Beaumont and attended Monsignor Kelly High School. While at Lamar, he was a member of the Delta Sigma Pi business honor society. Bill served more than 10 years as the chief financial officer for Conn's Inc. Before that, he worked more than 30 years as financial administrator in the acute care and long-term care health industries. Bill and his wife, Nancy, live in Richmond, Texas.

Through a charitable gift annuity naming the Lamar University Foundation as a beneficiary, Thomas J. Frank Sr. and Patsy Frank will establish the **PAT AND THOMAS J. FRANK SR. EXCELLENCE FUND IN EDUCATION**. The endowment will benefit the College of Education and Human Development. Tommy worked more than 50 years for Conn's, ascending through the ranks to the position of chief executive officer and chairman of the board before retiring in 2009. In addition to his active involvement in the community, Tommy has served on the boards of the Lamar University Foundation and Friends of the Arts.

Helen (Dunshie) Johnsen '57 has designated the Lamar University Foundation as a beneficiary of her estate to fund the **HELEN JOHNSEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**. Helen has been a major supporter of Lamar, most notably as a founding member of the Lamar University Alumni Association. Helen served a public school educator and as the public relations spokesperson for Beaumont schools. She and her late husband, Walter, oversaw the Johnsen Florist's wholesale division for many years. Helen lives in Beaumont.

Through provisions in her will, Maxine Johnston will increase the value of the **GRAY LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ENDOWMENT**. The fund was originally established in 1997 through a generous gift from Maxine. She joined the Lamar State College of Technology library staff as reference librarian in September 1955 and later became Social Sciences Division head, associate director and, finally, director from 1980-88. In addition, Maxine served on the Lamar University Foundation Board from 1997 through 1999.

J. T. Leone '60 will establish the **JASPER T. LEONE SCHOLARSHIP IN ENGINEERING** through provisions in his will. J.T. formed his own company, Drilling Well Specialties Inc., in 1967 after working six years in South America for Venwell Inc. Drilling Well Specialties was the exclusive agent in Holland and Germany for several U.S. major manufacturers specializing in drilling instrumentation. Leone lives in Beaumont.

Through provisions in her will, Sharon (Smith) McCabe '83 '89 will establish the **SHARON K. MCCABE SCHOLARSHIP IN ART**. Sharon, an avid supporter of Lamar University academics and sports, has served on both the Lamar University Alumni and Cardinal Club boards. Sharon and her husband, Roger, live in Beaumont and are members of the Rotary Club of Beaumont. Both have served in leadership positions within the Beaumont Club and in District 5910 of Rotary International.

Patti and Floyd McSpadden Jr. will provide additional funding to the **PATRICIA A. AND FLOYD F. MCSPADDEN, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION** and the **PATRICIA A. AND FLOYD F. MCSPADDEN JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN EDUCATION** through provisions made in their wills. Both Patti and Floyd are very involved with several civic and service organizations in Southeast Texas. Their service to Lamar has been extensive as well. Floyd volunteered on the Lamar University Foundation board of trustees from 1998 through 2009 and served as president from 2000 to 2002. In 2009, he joined the foundation and university as the director of planned giving. Patti is one of the founding committee members of *Lamarissimo!* She and Floyd both serve on the Friends of the Arts board.

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

My Dream

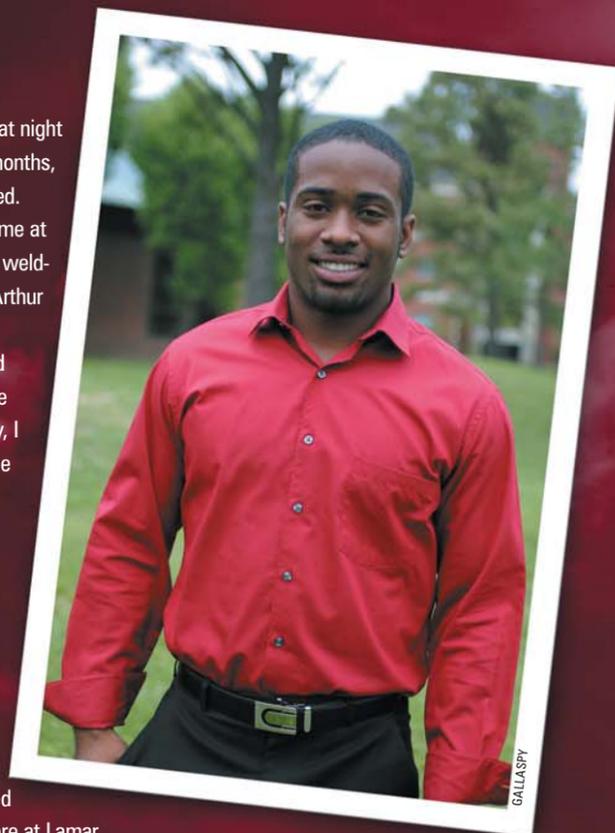
After I graduated from high school in Port Arthur, I went to welding school at night and worked as a welder during the day to save money for college. After eight months, I enrolled full time at Tyler Junior College, but the money didn't stretch as far as I had hoped. After two semesters, I came back home to work as a welder while going to school part time at Lamar State College-Port Arthur. Eventually, I changed my goal from becoming a certified welding inspector to using my knack for business. I completed my associate's degree in Port Arthur then transferred to Lamar University.

With the encouragement of Ann Watkins, chair of the Department of Accounting and Business Law, I decided to major in accounting. But I still needed money to pay for college and started a new job as a corrections officer. In my first fall semester at Lamar University, I had what I called 25-hour Fridays. I would go to class all morning, grab a quick lunch in the dining hall, then go by my dorm room to change into my uniform to report for work. Near the end of my eight-hour shift, I usually got notice that I had to work eight hours of overtime. I got back to my dorm room about 8:30 a.m. on Saturdays.

Thanks to two Lamar University scholarships and an on-campus job, I was able to give up my corrections officer job in Spring 2011 and focus on my studies. I'm so grateful to the people who have made contributions to help me not just financially but personally. These scholarships feel like a reward for my past hard work and have given me incentive to continue to make good grades and achieve my dreams.

I spent the summer in a paid internship at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Houston working with a wonderful mentor and Lamar University graduate Todd Hoffman. I've signed a contract to work there full time after completing my bachelor's and master's degrees here at Lamar.

My accomplishments feel like a partnership with the people who are willing to give to help students like me. It's inspired me to want to give back to someone else when I become a successful professional.



▲ **Fred Vernon**
Port Arthur
Accounting major

I hope you find Fred's story as inspiring as I have. Like so many of our students, he has incredible dedication and passion to pursue his dreams, but getting there requires financial support to cover the cost of higher education.

The alumni and friends of Lamar University share in Fred's achievement. For many students, our help provides resources without which their journey would be significantly prolonged or, in some cases, simply impossible. Their journey to graduation—and to a lifetime of achievements—is made possible by your generosity.

With your help, deserving students have access to scholarships and nationally recognized academic programs. Your gift affords them access to an outstanding university education where they learn from exceptional faculty members and build a firm foundation for a lifetime of success.

Your thoughtful support is needed more than ever as we face the challenges brought about by deep cuts in state funding. We are committed to careful use of every dollar and dedicated to delivering the highest possible quality in instruction and service for our students. Your support will help keep the dream alive for the next generation of Lamar students.

While it only takes a few moments of your time, your contributions will make a lifetime difference for students like Fred.

Thank you for helping make dreams come true.

With Cardinal Pride,

James M. Simmons, President

P.S. Please send your gift today or visit our website advancement.lamar.edu to make your gift online, while it is on your mind. Your gift, whatever the size, will help our students today and in the future.

Lamar University Advancement
Box 10011
Beaumont, TX 77710
(409) 880-8422

Virtual finance

Real learning thanks to couple's generosity

Lamar University business students benefit from Fecel Financial Center

Lamar University business students will have a new way to expand their knowledge of financial markets and gain new perspectives on the day-to-day global nature of monetary environments, thanks to the generosity of Craig '66 and Judy Fecel of Houston. The couple's major gift to Lamar provided the resources to establish and maintain operations of the newly created Fecel Financial Center within the College of Business.

"Judy and I believe the FFC will enhance the skills of the current students. Also, we are hopeful that it may become an exciting 'entice-ment' to attract future students to Lamar," Craig Fecel said.

"It is most fitting that the center be named for an individual who has distinguished himself in the world of finance throughout his career," said Enrique "Henry" Venta, dean of the College of Business.

"The high quality of my education at Lamar was the important first step in my career path," Fecel added. "I'm grateful to Dr. Venta for helping me find a meaningful way to give back to Lamar. At Lamar, I had nurturing teachers who helped me build my self-esteem and gave me the problem-solving tools I would need in the future to meet the challenges I would face in my career. I can only dream about this resource being available to me 47 years ago, but now it's available to all students qualified to experience it."

Fecel earned a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Lamar in 1966, and then completed a master of science in industrial administration from Purdue University the following year. A financial adviser in Houston for more than 40 years, he is now a PIA program senior portfolio manager and senior vice president-investments with Merrill Lynch's Galleria office in Houston.

Fecel's prowess in the markets led him to write the book *How to Profit from the PSYCLE* (1983), and he appeared as a special guest on television's Wall Street Week with Louis Rukeyser in 1980. In 1995, he was one of five financial advisors nationwide elected to Research Magazine's Broker Hall of Fame. Also, in that year, Barron's magazine featured an exclusive interview with Fecel titled "Psyching Out Stocks."

"The center will function as an advanced learning laboratory as well as a highly specialized classroom," Venta said.



Craig & Judy Fecel

Alumnus Mark Etheridge '80, a member of the college's board of advisors, helped furnish the center. Students have access to specialized software and databases to allow for financial research and financial alerts. In addition to a full complement of software already in use by the college, the center will have Standard & Poor's Capital IQ and Research Insight analytical software for accessing and screening Compustat data. The lab will display news and financial data in real time. The center's market wall includes a touch screen for monitoring the stock indices such as the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ, as well as commodities, precious metals, interest rates and exchange rates.

"We will also be able to create a watch list that we can access throughout the day and run

comparisons to performance on the previous day, five days ago, 30 days ago, or a year ago," said Tommy Thompson, associate professor of economics and finance, who oversees the student-managed investment fund, a \$250,000 portfolio held by the Lamar University Foundation.

"Both our undergraduate and graduate students will learn to apply complex financial concepts in an exciting, virtual real-world environment, just like those they will encounter in their careers," Venta said.—BKS



Tommy Thompson



Forever fan and friend

by Beth Gallaspy

Charline Dauphin is living proof that the Lamar University community goes beyond its employees, students and alumni. With a \$2 million gift to Lamar's Investing in the Future comprehensive campaign, the Dauphin family showed that support for Lamar University is strong even among Southeast Texans who did not attend the university. The Silsbee family's gift brought the campaign total to \$88 million when it was announced.

Lamar University President James Simmons dedicated the Dauphin Athletic Complex on campus during Homecoming Week to recognize the gift from Charline and Robin Dauphin and in memory of Sidney "Chief" Dauphin.

"When I became president, I said the whole theme of my presidency is 'Building Strength Through Community.' This is a great example of that strength," Simmons said at the dedication ceremony. "We're gathered to celebrate a wonderful gift from someone who did not go to Lamar University but lives in this community. That makes it very special to us."

Charline Dauphin, who attended the dedication with her daughter Robin Dauphin, said she loves her association with Lamar and her friendships with Simmons and head football Coach Ray Woodard.

"I think the support Lamar is getting is just phenomenal now. I think we've come a long way, and I'm really proud to be part of it," Dauphin said.

A devoted Lamar Cardinals football fan, Dauphin enjoys watching home games from Woodard's office with Woodard's mother. The office is part of the Dauphin Family Football Office Suite, named to recognize a previous campaign gift from the family. Woodard and Dauphin became fast friends from the time he moved to Beaumont to help bring football back to Lamar after a hiatus of more than two decades. She said Woodard treats her like he does his mother, "and that's a good thing."

Although Dauphin did not attend Lamar, she does recall visiting campus to perform as a Rangerette while she was a student at Kilgore College. Her late husband, Sidney "Chief" Dauphin, also visited Lamar during his college days as a football player at Tyler Junior College. He had scrapbooks with football programs from Lamar-Tyler games in the late 1940s. Chief continued his education at East Texas State College, now Texas A&M-Commerce, and began his career as a football coach. A coaching job at Silsbee High School brought the couple to Southeast Texas. The high school now is home to the Sidney "Chief" Dauphin Silsbee Tiger Field House in recognition of a gift from the family.



"With the dedication of the Dauphin Athletic Complex, the Dauphin name will forever be associated with Lamar University." —PRESIDENT JAMES SIMMONS

Beaumont businessman Morris Windham was a senior football player and track athlete at Silsbee High School when the Dauphins moved to the area and immediately hit it off with his new coach. "He came along at a good time for me. I didn't know it at the time, but I was looking for some mentoring. He took an interest in not just sports, but in everything from dental hygiene to how you dressed," Windham said. "He was an important figure at that time in town."

Windham remembers being impressed with Charline even then. "She was quite a lady for rural Silsbee. She stood out. She always dressed nice and looked nice, and Chief was very much a man and a gentleman. They made quite an impressive couple."

Later, Chief moved from coaching to starting a business with Charline. The progression seemed natural, in Windham's opinion, because coaching and business utilize so many of the same skills—organization, strategic thinking, making and following a game plan.

The Dauphins' business, Texas Home Health, proved a financial success and allowed them to help countless families care for their loved ones at home. Charline had recognized the need for such a business when a family

member needed in-home healthcare. When she sold the business after Chief's death, it had more than 12,000 employees and more than 30 offices across Texas.

In addition to contributing to Lamar University, the Dauphin family has generously supported charities to help those touched by cancer, including the Charline and Sidney "Chief" Dauphin Cancer Screening and Prevention Center in Beaumont. Charline Dauphin also has worked with the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program and served on the Board of Visitors for MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

This latest gift to Lamar University came as no surprise to those who know the family's generous spirit.

"I think Chief would be exceptionally proud of Charline. She has always been so generous with the community in various endeavors, including health care, athletics and education," Windham said. "I was not surprised but as always very impressed with how she conducts herself and what she does for the community."

Any gift to Lamar University is appreciated, Woodard said, "but the thing that makes this very special to me is that it's coming from a dear friend of mine and my family's."

The Dauphin Athletic Complex plays an important role in the success of all LU athletics programs by providing everything student athletes need to be successful both on and off the field. The state-of-the-art facility opened in August 2010 in preparation for the return of football. It serves as the southern anchor for a grouping of signature Lamar University venues that includes the Morgan Suites in the Montagne Center and Provost Umphrey Stadium with W.S. "Bud" Leonard Field and the Dan E. and Sandra A. Smith Press Box. A 54,000-square-foot gem, the Dauphin Athletic Complex features a stunning atrium that sets the tone for the modern facilities, which include a sports medicine facility for treating and preventing injuries, players' lounge, academic center, strength and conditioning center, locker rooms for LU Football and visiting teams, meeting rooms and an auditorium. Football recruits and visitors alike have been awed when touring the complex.

"With the dedication of the Dauphin Athletic Complex, the Dauphin name will forever be associated with Lamar University," Simmons said. "What a wonderful legacy for a family that has given so much to this community."

Inspiring the spirit of entrepreneurship

Business alumnus Michael Weinert endows lecture series

Michael Weinert '07, '09, is passionate about the role that individual potential plays in America's economic system and is putting that belief into action by creating new opportunities for business students at Lamar University. Thanks to his generosity, future students will be inspired to create new enterprises. Weinert, who holds two graduate degrees from Lamar, established The Michael G. Weinert Entrepreneurship Lecture Series Endowment to provide funds to bring dynamic, high-profile entrepreneurs to the university for lectures in entrepreneurship.

"His gift is a tangible statement of his passion and how we can foster it at Lamar University," said Henry Venta, dean of the College of Business.

A decorated military officer with more than three decades of service in the U.S. Army and U.S. Coast Guard, Weinert has logged more than 2,200 flight hours in several types of helicopters and holds a commercial instrument-rotary-wing license. In his civilian career, he holds real estate sales and brokers' licenses and is licensed by the National Association of Securities Dealers.

Weinert created the endowment "to inspire LU students to embrace the spirit of entrepreneurship and to reach their true potential in life" with an initial gift of \$200,000 and a commitment to bring the total endowment to \$500,000. The dean will use the proceeds generated by the endowment to bring nationally recognized

speakers to campus.

A sixth-generation Texan, Weinert, the son of career Army officer Col. Charles Weinert, lived throughout the United States and abroad during his formative years. His mother, Dolores Belzons, is a descendant of Samuel and Celia McCarley, settlers of Stephen F. Austin's second colony. She was also the great-great granddaughter of Theodore Lee, who served in the Texas Army at the Battle of San Jacinto.

Weinert graduated with a degree in management from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1979 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army after completing the Army ROTC program at UT-Arlington and Army Airborne training. He graduated first in his class from the Transportation Corps Officer Basic Course, then attended and graduated from the Army's Flight School, the Aircraft Maintenance Officer's Course and the Maintenance Test Pilot Course for OH-58 Kiowa helicopters. He served with the Army's Air Cavalry in Korea for one year and then served several years with the 101st Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell, Ky.

After receiving a direct commission in the Coast Guard in 1984, Weinert began flying search and rescue missions from Corpus Christi and later transferred to New Jersey. Initially he flew Sikorsky HH-52 amphibious helicopters, but soon began flying the Coast Guard's newer Eurocopter HH-65 Dolphin helicopters.



In 1988, Weinert left active duty and returned to the Dallas-Fort Worth area where he worked for the Department of Housing and Urban Development and other employers while continuing to serve in the Coast Guard Reserve in Corpus Christi. In 2000, he began flying helicopters to oil and gas fields in the Gulf of Mexico. One week after the Sept. 11 attacks, he was recalled to active duty by the Coast Guard. He transferred to the Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit in Port Arthur in July 2002 and began attending evening classes at Lamar University.

A dedicated student, Weinert earned a master of public administration from LU in 2007, then continued his education, earning an M.B.A. from Lamar in 2009. While attending Lamar, Weinert was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi national honor society, Beta Gamma Sigma international business honor society and Pi Sigma Alpha national political science honor society.

"Appropriate role models are most important in helping students find their path in life," Venta said. "Mike's gift will enable the College of Business to bring to campus outstanding entrepreneurs so that future generations of Lamar University students can truly see the importance that entrepreneurship can play in our economy and in their own personal lives."—BKS

Monroe Hall joins historical lineup

Cardinal Village residence halls gain noteworthy names



the university's first African-American faculty member. Vernice Monroe, Lamar retiree and wife of the late Claude Monroe, shared thoughts on behalf of the five families representing the namesakes of the other four halls.

Monroe became the first African-American student from Beaumont to attend the University of Texas as an undergraduate, receiving his bachelor's degree in mathematics from UT in 1963. He earned his master's and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Missouri, where he met Vernice Murray, and the two married in 1965. She also joined Lamar's faculty in 1969 as an instructor in sociology. He served on Lamar's business faculty until his death in 1976. Vernice Monroe recently retired from Lamar's faculty after four decades of service.

Beginning around 2000, the university began demolishing its old dormitories to make room for the construction of Cardinal Village. The dormitories, built in the mid-1950s to mid-1960s, had become increasingly expensive to maintain and a hindrance to recruiting. Cardinal Village was built in five phases, with the first opening in 2001 and the fifth in 2010. The five residence halls were identified by the order of their construction.

The four other Cardinal Village residence halls now have names familiar to many LU alumni: Campbell, Combs, Gentry and Morris.

Campbell Hall, formerly CV Phase 4, is named for Mary Campbell, who served as head of the math department, unofficial dean of women and Lamar's first female administrator. Then-Lamar President John Gray said at her retirement, "No finer teacher ever lived than Miss Mary." The original Campbell Hall, built in 1955, was named for "Miss Mary" in 1957. The hall that bears her name today

standing-room-only crowd of descendants and friends of the families of honorees joined President James Simmons, and other university and community dignitaries, in early August in the commons of Cardinal Village Phase 5 to rename it Monroe Hall in honor of Claude E. Monroe.

opened in 2007. Combs Hall, formerly CV Phase 3, is named for Judge and U.S. Rep. J.M. Combs, known as the "father" of the expansion of Lamar University.

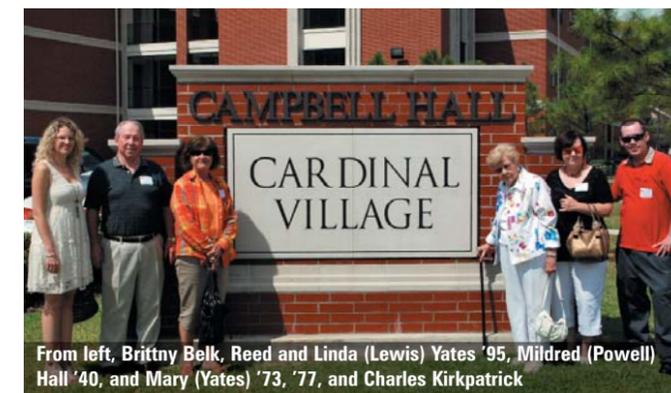
When serving as the president of the South Park school board, Combs galvanized support among business and civic leaders to create a combined district with the resources of several school districts. Combs was elected the first president of the Lamar Union Junior College board of trustees in 1940, and a season of unprecedented growth began as the new campus was constructed. Combs was elected as the U.S. representative from the 2nd Congressional District in November 1944. He served in Congress for eight years. The original Combs Hall was built in 1954. The current Combs Hall opened to students in 2004.

Gentry Hall, formerly CV Phase 1, is named for Bess Gentry, Lamar's first dean of women, who served from 1944 until her retirement in 1968. For a decade of that time, she also was head of the Department of Women's Health and Physical Education. A visionary leader, Gentry established Lamar's national sorority system, the Panhellenic Association and many other student organizations at Lamar. Since 1975, the Bess Gentry Award has served as a reminder of her leadership when it is given to honor a senior woman each spring. The original Gentry Hall was dedicated in 1963. Today's Gentry Hall opened in 2001.

Morris Hall, formerly CV Phase 2, is named for James Bryan Morris, chairman emeritus of the board of regents. As Lamar's legal counsel, J.B. Morris drew up proceedings for calling and holding the election that created the Lamar Union Junior College district and for voting bonds to raise \$850,000 to build the first buildings on the Lamar campus. He also drafted the act of the Legislature that made Lamar a four-year college. The original Morris Hall, completed in 1959, was named in his honor. The current residence hall that bears his name opened August 2002.—BKS



From left, front row, Lila Combs, Bonnie Combs; second row, Betty Combs Brink, Katherine Combs; third row, Pat Combs, Glenda Mayes; fourth row, Martin Combs, Glen Mayes '62; back row, Ronald Brink



From left, Brittney Belk, Reed and Linda (Lewis) Yates '95, Mildred (Powell) Hall '40, and Mary (Yates) '73, '77, and Charles Kirkpatrick

W Piper Professor 2011: Westgate earns elite honor

by Louise Wood

In recognition of his dedication to the teaching profession and his outstanding academic, scientific and scholarly achievements, Lamar University's James Westgate joins an elite group of educators as a 2011 Piper Professor.

Westgate, university professor of earth and space sciences, is one of 10 faculty members in Texas to be honored by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation—and the 12th Lamar faculty member to receive the honor since the program began in 1958. President James Simmons presented him with the \$5,000 honorarium, certificate of merit and gold commemorative pin that accompany the honor. The Piper Foundation presents the awards annually for superior teaching. Westgate is the first Lamar University faculty member to be so honored since 2004.

From Mount St. Helens, Yellowstone National Park and the Big Bend of Texas to the Chihuahuan Desert and Panama, Westgate has brought learning to life through real-world situations. He is recognized as one of the most prolific science educators in Texas and beyond, said Jim Jordan, chair of the Department of Earth and Space Sciences.

Since 2001, Westgate has served as science advisor and associate director of the JASON Alliance of Southeast Texas, which each year attracts an average of 8,000 fourth- through eighth-graders and 200 science teachers to the Lamar campus.

"He has excelled as a teacher-scholar, researcher and a person of service to his disciplines of geology, paleontology and earth science," Jordan said. "Among his contributions to science education, he became a teacher of teachers, resulting in more certified teachers in the discipline of earth science than at any other state university."

"It is a great honor to receive the Piper Professor Award," Westgate said. "I think one of the most significant aspects of being given the award is that it acknowledges my philosophy about the importance of students learning through doing, whether that means excavating 40 million-year-old fossils in the Utah desert, or canoeing through Neches River cypress swamps. Science is a verb, because it is a process, and it should be taught that way, and not as a list of vocabulary words . . . The other great thing about earning the Piper Professor Award is that it acknowledges the impact and significance of programs like the JASON Project and the Teaching Environmental Science Institute. Just as the

best scientific research today happens through collaborative efforts, the same applies to science education—it works best as a team effort."

In January, for example, a team of meteorologists from the National Weather Service office in Lake Charles, La., built a 6-foot-tall volcano for this year's JASON Project Operation Tectonic Fury event at LU. "They commuted from Lake Charles to LU for 12 days, so more than 9,100 fourth- through eighth-graders could see Mount Jason erupt in the auditorium everyday," Westgate said.

Westgate has earned the university's top honors: University Professor in 2008, University Scholar in 2003 and Distinguished Faculty Lecturer in 1999. He is a three-time recipient of Teaching Excellence Awards at Lamar. He has garnered more than \$1 million in science education and research grants, which have provided unique learning opportunities for countless students of all ages, Jordan said.

Educators often ask to join him on his geological digs in the summer, said Roxanne Minix-Wilkins, secondary science coordinator at the Region 5 Education Service Center.

"I don't know of many people who would volunteer to stay in the desert for a couple of weeks digging for fossils." Minix-Wilkins also points to his work with the JASON Project. "It is because of his tireless efforts and dedication to educate our youth in the area that JASON Southeast Texas has recently been asked to model its training for National Geographic," she said.

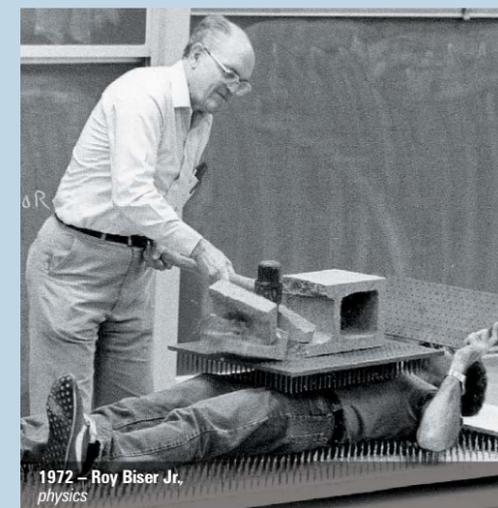
Westgate has taught for 35 years at the college level, 21 of them at Lamar. He earned his bachelor of science in geology in 1975 from the College of William and Mary, master of science in geology in 1978 from the University of Nebraska, master of science in biology in 1983 from Missouri State University and doctor of philosophy in geological sciences in 1988 from the University of Texas.

The Texas Academy of Sciences, which he served as president, honored him in 2008 with its outstanding service award. He is a research fellow in the Vertebrate Paleontology Section of the Texas Natural Science Center at the University of Texas. Except for a two-year hiatus, Westgate has continuously served since 1990 as an officer of the Lamar Chapter of Sigma Xi, The International Scientific Research Society.

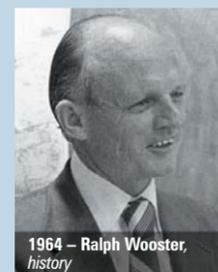
"Jim Westgate has made outstanding contributions to science, teaching science and his discipline, earning him state, national and international respect from the scientific community," Jordan said. "Outside of his discipline, the respect that Jim Westgate has garnered on all levels is directly the result of his own belief in the university and larger communities and his desire to serve those communities. His record of achievement is remarkable, but, moreover, ongoing."



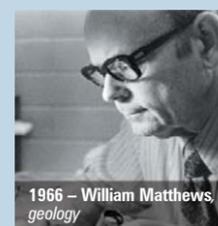
SATTLER



1972 – Roy Biser Jr., physics



1964 – Ralph Wooster, history



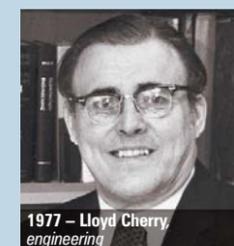
1966 – William Matthews, geology

”

Dr. Westgate is one university scientist who has so much passion for his science content that he feels the need to help others develop that same understanding and passion . . . It is impossible to be around him and not catch his enthusiasm.

– PATSY MAGEE, pre-K-12 science supervisor, Beaumont school district

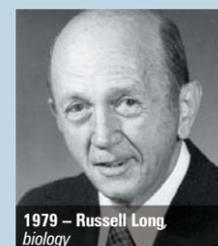
“



1977 – Lloyd Cherry, engineering



1978 – Mary Katherine Bell, mathematics



1979 – Russell Long, biology



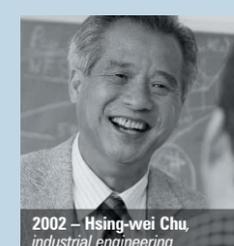
1980 – Eugene Martinez, engineering



1992 – JoAnn Stiles, history



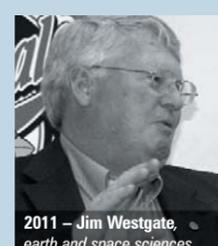
1995 – Joseph Pizzo Jr., physics



2002 – Hsing-wei Chu, industrial engineering



2004 – Jean Andrews, deaf studies/deaf education



2011 – Jim Westgate, earth and space sciences

Making physics real

by Louise Wood

As a child, George Irwin wanted to be a paleontologist when he grew up, and in college he set out to be an electrical engineer. Instead, he became a physicist and educator—much to the benefit of the Lamar University students he has taught and mentored over the past 15 years in the lab and on reduced-gravity aircraft.

The Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series, sponsored by ExxonMobil and hosted by the Lamar Faculty Senate, celebrated its 25th anniversary Nov. 7 with Irwin's lecture, "Nuclear Education in the Nuclear Age." A Lamar faculty member since 1997, Irwin is an associate professor and interim program director in the Department of Physics, as well as radiation safety officer for the university.

"Nuclear physics is an area of science with great importance in the world today," Irwin said. "From nuclear weapons aimed at destroying entire cities to nuclear medicine aimed at destroying cancer cells, nuclear physics invokes some of our deepest fears and highest hopes for the future."

His lecture covered basic concepts of physics, employing show-and-tell, on-stage experiments and humor. Irwin shared more than 25 years of professional expertise—from working as a scientist at the Idaho National Laboratory to teaching Lamar students about gamma ray spectroscopy in his physics lab and leading teams of students in NASA's zero-gravity flight education program.

"Dr. Irwin is known as one of Lamar University's top lecturers," two previous Distinguished Faculty Lecturers—Jim Jordan and Jim Westgate—said in nominating him for the honor. "His professional skills are at their best in the laboratory, where he encourages his students to find answers to scientific questions using hands-on, inquiry-based exploration and learning."

Jordan is chair and professor, and Westgate is university professor, both of earth and space sciences. Irwin was a "star" in last year's JASON Project video "infinite potential," viewed on the LU campus by more than 7,300 science students, they said, and has been the recipient or co-recipient of more than \$200,000 in grant funding at Lamar.

When Irwin arrived at Lamar from Idaho State University, it was love at first sight.

"I liked the department. I liked the people in the department, and I liked the way people did things here," Irwin said. "Joe Pizzo and others were very big on classroom demonstra-

tions, which is something I'm also big on myself.

"I enjoy making physics real for people,

instead of drawing a flat, chalkboard picture or even projecting a flat Power Point picture. It's still flat, it's not real, and physics happens in real life. So having real apparatuses in the lecture hall that students can see is, I think, an important way of making concepts clear to people.

"I enjoyed that about the way people taught here at Lamar. There is a long tradition of excellent instruction in physics at Lamar."

And so it remains today. Irwin was the fourth faculty member in the physics department, which now has three tenured faculty members and one tenure-track faculty member, three instructors and three support-staff members.

"I've had a blast during those years," Irwin said. "For the most part, I've been provided the support I needed to pursue my career and to pursue my interests."

One of Irwin's passions is to take old equipment and make it work. "That's why you look around my lab and see a lot of old stuff, because we don't throw anything away. We save everything, it seems, for decades."

One example is an X-ray machine used for crystal diffraction—an apparatus that is at least 30 years old and probably older. "It has the cutest little X-ray tube," Irwin said. "I found this thing in a cabinet, and it didn't work. It sat for years. A few years ago, I took it out, messed with it a little bit with a student, and, what do you know, we got it working."

He added: "You can still buy the exact, same thing—the same model. It's about a \$30,000 item. I took what was mostly junk and turned it into functioning equipment."

A highlight of Irwin's Lamar career has been joining Jordan in leading teams of students on experiments aboard NASA's reduced-gravity aircraft, known as the "weightless wonder," at Ellington Air Field in Houston.

"The NASA projects have been a lot of fun," he said. "They've been a lot of work for both the students and the faculty, but the rewards have been great."

And, Irwin said, "We've done some interesting experiments. The most recent one had to do with what happens in an orbiting laboratory like the international space station if you have a spill. Water floats around in droplets, and it can get into the electronics, the machinery, and that can be very bad. So the question arises: How can you possibly clean that up?"

"There are lots of ways of doing it, but our way was novel and had to do with using a high-voltage electrostatic generator—a Van de Graaff—which we use for demonstrations. We get students to charge up to 100,000 volts or so and have their hair stand on end and things like that. The same device, it turns out, we demonstrated, will attract floating droplets of water by polarizing them and drawing the droplets in by the electrostatic field gradient."

Irwin hopes to take the experiment to its next stage and develop a "spill-cleanup gizmo" based on a safe way of making high voltage at low current. "We think that might have some actual application, possibly on a future space station experiment," Irwin said.

Another experiment—also with potential applications—focused on tether recoil. "We had a tethered payload, like one coming off the space shuttle or some other tethered satellite," Irwin said. "With the tension, the question arises of what happens if it snaps and recoils and tangles up the other end. If that other end is a manned spacecraft, that poses a serious issue. So one of our experiments had to do with how can we quantify that recoil and what can be done to mitigate it."

When he was a scientist at the Idaho National Laboratory, Irwin worked on one project that involved monitoring nuclear reactors for plutonium and another using gamma rays in the cooling pool of a reactor used to store spent fuel rods to excite meta-stable nuclear levels called isomeric states in indium and cadmium samples.

And, Irwin said, "One of the most interesting things I ever did goes back to my doctoral dissertation at Idaho State, having to do with spectroscopy of magnetic materials called spin glasses, which occur only at extremely

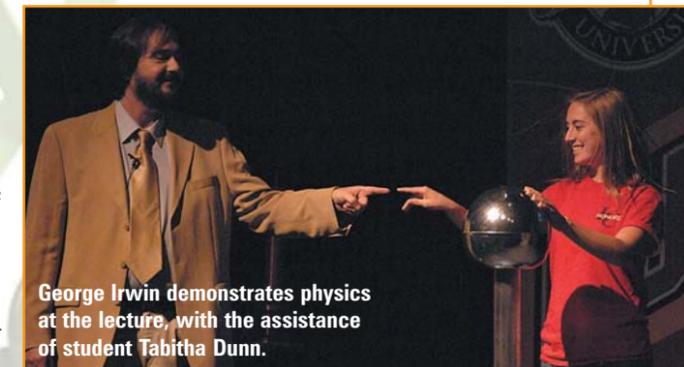
low, cryogenic temperatures.

"I'm not saying it was earth shaking or anything like that, but it was my little, narrow slice of research I consider to be important," Irwin said. "I don't know that anybody's pursued it elsewhere. In fact, one of my goals at Lamar is to prepare my lab with a cryogenic unit and get a new radiation source, so I can pick up on that research."

A native of Holland, Ohio, and current resident of Nederland, Irwin earned a bachelor of science in physics from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and a master of science and doctor of philosophy from The Ohio University. Irwin's daughter, Sarah Rose, 19, is a Nederland High School graduate and Lamar student.

Among Irwin's interests outside the classroom and lab is his 1961 Buick La Sabre, which he acquired a decade ago. He enjoys relaxing with his aquariums, tending to houseplants, wood-carving, drawing and playing pool.

From Jim Jordan's standpoint, Irwin need



George Irwin demonstrates physics at the lecture, with the assistance of student Tabitha Dunn.

not go off campus to have fun. The two have worked together on reduced-gravity flights since 1998, as well as on other projects to enhance the physics and geology departments.

They often shop for parts and supplies in hardware, sports and toy stores. "In the toy department of Walmart, I remember once he said, 'It's all physics.' He'll see an item and say, 'This is cool, this is super cool.' He's just like a kid in a toy store. One of the biggest joys I've ever had is shopping with George."

Jordan added: "If you're in his lab—which I've been in quite a bit—it's full of toys—things he would regard as toys, things that bring joy to him. I think it's really telling about George the fun he has with the things he does."

Inspired... and inspirational

by Louise Wood



Peggy Doerschuk was 8 when her father died in an automobile accident, leaving her mother to raise four children by herself.

“We were rich. We just didn’t have any money,” Doerschuk said.

Home was half an old shotgun double in New Orleans, and the family rented the other side for \$50 a month. Her mother mortgaged the house four times to make ends meet. The family’s main income was Social Security, with a monthly stipend for her mother and \$80 a month for each school-aged child at home.

“When I went to college, Mom gave me that \$80 to pay for my living expenses, and she and my younger sister did without,” Doerschuk said. “My mother taught me many things, but I am most indebted to her for teaching me to have strength and courage through faith to accomplish things I

never thought I could do.”

Her mother taught her well, as her accomplishments attest. Lamar University honored Doerschuk as 2011 university professor, the highest honor accorded a faculty member. When she stepped to the podium to receive the award—to a standing ovation—her mother, Jeannette Israel, beamed with pride from the front row, where she shared the joy of the occasion with Doerschuk’s husband, David, an electrical engineer. Officials applauded Doerschuk, professor of computer science, as an innovative and accomplished researcher as well as a teacher and mentor who has deeply touched the lives of her students.

“Lamar has so many talented and dedicated faculty members. I am deeply honored to be selected by my peers for this award,” Doerschuk said in accepting the award. “I love Lamar because of its students, because it

embraces the teacher/scholar model, because it values diversity, because it supports undergraduate research, because it is a place where one person can make a difference.

“My finest achievements stem not from my actions as an individual but from the collective work of my teams of students, faculty and administrators with whom I have the privilege of serving. It is my pleasure to accept this award on behalf of all of them.”

Doerschuk was the first person in her family to earn a college degree and, she said, had never considered going to college until a friend told her she was going—“and wouldn’t I like to come too?” Her friend, Sharon, had her sights set on attending the University of Southwestern Louisiana, now University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and becoming an elementary school teacher.

Sharon’s parents owned a Volkswagen bus, Doerschuk said, “and they carted Sharon, me and our stuff back and forth between New Orleans and Lafayette every semester.”

Unlike Sharon, Doerschuk said, “I had no idea what I wanted to be when I grew up. I just knew I didn’t want to be poor. I changed my major three times and ended up with a degree in math because I was good in math. But I had only the vaguest notion of what a mathematician actually did for a living, much less how to get a job. Furthermore, upon graduation, I made the unpleasant discovery that, at that time, the demand for mathematicians at the B.S. level in New Orleans was slim to none.”

A dozen years passed as Doerschuk worked in typical white-collar jobs involving no mathematics beyond arithmetic. Working at an insurance company, she found herself

supervising a group of clerks who were calculating the premiums to charge for policies by manually looking up parameters in a large book of compiled tables. The company decided to computerize the process, and Doerschuk became the liaison between the clerks and the software engineers who were automating the process.

“I thought software engineering was marvelous and that my long-neglected math degree could be resuscitated with a degree in computer science,” she said.

Doerschuk took a night course and did well, then another and did even better. She was ready to quit her job and attend graduate school full time—and, with advice of her younger sister, Eileen, by then a psychologist in New Orleans, applied for assistantships at Tulane and two other schools. One turned her down, and she never heard from a second.

“I’ll never forget that I was sitting at my desk at the insurance company when the chair of the computer science department at Tulane called me. We chatted for a while, and she said, ‘You know, you’re not a perfect candidate, but I’m going to take a chance on you.’ So I was admitted to Tulane University’s grad school with a teaching assistantship, none of which would have happened without my sister’s encouragement and support.”

The first year was hard, she said. “All the students were much younger than me, and I had no friends.” One classmate, now a higher-education administration, befriended her. “She knew everybody, and she knew the ropes,” Doerschuk said. “She introduced me to her circle of friends, gave me advice on how to survive grad school, helped me get an apartment close to campus and even went shopping with me for my interviewing suit after graduation.”

Doerschuk also met her husband as she started work on her dissertation at Tulane. “I was having a hard time getting my work done because I couldn’t afford a computer, so I had to do all my work from the TA’s office (and) my work was constantly being interrupted. David built a computer for me from spare parts and got me set up with a modem and filing cabinet so I could work from home. I might still be working on my dissertation if it hadn’t been for him. David has helped me on so many different levels that I cannot possibly enumerate them.”

David remembers meeting his future wife in a statistics class. “I liked her smile, loved her heart and admired her statistics; therefore, I pursued her relentlessly until, tired and weary, she gave up and married me.”

A position with Mobil, now ExxonMobil, brought the Doerschuks to Southeast Texas and Peggy to Lamar in 1993.

Doerschuk has served as president of the Faculty Senate, as advisor to Lamar’s Student

“I love Lamar because of its students, because it embraces the teacher/scholar model, because it values diversity, because it supports undergraduate research, because it is a place where one person can make a difference.”

—PEGGY DOERSCHUK

Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery and the Computer Science Women++ Organization. Awards and recognitions include a University Merit Award and the Andrew Green Performance Award for Outstanding Research and Teaching. She and fellow investigators have secured almost \$2 million in external support from such prestigious sources as the U.S. Army, National Science Foundation, NASA and ExxonMobil.



Peggy Doerschuk, with her mother, Jeannette Israel

Doerschuk’s career took a significant turn when she started directing a series of mentoring, retention and outreach programs in 2002. The first was WIRED (Women In REsearch Development Program), funded by a grant from the Texas Workforce Development Grant and several grants from ExxonMobil. WIRED graduates are now in computing careers in Beaumont, Houston, Austin, California, Washington and elsewhere, working for companies that include Intel, Microsoft and contractors for Boeing and ExxonMobil.

That success helped Doerschuk and her colleagues receive a National Science Foundation grant for \$490,000 to support INSPIRED (INcreasing Student Participation In REsearch Development Program). Fifteen undergraduate females and underrepresented minorities have participated in the program, she said. “We have retained more than 70 percent of them, and all of our graduates have transitioned to careers or advanced study,” she said. The INSPIRED team has reached about 2,000 students, including more than 200 middle- and high-school students in academies taught by INSPIRED undergraduates.

The experience with INSPIRED helped Doerschuk and her colleagues obtain a \$999,800 National Science Foundation grant to support STAIRSTEP (Students Advancing Through Involvement in Research-Student Talent Expansion Program), in which teams of undergraduates conduct research and outreach under the direction of faculty mentors.

“It takes a village to make this grant succeed. Our team of students and faculty have touched over a thousand students, educators and community leaders in outreach in our first two years,” Doerschuk said. “Our work with these students is the most gratifying thing I have ever done. Many of them are low-income, first-generation students. Many of them don’t have a roadmap to success. They are here to make a better life for themselves and their families.

“They are very humble, very respectful, good kids. A little guidance can go a long way in helping these students. The most satisfying experience of my career has been seeing them grow into fine young men and women who work together as a family and reach out to help others.”



1



2



3



4

President James Simmons, left, and Coach Ray Woodard thank Charline Dauphin and her daughter, Robin, for their generous gifts to Cardinal athletics. The Dauphin Athletics Complex is named in honor of their family.



5

Alumni and friends attended Lamar's Friends of the Arts Le Grand Bal, the major annual fundraiser for the College of Fine Arts and Communication.

1. President James Simmons, left, First Lady Susan (Williams) Simmons '68, Michele (Yennie) Smith '88 and Mitch Smith 2. Bob Wortham '71, left, Melody (O'Reilly) '71 and Pat Parsons '71 3. Marion Armstrong, Fred Simon 4. Judy and James Black 5. John Alexander '68, Paul Manes '72, '82



Lamar University received the Beautify Beaumont Award from the Magnolia Garden Club. Gregg Lassen, vice president for finance and administration, and his wife, Jackie, accepted the award from Kit (Howell) Ohmstede '82, center.

Stephen Doblin, provost and vice president for academic affairs, left, and Victor Zaloom, interim dean of the College of Graduate Studies join Anita Riddle '93, '96, as she prepares to deliver her keynote address during August commencement.



President James Simmons, presents a resolution to Phil '67, and Karen Drayer in recognition of their longtime support of Lamar University. Drayer serves on the College of Engineering advisory council, the Lamar University Foundation board of trustees and the Investing in the Future campaign cabinet. The Phillip M. Drayer Department of Electrical Engineering is named in his honor.



Friends and family of the late Claude Monroe came to campus for the dedication of Monroe Hall in honor of the former business faculty member.



The Texas State University System appointed Bill Scott '70, pictured with his wife, Gay (Duckworth) '80, to the board of regents for a term to expire in 2013. Scott is chairman and CEO of Trans-Global Solutions. He is a LU Foundation trustee and serves on the campaign cabinet and College of Business board of advisors.



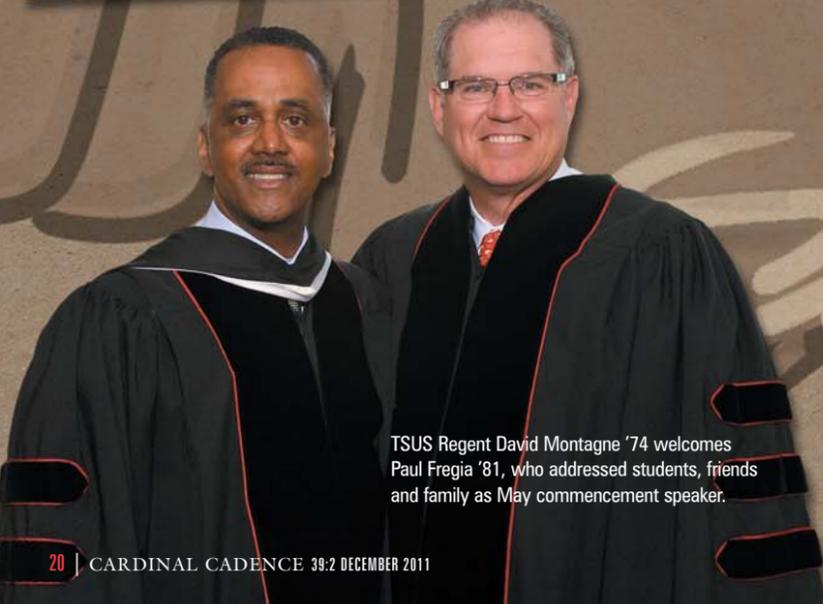
President James Simmons joins Don Lyle '06 and Dean Jack Hopper to celebrate the naming of the Don Lyle Conference Room in the Cherry Engineering Building in honor of the Lyles' generous campaign gifts to engineering.



From left, assistant professors Chiung-fang Chang, sociology, and James Curry and Xinyu Liu, industrial engineering, earned 2011 University Merit Awards in recognition of outstanding performance in the classroom.



President James Simmons, LU cheerleaders and Student Government Association President Andrew Greenberg led a Lamar delegation to Beaumont City Council Oct. 18 to receive a proclamation and promote "Get Your Red On" and Homecoming.



TSUS Regent David Montagne '74 welcomes Paul Fregia '81, who addressed students, friends and family as May commencement speaker.

James Vanderleeuw, Brooks chair, left; Charlotte and Jack Brooks '41; keynote speaker Emelie Irving; and President James Simmons gather at the annual Brooks Conference focusing on non-profit organizations and substance abuse issues.



HEB cornered the market on Cardinal spirit with 12 displays throughout its Beaumont location to win this year's Get Your Red On community contest. Check out all the participants at lamar.edu/alumni by clicking on the Get Your Red On and community contest tabs.



Former NASA astronaut Bernard Harris visited students attending the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp at the Shangri La Botanical Gardens in Orange. Shangri La is a perennial partner and special presenter for the two-week, residential camp held at Lamar. It offers innovative programs in science, technology, engineering and math, while also fostering leadership and citizenship.

Lamar recognized as top graduate degree producer for minorities

Lamar University is among the nation's Top 100 universities to confer graduate degrees to minority students in 2009-2010, a recent study found.

The magazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* recently released its annual "Top 100 Bachelor's Degrees Conferred" report, and Lamar ranked in the Top 100 in numerous categories (www.diverseeducation.com/top100).

With all academic disciplines combined, the university ranked 21st in the number of graduate degrees awarded to minority students with 712 degrees granted in 2009-2010, the report said.

Lamar leads nation in graduate education degrees to Hispanics

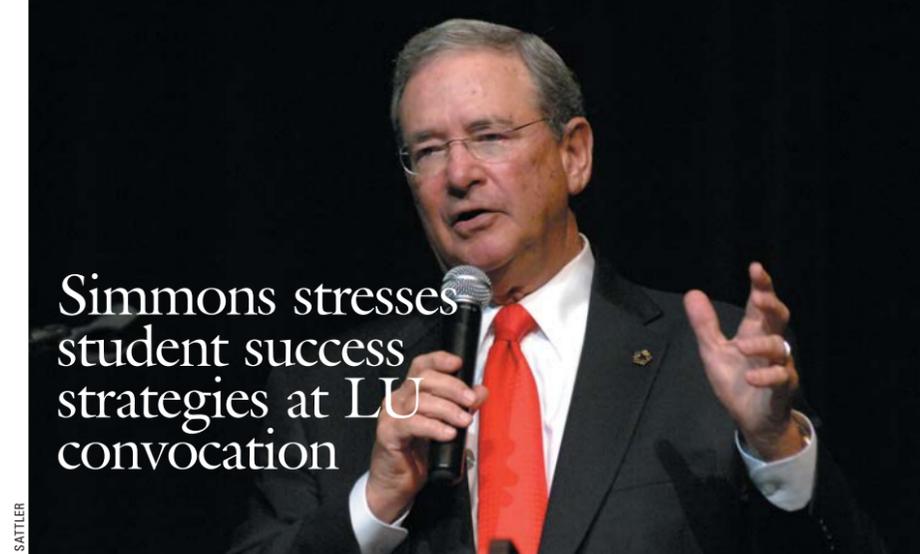
Lamar University led the nation in the number of graduate degrees in education awarded to Hispanics during 2010.

The university awarded degrees to 342 Hispanics during the year, according to *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education*, a national magazine dedicated to exploring issues related to Hispanics in higher education.

"This is clearly good news for Lamar University because we have identified and captured a demographic slice of the state that previously has not been available to Lamar University. It includes areas of large populations of Hispanic graduate students, particularly those who are certified teachers and school administrators in districts with which we partner," said Kevin Smith, Lamar's senior associate provost. "It is great news."

"Because of the accessibility and the affordability of the program, this has been a hugely successful option. Lamar is a school of choice in online graduate education," Smith said.

Since 2007, Lamar has conferred more than 4,500 graduate degrees in education. "We're proud of the fact we were pathfinders, so to speak, in online education for students in Texas," said Jason Mixon, assistant dean for academic partnerships and outreach in the College of Education and Human Development. "We push to incorporate all areas of Texas," Mixon said. "As a matter of fact, we are in 211 of the 254 Texas counties and are excited about the opportunity to take the college to their homes instead of their coming to the college."



Simmons stresses student success strategies at LU convocation

While tackling challenges resulting from state funding cuts, Lamar University remains steadfast in its commitment to the success of its students, President James Simmons told faculty and staff attending the annual back-to-school convocation.

"Our mission is higher-education instruction and scholarship with a commitment to high quality," Simmons said Aug. 15 as more than 500 gathered in the University Theatre to mark the start of the 2011-2012 academic year. "We must focus on retention and graduation."

Good news everywhere even as Lamar faces \$15.4 million in cuts

While maintaining academic standards, LU must ensure that students get through the maze of issues they face and provide them with the information and support they need to succeed, Simmons said in his annual "state-of-the-university" address. Because of an 18 percent reduction in its state appropriation, Lamar must cut \$15.4 million over the next two years. Measures to accomplish this include a hiring freeze on vacant positions, restructuring of some offices, holding the line on class sizes, more energy efficiency and other steps to "tighten our belts."

But, Simmons said, "In spite of state budget woes, good news is everywhere," citing Lamar's recognition as a Carnegie Classification of Doctoral Research University. Lamar awards more master's degrees in chemical engineering and education than any university in the nation. And, thanks to the generosity of friends and supporters, LU has surpassed

the \$95 million mark, prompting the Investing in the Future campaign cabinet to increase the goal to \$125 million. The campaign continues through 2013.

Lamar will prosper

"Lamar will not only survive this downturn, but I pledge that we will prosper during it," he said, because of enrollment as well as student success, outstanding faculty and staff and support from friends and alumni.

Lamar continues to add courses and programs: The university enrolled its first group of students this fall pursuing the online doctorate in education and also offers a new online master of education in counseling. A new online RN-to-BSN program began in October.

"You can see why I say Lamar will prosper even during these difficult economic times," Simmons said.

Strategies for student success, Simmons said, begin with identifying, recruiting, engaging, educating, supporting, retaining and graduating students who will become "proud Lamar alumni." After careful study and consultation, he said, the university has moved to an approach based on strategic enrollment management.

"Gone are the days of sending students to many different offices to complete the process of enrollment. Instead, we are developing a simplified 'one-stop' enrollment process that puts a priority on service," Simmons said. "All facets of student success are our concern, and it is essential that every one of us work together to make a difference."

Meet the 2011-2012 Lamar University Ambassadors

This elite group of students represents the student body at official university events to promote Cardinal pride among students, prospective students, alumni and friends of Lamar University. These outstanding students connect with community and civic leaders, strengthening ties that increase opportunities for all LU students.



LU selects Goodrich to head university police



Jason Goodrich

Lamar University has hired Jason Goodrich, a 16-year law enforcement veteran, as chief of police, succeeding Dale Fontenot, who served LU for more than 40 years as chief. Lamar University has also hired Randy Martin to serve as assistant chief. The two bring complementary skills to the department. Goodrich brings a wealth of university policing experience, having served as a captain at Vanderbilt University and several other campuses. Martin brings civic police force experience that will further strengthen the department. "Together, the two are an excellent match that

will further build on the university's commitment to provide a safe, secure learning and living environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors," said Gregg Lassen, vice president for finance and operations.

New Strategic Enrollment Management Division to improve student success



Sherry Benoit

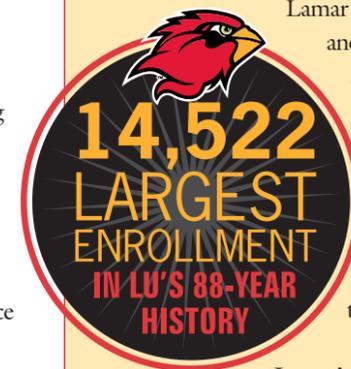
With the creation of a new Division of Strategic Enrollment Management, Lamar University is working to better serve students from the time they begin considering LU as their college choice until they leave as successful graduates.

Sherry Benoit, associate vice president, leads the division. Benoit previously served as Lamar University's registrar. Her team includes admissions, campus relations and tours, enrollment marketing, enrollment research, financial assistance, records, recruitment and scholarships. The division also is working closely with all academic departments, retention,

student advising, student affairs and integrated marketing.

"We are working to improve our processes to make sure we anticipate students' needs and give them the most concise, informative, accurate response possible from us quickly," Benoit said.

LU sets record enrollment



Lamar University has set another all-time enrollment record. Official figures for the fall 2011 semester taken on the 20th class day show Lamar has set the highest enrollment in the university's 88-year history.

More specifically, Lamar's headcount is 14,522, up 1 percent over last fall's record enrollment of 14,388. Semester credit hours totaled 141,748, up .06 percent over last fall's 140,904.

The increase in headcount and semester credit hours comes despite the sour economy, increase in tuition and cuts in state appropriations, said Kevin Smith, senior associate provost at Lamar. Among factors Smith credits are new online degree programs, including the online master of education in counseling and the new online doctorate in education. Also, the university's new ROOTS entry program allows some first-time-in-college students to earn their way to regular admission, Smith said.

Strong scholarship support continues to be key in helping many students realize their goals of a college degree. "Many alumni and friends generously contributed scholarships that allow students to continue their matriculation in these hard times," Smith said. "Their support is vital."

Faculty notes

Tess Pape, associate professor of nursing, received the Professional Issues Writer's Award from MEDSURG Nursing: The Journal of Adult Health. Pape shares the award with co-author Ruth Roberts for their article "Scholarship in Nursing: Not an Isolated Concept," published in the January/February issue of MEDSURG Nursing. The article discusses how nurses working in



hospitals can contribute to academic research in terms of policies, procedures and patient care . . . **The Department of History** has entered into a formal association with the Texas Gulf Historical Society, publisher of the Texas Gulf Historical and Biographical Record. Beginning with the October 2011 issue, the department assumed full editorial responsibility for the Record, which has been published annually since 1965 . . . **Molly Dahm**, associate professor of family and consumer sciences and director of the department's hospitality administration program, has been appointed to the Product Development and Small Business Incubator Board. The Board is a program of the Texas Bank for Economic Development, which was created to oversee state economic development programs in developing a comprehensive and coordinated approach to assist businesses and local communities . . . **The JoAnne Gay Dishman Department of Nursing** honored instructor of nursing **Rose Harding '96, '00** with Lamar's first DAISY Award. DAISY stands for "Diseases Attacking the Immune System." The DAISY Foundation was formed in 1999 to honor the life of J. Patrick Barnes, who died at age 33 of an immune disorder. "The Barnes family established the award to say thank-you to the nursing professionals such as Rose Harding who are sometimes the unsung heroes of health care," said Eileen Deges Curl, chair of the department . . .



Jennifer Fagen, assistant professor of sociology, and Stuart Wright, professor of sociology, have co-authored a chapter entitled, "Texas Redux: A Comparative Analysis of the Branch Davidian and FLDS Raids," in *Saints Under Siege, The Texas State Raid on the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints*, published by NYU Press. Wright was also co-editor of the book . . . **Mary Evelyn Collins**, professor of communication, was selected as the Texas Speech Communication Association Scholar of the Year. Collins was also chosen to serve as chair of the Rising Leadership Committee for the National Communication Association, the oldest scholarly speech association in the U.S. and the largest national organization dedicated to communication . . . **Lu Stephens**, associate professor of educational leadership, has been elected 2010-12 president of the Texas Council for Women School Executives (TCWSE), becoming the organization's first two-year chief executive officer. Stephens developed the new online TCWSE Education Journal, launched earlier this year, and was appointed by the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) to the State Committee on Higher Education to work as the TASA liaison to other Texas colleges and universities . . . **John Carroll**, professor of history, participated this past summer in a documentary film project on the history of college football. As a recognized sports historian, Carroll was interviewed on his well-known research on Red Grange and Fritz Pollard. The 30-minute segment will be aired on ESPN.

New department focuses on counseling

The College of Education and Human Development has created the Department of Counseling and Special Populations to offer undergraduate and graduate programs that lead to master of education degrees in special education and in counseling and development with two tracks—community or school counseling.

"The master's program in school counseling has grown exponentially since going online and now has more than 715 students from across Texas and other states," said Carolyn Crawford, interim chair of the new department.

Educational leadership has grown so much throughout the years that the faculty felt developing a new department was necessary. The Department of Educational Leadership, of which counseling and special populations was initially a part, had become so populated that splitting the counseling curriculum off into its own department allows students a more concentrated curriculum in that area. Faculty have developed courses that are rich in best practices content and utilize activities that apply to real-world experiences.

Along with the master of education degrees offered, students can also receive a bachelor of science, bachelor of arts, or professional certification. The new department offers certifications for educational diagnostician, professional school counselor, as well as special education. All are offered with the option for an endorsement in gifted education.

In addition to the traditional on-campus classes available, a 36-hour master's degree in professional school counseling degree is offered online. The course can be completed in 18 months. More information about degree opportunities is available by contacting the department at (409) 880-8978.

The MBA program earns "Global 100" ranking

The Aspen Institute's "Global 100" ranking is for the "Top 100 MBA programs integrating social and environmental stewardship." This is the third consecutive time LU's program has received this honor, with the latest biennial rankings being published in the 2011-2012 edition of the Institute's Beyond Grey Pinstripes. Lamar University is one of only 67 U.S. schools and one of only five Texas universities selected for inclusion in the "Global 100," with UT Austin, TCU, UT Dallas and Rice.



LU joins in launch of 'Grad TX' degree completion program

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has launched "Grad TX"



(pronounced "Grad Texas"), a program designed to help adults return to college and finish their bachelor's degrees. Offered by eight Texas universities, including Lamar University, Grad TX targets the more than 40,000 adults in Texas who "stepped out" of college with 90 or more credit hours but have not finished the 120-credit-hour requirement to receive a bachelor's degree.

The program's website www.GradTX.org features an online transfer tool that allows returning students to enter completed coursework and preview how their credits would count toward a bachelor's degree at a participating university. The website also connects returning students to counselors at each university who specialize in meeting the unique needs of returning students, such as determining how work experience could count toward a bachelor's degree and helping returning students graduate faster. GradTX.org includes information about paying for college and financial aid, as well as a section addressing the needs of veterans.

Grad TX is a project of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board with initial funding provided through a federal College Access Challenge Grant.

System honors Ku-yen Li as new regents' professor

The Texas State University System has named Ku-yen Li, professor of chemical engineering, as a regents' professor.

The honor is conferred on professors who demonstrate excellence and exemplary achievement in teaching, research and publication and service.

As a professor in the Dan F. Smith Department of Chemical Engineering, Li has served Lamar University since 1978. "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 was department chair for seven years, led the effort to gain Lamar's only Ph.D. program, worked tirelessly to maintain accreditation from ABET Inc. (formerly the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) and guided Lamar's master's program to national prominence. He and his fellow investigators have received more than \$2.6 million in external funding for 20 projects.



Connecting is easy with LamarMobile

Students, alumni and employees of Lamar University now have another convenient way to stay connected to campus. LamarMobile, a versatile application for smart phones and other mobile devices, is now widely available at no charge.

LamarMobile may be downloaded for free from the iTunes App Store for iPhone, iPod and iPad or from Android Marketplace for Android devices. Other web-enabled devices such as Blackberry may access all content from LamarMobile through a browser at m.lamar.edu. "We wanted to make information available at any



time, from any place, using a device most of us carry all the time," said Priscilla Parsons, associate vice president for information technology. The initial launch of LamarMobile includes five modules:

- Athletics** – Check schedules, scores and the latest news for the Lamar Cardinals.
- Courses** – Browse course schedules and connect to instructors.
- Directory** – Connect to LU faculty and staff via phone or e-mail.
- News** – Keep up-to-date on all the latest Lamar University news.
- Get Help** – Call Lamar University Police or 911.

Future versions of LamarMobile will include campus maps, access to library services and integration with Blackboard Learn educational technology.



Lamar University receives more than \$134,000 in ExxonMobil matching gifts

ExxonMobil employees who are alumni of Lamar University, or whose family members attend or have attended Lamar, made good use of the company's generous three-to-one matching gift program in 2010. Daniel Risso, ExxonMobil Beaumont Refinery plant manager, and Rob Tully, Beaumont Chemical Plant site manager, presented Lamar University President James Simmons with a matching gift check of \$134,470.

At the podium

Business guest Pearson shared new media experience

Bob Pearson, chief technology and media officer for WCG, a global communications company, spoke as the College of Business' ExxonMobil Executive in Residence this past spring. He is the author of *PrE Commerce: How Companies and Customers are Transforming Business Together*. Pearson shared his unique combination of social media, marketing and communications skills acquired in nearly 25 years at three Fortune 500 companies and a major consultancy.

Phi Kappa Phi lecture focuses on Russian avant garde



The Phi Kappa Phi chapter brought **Elena Ivanova**, chief educator at the Stark Museum of Art, to campus in September to speak on "Text, Sound, Image: The Russian Avant-Garde Book." The presentation was the first in what is planned as an annual series, said Kevin Dodson, chapter president of Phi Kappa Phi national honor society.

TALH Lecture Series explores Texas

The Texas Academy of Leadership in the Humanities lecture series on "The Future of Texas" welcomed **Char Miller, W.M. Keck** professor of environmental analysis at Pomona College, who spoke about "Why the Suburban is the State Car of Texas," and Armando Alonzo, associate professor of history at Texas A&M University. Alonzo spoke on "The Rise of Hispanic Texas" as part of the series that concluded with a presentation by **Joe Nick Patoski**, noted author and former staff writer at Texas Monthly, on "Why Texans are Texans: An Introduction to Texan Identity."



Engineering hosts environmental workshops

The Department of Civil Engineering hosted the Eckenfelder Lecture Series, named for William Eckenfelder, deemed the "godfather" of industrial wastewater management. The series included lectures on energy and the environment, control of air emissions from oil refining, and oxidation and process control in activated sludge processes. Known internationally as a pioneer in the field of water treatment and a leading authority in industrial wastewater manage-

ment, Eckenfelder is honored by the Eckenfelder Lecture Series Foundation, a trust to promote the continuation and expansion of his teachings initiated by his colleagues and the American Academy of Environmental Engineers.

Golias gives entrepreneurship lecture

Tipton Golias '62, founder, president and CEO of Helena Laboratories Corp., spoke to students as part of the Entrepreneurship Lecture Series sponsored by ExxonMobil Sept. 20. "As a very successful entrepreneur, Tipton Golias' experience encourages the growing number of students thinking about including entrepreneurship as part of their careers," said



Enrique "Henry" Venta, dean of the College of Business. Founded in 1967 by Tipton and Ann Golias, Helena Laboratories is the premier manufacturer of point-of-care hemostasis products for platelet function testing, whole blood hemostasis and activated clotting time as well as occult blood products. Helena Labs, along with Helena Plastics in California and the oil company in Houston are approaching \$100 million in annual sales. In addition, Health Diagnostics Laboratory in Richmond, Va., has made \$200 million. In 2009, Golias received the Van Slyke Award, the highest award available in the field of clinical chemistry. This year, Golias received the Pacific Biometric Research Award from the American Association for Clinical Chemistry. Helena Laboratories has been responsible for introducing many analyses and techniques to medical laboratories across the world. With hundreds of laboratory products and more than 200 registered patents, Helena continues to be a market leader in the development of new diagnostic tests.

Sigma Xi hosts climate expert

Bette Otto-Bliesner, a climate expert with the American Meteorological Society, spoke about what the earth's past can tell us about the possible results of climate change during a public lecture this past spring hosted by the Lamar University chapter of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society.

MBA students join elite international competition

The College of Business was one of 25 business schools around the world chosen to participate in this year's Aspen Institute 2011 Business and Society International MBA Case Competition.

Sixteen Lamar MBA students, competing on five teams, were among more than 1,000 business students worldwide examining and responding to a new case study of Trina Solar, a company based in China. After receiving the case study, teams had 72 hours to prepare a written response exploring sustainable growth taking into consideration environmental, social, ethical and political concerns.

Members of LU's winning team were Lenny Caballero of Beaumont, Peter Kolp of Beaumont and Matt McCallon of Groves. The winning entry was chosen by members of the College of Business Board of Advisors, representatives of area businesses and faculty members based on written papers and brief presentations. Lamar's winning paper advanced to round two, in which campus winners from all 25 schools were narrowed to five finalist teams.

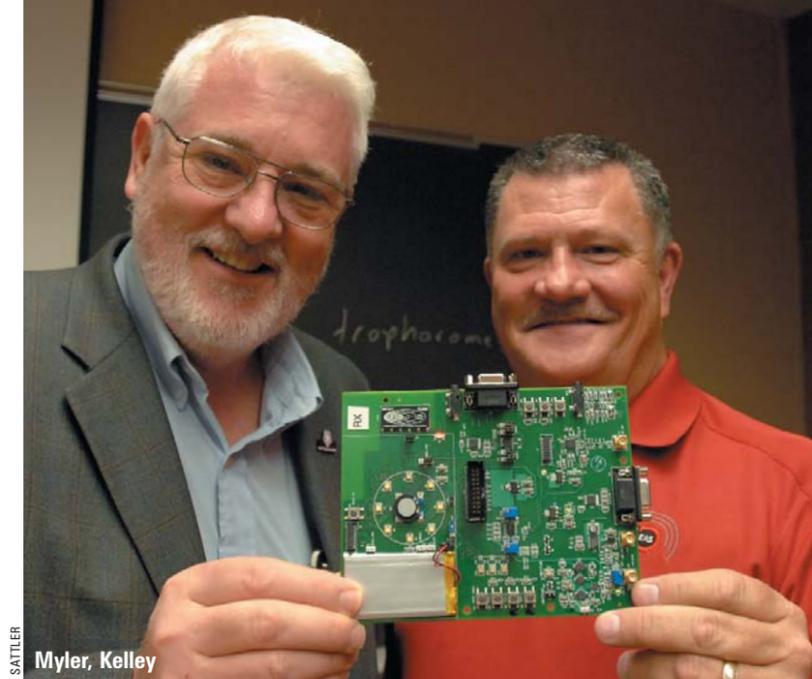
"It's an excellent opportunity for our students," said Brad Mayer, College of Business associate dean. "The Aspen Competition was the culmination of everything these students had learned from all their MBA classes. It's the best learning experience you can get—setting forth a strategy and backing up that strategy with sound analysis."

Construction management students improve Beaumont's Collier's Ferry Park

About 30 Reese Construction Management Program students constructed picnic tables and benches to enhance the Collier's Ferry Park in Beaumont as their spring community service project.

This is the second year the program collaborated with the Beaumont Parks and Recreation Department, who provided the funding and material for this project. In addition to construction, the students' responsibilities include design, scheduling and cost estimation.

"Construction is among the largest industries in the United States and starting salaries of construction managers are among the highest," said Steve McCrary, director of the program. "Because construction is a broad field, covering residential, commercial, heavy/highway, and industrial/plant projects, the career opportunities in the industry are as varied as our students' interests." Through the courses offered at Lamar and an intensive internship program, employers can be assured that graduates have a variety of important skills needed in the industry. More information about the Reese Construction Management Program is available by contacting Steve McCrary at (409) 880-8916.



LU announces first-ever patent

Lamar University has announced its first licensing agreement with a company to market and sell a university-developed emergency alert system placed inside passenger vehicles. The patent-pending device will significantly increase safety for first responders as well as Texas drivers and passengers.

The innovative transmitter/receiver system more effectively alerts passenger vehicles when an emergency vehicle is approaching. The system prototype carries both visual and audio alerts and fits on vehicle windshields.

The technology was developed by professor Harley Myler, chair of the Phillip M. Drayer Department of Electrical Engineering, at the suggestion of William "Bo" Kelley Jr., president of Kelley Emergency Alert Systems (KEAS). The patent application was submitted by Myler and published Oct. 13, and the technology is now being licensed to KEAS in partnership with Lamar University per the agreement.

"I wanted the device to be small, inexpensive and a stand-alone unit that would not be tied into an auto's existing equipment. Working with specifications and a new approach, we came up with great technology," Myler said. "Success is built on working collaboratively. KEAS and Bo Kelley have been part of the process from day one. The idea sprang from a near-collision experience Bo Kelley had. He had the foresight to do something about it, and it's his perseverance that will help make this system a life saver for every passenger and driver on the road."

Bo Kelley added, "My experience was terrifying, but far too common. Inattention on the part of drivers is slowing first responders from getting to the emergency. Even worse, collision with passenger vehicles is the second-highest cause of death for our emergency workers."

"It has been a great experience working with Lamar University," Kelley said. "Dr. Myler and the team have been supportive throughout. You just can't be in a better business when you know what you do saves lives."

The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board has selected Myler for a Fulbright Specialists project in Tunisia at the EHigher Institute of Engineering and Technology. He will assist engineering faculty in improving teaching methods to include novel student project development techniques—a focal point of Lamar's Phillip M. Drayer Department of Electrical Engineering.

Beyond the classroom

Senior theatre major **Bonnie Dupuis** was among 12 students selected from a national pool of applicants to participate in the summer professional actor training program at the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, Va. At the Blackfriars Playhouse, "... through an exploration of the performance practices and staging conditions of the Renaissance, ASC training challenges actors to discover anew the time-tested ways to illuminate the plays, transform the self and transport an audience," according to the center's website. Dupuis is the first Lamar University student selected to participate in this prestigious event . . . **Chuanyo Zhao**, a Ph.D. student in chemical engineering, won the 2011 American Institute for Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Process Development Division Student Paper Award for her manuscript, "Cyclic Scheduling for Ethylene Cracking Furnace System with Consideration of Secondary Ethane Cracking." This highly competitive student award competition, which receives nominations of students at universities throughout the world, provides the recipient with a plaque and cash award at the annual meeting in Minneapolis. Zhao's major professor is Qiang Xu, an associate professor of chemical engineering, who is a co-author of the paper . . . **Scotty McWilliams**, an MBA student, won fourth-place in the national essay contest of the Foundation for Enterprise Development. His entry, "Utilizing Sharing the Wealth Principles to Establish a Highly Involved and Motivated Work Force," was published in *Geonomics '11: A Journal of Global Equity Plan Leadership* . . . **Mark Asteris**, a doctoral student in educational leadership, has been accepted



AMERICAN
SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING
ASSOCIATION

to participate in the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT) forum in Sheffield, England. Only 80 were accepted to this highly competitive program, which receives as many as 2000 applications annually . . .

Within a year, the **National Student Speech Language Hearing Association** (NSSLHA) chapter at Lamar University went from defunct to distinguished, and Gina Watson, faculty advisor for the organization, credits students in the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences for the achievement. "The students were very motivated to get the chapter up and running. They have done a great deal to raise recognition for our field," said Watson, Speech-Language Pathology clinic director. Lamar's NSSLHA chapter recently received bronze-level recognition from the national organization. The campus chapter has provided speech and hearing screenings at several elementary school campuses in low socio-economic districts, started a stuttering support group and held fundraisers to support the Stuttering Foundation of America.



New online doctoral program strengthens education degree offerings

The doctorate of education in educational leadership, which is now offered through a 100-percent online program, builds upon the university's expertise in online education coupled with its status as an NCATE-accredited institution of higher learning. The program complements the university's successful on-campus Ed.D. program. It will not impact the current on-campus program that currently enrolls 65 students and has seen a 95 percent graduation rate with more than 60 graduates to date.

The program has a ready market of applicants in the more than 4,000 graduates of Lamar's online master of education programs. The Texas Association of School Administrators estimates that more than 70 percent of current public school superintendents will be eligible for retirement within the next five years. The doctorate is required or expected with more than 75 percent of campus principals holding a doctoral degree. The majority of central office positions, such as executive directors, assistant or associate superintendents, and superintendents require a doctorate.

LU selected as NVIDIA CUDA Teaching Center

Computer science students will have access to training in new cutting-edge computer programming techniques because Lamar University has joined an elite group of 34 universities that have become NVIDIA CUDA Teaching Centers. The new initiative resulted from a proposal by computer science professor and project director Quoc-Nam Tran.

NVIDIA CUDA Teaching Center provides the university with teaching kits, textbooks, software licenses and 26 multi-core high performance computing (HPC) devices, enabling Tran and his colleagues to integrate graphics processing techniques into the LU mainstream computing programming curriculum, training the next wave of parallel programmers to address today's most challenging computing issues and drive the next wave of scientific discovery.



LU adds exchange program with Chinese university

Lamar is creating opportunities for the students of the City College of Kunming University of Science and Technology in Southwestern China. Lamar has established an exchange program that allows students from Kunming to attend Lamar for a year during their college career. The program will begin in fall 2012.

System selects Brent for scholarship



After several years helping exceptional students enter Lamar University's College of Engineering, Katrina Brent will be engineering her own future thanks to the "Grow Your Own" Scholarship awarded by The Texas State University System. Brent's selection will provide financial assistance to complete her doctoral degree.

Brent is an adjunct instructor of business at Lamar University as well as the director of engineering marketing. She is especially proud of the 28 current engineering students she assisted who have received four-year, full scholarships from the Mirabeau Scholars program. Brent's love for education inspired her to apply for the Grow Your Own scholarship in order to begin pursuing her doctorate in educational leadership at Lamar this fall. "A passion for learning and teaching lives inside me, and I feel inclined to pass this on to future Lamar students," Brent said.

The Grow Your Own scholarship is offered to a nominated Texas State University System candidate who is a member of an underrepresented population with the desire to become a part of the host university faculty.

Students complete successful NASA zero-g experiments

Students experienced weightlessness as they conducted their carefully crafted experiment aboard a reduced-gravity aircraft July 12 and 13 as part of the "Grant Us Space" program of NASA's National Space Grant Consortium. The four students became the 12th LU team to experience weightlessness since student flights began in 1995.

"It's a lot of hard work but it's worth it," said Aleiya Samad, a chemical engineering major from Nederland. "Hard work and dedication lead to good things. It was also a good way to meet other students from across the country who are interested in the same things I'm interested in."

The team's experiment focused on the collection of water droplets and mist by electrostatic fields. Because water is essential to human space travel, a way is needed to control water droplets in reduced gravity conditions to reduce the risk, said George Irwin, assistant professor of physics and faculty supervisor for the team.

Jim Jordan, chair of the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, echoes Irwin's enthusiasm for the team. "When I brag about our students at NASA, I say they have a calculus book in one hand and a wrench in the other. That's the way I like to think about our students. They are hard working and they come from a background that has a strong work ethic," Jordan said.

Gladys City launches third Thursday events

Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum, has launched a new series of programs—Wildcatter Weekends and the monthly "Gladys City Nights"—as part of a renewed effort to provide educational and entertaining programming at the museum.

"Gladys City Nights is something totally new for us," said museum director Mark Osborne. "The monthly programs will give our visitors an opportunity to learn more about the history of Beaumont, Spindletop and early 20th-century America." Each month, on the third Thursday, the museum will feature guest speakers, films, music and special activities for adults, followed by a reception in the museum's Log Cabin Saloon. Also, as a part of its third Thursday programming, visitors receive free admission all day.

Also on the museum's calendar is "America on the Move!" Lucas Gusher Celebration—a Wildcatter Weekend special event beginning at 10 a.m. Jan. 14 at Gladys City. More information is available by calling (409) 835-0823 or contacting the museum at info@gladyscity.org.



LU's Shook explores life, career of master teacher-performer



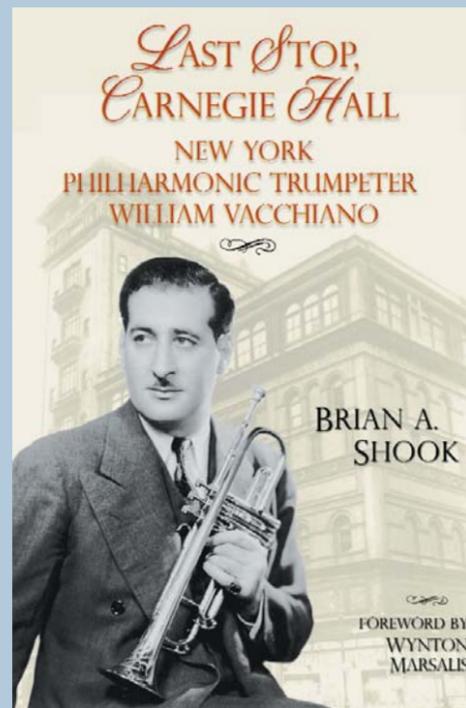
BRIAN SHOOK

William Vacchiano was principal trumpet of the New York Philharmonic, taught at The Juilliard School for 67 years and influenced countless musicians. But one of the things that most impressed Brian Shook, author of a new biography of Vacchiano, was his great love of people.

"He loved music, but his real passion was caring about people," said Shook, assistant professor in the Mary Morgan Moore Department of Music. "He taught more than 2,000 private students, and he could remember them by name and what mouthpiece they played. But, if something had happened in a student's personal life, such as physical injury or the loss of a family member, he would always ask them about it—even decades later. He had an incredibly sharp mind and used it to touch the lives of so many."

Shook explores the life and career of Vacchiano (1912-2005) in *Last Stop, Carnegie Hall: New York Philharmonic Trumpeter William*

Vacchiano, published by the University of North Texas Press. *Last Stop*, with a forward by Grammy-winning jazz musician Wynton Marsalis, details the professional life of Vacchiano's performing and teaching through the eyes of more than 50 of his students, colleagues, friends and family members.



BRIAN A. SHOOK

FOREWORD BY
WYNTON
MARSALIS

Pamela Saur joins international panel

Pamela Saur, regents' professor of German in the Department of English and Modern Languages, has been



PAMELA SAUR

appointed to an advisory board for an international scholarly organization supported by the United Nations. Board members hail

from around the world.

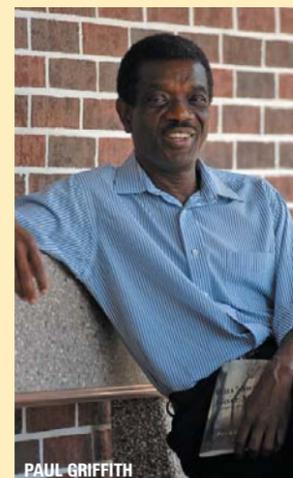
"Not everyone realizes that many Lamar faculty members are involved in their academic fields on national and international levels," said Saur, a Lamar faculty member since 1988. "I'm proud to bring this recognition to my own scholarly activity and to Lamar University."

The organization is often referred to as INST, Saur said, but its full name, translated to English, is the Research Institute for Austrian and International Literature and Culture Sciences. Its journal is *TRANS: Internet Journal for Cultural Sciences*.

Literary Lamar

Visions of folklore and life

Educator and writer **Paul Griffith** explores the visionary realm



PAUL GRIFFITH

of folklore in a new book inspired by stories that intrigued him as a child growing up in Barbados. The result is *Wha' Sweeten Goat Mout?: Short Caribbean Tales*, released by PublishAmerica. An associate professor of English and a Lamar faculty member since 1997, Griffith teaches courses in African-American and other ethnic literature, including Native American and Hispanic literature. He said he created the project "to preserve a dying

art and tradition, to entertain and reveal to students of the language the degree to which we can have fun observing and recording those observations for our own gratification and for posterity." Said Griffith: "It is this thrill reflected in the narratives of people who were careful and imaginative observers of the world about them and who recorded the humorous and pathetic paradoxes of human life in so doing that I have sought to archive in this publication." Griffith also is the author of *Afro-Caribbean Poetry and Ritual*.

Institute of Letters honors Sanderson book

Jim Sanderson, professor of English and director of writing, was a finalist for the top fiction award presented at the 75th-anniversary meeting of the Texas Institute of Letters April 30 in Dallas. Sanderson's collection of short stories, *Faded Love*, competed for the Jesse Jones Award for Fiction for best fiction by a Texan or about Texas for 2010. He was one of four nominees, with Jan Reid winning the award for the historical novel, *Comanche Sundown*.

Louisiana poet Laureate presents reading

Louisiana Poet Laureate **Darrell Bourque** read from his work in a program sponsored by the Department of English and Modern Languages, the estate of Eleanor Perlstein Weinbaum and Pulse student literary magazine. Bourque is professor emeritus in English and interdisciplinary humanities at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He recently published *In Ordinary Light*, a collection of new and selected poems. As professor emeritus at Louisiana-Lafayette, he has served as a mentor for a generation of Louisiana writers, said R.S. "Sam" Gwynn, professor of English. Bourque is the author of several books of poetry. In 2009, he directed the "Imagining Lincoln: Louisiana Poetry Project" as part of the state and national observance of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial.



SATTLER

Brooks' violins: Legacy for beloved teacher-performer

Violins belonging to longtime faculty member Edna Brooks—who inspired and enchanted audiences with her musical talents for almost seven decades—will now play a part in the education of Lamar string students. After Brooks' death in 1997 at age 87, her niece, Denise (Brooks) Kromka '72, '79, of Clear Lake Park donated three of Brooks' instruments to the Mary Morgan Moore Department of Music.

Edna Brooks began teaching at Lamar in 1953 after 17 years at the South Park school district. She earned the Regents' Merit Award in 1977 and retired the same year. A musician and teacher since her teens, Brooks performed with the Beaumont Symphony Orchestra/Symphony of Southeast Texas, Lake Charles Symphony and other ensembles. She was first-chair violin for most of her career. The Edna Brooks Memorial Scholarship in Music was established at Lamar in her honor.



EDNA BROOKS

"Ms. Brooks' instruments will be of great value to the department," said Kurt Gilman, professor of violin. A 3/4-sized German-made viola will be used by a string major in the orchestra program, while the two violins, one 1/4-size and one 1/2-size instruments, will be used for demonstration in string methods courses for music education majors, Gilman said.

"It is wonderful that Ms. Brooks continues to benefit the department with these instruments after all these years," said interim department Chair Robert Culbertson. "I worked with her before she retired, and she was very dedicated to the advancement of our music students. We appreciate her niece, Mrs. Kromka, and her thoughtful gift to the department."

Kromka has fond memories of her aunt, who also applied her rare dexterity to needlepoint, afghans and dresses she fashioned for her nieces with fine, silk flower embroidery. "I wanted the instruments to be appreciated and used. I wanted people to appreciate them as she did," Kromka said. "The viola is so beautiful that I couldn't just have it sit in a box.

"I kind of grew up with the beginnings of the music department. I know how devoted she was to it and to her students. She loved teaching."

Johnson earns place in Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame

Veteran music educator Barry Johnson entered the Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame at the Texas Bandmasters Association annual convention July 26 in San Antonio. The international bandmasters fraternity selected Johnson for the prestigious honor in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments as a band director, teacher and mentor.

Johnson's career spanned almost 50 years in which he inspired decades of students at Texas high schools, as well as at Lamar. He retired Aug. 31 as Lamar's vice



BARRY JOHNSON

president for student affairs after almost 30 years at the university. Johnson joined the faculty in 1983 as assistant director of bands and director of the marching band, rising through the ranks to become director of bands, department chair and vice president.

He led his Lamar bands to some of the nation's most prestigious performances—"raising the bar" for Lamar's program, one colleague said—while achieving an international reputation as a conductor and clinician. His bands at Hillsboro and

Woodville high schools earned 10 consecutive University Interscholastic League sweepstakes awards, among other honors.

"My career in education has been exciting," Johnson said. "Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation I have for this recognition."

He emphasized the role of his family: wife, Pattie, who was his childhood sweetheart, and sons, Michael '90, a professional musician in Houston, and David '93, assistant band director at Vidor High School. And, he added, "I appreciate the hard work and dedication each student has provided."



Musical inspiration on stage

Trumpeter Walter White, formerly with the Maynard Ferguson Big Band, graces the stage at the season-opening *Lamarissimo!* performance featuring the Lamar University Jazz Ensemble. White also has performed the Woody Herman Orchestra, Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis and other groups. "It is always a thrill to hear a real pro," said Wayne Dyess, director of jazz studies. "I wanted to give that experience and inspiration to our students." The 22nd season of the acclaimed concert series continues in spring 2012 with the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band March 6 and Cardinal Singers and Lamar Dance Company April 26

UP newsroom honors Perkins

For 34 years, Howard Perkins imparted knowledge and inspired learning among his students while allowing them to hold on to their sense of self and creativity. He knew the value of mixing professionalism with a joy for the work. Perkins was advisor, teacher, mentor and inspiration for generations of Lamar students now achieving success throughout the communication profession.

Now, the place where he taught his students to go the extra mile as they pursued excellence will pay tribute to Perkins, who died Oct. 20, 2010, at age 72. In unanimous action, regents of The Texas State University System have authorized Lamar to name Room 200A of the Setzer Student Center the Howard A. Perkins Newsroom.

"Howard Perkins played an important role in student life at Lamar University for more than three decades. His leadership and inspiration influenced

not only the students on his University Press staffs but also UP readers across campus for whom the newspaper was a professional-quality source of information and enlightenment," said Barry Johnson, then vice president for student affairs.



"Hundreds of student journalists began their careers under his tutelage, and he was a constant presence in the UP offices. It is, therefore, most appropriate that the Howard A. Perkins Newsroom become a visible and permanent part of

Howard's legacy."

The family, former students and other friends of Perkins are establishing a scholarship in his memory to benefit future UP staff members. Checks payable to the Lamar University Foundation may be mailed to P.O. Box 11500, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX 77710, with "Howard Perkins Scholarship" in the notation.



Simmons: 'Signature Sinfonian'

Surrounded by fellow members of the oldest and largest music fraternity, President James Simmons accepted Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity's highest honor in a ceremony on the Lamar campus.

Phi Mu Alpha recognized Simmons as a "Signature Sinfonian," honoring him "for a lifetime of excellence" and as an alumni member who has achieved a high standard of accomplishment in his profession.

John Israel of St. Charles, Mo., chair of the Province Governor's Council and a National Executive Committee member, presented him with the plaque, medallion and lapel pin that accompany the honor during the sixth annual Province 40 workshop of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

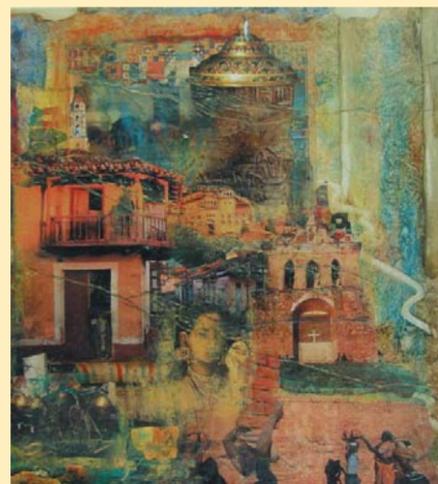
"To be honored by this group and to join the honorees is just kind of a dream come true," Simmons said after accepting the award. "There could not be a higher honor for me."

The workshop attracted Sinfonians from five universities. Lamar's Eta Mu Chapter and the Mary Morgan Moore Department of Music hosted the event in the newly renovated Music Building. George Beverley of Beaumont serves as province governor.

An accomplished musician on clarinet, saxophone and piano, Simmons continues an active performance career after rising through the ranks as a music educator and administrator to take office in 1999 as Lamar's 10th president.

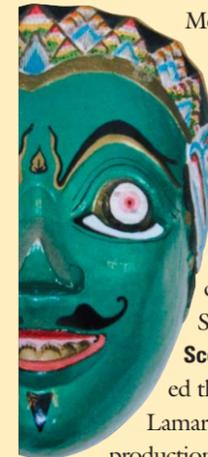
ArtsNotes

Lamar's Friends of the Arts will host **Le Grand Bal**—a gala evening of art, fine dining, dancing and entertainment—on March 24. The black-tie event is the major annual fundraiser for the College of Fine Arts and Communication. **Sandra Clark** will chair the event, honoring **Becky** and **Chuck Mason**. Call (409) 880-8137 for reservations or information . . . The Dishman Art Museum fall exhibition season featured *Anandam*:



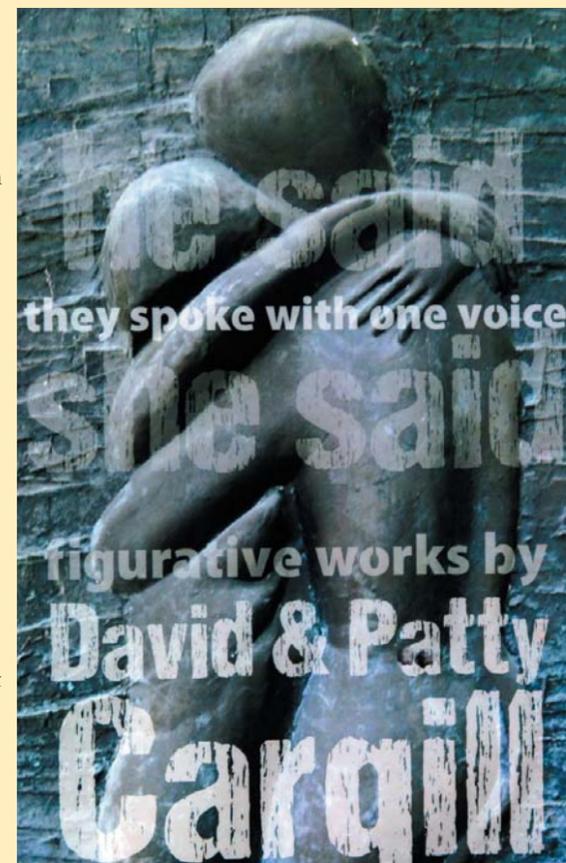
Collages by MG Raffic Ahamed. The word

"anandam," or bliss, refers to the creative process that inspires Indian artist Raffic to create his richly colorful collages. Raffic has exhibited throughout India and universally, but this is only his second exhibition in the United States . . . Summer exhibitions at the Dishman included works by Beaumont artists **David** and **Patty Cargill**. *He Said/She Said: They Spoke with One Voice, Figurative Works by David and Patty Cargill* marked the first exhibition of works featuring the couple together, with highlights drawn from 60 years of marriage and artistic collaboration. The show included charcoal sketches, oil paintings, terracotta and bronze sculptures and works in other media, produced between 1950 and 2011 . . . Also on view at the Dishman was *(An)other Face: Masks from the Collection of Dr. William Brown*, comprising 77 masks collected from Indonesia,



Mexico, Guatemala, Libya, New Guinea, Japan and other countries. The late Brown was director of counseling and professor of psychology at Texas State University . . . **Scott Pask**, who created the scenic design for

Lamar Theatre's spring 2011 production of *The Tempest*, earned Broadway's Tony award for best scenic design of a musical for his work on *The Book of Mormon*. With Los Angeles-based Nathanael Johnson directing *The Tempest*, the staging enabled LU students to collaborate with two renowned guest artists. *The Tempest* marked the debut of Lamar's Bard on the Bayou series of works by or inspired by Shakespeare . . . The Department of Theatre & Dance presented *Beaumont's Babe: A Sportrait of Babe Didrikson Zaharias* April 28-May 1. The original work, created by Lamar



students, draws on Zaharias' life and words to celebrate the centennial of her birth through scenes, songs, dance and athletic activity—as well as audience participation. The production was a collaborative process between Director **Ron Zank** and the 11-member cast, who, said Zank, "really flung themselves around in the process." Born in 1911 in Port Arthur and raised in Beaumont,

Mildred "Babe" Didrickson Zaharias is considered one of the greatest athletes of the 20th century. The play's time span runs from 1920 until



BABE ZAHARIAS

Zaharias' death in 1956 . . . In planning its 2011-12 season, the theater-dance department had one goal in mind: involve the audience in a wide range of interesting productions. The season opened with *An Inspector Calls*, which department Chair **Judith Sebesta** described as a "mystery of sorts," then moved on to the dark comedy *Slasher* as a "true Halloween event," with members of the audience donning costumes. The season concludes with the popular Broadway and touring show, *Twenty-fifth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* April 26-19. The Bard on the Bayou series continued in November with the fall dance concert, showcasing works inspired by William Shakespeare. Internationally acclaimed performance artist Tim Miller arranged a performance piece *Body Maps*, presented Dec. 2, with proceeds benefitting the Triangle AIDS Network. He performed his one-man show *Glory Box* Dec 1. Meanwhile, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* crosses the boards Feb. 26-29 . . . An interview with **O.A. "Bum" Phillips** -48 was featured on a segment of "LUTV on Fox" that aired in summer 2011. KBTX-Fox 4 sports anchor **James Ware** '94 conducted the in-depth interview with Phillips, a Southeast Texas native who played football and attended Lamar.

Paul Rizk lays groundwork for career in medicine



Chemical engineering and physics major Paul Rizk is laying the groundwork for a career in medicine. Now a Lamar University junior, Rizk has set his sights on the Mayo Clinic Medical School in Minnesota. “It may sound cliché, but I like the idea of making a difference in people’s lives,” Rizk said.

Rizk was accepted to Princeton and Lamar, but, after research of both schools and examining the tuition rates, he decided Lamar was the right choice for him. He received the prestigious four-year Mirabeau Scholars award and began his studies in biology. He soon decided to switch his major to chemical engineering and physics with a minor in mathematics in the event that he decided against medical school.

“I was looking ahead to when I have a family, and I think it will be easier to find a job with an engineering degree if I change my mind about medical school,” Rizk said. “I want to be able to provide for my family the best way possible.”

Rizk learned from his parents about the importance of providing for family and giving to others. His father lived in Egypt and supported his immediate and extended family with three jobs while attending medical

school simultaneously. “I don’t know how he did it. It seems impossible to me, but he did it,” Rizk said.

His mother has been involved in several charities throughout his life and helped him link up with a pen pal from the Philippines his junior year of high school. “We still talk to each other. He is trying to go to school and help support his family. He has inspired me so much and taught me the importance of education. I think we take education for granted, and I am thankful to be in school with opportunities,” Rizk said.

Rizk is very involved on campus and in the community. He volunteers at Memorial Hermann Baptist Hospital and shadows physicians in the emergency room during surgeries. “This is a very important part of the pre-medical process because medical schools want their students to be exposed to real medicine before they enroll. After shadowing, many students decide not to go into medicine. That’s a decision medical schools would prefer be made sooner rather than later,” Rizk said.

He is also lieutenant governor of Lamar Circle K International, an organization devoted to bettering the community, serves as vice president of the Lamar University

Ambassadors and is a member of the American Medical Student Association. Despite all his extracurricular activities, he still finds time to be the vice president of Lamar’s rugby club and keep his name on the President’s List for four consecutive semesters.

The longer Rizk has been here, the more he says it feels like home. “I love that Lamar has named the dorms like Campbell Hall instead of just Phase I, II and so on. Even though my family lives a few miles away in Beaumont, the dorms are starting to feel homey,” said Rizk.

When asked about the things that made him like Lamar, Rizk replied, “I love the diverse campus. I have good friends that I have known since high school, but I also have made friends that are from other countries like Ecuador. The members from my rugby team are from all over Texas. I know everyone says this, but we [Lamar] really are a melting pot.”

In addition to the Mirabeau Scholarship, he has received the Lamar Academic Challenge Scholarship and is a member of Phi Alpha Phi. Rizk plans to graduate in May 2014 and has no intention of slowing down.—EH

Nursing major Ashley Brown walks path toward helping others

As she slowly walks the horse around the stable and turns to look at the child in the saddle, Ashley Brown realizes helping others, especially children, has always been part of her destiny. What started as a way to accumulate required service learning hours for the Lamar University nursing program has become Brown’s own personal therapy and passion. She finds that volunteering at Stable-Spirit is rewarding not only because she loves working with children and horses, but also because it is preparing her for a career in pediatrics.

For Brown, a senior nursing major from LaMarque, volunteering is only one of the many opportunities Lamar University has offered during her time as a student.

“The children at Stable-Spirit teach me how to be a more humble and appreciative person, and I feel completely centered and I am able to relax. One of the most memorable moments that really touched me was with a bright and very loving autistic child. I had the opportunity to work with this particular child for many hippotherapy sessions, and it was simply amazing to see this child flourish. The horse and the child connected on a level that was really spectacular and truly indescribable without witnessing it. By the end of the session, the autistic child was more sensory and motor focused and able to verbalize words that were previously just sounds,” said Brown.

She works as a sidewalker at Stable-Spirit, a non-profit organization in Rose City that assists children and adults with mental and physical disabilities through horse therapy. She helps with a treatment called hippotherapy, in which the child sits on the horse and the physical therapist instructs the child on what to do. The sidewalker provides support for the child as a horse handler leads the horse.

Brown is also involved in several nursing organizations and activities on campus. She is vice president of the Bachelor of

Science in Nursing 2012 class and parliamentarian of the Lamar University chapter of the Texas Nursing Student Association.

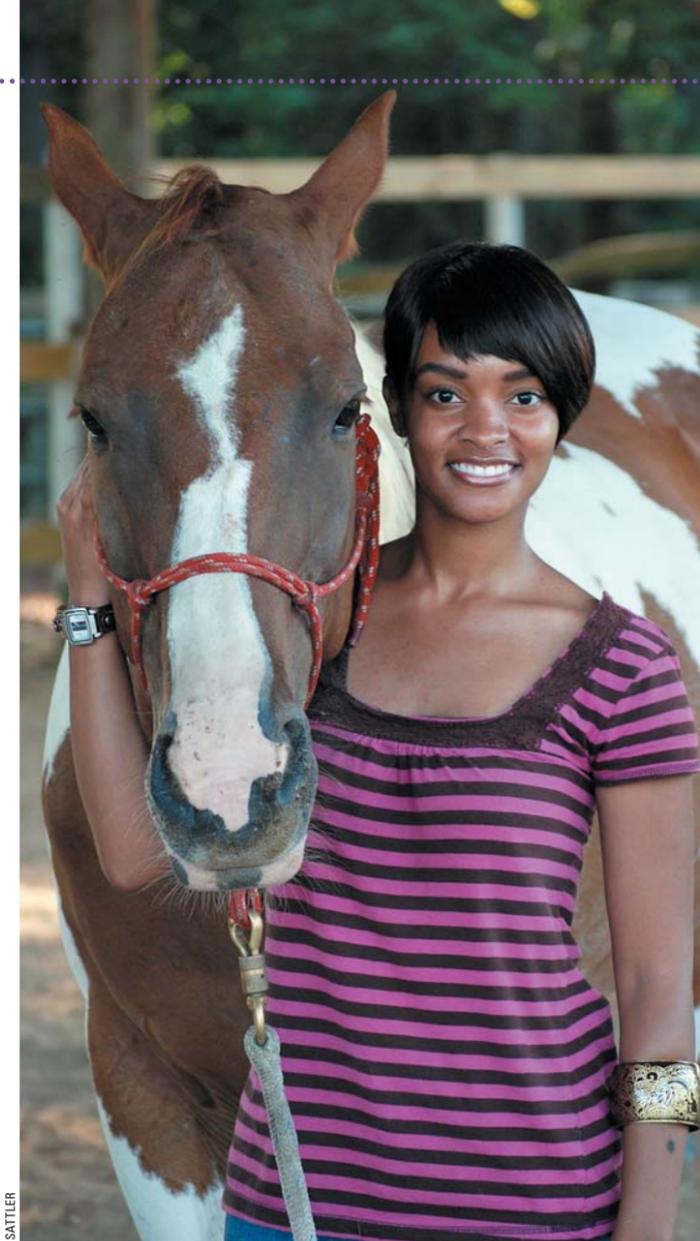
She serves as a peer facilitator for the Caring Place in the JoAnne Gay Dishman Department of Nursing where she helps other nursing students with class material in small group sessions. Helping other nursing students also benefits Brown because reviewing the material helps her retain the information as well as prepare for tests.

“When you begin nursing school, it can be very overwhelming because you don’t know what to expect, and if you don’t complete everything that you need for the program, you could run into problems. I think it’s good to have someone who has been in that situation to be able to assist new nursing students. The Caring Place is a wonderful support system for all nursing students, and I am glad I get to be a part of it,” said Brown.

She credits the nursing program for allowing her to “come out of her shell” and form close friendships with other nursing students. When she was accepted into the nursing program, she joined a “family with some pretty awesome people.”

Although she looked at several colleges, she decided to attend Lamar after she toured the nursing building where current nursing students told her how much they loved the program and that they “wouldn’t trade it for the world.” She also thought the dorms were unlike any she had seen before.

She likes the small campus atmosphere and appreciates the professors at Lamar



because their doors are always open and they will gladly help students with a school-related or even personal situation. She credits her mother, a nurse, with encouraging her to work hard in school and inspiring her to help others and achieve her goals.

“My mom is my everything. She has been my cheerleader through not only my first year in the nursing program, but my whole college career,” said Brown. After graduation, Brown plans to take the nursing certification exam and enroll in a pediatric nurse practitioner program to continue on her path towards working with children. She is thankful to have received scholarships from the McDaniel Charitable Foundation, Volunteers of Christus St. Elizabeth Hospital for academics, the Pioneering Women Foundation and the Jamaican Nurses Association.—AL



A new day with Knight

“I expect great things. I want the players to know one of the reasons I wanted this job is because of them.”

—COACH PAT KNIGHT



Pat Knight says he's a Bob Knight guy, paying homage to his coaching-legend father. But when he met the media after his announcement as Lamar's new basketball coach, he had plenty of kudos for LU's own legend: Billy Tubbs, then serving as special assistant to the president for athletics before his retirement Aug. 31.

“This is a great day for me,” Pat Knight told university leaders, Cardinals boosters, players, reporters and others gathered in the Cardinal Hall of Honor Room of the Montagne Center. “I'm more excited than anybody here to have an opportunity to coach at a university like this. I got in this business to start my own program, to run my own program, to build a program people can be proud of, and I have that opportunity here at Lamar.”

“I can't wait to get going. The great thing is, I've always been proud to say that I'm a Bob Knight guy. Now I'm also proud to say I'm a Billy Tubbs guy. I grew up admiring coaches. People had posters of Michael Jordan on their walls. I always had pictures and newspaper clippings of coaches. One thing that really appealed to me about this job is that a guy like Coach Tubbs was a coach here,” Knight said. “I expect great things. I want the players to know one of the reasons I wanted this job is because of them.”



Q: What led you to be interested in this program?

A: When we got to Texas (from Indiana), everyone talked about Lamar—obviously because of Coach Tubbs and what he's done. Then when I found out more about it, you know it's really one of the few schools in Texas that really support basketball. The fans love basketball. This is a basketball school. When Coach Tubbs got the AD job, I wrote him a letter and told him that if he ever needed a coach, I'd love to come down here. This job has really been on my radar for a long time. When this job came open, I called my agent right away and had my sights set on this job from the get-go.

Q: Talk about your style of play. Is it similar to Coach Tubbs'?

A: The first time I talked to Coach Tubbs, he was like “I've watched you play. I bet your dad doesn't like how you push the ball up.” From my standpoint, everything I've learned, the basis is motion offense. Really, the only difference between my dad and me—yes, I do like to push it up.

You have to get the easy basket and a lot more ball screens. The basis is the motion offense. It's the best way to play. You shoot it; you drive it; you screen; you post up. You see every aspect, and there's movement on both sides of the floor. It teaches kids to play—man to man, ball pressure. You need to be able to score points off your defense. It's hard to play defense, but you get lots of easy opportunities if you play good defense. You have to get into the passing lane. You have to play zone at times. I like the press, but only after free throws and dead balls, so it's not a scramble out there.

Q: What do you think will be your toughest challenge?

A: I think confidence, for one, with these players. These guys can win. There's enough talent on this team to do good things right away. It's a confidence deal. Over the past three years, there's a lot of close games they've lost. They have to get their swagger back and believe in themselves.

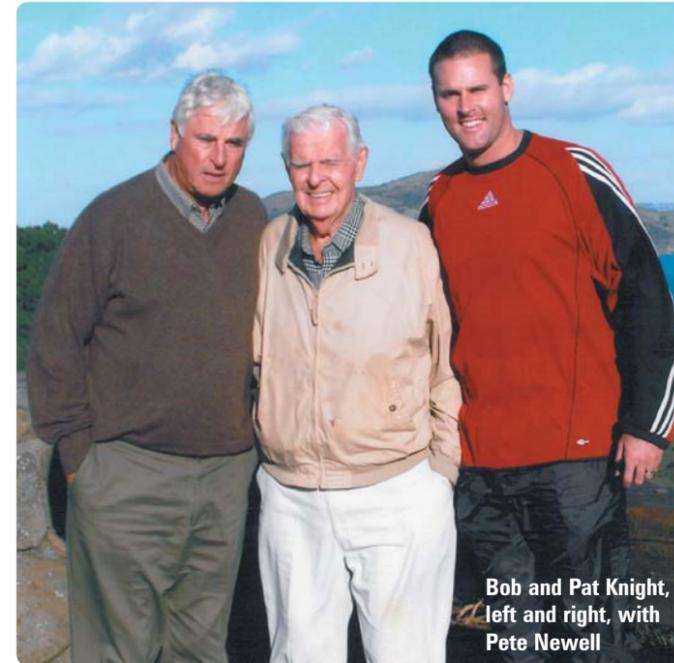
Q: What are the upsides and the downsides of being Bobby Knight's son?

A: I've never really looked at the downside. I am Bob Knight's son, and I'm proud of it. I'll always have that last name. So, I've always embraced it. It's opened doors for me. I've been spoiled, from the standpoint that I've been around this game for my whole life. I just called (Duke) Coach (Mike) Krzyzewski to let him know I got the job. There's not a lot of guys who can do that. I kind of coach with a ghost over me, but that makes me hungry and kind of have a chip on my shoulder and want to prove myself. That's why I'm so excited about my job. I have not proven myself yet as a head coach. I want to do that here and build something. To me, it's an advantage, and I'll always use it to my advantage.

HIGHLIGHTS OF KNIGHT'S INTRODUCTORY NEWS CONFERENCE:

Q: Do you get critiques from him after your ball games?

A: Oh, yeah. Actually, he critiqued me about not saying too much to you guys. He thinks I give too much information. But you have to have that. I'm not dumb. You have a Hall of Fame coach as your father; you need to listen to him. You need to have him around. We all steal from each other, all the good coaches, because there's not just one way to do it. Players change every year, and the game changes, and you have to be able to evolve. I appreciate the input.



Bob and Pat Knight, left and right, with Pete Newell

Q: What will it take to bring the program back to its top level (of the late 1970s and early 1980s)?

A: These players could do it right now if they start playing defense. They have the offensive power. Now, I have to work on their shot selection. They have that capability. They could really have something. You have a bunch of seniors. It's fortunate for a coach taking over to have senior leadership. But seniors have to play like seniors. It's their team; it's their last chance; and they can't take it for granted. You don't want to look back on your career and say, ‘I wish I woulda.’ I've been through that situation as a coach—when seniors have not stepped up and taken it upon themselves. They can really make a

mark for themselves. They have a chance to put a stamp on this program.

Q: With what we saw with teams like Virginia Commonwealth, do you think there's something to be said about mid-majors?

A: I do, because players appreciate things when you recruit them. They're hungry. Plus, I think you are seeing coaches making smarter decisions. It was great that Coach (Shaka) Smart stayed (at Virginia Commonwealth). Brad Stevens stayed at Butler. There is something to be said about winning—and those guys are doing that at smaller schools. I believe the way those guys believe. Everyone keeps asking, “Are you going to be here one year?” No, I plan on being here as long as I can. This is my program, and I want to build this up.

Q: Do you have ties to Indiana still, or just Texas?

A: I have great ties in Texas, Louisiana and in junior college, and I still have great ties in Indiana. We will go up there, because the pool is bigger. I talked to my dad last night. He said, “You say that, but you're going to end up having enough of what you need in Texas and junior college.” There won't be a stone we don't turn over. We have, I think, not just the best facility in this conference but probably one of the best facilities in college basketball. There's a lot of good things from a recruiting standpoint that are offered here.

Golfers earn SLC medalist honors

Men's golfer M.J. Daffue took home individual medalist honors at the 2011 Southland Conference Tournament from Waterchase Golf Club in Fort Worth on his way to being named the SLC Player of the Year.



Currently a senior, Daffue became the 17th Lamar golfer to win individual medalist honors at the Southland Tournament as he defeated Jad Sinclair of Central Arkansas on the first playoff hole. Daffue finished with a three-round score of 4-under-par.

A native of South Africa, Daffue finished his junior year with a 73.7 strokes per round scoring average. He had six Top-10 finishes on the year.



Lady Cardinals

It took three playoff holes, but senior Stine Pedersen outlasted UTSA's Fabiola Arriaga to win individual medalist honors at the 2011 Southland Conference Golf Tournament at Corpus Christi Country Club.



Pedersen became the third Lady Cardinal to win individual medalist honors at the Southland Tournament, joining Hillary Zeigler (2005) and Therese Nilsson (2006). Pedersen's efforts helped the Lady Cardinals place second as a team.

A native of Denmark, Pedersen earned First-Team All-Southland Conference honors with a 76.7 strokes per round scoring average. She finished her senior year with seven Top-20 finishes.



Softball prepares the field for 2013



Holly Bruder, a coach who has established a reputation for building fledgling softball programs, has been named head softball coach. Lamar, which competed in softball from 1983 to 1987, is reviving the program starting with the 2013 season.

"I've always been interested in helping programs grow," said Bruder, who was the head coach at Denison University for six seasons and Morehead State for the past four seasons before accepting the Lamar position. "The next step is starting your own program."

"We are very excited to have Holly join our staff," interim Athletic Director Jason Henderson said. "After going through a national search, we believe we have found the ideal candidate to lead our women's softball program. Holly has been successful at each of

her previous schools, and we feel that with her enthusiasm and drive she will continue to have success here at Lamar."

Also coming to Lamar from Morehead State is assistant softball coach Allison Honkofsky. She was a member of Bruder's staff for the past two seasons. "Hiring Allison was a no-brainer," Bruder said. "She's a tremendous recruiter and is very good at practices and game operations. We both share a passion and excitement for softball."

While Lamar won't play its first game until 2013, Bruder will keep busy on the high school and junior college recruiting trails and see to a myriad of other responsibilities that go with building a program from the ground floor.

Bruder has already started her homework on the Southland Conference.

"It's a very challenging conference," she said. "There are a number of good pitchers, and the players are quick. I think that if you work hard, you can compete."



Matt Johnsen

Cross-country reigns with record championship

The men's cross-country team captured its 11th Southland Conference title this fall, extending its own conference record with a dominating performance.

The Cardinals placed five runners in the Top 10 to finish with 29 points, 34 better than runner-up UTSA's 63 points. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi was third with 91 points. Lamar has won a conference record of 11 men's cross-country championships.

"It was a good day for us," Coach Trey Clark said. "We ran well today."

Matt Johnsen led the Cardinals with a second-place finish, covering the eight-kilometer course in 24 minutes, 51.3 seconds, just behind Patrick Kimeli of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, who won the race in 24:50.6.

Lamar's first five finishers earned All-Conference honors for finishing in the top 10: Johnsen, second; Tom Wade, fourth place; Bob Ahimbisibwe, sixth; Joe Wade, seventh; and Anthony Pequeno, 10th. Sam Stabler finished 12th, Sam Bradley, 13th, and Ryan Creech was 16th. Creech's 16th-place finish was better than the top finisher on six teams.

Stabler was named the Southland Conference's Freshman of the Year, while Clark was named Coach of the Year.

Johnsen went on to place eighth at the NCAA South Central Regional Championships in Waco to earn a spot in the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind., competing in the championships for the second consecutive year.

The Lamar women placed third at the Southland Conference Championships, their best finish in four years.

Hayes leads assault on Lamar's football record book during 2011 season

Seven individual and six team records were either set or tied during Lamar University's 2011 football season, one that produced a 4-7 record in the second year for the Cardinals to play football since 1989.

J.J. Hayes led the individual assault, setting three records, including two in the season finale, a home loss to rival McNeese State. The senior split end's final two records were his 14 receptions against McNeese and his 951 receiving yards for the season. The 14 catches were one more than the previous record of 13 set by Herbert Harris in a 1981 game against Louisiana Tech, and the 951 receiving yards (which led the Southland Conference) are 33 more than the 918 accumulated by Chris Ford of the 1989 Cardinals.

Earlier in the season, the 6-foot-3, 210-pound Hayes, who previously starred at Diboll High School and Navarro College, shattered the Lamar single-game receiving record with 212 yards against Northwestern State.



J.J. Hayes

Both DePauldrick Garrett and Justin Stout etched their names in the school record book in the season opener, a victory over Texas College that set a team record for margin of victory. Garrett, a 5-8, 190-pound junior from West Orange-Stark, set new standards for points scored in a game with 24 and for touchdowns in a game with four.

Stout, a 6-1, 160-pound sophomore from West Mesquite High School, matched former Cardinal star Walter Smith's record of eight extra point kicks in the Texas College game. Stout went on to set the one-season mark for extra points with 35.

For the second-straight season, strongside linebacker Asim Hicks, a 6-0, 210-pound senior from Newark, N.J., led the defense with 103 tackles, a total that ranked second in the Southland Conference.

Also for the second-straight year, the Cardinals led the conference in home attendance as they drew 87,965 fans for six dates in 16,000-seat Provost Umphrey Stadium for an average of 14,661 per game.

LU soccer honors cap best-ever season

Eight women's soccer players received postseason accolades after the Lady Cardinals' most successful season in the five-year history of the program. Lamar (9-8-2 overall, 6-2-1) set school records for victories and conference wins. The Lady Cardinals placed third in the Southland Conference, their highest finish ever.

Defenders Rachele Barry and Jennifer Torry were named to the second team of the Capital One Academic All-District 7 women's soccer team. Midfielder Kristin Bos, forward Lisa Hance and defender Amber Thornhill were second-team All-Southland Conference selections, while goalkeeper Jennifer Gibbs, midfielder Stefanie Miroballi and defender Nicole Frank were honorable mention All-Conference selections.

"I'm very happy that these girls are receiving recognition," Lamar coach Dewi Hardman said. "They were a big part of our most successful season. They are tremendous representatives of our program and Lamar University."



Jennifer Gibbs

Normandy, France

Cardinal Adventures began in France, with 22 alumni and friends. Those who traveled to Normandy and Paris May 1-10 had a wonderful time and expressed their enjoyment of the itinerary, the informative and helpful guides, and the impressive amenities offered through this program, operated in partnership with AHI Travel.



“The combination of touring a beautiful and historic part of Europe; first-class/well-planned/well-executed tour programs; and a group of awesome, friendly, fun-loving Lamar Alums made this a fantastic trip for us. We definitely hope to go on some more of these alumni trips in the future. The trip was A+ all the way.”

— Susan (Terry) '64 and Bob '64 McLendon, Richardson, TX



“The trip was perfectly splendid from start to finish—accommodations, food, scheduling—all went flawlessly, and we enjoyed every minute of it. I also want particularly to commend our Campus Director, Enrique Trave—I lack the words to describe just how capable he was in every way.”

— Ellen (Walker) Rienstra '62, Beaumont, TX

Cardinal Adventures

The success of the first trip offered through Lamar's new travel program—Cardinal Adventures—led to the newest opportunity—travel along Italy's famed Amalfi Coast. The winding, 28-mile route follows dramatic coastline sprinkled with some of Italy's most beautiful towns, ancient fishing villages and magical panoramas.



“We really had a fantastic trip and enjoyed the group so much - I would not have imagined that traveling with a group would have turned out so well! A large part of the success of the trip was due to Lamar University and our Campus Director Enrique!”

— Charlette (Prothro) '88 and Randy Sandell, Spring, TX

More Cardinal Adventures are on the way. View trip photos and keep abreast of new travel opportunities through lamar.edu/CardinalAdventures.

Amalfi—The Divine Coast May 31-June 7, 2012.

AMALFI THE DIVINE COAST

Land Program: \$3245
Save \$500 per couple if
booked by 2/28/12

To book, visit
<http://lamar.ahitravel.com>
or call 800-323-7373

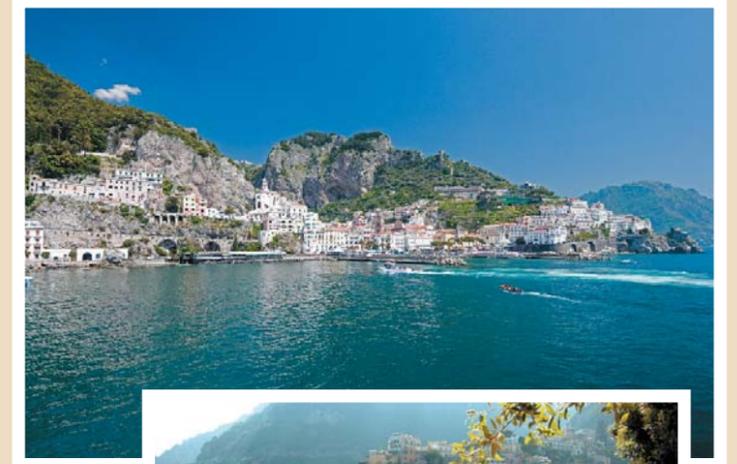
Alumni Holidays International (AHI) designed this European travel tour for the inquisitive traveler—intimate, behind-the-scenes, experiential and educational. Travelers fly to Naples, a lively city nestled in the shadow of Mt. Vesuvius and credited with the origin of pizza and romantic guitar. From there, you will travel to Vietri sul Mare, the first of the 13 pearls of the Amalfi Coast and famous for its ceramics, to marvel at the breadth of Italy's extraordinary history each day and spend seven nights at the deluxe Hotel Raito.

An experienced AHI campus director will assure attentive service for the duration of your stay. Knowledgeable guides lead your excursions, and local experts present informative programs to enhance insight into the region.

The extensive meal program includes seven breakfasts, three lunches and five dinners, as well as opportunities for you to take advantage of leisure time and try local cuisine independently. All gratuities for excursion guides and drivers are included.

Excursions include UNESCO World Heritage List sites:

- Discover the allure of the Amalfi Coast with visits to Ravello and Amalfi.
- Board a private boat to tour the spectacular cliffside town of Positano.
- Drive along the serpentine stretch of the Amalfi Drive.
- Visit picturesque Sorrento.
- Cruise across the Gulf of Naples to the enchanting Isle of Capri.
- Explore the riches of historic Naples.
- Visit the archaeological sites of Herculaneum and Pompeii.
- Discover the ancient Greek ruins at Paestrum.



Waterways and canals of Holland and Belgium

The April 13-21, 2012, river cruise sold out quickly. Lamar alumni and friends—47 in all—will be the largest single contingent on the ship, which holds 120 passengers. In Amsterdam, they will board the state-of-the-art MS Amadeus Brilliant (which debuted in 2011) to travel along Amsterdam's picturesque canals, visiting the beautiful Keukenhof Gardens, the historic Hague with its world-class museums, the renowned Zeeland Coast, the medieval architecture and art of Bruges and charming Antwerp before departing for home from Brussels. One special stop includes the Floriade, the Netherlands' horticultural exposition that occurs only once every 10 years. This promises to be another wonderful trip for a great group of Lamar alumni and friends!

2013 itineraries will be chosen soon. If there's a country or itinerary in which you are especially interested, please contact us at alumni@lamar.edu.

Distinguished alumni

1. William Macatee Sr. and Ann Anderson, left, proudly witnessed their son, **Bill Macatee '78**, standing with his sisters, Liz Foley, center, and Rebecca Rozell, accept the honor of Distinguished Alumnus at the 2011 ceremony. **2.** Distinguished Alumnus **Vernon Durden '04**, standing with his wife, **Johnnie (Criton) '00**, joined Cleveland and Dora Nisby during the reception before the ceremony. **3.** Distinguished Alumna **Grace (Davis) England '55**, center left, stands with her husband, Bill, and children, Bill Jr. and Judy England-Nance before receiving her honor at the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony.



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

Jan (Preston) Haughn '47, A.A. general studies, earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas. She and her husband, Jack, have four children and six grandchildren. They live in Houston.

Jack Puryear '47, A.A. general studies, earned a bachelor's degree in marketing and finance from the University of Texas at Austin, where he lives in retirement.

Ed Robinson '48, A.A. general studies, received a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Texas before beginning his career at Sun Oil Co. During his career, he traveled to more than 49 countries and lived in seven. He is retired and lives in San Marcos, Calif.

50s

Jerry Brown '50, A.A. general studies, earned a master's degree in biology and held management jobs in the chemical industry including director of research and development for Diamond Shamrock, vice president for Rogue Valley Polymers and Adhesives and vice president in regional manufacturing for Georgia Pacific. He has had publications in theoretical electrochemistry and owns patents in electro dialysis and polymeric ion exchange membranes. He now owns a fishing tackle business lives in Gold Hills, Ore.

John McKeever '58, B.S. electrical engineering, is a retired chief electrical engineer from Sun Exploration and Production Co. and lives in Hawkins with his wife, Delores.

Dr. Jack Moncrief '58, B.S. biology, earned a medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. His practices with the Jack Moncrief Group in Austin, where he lives with his wife, Jerry.

Harry Frank '59, B.S. chemical engineering, had a 45-year career as a process engineer in Shell's epoxy resins business. He and his wife, Betty, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and live in Houston.

The Texas Academy of Science has selected **George Kattawar '59**, B.S. mathematics, as the Distinguished Texas Scientist of the Year. He earned master's and doctoral degrees from Texas A&M University and lives in College Station.

60s

Louis Matthews Sr. '60, B.S. mechanical engineering, and his wife Loretta, raised four children, who are all Lamar graduates, and have a granddaughter, Meagan, who is a Lamar student.

Nancy (Hawthorne) Benson '60, B.A. English, earned a master's degree in education from North Texas State. She retired from a 47-year career in education and lives in Corpus Christi with her husband, Bruce.

Sam Havens '60, B.S. speech, '83, M.S. speech, has published a new book, Farr Point. He lives in Houston.

Rodney LeBoeuf '60, B.A. English, earned master's and doctoral degrees from Texas A&M University and retired as superintendent of schools in Charleston, S.C. He and his wife, **Nelda (LeFloor) '58**, B.S. music, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and live in Texarkana.

Edgar Metcalf '61, B.S. electrical engineering, retired from Occidental Oil & Gas Co. He lives in Lakeway with his wife, Earlyne.

Sandra (Kiker) Sherman '62, B.S. elementary education, '82, M.Ed. school administration, and her husband, **Jesse, '66**, B.B.A. general business, celebrated 50 years of marriage last year. He is retired from Jefferson County and Devers Canal Rice Producers. He owns and manages Diamond S Enterprise. She is the principal of China Elementary. The couple lives in China.

Aileen (Smith) Bailey '63, B.B.A. secretarial science, earned a master's degree from Southeastern Louisiana University and a doctoral degree from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. She retired from teaching at Stephen F. Austin State University and lives in Georgetown with her husband.

Jerry Cozby '64, B.B.A. marketing, retired from his career as a golf professional at the Hillcrest Country Club in Bartlesville, Okla., where he lives with his wife, Karole.

Art Janecka '64, B.S. civil engineering, retired after 47 years of federal service as chief of project management for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Galveston District—the highest position attainable by a civilian employee. He was recently awarded

the Silver Order of de Fleury Medal from the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment, one of the highest recognitions given by the Army engineers as well as being named an admiral in the Texas Navy. He lives in La Marque.

Jack Randorff '65, B.S. physics, earned master's and doctoral degrees from Texas Tech University. He is president of Randorff and Associates Inc. in Ransom Canyon, where he lives.

Linda (Parent) Robinson '65, B.B.A. elementary education, is a retired Jefferson County treasurer and lives in Beaumont.

Patty (Tuminello) Witte '65, B.S. elementary education, earned a master's degree from Prairie View A&M University. She retired as assistant principal in the Cypress-Fairbanks school district and lives in Fulshear with her husband, Larry.

Betty (Watts) Carter '66, B.S. elementary education, '73, M.Ed. elementary education, taught for 30 years and retired from the Lumberton school district. She lives in Beaumont with her husband, Robert, of 64 years.

William Bloodworth Jr. '67, M.A. English, earned his doctoral degree from the University of Texas. He retired as president of Augusta State University after a 47-year career in education. He lives in Augusta, Ga.

Michael Wilson '67, B.S. sociology, '71, M.B.A. business administration, earned a masters of divinity from St. Joseph Seminary, Washington D.C. He lives in Austin.

Jesse Bishop '69, B.B.A. marketing, retired from Coca-Cola and lives in Alexandria, La., with his wife, Lori.

70s

Jeri (Fisher) Apple '70, B.S. sociology, earned a master's degree in clinical social work and is founder and owner of Integrative Health Services in Cartersville, Ga. She lives in While, Ga., with her husband, Ray.

Jose Berrios '70, B.S. elementary education, earned a master's degree from Columbia University. He teaches sixth-grade honors reading for Giunta Middle School and lives in Brandon, Fla., where he lives with his wife, Jill.

Bernard Brady '70, B.B.A. marketing, is owner of Brady and Associates in San Angelo, where he lives, with his wife, Susan.

Carolyn (Guidry) Spooner '70, B.S. elementary education, retired from teaching with the Port Neches-Groves school district. She lives in Canyon Lake, with her husband, **Mark '68**, cert. drafting technology, '84, B.S. elementary education.

Brenda (Kimbrough) VanDerHeyden '70, B.S. biology, was elected chair of the State of Florida Board of Clinical Laboratory Personnel. She was appointed to the board in 2007 and lives in Naples, Fla.

Darlene Wilson '70, B.S. elementary education, is real estate agent for Keller Williams Realtors and life coach for Wilcoach. She lives in Austin.

Michael Allen '71, B.B.A. marketing, '77, M.B.A. business administration, retired as an associate registrar for the University of Texas. He tied for seventh place in the U.S. Senior Open. He lives in Austin.

Dolly (Deleon) Gauthier '71, B.S. home economics, was honored by the West Orange-Cove school district for her outstanding leadership and excellence in teaching in Head Start at the West Orange-Stark Elementary. She lives in Orange.

Dan Hooks '71, M.S. health and physical education, retired as head coach of the West Orange-Stark High School football team after winning two state championships during 29 years of service. He was the most winning active coach in Southeast Texas, and the school's football field has been named after him. He lives in Orange.

Paul Noland '71, B.S. geology, is a consulting geologist for CPG in Elko, Nev., where he lives.

Diana (Cline) Schneider '71, B.S. speech, '81, M.Ed. counseling and development, was named by Humanities Texas as one of 12 recipients of the 2010 Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award. She teaches language arts and literature at Henderson Middle School in Sour Lake, where she serves as a mentor and a guide to her sixth- and eighth-grade students. She lives in Beaumont.

The International Foodservice Manufacturers Association honored **Joe Tortorice '71**, M.B.A. business administration, with the Silver Plate Award in the Chain Fast Service category for Jason's Deli. He lives in Beaumont.

Sarah (Thomas) Tutt '71, B.S. industrial engineering, retired as a systems analyst for Bank of America and lives in Fort Worth.

Lark (Wiltshire) Bernini '72, B.S. secondary education, was the production coordinator on the pilot for the series Brothers & Sisters and was in Beijing for six months working on the movie, Karate Kid. She also worked three months in Hong Kong on Contagion, a Steven Soderbergh film.

Frank Coffin '72, B.S. psychology, retired Sept. 30 as Beaumont police chief. He lives in Beaumont.

Karen (Weisser) Pugh '72, B.S. home economics, is a registered interior designer for Interior Expressions by Karen Pugh in Alvin, where she lives with her husband, George.

Hal Ross '72, B.B.A. accounting, retired as manager of the Jack Brooks Regional Airport. He lives in Nederland.

Patricia (Smith) Shuler '72, B.S. health and physical education, is retired from Lamar University and lives in Beaumont.

Stead inducted into College of Business Hall of Fame



Bette Stead '57 is the first woman to be inducted into the Lamar University College of Business Hall of Fame. An author and former LU faculty member, Stead holds a master's degree from the University of Texas and a doctorate from the University of Houston.

The hall of fame honors alumni from the college who have made significant achievements in their careers and been an integral part of the college.

"Bette has had a wonderful career as a distinguished business educator and has offered the College of Business her substantial contacts, great encouragement, and substantial financial support," said LU business dean Enrique "Henry" Venta. "The Hall of Fame inductees are wonderful role models for the students and Bette is an outstanding example of hard work and dedication leading to success."

Upon receiving her doctorate, Stead joined University of Houston's faculty in the Bauer College of Business. She was named a Melcher Faculty Service Fellow for outstanding service productivity in 1992 and in 1995 received the Melcher Award for Excellence in Service. Stead taught UH's first electronic commerce courses.

In 2000, Stead received the Distinguished Faculty Member Award and is noted as "the architect of the capital campaign proposal that culminated in Ted Bauer's \$40M endowment" for the Bauer College of Business. She retired from UH in 2001 as professor emerita in marketing. She has written many articles that have appeared in leading business publications such as "Academy of Management Journal" and the "Journal of Business Ethics." Two editions (1978, 1982) of her book, Women in Management, were published by Prentice-Hall.

Community service has always been a major part of her life. As founder of the Greater Houston Business Ethics Roundtable, she brought together major Houston businesses to share best practices. In honor and admiration, the organization established five MBA scholarships in her name. She also chaired the \$4M capital expansion of The Women's Home, a more than 50-year-old non-profit that gives eighteen months shelter to fifty-five women. For her work on this project she received a Mayor's Volunteer Houston Award in 2010. Lamar University has also benefitted from Stead's service and generosity with three endowed memorial scholarships in the LU College of Business dedicated to her family.

Garrett awarded honorary doctorate



Lamar University awarded the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Lamar alumnus Charles Garrett '59, founder, president and chief executive officer of Garrett Metal Detectors Inc., at spring commencement.

A resident of Garland, Garrett grew up in Lufkin and graduated from Lamar in 1959 with a degree in electrical engineering. Lamar honored him as a Distinguished Alumnus in 2003.

Garrett's passion for treasure hunting led to him developing a better metal detector, which resulted in a global business. The company he and his wife, Eleanor, began in 1964 with \$1,000 as Garrett Electronics has grown into the world's largest manufacturer of virtually all types of metal detection equipment, including hobby, law enforcement, security and military devices. It provides walk-through scanners and hand-held detection wands at airports all over the world and has furnished security equipment to all summer Olympic games and most of the winter Olympics for more than 25 years. In 2010, the Garretts carried the Olympic torch to begin the celebration at the Vancouver Winter Olympic games.

Garrett took his detectors into the field, spending countless hours learning how to use them effectively. This practical experimentation led to refinements that, over the years, gave the company an edge over its competition. Garrett has acquired several patents for innovative equipment and features, beginning in 1982 when Garrett Electronics was awarded the first U.S. patent for the use of a computer chip in a metal detector.

He and Eleanor established the Professor Floyd Crum Scholarship in Electrical Engineering in tribute to the professor who had inspired him during his years as a Lamar student. The couple also established both the Charles Lewis and Eleanor Smith Garrett Scholarship in Engineering. In addition, Garrett contributes to his alma mater as a member of the College of Engineering Advisory Council.

It is hard to go to any public place—courthouse, airport or other building—and not see the Garrett name emblazoned on a security detector in its trademark, eye-popping yellow. Garrett has served as president of both the American Metal Detector Manufacturers Association and the International Treasure Hunting Society. He has authored more than 20 books in his field of expertise and has sold more than a million copies.

Robert Cox '73, B.S. government, is president of Select Insurance Markets in Houston, where he lives with his wife, **Kathleen (Dougherty)** '74, B.S. medical technology.

Kenneth Crawford '73, B.S. health and physical education, is mayor of Vidor, where he lives.

Karen (Hawa) Glavimans '73, B.S. psychology, is owner of Mokk-a European Coffee Blends and lives in The Netherlands. The company won the 2011 Gourmet Product Award in coffee; it was one of 900 nominated for 43 categories.

Ron Loving '73, B.S. chemical engineering, retired as plant manager for Velsicol Chemical in Memphis, Tenn. He lives in Katy with his wife, **Theresa** '72, B.S. secondary education.

Mary (Grand) Robertson '73, B.A. government, was inducted into the Honor Roll of the Arkansas Council of Women in Higher Education and is assistant dean of student services at the University of Arkansas for Medical Services. She and her husband, **Roby** '71, B.A. government, '73, M.A. government, live in Little Rock, Ark. He earned a doctoral degree from the University of Oklahoma and directs the Institute of Government at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Nancy (Gonzales) Taylor '73, B.B.A. secretarial science, is retired from Huntsman and lives in Port Neches with her husband, Danny.

Rebecca (Boorman) Brown '74, B.S. elementary education, is a realtor for Realy Executives Commercial Real Estate in Prairieville, La., where she lives with her husband, Jean.

Richard Cantu '74, B.A. music, '78, M.M.E. music education, is director of adult and community education for the Beaumont school district. He lives in Beaumont.

Gov. Rick Perry appointed **Mike Doguet** '74, A.A.S. mid-management, to the Texas Bioenergy Policy Council. Doguet is president of Doguet Turf Farms and Doguet's Diamond D Ranch and general manager of Doguet's Rice Milling Co. He lives in Nome.

Cathy (Brent) Hudson '74, B.S. mathematics, '74, B.S. physics, is a technology integration specialist for the Clear Creek school district. She lives in Houston with her husband, Michael.

Mike Lyssy '74, B.S. chemical engineering, is principal project engineer for Honeywell in Houston. He lives in Pearland with his wife, Denise.

John Nilsson '74, B.S. mathematics, earned a master's degree from the University of Texas and a master's in business administration from the University of Southern California. He is a senior scientist for Computer Sciences Corp. and lives in Galveston.

Tommy Smith '74, B.B.A. general business, is owner of Smith International Consulting and lives in Tyler with his wife, Susy.

Richard Wiggins '74, B.A. history, '77, M.B.A. business administration, is chair of the special education department in a middle school in Boerne, where he lives with his wife, **Pamela (Vince)** '74, A.A.S. dental hygiene. They have two daughters, Kathryn and Sarah.

Woody Bishop '75, A.A.S., business data processing, is senior programmer analyst for The Jupiter Group. He lives in Terrell with his wife, Kay.

Louise Eddy '75, B.S. communication disorders, '78, M.S. speech-language pathology, is administrator for Texas Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists in Houston. She lives in Plantersville.

Mark Foreman '75, B.S. health and kinesiology, retired as assistant football coach from the West Orange Cove school district. He lives in Waxahachie.

David Lawrence '75, B.B.A. marketing, works for Packaging Corporation of America as manager of purchasing and traffic in Counce, Tenn., where he lives with his wife, Angie.

Peggy (Risher) LeBar '75, B.B.A. accounting, is a retired certified public accountant and lives in The Woodlands with her husband, Richard.

Chris Noble '75, B.B.A. marketing, is director of business development for Forum Energy Technologies in Stafford. He lives in Houston.

Gov. Rick Perry has appointed **Richard "Dick" Scott** '75, B.B.A. accounting, to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission. He is co-owner of Trans-Global Solutions and lives in Wimberley.

James Stark, Jr. '75, B.S. biology, is a retired pharmaceutical representative for 3M. He and his wife, **Judith (Landry)** '75, B.S. home economics, live in Wylie.

Ron Berwick '76, B.B.A. accounting, is a counselor for the Lamar University Small Business Development Center. He lives in Beaumont.

Kenneth Hoffpauir '76, B.S. health and kinesiology, '82, M.S. health and kinesiology, is head boys' basketball coach in the East Chambers school district. He lives in Anahuac.

Ali Nikkhoo '76, B.S. civil engineering, has been named vice president and general manager of Horizon Lines' operating subsidiary. He will oversee weekly transportation services between the U.S. mainland and the Hawaiian Islands. He lives in Dana Point, Calif.

Rebecca Schiwart '76, cert. office administration, '90, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is an accounting clerk for Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. in Port Arthur, where she lives.

Janice (Rivers) Taweel '76, B.S. art education, is a freelance artist and educator for The Artist Paper Trail in Murchison, where she lives.

Rebecca (Albright) Washburn '76, B.S. elementary education, earned a master's degree from McNeese State University and teaches in the West Orange-Cove school district. She lives in Orange.

Benny Brocato '77, B.S. criminal justice, is claims specialist and consultant for Brocato Insurance Services in Kountze, where he lives with his wife, **Sheryl (Wrinkle)** '80, B.S. environmental science.

Don Chapman '77, B.S. mechanical engineering, is project manager for ITC. He lives in Magnolia.

Robby Davis '77, B.S. mechanical engineering, is planning and scheduling superintendent for Pasadena Plastics Complex in Pasadena. He lives in Baytown with his wife, Debbie.

Russell Dillow '77, B.S. biology, owns RC Dillow in Orange, where he lives.

Tony Falgout '77, B.B.A. marketing, is owner and agent of Tony Falgout Insurance in Groves. He lives in Port Arthur.

Janey Young '77, B.S. biology, is a registered nurse for the Woman's Hospital of Texas in Houston. She lives in Fresno.

Dr. Sidney Burkes '78, B.S. biology, earned a medical degree from the University of Texas-Southwestern Medical School in Dallas and served seven years in the Army, including Desert Storm. He is director of Zenenity Sleep Center in Beaumont and South Texas Sleep Disorder Clinic in McAllen. He and his wife, Janice, live in Beaumont and have one daughter, Erin.

Bonnie (Fleming) Dorman '78, B.B.A. office administration, was named Distinguished eLearning Educator by the Instructional Technology Council. She is an instructor of office technology at Lamar State College-Orange. She and her husband, **Woodrow** '93, A.A.S. fire protection technology, live in Orange.

John Ragan '78, B.S. computer and information sciences, earned a master's degree in information systems from Golden Gate University and a master's degree in business administration from Texas A&M-Commerce. He lives in Springfield, Mo., with his wife, **Becky (Blackmon)** '92, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences.

Jimmy Stark '78, B.S. chemical engineering, is a drilling engineer and well control instructor for Chevron USA in Houston. He lives in Kirbyville with his wife, Sandra.

Sherry (Coffman) Woods '78, B.B.A. accounting, is a senior financial analyst for ExxonMobil Chemical in Beaumont. She lives in Lumberton with her husband, Larry. Their son, Christopher, is a Lamar student.

James Clark '79, B.S. chemical engineering, is a business director for LyondellBasell in Houston. He lives in Kingwood.

Charles Feagin Sr. '79, B.S. criminal justice, is a deputy sheriff for Jefferson County. He lives in Village Mills, with his wife, Susan.

John James '79, B.S. art education, is a partner with Alyson Jon Interiors in Beaumont, where he lives.

Mary (Zugar) Montgomery '79, B.S. secondary education, celebrated the 20-year anniversary of the Bridge City Public Library as its only director. She lives in Orange.

Frank Oberle '79, B.B.A. accounting, is chief financial officer for Marine Fueling Service in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, **Donna (Troxell)** '77, cert. office administration. Frank also has a public accounting practice in Beaumont.

80s

Mitzie (Hryhorchuk) Baker '80, family and consumer sciences, is a pharmaceutical sales representative for AstraZeneca. She lives in Beaumont with her husband, **Joe** '80, A.A.S. drafting technology.

Richard Coon III '80, B.S. chemical engineering, is an application engineer for ExxonMobil Chemical in Beaumont. He lives in Port Arthur.

Aaron Covington '80, B.A. government, '93, M.Ed. educational leadership, earned a doctorate in education from Stephen F. Austin State University. He is principal at Austin Middle School in Beaumont and lives in Nederland.

Bebe (Green) Taylor '80, B.S. elementary education, teaches first grade in the Clear Creek school district. She lives in Dickinson.

Ed Field '81, B.S. health and physical education, '92, M.S. kinesiology, is chief operating officer of The ODC in Beaumont. He lives in Nederland with his wife, Rona.

Michael Killingsworth '81, B.S. elementary education, is vice president learning and organization effectiveness for Shell Upstream Americas. He lives in Houston.

Scott McCauley '81, B.S. electrical engineering, is project manager for ExxonMobil in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, **Jamie (Kunetka)** '84, B.B.A. accounting.

John Backer '82, B.B.A. management, owns his own insurance business in Orange, where he lives. He and his son, Mitchell, were featured on Lifetime TV program Coming Home, a reality show that reunites families with deployed servicemen.

Michael Lockwood '82, M.E. engineering, is plant manager for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, **Lori (Lyon)** '84, B.S. nursing.

Teri (Halcomb) Riley '82, B.S. elementary education is a homebound teacher for the



UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Contact us for additional information.
(409) 880-8921 • (800) 298-4839

Alumni@lamar.edu

ALUMNI NIGHT
Lamar vs. SFA men's basketball game
7 pm Feb. 22, 2012
Montagne Center

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS DINNER
February 24, 2012
University Reception Center
Advanced reservations required.

BEAUMONT AREA ALUMNI WINE TASTING
5:30 pm March 29, 2012
WineStyles, Beaumont
Advanced reservations required.

ALUMNI & PARENTS TAILGATE
Lamar vs. McNeese baseball game
5:30 pm April 27, 2012
Vincent-Beck Stadium

Brazosport school district. She lives in Lake Jackson with her husband, **John** '80, B.S. chemical engineering, who is an operations leader for Dow Chemical.

Taylor Shelton III '82, B.S. industrial engineering, is public works director for the city of Port Neches. He lives in Groves with his wife, Lisa.

Jerry Stapert '82, B.S. health and physical education, is head basketball coach in Kirbyville. He lives in Jasper.

Aldo Aguirre '83, B.A. Spanish, earned a master's degree from Texas A&M University and a doctoral degree from Ohio State University. He is principal for Alianza Consulting Group, LLC, in Las Vegas, Nev., where he lives.

Tina Cox-Cole '83, B.S. health and physical education, is educational diagnostician and school psychologist for Fairbanks North Star Borough School District in Fairbanks, Alaska, where she lives with her husband, Rick.

Aaron Patterson '83, B.M. music education, is a music specialist for the Pasadena school district. He lives in Galveston.

Tony Valastro '83, B.S. health and physical education, is football coach and athletic director at Galveston Ball High School. He and his wife, **Claudia (McCullough)** '80, cert. office administration, '82, B.B.A. office administration, '85, M.B.A. business administration, live in Winnie.

Jonathan Wesner '83, B.S. computer and information sciences, earned a master's degree in telecommunications management from the University of Dallas and works for L-3 Communications as a senior software quality assurance engineer. He and his wife, **Lisa (Mendoza)** '82, cert. vocational nursing, live in Garland.

Scott Woolcock '83, B.S. computer science, works for Shell Global Solutions US Inc. in Houston. He lives in Richmond with his wife, **Dian (Evans)** '09, B.G.S. general studies.

Annette Beard '84, B.S. criminal justice, is a judicial services liaison for Smart Start in Humble, where she lives.

Darrell Bryant '84, B.S. communication, works for FedEx Corporate Services as a senior market development professional and lives in Frisco.

Rich Harrist '84, B.S. government, earned a law degree from the University of Oklahoma and is senior attorney for Cooper and Scully in Dallas. He lives in Forney.

Peter Mason Jr. '84, B.B.A. marketing, is a senior trader for Simon Metals and lives in Tacoma, Wash.

Mark Rees '84, B.B.A. accounting, is group fitness department head for Life Time Fitness in Skokie, Ill. He lives in Chicago, Ill.

Kevin Romero '84, B.S. chemical engineering, is lead logistics manager for Dow Chemical Co. and lives in Midland, Mich.

Ron Sims '84, M.Ed. school leadership, retired after serving five years as superintendent for the Lumberton school district, where he lives.

Marcia (Miller) Stevens '84, M.Ed. educational leadership, is superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Beaumont. She and her husband the **Honorable John B. Stevens Jr.** '74, B.A. government, live in Beaumont. He is judge of Jefferson County Criminal District Court.

John Suttle '84, B.S. communication, earned a master's degree in journalism from Marshall University and is senior vice president in communications for BAE Systems. He lives in Alexandria, Va.

A record number of alumni and their families attended the first-ever All Alumni Tailgate Oct. 22, enjoying a bite and some conversation before the homecoming game.

1. Alisa (Hicklin) Fryar '02 **2. Ronnie Turner '07, Josh Daspit '04**

Alumni gathered at The Top of The Oasis in April for the most-attended reception to date in the Austin area hosted by the Office of Alumni Affairs.

3. Jimmy Simmons, left, Beau Theriot '70, Susan (Williams) Simmons '68 **4. Jo Anne (Sellers) '74, '80, and Steve Huber '76.** **5. Juan Zabala '07, left, Patricia Adams '70, Lanie (Klein) '70 and Joe Gallio '71** **6. Patricia (Smith) '56 and Edwin Terry, Harry Lucas '55** **7. Toni and James Nelson '61, left, Laurie (House) Ritchel '85** **8. Ben Cowles '10, Kathryn Johnson** **9. Ernesto '05 and Connie Briones** **10. Sandra (Lavergne) Turner '94, Tomica (Lavergne) Harrison '98** **11. Pat '62 and Darlene Pierson** **12. Liz (Ramirez) '06, '07, and Paul Stropko '08, Amanda Morgan '06, '08** **13. John Sandobal '10, Carol (Law) Huard '10, Sandra Villarreal '10, Mickey Villarreal**

Alumni, parents and friends turned out big for the baseball tailgate May 6 before the LU vs. McNeese game.

A red tide across the community heralded Get Your Red On, which kicked off at Bistro LeMonde Oct. 17, as alumni and friends enjoyed meeting and greeting during this annual celebration.

14. Jan (Caldwell) '83 and Dan Hallmark '65, left, Dean Enrique "Henry" Venta **15. Janice (Bennett) Trammell '85, '94, Richard Price** **16. Jim and Maris (Minton) Mehaffy '84** **17. Juan Zabala '07, left Jill (Taft) '90 and Kevin Roy '85, '93** **18. Ellen (Walker) Rienstra '62, '80, Lamar Ambassador Jasmine Banks** **19. Roger and Sharon (Smith) McCabe '83, '89, left, Cherrie (McVey) '70 and Alan Hefty '69** **20. Dana Gafford Stark '01, Gary Stark**



Richelle Brewster '85, A.A.S. mid-management, earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a second bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Houston. She is a revenue agent for the Internal Revenue Service and lives in Manvel.

Darlene Davis '85, B.M. music education, '86, M.M.E. music education, '08, M.Ed. educational leadership, is a music specialist in the Port Arthur school district. She lives in Nederland.

Domingo Fumero '85, B.S. electrical engineering, is a generator services manager for Siemens Energy, Inc. in Pittsburgh, Pa. He lives in North Huntingdon, Pa.

Anita Holloway '85, B.S. psychology, earned an accounting certificate from Lone Star College and a master's degree in business from the University of Phoenix. She is a consultant for MFR PC in Houston, where she lives.

Carman (Deloney) Apple '86, B.A. political science, retired from the Beaumont Police Department after a 25-year career. She will teach at the Emergency Management Institute, a training facility for FEMA, in Maryland, retaining her home in Beaumont.

James Clay '86, B.S. criminal justice, was named a captain of the Beaumont Police Department, where he commands the administrative services division, made up of seven units. He lives in Beaumont with his wife, Chris.

Larry Cook '86, B.B.A. marketing, has launched a professional consulting partnership, Top Line Performance Consulting, focused on marketing and management advisory services. He lives in Richmond, with his wife, **Sheila (Svatek) '87**, B.S. elementary education, and their three children.

Bebe Kelly-Serrato '86, B.S. geology, is owner and chief executive officer of Aerospace-Science Consulting Consortia in Houston, where she lives.

Ramona Parks '86, B.S. elementary education, is a counselor in the Beaumont school district, where she lives.

John Valastro '86, B.S. health and kinesiology, '90 M.S. health and kinesiology, '05, M.Ed. school administration, is superintendent for the Lumberton school district. He lives in Lumberton.

Dora Babcock '87, B.S. elementary education, was named one of the teachers of the year by the Little Cypress-Mauriceville school district. She is the content mastery learning lab teacher at Little Cypress Elementary and lives in Orange.

Donna (Peterson) Bruney '87, B.B.A. marketing, works in administration for WinCo Industrial and Marine in the Jefferson Refinery in The Woodlands, where she lives.

Stacy (Anger) Haley '87, B.S. secondary education, was named one of the teachers of the year by the Little Cypress-Mauriceville

school district. She teaches applied English at the secondary level and lives in Orange.

Karen Land '87, B.S. criminal justice, is a child-support enforcement team leader for the Texas Office of the Attorney General in Fort Worth. She lives in Kennedale.

William Peters '87, B.G.S. liberal arts, is a welding engineer for The Crosby Group in Tulsa, Okla. He lives in Sand Springs, Okla., with his wife, Phyllis.

Rodwick Smith '87, A.S. law enforcement, '88, B.S. criminal justice, is in inventory control for Coca-Cola Refreshments in Houston, where he lives.

Tanya (Mitchell) Williams '87, B.E.A. graphic design, earned a master's degree from LeTourneau University. She lives in Pearland with her husband, Lonnie.

Clint Winter '87, B.B.A. marketing, is director of managed care and reimbursement for Pathworks Diagnostics. He lives in Conroe.

Donna Gober '88, B.S. earth science, '08, Ed.D. educational leadership, is director of wellness for Southern Methodist University in Dallas, where she lives.

Karen (Saenz) Massaro '88, B.S. kinesiology, teaches physical education and health for Berkley Public Schools. She lives in Middletown, R.I., with her husband, John-Paul.

Emily (Dilworth) McGowen '88, B.S. kinesiology, teaches and coaches in the Aldine school district. She lives in Houston with her husband, Joseph.

Christi (Winn) Rollins '88, B.S. oceanographic technology, is an environmentalist for the city of Houston, where she lives with her husband, Joseph.

Lisa (Wiess) Sanchez '88, B.S. elementary education, teaches reading in the Lumberton school district. She lives in Silsbee with her husband, Michael.

The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America organization gave the 2011 Texas Spirit of Advising Award to **Donna (Jacobson) Shannon**, '88, B.S. home economics. She lives in Silsbee.

Cynthia (Denton) Walker '88, B.S. elementary education, teaches at Sour Lake Elementary. She lives in Beaumont with her husband, the **Honorable Layne Walker '87**, B.S. criminal justice. He is judge of Jefferson County 252nd District Court.

Craig Bailey, Sr. '89, A.A.S. computer drafting technology, '97, A.A.S. process operating technology, is a process operator for Invista. He lives in Port Arthur. His son, Craig Jr., is a Lamar student.

Calvin Carrier '89, B.S. biology, is the first African-American deputy chief for the Beaumont Fire Department. He lives in Houston.

Terri Gordon '89, B.B.A. office administration, is a certified litigation paralegal in the attorney general's office in Atlanta, Ga., where she lives.

Lia (Williams) Johnson '89, B.B.A. general business, is software quality assurance manager at Baker Hughes in Houston. She lives in Sugar Land, with her husband, Patrick.

Chris Jones '89, B.S. health education, earned a master's degree from Indiana University and is an athletic trainer for the Beaumont school district. He lives in Beaumont.

Bob Leiper '89, M.E. special education, earned grant money from the Beaumont Public Schools Foundation for his program, Design Your Own Home, which introduces students to architectural design. He teaches at Marshall Middle School in Beaumont and lives in Vidor.

Terry Meighen '89, B.S. criminal justice, has served for 28 years in the Army. He is a platoon sergeant in the 350th human resources company, based in Grand Prairie, and has been activated to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom. His wife, **Paige (Fertitta) '93**, B.S. food and nutrition, lives in Grand Prairie.

Steve Roccaforte '89, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is an assistant men's basketball coach at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Fla.

Porchane' White '89, B.S. elementary education, earned a master's degree in administration and a doctorate in educational leadership from Prairie View A&M University and is assistant principal and district lead instructional coach in the Port Arthur school district. She lives in Beaumont.

Angela (Wilson) Reeves '92, B.S. communication, is program manager for Workforce Development for Lamar State College-Orange. She lives in Orange.

Shawn Skinner '92, B.S. civil engineering, is a staff engineer for Skinner Engineering Services in Beaumont, where he lives. He is also chief executive officer and president of Heartland Inc., a real estate development and management company.

David Jernigan '90, B.M. music education, is a self-employed private investigator in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Patricia.

Gene Stewart '90, B.S. electrical engineering, is a staff engineer for ExxonMobil and lives in Lumberton with his wife, Selah. Their son, Philip, is a student at Lamar University.

Paige (Prouse) Hervey '91, B.B.A. marketing, owns The Collection in Groves. The Small Business Development Center at Lamar State College-Port Arthur named the business as the 2010 Small Business of the Year for Groves, where she lives.

Renee Kelley '91, B.S. elementary education, is director of curriculum and instruction for The Pro-Vision School in Houston. She lives in Sugar Land.

Michele McKinley '91, is director of special education for the Connally school district in Waco, where she lives.

Denise Moore '91, B.S. psychology, is program manager for Health and Human Services commission in Houston, where she lives.

Tretta (Jenkins) Morvant '91, A.A.S. nursing, works for Christus Hospital St. Mary in Port Arthur. She and her husband, Dwayne, live in LaBelle.

Andrew Saldana '91, B.S. biology, is a microbiologist for Harris County Hospital District in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Monique.

Kent Walston '91, B.B.A. personnel administration, was appointed municipal court judge for the city of Nederland, where he lives.

Bobby Baker '92, B.B.A. marketing, is president and chief executive officer of Peak Business Solutions in Hewitt. He lives in Lorena with his wife, **Kelly (Guerrant) '91**, B.S. elementary education.

Earl Hilton III '92, B.S. political science, earned master's and law degrees from Texas Tech University. He is intercollegiate director of athletics for North Carolina A&T State University. He lives in Greensboro, N.C.

Helen (Ledet) Lack '92, B.S. psychology, earned a master's degree from the University of Houston and is director of student services-academic partners for Lamar University. She lives in Groves with her husband, **Weldon '70**, B.S. geology, '74, M.Ed. counseling and development.

90s

Tammy (Burr) Astley '90, B.S. secondary education, is assistant shopkeeper for Christopher and Banks in Pueblo, Colo., where she lives with her husband, **Dennis '89**, B.S. electrical engineering.

David Jernigan '90, B.M. music education, is a self-employed private investigator in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Patricia.

Gene Stewart '90, B.S. electrical engineering, is a staff engineer for ExxonMobil and lives in Lumberton with his wife, Selah. Their son, Philip, is a student at Lamar University.

Paige (Prouse) Hervey '91, B.B.A. marketing, owns The Collection in Groves. The Small Business Development Center at Lamar State College-Port Arthur named the business as the 2010 Small Business of the Year for Groves, where she lives.

Shawn Skinner '92, B.S. civil engineering, is a staff engineer for Skinner Engineering Services in Beaumont, where he lives. He is also chief executive officer and president of Heartland Inc., a real estate development and management company.

David Jernigan '90, B.M. music education, is a self-employed private investigator in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Patricia.

Gene Stewart '90, B.S. electrical engineering, is a staff engineer for ExxonMobil and lives in Lumberton with his wife, Selah. Their son, Philip, is a student at Lamar University.

Paige (Prouse) Hervey '91, B.B.A. marketing, owns The Collection in Groves. The Small Business Development Center at Lamar State College-Port Arthur named the business as the 2010 Small Business of the Year for Groves, where she lives.

Mike Stewart '92, B.S. health and kinesiology, is assistant football coach at Lumberton High School. He lives in Orange.

Clint Hartsfield '93, B.S. health and kinesiology, '10, M.Ed. administration, is head football coach and athletic director for Kelly High School in Beaumont, where he lives.

Gabe Hernandez '93, B.S. biology, works for Southwest Transplant Alliance in Port Arthur as an in-house coordinator. He lives in Orange, with his wife, **Dina (Sattler)** '95, B.S. sociology.

Todd Langston '93, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, works as a flow consultant for Emerson Process Management. His wife, **Jill (Givens)** '92, B.S. home economics, is an account executive for KFDM, Channel 6, in Beaumont. They live in Lumberton with their two children, Seth and Grace.

William Littles '93, B.S. mechanical engineering, teaches mathematics at Central Medical Magnet High School in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Sandra.

Kevin Roblyer '93, B.B.A. marketing, is vice president of customer relations for HR&P Solutions in Pearland, where he lives with his wife, **Tanya (Harrell)** '94, B.B.A. management.

Angela (Texada) Sterling '93, B.S. criminal justice, earned a master's degree from Southern Methodist University, an additional bachelor's degree in nursing from Prairie View A&M, and an additional master's degree in nursing from Vanderbilt University. She is a stem-cell-research nurse at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, where she lives.

Robert Beresford '75, B.S. secondary education, teaches science in the Beaumont school district and lives in Port Neches with his wife, Becky.

Deb (Booher) Christoph '94, B.E.A. graphic design, is marketing coordinator for Modern Ag Products in Beaumont, where she lives.

Amanda (Franke) Eaves '94, B.B.A. accounting, is a partner with Null-Lairson in Houston. She lives in Seabrook with her husband, David.

Bridget (Blanchard) Fuselier '94, B.A. political science, earned a law degree from Baylor University, where she is now an associate professor. She was awarded the inaugural "Section Award" by the American Bar Association for her article appearing in the September issue of Probate and Property. She lives in Woodway with her husband, Paul.

Youzhi He '94, M.E. engineering, earned a master's degree in business from the University of Michigan. He is a senior warranty engineer for Schaeffler Group USA and lives in Troy, Mich.

Leo Monroe Jr. '94, B.S. home economics, earned a master's degree in public administration from Georgia Southern University and a master's degree in education from Armstrong Atlantic State University. He works for Home Depot and lives in Austin.

Rachel (Romero) Boyett '95, B.B.A. accounting, teaches at Orangefield High School. She lives in Vidor.

Amy Duhon '95, B.S. communication, earned a master's degree from Texas State University. She is an administrative assistant

for the Texas Railroad Commission in Austin, where she lives.

Janis (Fisher) Faulk '95, B.B.A. accounting, is an accountant for Cook Parker, PLLC in Beaumont, where she lives with her husband, Leroy.

Jennifer (Waller) Gamez '95, B.B.A. general business, is a paralegal for Fritz, Byrne, Head and Harrison and lives in Austin.

Dr. Peter Hu '95, M.S. biology, earned a doctoral degree from Trident University International and was presented the Young Clinical Scientist award by the Association of Clinical Scientists. He is associate professor in the school of health professions and director of the molecular genetic technology program at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, where he lives.

Vicki (O'Dell) Oubre '95, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is senior vice president of FivePoint Credit Union in Nederland. She lives in Port Neches.

Davilyn (Anderson) Walston '95, B.S. communication, is a law enforcement coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Beaumont. She lives in Nederland.

Dana (Day) Arceneaux '96, B.B.A. management information systems, is an accountant for Beaumont Surgical Affiliates in Beaumont. She lives in Hamshire with her husband, Jason.

Kimberly (Wilson) Bernard '96, B.B.A. human resource management, is director of education for Associated Builders & Contractors of Southeast Texas in Nederland. She lives in Bridge City with her husband, Johnal.

Lance Dale '96, B.S. health and kinesiology, is football coach and athletic director for Kountze High School. He lives in Tatum.

Dornita (Love) Hardeman '96, B.S. health education, teaches special education in the Beaumont school district, where she lives with her husband, Johnny.

Jamey Harrison '96, B.S. political science, '02, M.Ed. educational leadership, earned an educational doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin. He is deputy executive director of the University Interscholastic League in Austin. He lives in Georgetown.

Phil Jensen '96, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, '98, M.B.A. business administration, is national sales associate for Hines Real Estate Investments in Houston, where he lives.

Candyce (Bergeron) Tompkins '96, B.B.A. office administration, '04, M.E. educational technology leadership, works for Region 5 Education Service Center as CTE program coordinator in Silsbee. She lives in Hamshire.

Michelle White '96, B.M. music, '04, M.M. music, earned a master's degree in organizational management from Capella University. She is an adjunct professor in the Mary Morgan Moore Department of Music at

Lamar University and a small business start-up consultant. She lives in Austin.

Misty Beasley '97, B.S. sociology, is director of community service and service learning for Marymount Manhattan College. She lives in New York City.

Jason Davalos '97, B.S. computer and information sciences, is project manager for Lockheed Martin. He lives in Sugar Land.

John Duff '97, B.S. communication, won his fourth National Sports Emmy for the outstanding live sports special for the 2010 Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup Final Match – Spain vs. Netherlands. He works for ESPN and lives in Bristol, Conn.

Melinda (Kibodeaux) James '97, B.S. criminal justice, earned a law degree from South Texas College of Law and is partner/designer for Alyson Jon Interiors and M. James Design Group Inc. in Beaumont. She lives in China, with her husband, **John** '79, B.S. art education.

Eric Larsen '97, B.B.A. accounting, is manager for Protiviti in Houston, where he lives.

Darla (Barrett) Lawless '97, M.M.E. music education, was named Fine Arts Teacher of the Year by the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools. She lives in Beaumont.

Eric Maddox '97, B.S. chemical engineering, is a training engineer for General Physics in Houston, where he lives.

Chris McAfee '97, B.B.A. marketing, is industry manager energy sector for Univar USA in Dallas. He lives in Royse City with his wife, **Kimberley (Jones)**, '04, B.S.W. social work.

Terrie (Ard) McCardell '97, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, teaches in the Beaumont school district, where she lives.

Jay McCraw '97, B.S. kinesiology, '00, M.S. kinesiology, is regional vice president for Invesco. He lives in Charlotte, N.C.

Yasmin Eleby '98, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, earned a master's degree from the University of Phoenix and teaches for Saudi Aramco. She lives in Moscow, Texas.

Brian English '98, M.Ed. educational leadership, was named 2011 Beaumont Enterprise Super Gold Coach of the Year. He coaches boys basketball at Nederland High School and lives in Nederland.

Tondelyn (Donatto) Johnson '98, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, is principal at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School in Houston. She lives in Pearland, with her husband, **Curley** '99, B.S. general studies.

Kevin McClure '98, B.G.S. general studies, is an advanced engineer in voice networks for Invesco in Houston. He lives in Missouri City.

Angela Pickering '98, B.M. music-vocals, performed the role of Juliet in *Opera: A Living Art* opera at the Art Museum of Southeast

Texas. She is an instructor of voice at Lamar University and lives in Beaumont.

Raghu Ballal '99, M.S. environmental engineering, is a senior strategy analyst for American Airlines in Fort Worth. He lives in Westborough, Mass.

Aimee (Hale) Bates '99, B.S. kinesiology, was named the 2011 Super Gold Girls Soccer Coach of the Year by the Beaumont Enterprise. She coaches at Port Neches-Groves High School and lives in Port Neches.

Leatta (Mitchell) '99, B.S.W. social work, and Desmond Jones married March 12, 2011. They live in Houston.

Barbara (Wilkes) Mobley '99, B.B.A. accounting, earned a master's degree from Texas Woman's University and is chief executive officer of Methodist Rehabilitation Hospital in Dallas. She lives in The Colony with her husband, **Rodney** '90, B.S. kinesiology.

Sam Sharp '99, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, '02, M.S. deaf studies/deaf education, is president and chief executive officer of ThinkDeaf Communications in Cleveland. He lives in Splendora with his wife, Wendy.

Salenna (Wood) Skiles '99, A.S. radiologic technology, is an MRI technologist for Christus Hospital St. Elizabeth in Beaumont. She lives in Vidor.

Becky (Lane) Weeks '99, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, retired as a teacher in the Woodville school district, where she lives with her husband, **Larry** '84, B.S. mathematical sciences.

00s

Calvin Carter '00, B.E.A. studio art, has been commissioned to paint a series based on the hunts of outdoorsman Brent Moreland and renowned exhibition shooter Tom Knapp, by Butch Kissman, owner of Houston Gallery, Hacko Sporting Art. He teaches art at West Sabine High School in Pineland and lives in Jasper.

Cecilia Jungen '00, B.B.A. accounting, is manager and certified public accountant at Wathen, DeShong and Juncker in Beaumont, where she lives.

Cecilia Jungen '00, B.B.A. marketing, earned a law degree and works for Steele Sturm in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Carolina, and daughter, Gabriella.

Michael McGee '00, B.B.A. finance, '03, M.B.A. business administration, is commercial loan manager for FivePoint Credit Union. He lives in Bridge City.

Mindy (Irvine) Pattillo '00, A.S. nursing, '10, B.A. French, teaches and a school nurse for the Katy school district, where she lives.

Tommy Pierce '00, B.B.A. finance, is vice president at Merrill Lynch. He lives in Frisco.

Nichole (Morris) Wienstroer '00, B.B.A. management, is an institutional sales representative for Pfizer Inc. and lives in Missouri City, with her husband, Patrick.

Shay Bayly '01, B.S. communication, is public relations executive for Constellation Wines Australia in South Australia, where she lives.

Jay Johnson '01, B.B.A. marketing, is account executive for Zim American Integrated Shipping Company in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Judith.

Todd Oldham '01, B.B.A. management information systems, is an operator for Lanxess Corp. He lives in Orange.

Beth (Haran) Phelps '01, B.S. health education, works for Brystar Contracting in Beaumont. She lives in China with her husband, Bryan.

Corky Rollings '01, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is head athletic trainer for the Port Arthur school district. He lives in Buna with his wife, Wendy.

Marc Saucier '01, B.B.A. finance, is owner and consultant for Cajun Concepts. He lives in Austin.

Jennifer (Parigi) Sieve '01, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, lives in Beaumont with her husband, **Daniel** '02, B.S. electrical engineering.

Charla (Young) Bergeron '02, B.S. psychology, earned grant money from the Beaumont Public Schools Foundation for her program, My Incredible Amazing Body, which focuses on student education about their bodies and healthy food choices and portions. She teaches at Dunbar Elementary in Beaumont and lives in Nederland.

Kelley Elliott '02, B.B.A. general business, is a lower-school technology teacher for Annunciatón Orthodox School in Houston, where she lives.

Mark Ernst '02, M.B.A. business administration, is chief operating officer for Wilkinson Center. He lives in Dallas.

Greg Ingram '02, B.A. history, is an estimator for Commercial Metals Co. in Beaumont, where he lives.

Melissa Lege '02, B.M. music, teaches at Groves Elementary. She lives in Nederland.

Maggie (Cevallos) Lantz '02, B.B.A. business administration, is a bilingual teacher for the Houston school district. She lives in Marvel with her husband, John.

Edmund Luquette III '02, B.B.A., marketing, earned a master of arts and a master of science from the University of Texas at San Antonio, where he is a lecturer. He lives in San Antonio.

Jennifer (Hanna) '02, B.B.A. management, '03, B.B.A. human resource management, and Kevin Murphy married Feb. 12, 2011. She is employed by Motiva as an analyst and lives in Hamshire.

Leo Pius '02, M.S. computer science, is programmer analyst for Marlabs Inc. He lives in Vienna, Va., with his wife, Minu.

Chanelle (Guidry) Reese '02, B.B.A. management information systems, earned a master's degree in education from East Carolina University and teaches business education for the Onslow County Schools in Jacksonville, N.C., where she lives with her husband, Terrance.

Jamie Smith '02, B.B.A. management information systems, '08, M.Ed. school administration, is Ward 4 councilman in Beaumont and was elected as mayor pro tem for an annual term. He lives in Beaumont.

Brian Stampley '02, B.S. psychology, '06, M.Ed. counseling and development, is regional director for The Wood Group in Beaumont. He lives in Vidor.

Larry Sterling '02, B.G.S. general studies, is head boys' basketball coach at Vidor High School. He lives in Nederland.

Sandesh Barade '03, M.S. computer science, is a senior software engineer for Marlabs Inc. in Stow, Ohio, where he lives.

Kristi (Simonton) Bertles '03, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, teaches kindergarten in the Bridge City school district. She lives in Orange with her husband, Stuart. Their son, Brett, is a Lamar student.

Benjamin Clawson '03, B.S. chemical engineering, is lead process engineer for Shell in Port Arthur. He lives in Groves, with his wife, **Alyssa (Bonnette)** '04, B.M. music.

Jason Duplant '03, B.B.A. marketing, is vice president of marketing for Neches Federal Credit Union. He lives in Lumberton.

Seth Farris '03, B.B.A. marketing, is a supervisor for Wilson Warehouse in Beaumont. He lives in Groves.

Joseph Gibson '03, B.S. industrial technology, is an engineering technician with LEAP Engineering in Beaumont. He lives in Vidor with his wife, Angela.

Puneeth Gowda '03, M.E. electrical engineering, is an application developer for Intel in India.

Kathryn Griffith '03, B.S. theatre, earned a master's degree in marriage and family therapy and works for Island Therapeutic Mind and Body in Galveston, where she lives.

Micah Hoffpauir '03, general business, plays professional baseball with the Nippon Ham Fighters in Sapporo, Japan, where he lives with his wife, **Tiffany (Ballard)** '04, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, and their daughter, Addyson.

Stephen Moore '03, B.S. industrial technology, is an applications engineer for MLC CAD Systems in Houston, where he lives.

Kimosha Seastrunk '03, B.B.A. management information systems, earned a master's degree in counseling from Prairie View



Thank you Class of 1959!

The Class of 1959 Class Gift to the general scholarship fund will provide much-needed assistance to well-deserving students. Thank you to all the contributing members of the Class of 1959.

A&M University. She is a career and technology teacher for the Dickinson school district and lives in Pearland.

Brandon Thibodeaux '03, B.S. computer and information sciences, and Ann (Rienstra) married April 30, 2011. He is a software engineer with SAIC in The Woodlands. They live in Spring.

Harish Vadada '03, M.E. electrical engineering, is a senior engineer for T-Mobile USA in Concord, Calif. He lives in Martinez, Calif.

Brittney Champagne '04, B.S. psychology, earned a master's degree in occupational therapy and is a registered occupational therapist for Pediatric Rehabilitation of Texas. She lives in Beaumont.

Josh Daspit '04, B.S. political science, earned a master's degree from the University of St. Thomas. He is completing his doctoral studies at the University of North Texas where he was selected as one of the Outstanding Teaching Fellows. He lives in Denton.

Evelyn (Skwara) Grantham '04, B.B.A. general business, earned a master's degree from Kaplan University and lives in Spokane, Wash.

Tiffany (Ballard) Hoffpauir '04, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, lives in Sapporo, Japan with her husband Micah who plays professional baseball with the Nippon Ham Fighters in Sapporo, Japan and, their daughter, Addyson.

Wesley Linder '04, B.S. chemical engineering, is a project engineer for CB&I in Houston, where he lives.

Shashidhara Papanna '04, M.E.S. mechanical engineering, is a senior mechanical engineer for KBR in Houston, where he lives.

Terrell Petteway '04, B.G.S. general studies, is co-manager for Walmart in Dallas, where he lives.

Kristen (Parson) Stewart '04, B.B.A. marketing, is Nederland branch manager for Neches Federal Credit Union. She lives in Port Neches.

Jacy Thibodeaux '04, B.G.S. general studies, is a petroleum landman for J. Mark Smith & Associates. He lives in Hamshire.

Summer (Schwertner) Thompson '04, B.B.A. management information systems, '05, M.B.A. business administration, is a media buyer for e.Sullivan Advertising. She lives in Port Neches with her husband, **Randy** '03,

B.B.A. management information systems. He is an information technology support technician for Deli Management.

Kyle Treadway '04, B.A. history, earned a law degree from South Texas College of Law and works for Dylewski and Associates in Houston, where he lives with his wife, **Kellie (Faulk)** '00, B.B.A. management information systems. They have two children.

Stephanie (Pitre) Wilkins '04, B.B.A. management information systems, is an oracle database administrator for Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, where she lives.

Matthew Zamaron '04, B.S. industrial engineering, earned a master's degree in business and a master's degree in technology management from Texas A&M-Commerce. He is quality leader for GE Oil and Gas in Humble. He lives in Crosby with his wife, Gracie.

Chris Block '05, B.S. chemical engineering, is a process engineer for LyondellBasell Industries in Clinton, Iowa. He lives in Eldridge, Iowa, with his wife, Randi, and three children.

Kristin (Bradford) Bolser '05, A.A.S. nursing, works for Texas Oncology in Beaumont. She lives in Kountze, with her husband, Johnathon.

Michael Hackbarth '05, B.S. family and consumer science, is manager at Pappadeaux's in Beaumont. He lives in Nederland.

Amanda Harris '05, B.S. communication disorders, earned a doctoral degree in audiology from the University of Texas and works for Comprehensive ENT Center of Texas in Austin, where she lives.

Debbie (Church) Jordan '05, B.B.A. general business, teaches business and math in the Evadale school district, where she lives.

Joy (Krueger) '05, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, and Spencer Rawlins III married July 23, 2011, at Ashton Gardens in Houston. She teaches at Providence Classical School in Spring. They live in Houston.

William Mallette '05, B.S. kinesiology, was named Super Gold 2011 softball coach of the year by the Beaumont Enterprise. He coaches in the Deweyville school district and lives in Lumberton.

Kayla Marcus '05, B.B.A. general business, is financial coordinator for Boys' Haven of America Inc. in Beaumont, where she lives.

Kombrt Pitruiek '05, M.E. industrial engineering, earned a doctoral degree from Auburn University and lives in Malden, Mass.

Cardinals on the wing

Send Cadence your photos as you travel the globe.

Prints: Attn: Cynthia Hicks
Cardinal Cadence, Box 10011,
Beaumont, TX 77710
E-mail: high-resolution file to
cynthia.hicks@lamar.edu



▶ Clayton '69 and Georgia Lau '68 in the Top of Europe Ice Palace on Jungfran Mountain in the Swiss Alps



▶ Brad McGowan '97 and fiancé Lauren Pittman pose with an actor in character as an ancient Mayan Warrior at XCaret Park in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico



▶ Camille Mouton, vice president for university advancement, left, joins Judy (Walker) Linsley '67, center, and her sister Ellen (Walker) Rienstra '62 for dinner in Honfleur, France, while on the Normandy Cardinal Adventures tour.



▶ Bill Macatee '78, left, with Juan Zabala '07 and family: daughter, Christine Zabala (LU student); son, Kevin Zabala; and wife, Peggy, at the 2011 French Open, Roland Garros, Paris, France



▶ Cardinal Adventurers tour a bunker at Port-en-Bessin on Normandy Beach, France. The next Cardinal Adventures trip explores the famed Amalfi Coast in Italy May 30-June 7, 2012.

Brian Shajari '05, B.S. criminal justice, is a petty officer in the Coast Guard and was part of the Hawaiian response to the March 11 Japanese tsunami, assisting in launching search and rescue helicopters and setting up a mobile command trailer. He lives in Hawaii.

Josh Srader '05, B.S. family and consumer science-hospitality administration, is district sales representative for Glazier Foods Co. He lives in Beaumont.

Ashley Stone '05, general studies, is accounts-receivable administrator for the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners in Austin, where he lives.

Celeste (Travis) Thompson '05, B.B.A. accounting, lives in Hallsville with her husband, **Russell '06**, B.S. mechanical engineering.

Viswanathan Vaikundam '05, M.S. computer science, is a senior member of technical staff for Oracle America Inc. He lives in Austin.

Prashant Bahadur '06, M.E.S. chemical engineering science, '10, Ph.D. chemical engineering, is senior scientist for Johnson and Johnson Group of Consumer Companies in Plainsboro, N.J., where he lives with his wife, Noopur.

Lori Connors '06, B.S. nursing, is a registered nurse for Baylor Surgicare in Fort Worth, where she lives.

Joe Culpepper '06, B.S. sociology, social work and criminal justice, married **Kristen (Jones) '06**, on Aug. 8, 2011. They live in Lumberton.

Bharath Eaga '06, M.E. chemical engineering, is a project engineer for ABSG Consulting in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Santhoshi.

Jared Gilthorpe '06, B.A. political science, earned a law degree from the University of Houston. He practices law at The Gilthorpe Law Firm in Beaumont. He lives in Vidor.

Mollie Goodell '06, B.G.S. general studies, is a library associate at Lamar University. She lives in Beaumont.

Shana (Henson) Green '06, B.S. kinesiology, teaches in the Del Valle school district. She lives in Round Rock.

Desire (Martinez) Hays '06, B.B.A. marketing, teaches in the Lumberton school district, where she lives with her husband, Tyler.

Kim (Cessac) Huch '06, B.S. biology, '08, M.S. biology, is an environmental analyst for the LNVA North Regional Treatment Plant in Beaumont. She lives in Kountze.

Shea Landry '06, B.G.S. general studies, is head coach of the West Orange-Stark baseball team in the West Orange-Cove school district. He lives in Bridge City.

Gov. Rick Perry appointed **Tyran Lee '06**, M.S. deaf studies and deaf education, to the Texas School for the Deaf Governing Board. He teaches American Sign Language at Lone Star College and lives in Humble.

Sanjaya Maurya '06, M.S. computer science, is a senior software developer with Data Concepts. He lives in Virginia with his wife, Monica.

Justin Padia '06, B.S. biology, lives in Lumberton with his wife, **Jessica (Johnston) '10**, B.S. interdisciplinary studies.

Melody Richardson '06, B.M. music, earned a master's degree in applied flute from the University of Houston. She lives in Dallas.

Rosie (Connley) Sellers '06, B.G.S. general studies, is a senior administrative associate at Lamar University. She lives in Beaumont with her husband, Abbron.

Lizny (Jones) '06, B.S. kinesiology, and Derek Shelander married June 17, 2011. She is employed with the Beaumont school district, where they live.

Brian Sherman '06, B.S. communication, works for Southwestern Energy Production Co. as a senior division order analyst. He lives in Spring with his wife, Cassie.

Joshua Smith '06, B.B.A. management, works for Bill Clark Pest Control in Beaumont as assistant general manager. He lives in Vidor with his wife, Sarah.

Stephanie (White) Tillery '06, B.A. history, teaches in the Alvin school district. She lives in Manvel, with her husband, Jody.

Jacquelyn Wiltz '06, B.S. industrial engineering, is a process operator for Dow Chemical Co. in Freeport. She lives in Beaumont.

Kristina (Maurich) '06, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, and Joshua Yonker were married June 10, 2011. She teaches kindergarten at East Chambers Elementary School in Winnie, and he is head athletic trainer at Lamar University. They live in Beaumont.

Kenneth Abbott '07, B.G.S. general studies, works for Verizon Wireless as a sales representative in Port Arthur. He lives in Port Neches.

Denetra Bell '07, B.S. communication disorders, is a licensed assistant in speech-language pathology for the Humble school district. She lives in Kingwood.

Mike Bombek '07, B.G.S. general studies, teaches and coaches in the Medina Valley school district in Castroville. He lives in San Antonio.

Joseph Cessac '07, B.S. biology, earned a doctoral degree from the University of Houston College of Optometry. He will begin his residency in Bellaire. He lives in Pearland, with his wife, Amber.

Steffany (Brewer) Duke '07, B.S. communication, works for the office of the governor as information specialist in Austin, where she lives.

Tina (Higginbotham) Granger '07, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is asset manager for NAI Wheeler in Beaumont. She lives in Orangefield.

Tyrone Haynes '07, B.B.A. marketing, earned a law degree from Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University and is a law clerk for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas. He lives in Houston.

Kristyn Henderson '07, B.B.A. finance, is cheer and mascot coordinator at Lamar University in Beaumont, where she lives.

Stacy Hester '07, B.S. communication, teaches junior high English and language arts and is cheer coach for Viola Cobb Sixth Grade Campus in the Channelview school district. She is owner of Pro Status Cheer and Dance and lives in Stafford, with her husband, **Jabari Lockett '09**, B.G.S. general studies.

Athena (Colli) Jefferson '07, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, was honored by the West Orange-Cove school district for her outstanding leadership and excellence in teaching second grade at the West Orange-Stark Middle School. She lives in Orange.

Sudheendrarao Lakkundi '07, M.E. mechanical engineering, is a professional mechanical engineer for MWH in Chicago, Ill.

Aakarshan Mander '07, M.E. chemical engineering, is a process engineer for GE Energy. He lives in Houston with his wife, Sandeep.

Bindiya Mansharamani '07, M.S. computer science, works for TOPAZ Technologies as a software developer in Austin, where she lives with her husband, **Rajashankar Tadi '05**, M.S. environmental engineering.

Samantha (Blankenship) McCormick '07, B.S. communication disorders, '09, M.S. speech-language pathology, is a speech language pathologist for First Steps Early Childhood Intervention. She lives in Lumberton with her husband, Chris, and son, Benjamin.

Michael Moreau '07, B.M. music, is assistant band director at Memorial Middle School in the Spring Branch school district.

Pradeep Gautam '07, M.E. civil engineering, is an engineer for Plan B Engineering and lives in Bensalem, Pa.

Kiran Punyamantula '07, M.E. civil engineering, is a graduate engineer for Kuo and Associates in Houston, where he lives.

Paurash Singh '07, M.E. electrical engineering, is an RF engineer for Mobicon Tele Networks Pvt. Ltd. He lives in Atlanta, Ga.

Ronnie Turner Jr. '07, B.A. psychology, earned a law degree from Baylor University and is an attorney with Provost Umphrey Law Firm in Beaumont, where he lives.

Girish Vadakapurapu '07, M.E. civil engineering, works for Fitz & Shipman Inc. in Beaumont, where he lives.

Abby (Satterfield) Willis '07, B.S. chemical engineering, works for BP as an operations engineer. She and her husband, Derek '07, B.S. mechanical engineer, live in Dickinson. He works for BP as a maintenance engineer.

Abhishek Akkur '08, M.E.S. electrical engineering science, is an engineer for ARM Inc. in San Jose, Calif. He lives in Sunnyvale, Calif.

Raghava Angali '08, M.E. chemical engineering, is a process equipment design engineer for Sep-Pro Systems in Houston, where he lives.

Sandeep Bagri '08, M.E. industrial engineering, is a welding engineer for Welspun Pipes in Little Rock, Ark., where he lives.

Amber Barnes '08, B.M. music, works for the Humble school district as middle school head band director. She lives in Houston.

Connie (Farque) Carter '08, B.S. communication, earned a bachelor's degree in business and public administration from the University of Texas-Dallas and is district manager for Colonial Life. She lives in Katy.

Fonda (Woodsmall) Craigen '08, B.S. family and consumer sciences, '11 M.Ed. counseling and development, teaches at Hamshire-Fannett High School. She lives in Beaumont, with her husband, Jared.

Crystal Davis '08, B.S. health education, is an executive office assistant for the city of Houston, where she lives.

Bharath Devineni '08, M.E. civil engineering, is a civil engineer for Isani Consultants in Houston, where he lives.

Jimmie (West) Gilley '08, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, works for Baptist Hospital Orange as an environmental service manager. She lives in Kirbyville.

Sean Harris '08, B.S. industrial technology, is a technology specialist for Tekoa Charter School in Port Arthur, where he lives.

Marc Holmes '08, B.G.S. general studies, is assistant manager for Sherwin Williams in Friendswood. He lives in Houston.

Mindy (Oknefski) Hopper '08, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, '09, M.S. deaf studies/deaf education is deaf education teacher in the Irving school district. She lives in Grand Prairie.

Vamshi Jonnada '08, M.E. electrical engineering, is programmer and developer for Fast Switch. He lives in Columbus, Ohio.

Travis Melancon '08, B.G.S. general studies, is a firefighter for the city of Beaumont, where he lives.

Gaynell (Covington) Murrell '08, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is assistant vice president of finance for Harbor Healthcare System in Beaumont. She lives in Fort Worth with her husband, Kenneth.

Sapraj Nandavanum '08, M.E. civil engineering, is a quality control manager for L&S Consultants. He lives in Metairie, La.

Max Nguyen '08, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is director of the Pearland EMS. He lives in Port Neches.

Emmanuel Olivier '08, B.S. industrial engineering, is project controls engineer for Plains All American Pipeline. He lives in Tulsa, Okla.

Anilkumar Pachunuri '08, M.E. civil engineering, works at Elite Wall Systems in Deer Park, N.Y., as an estimator. He lives in Hicksville, N.Y.

Andres Polk '08, B.B.A. marketing, is a client services specialist for Cox Media in Phoenix, Ariz., where he lives.

Sudheer Rajavarapu '08, M.E. civil engineering, is a junior engineer for Isani Consultants Inc. in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Jeevan.

Preethi Shabadu '08, M.E. electrical engineering, is a software quality assurance analyst for System Soft Technologies in Clearwater, Fla. She lives in Stamford, Conn.

Josh Shenkir '08, B.S. electrical engineering, lives in League City, with his wife, **Lauren (Albert) '05**, B.S. interdisciplinary studies.

Purvesh Kumar Shingala '08, M.E. electrical engineering, is a senior system engineer for Capital Legal Solutions. He lives in Fairfax, Va.

Jordan Smith '08, B.B.A. marketing, is a buyer for Conn's in Beaumont, where he lives.

Francis Snelgro '08, B.B.A. accounting, is an auditor for the Texas State Comptroller in Austin, where she lives.

Joshua Splinter '08, B.S. chemistry, is in his third year of medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, where he lives.

Erin Tade '08, B.S. electrical engineering, is a control systems engineer for Shell Oil. She lives in Houston.

Dwayne Terrier '08, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is director of research and development for Automatic Data Processing in Houston. He lives in Cypress.

Shailesh Kumar Vaghmashi '08, M.E. mechanical engineering, is a project engineer for En-Fab Inc. in Houston, where he lives.

Satish Vekariya '08, M.E. mechanical engineering, is a project engineer for En-Fab Inc. and lives in Houston.

Cathy (Seidman) Warmack '08, B.M. music, teaches private violin students and plays with two orchestras. She lives in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Jeremy Webb '08, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is account manager for Texas Tax Consultants in Kingwood, where he lives.

Kristen (Tompkins) Williams '08, B.B.A. marketing, is vice president of marketing for Sabine Federal Credit Union in Orange. She lives in Port Arthur with her husband, Robert.

Jordan (Schmitt) Cone '09, M.Ed. teacher leadership, teaches kindergarten in the Goose Creek school district. She lives in Baytown with her husband, Jeff.

More than 175 cheerleaders and guests reunited on campus on Oct. 22, reminiscing and joining together to cheer the Cardinals on the field once again.

The Class of 1961 reunited Nov. 4-5 and marveled at the changes made to campus over the past 50 years.

1. Janice (Zahn) '58 and Jimmie Adams '61, Juan Zabala '07
2. David '61 and Judy Beck, Camille Mouton
3. Edgar '61 and Earlyne Metcalf, from left, Pat and Chuck Royston '61, Pat and Don Bennett '61
4. Brenda (Cascio) '61 and Loyd Hawthorne '63
5. Lois and Carl Dorman '61
6. Mike '59 and Sarah (Sims) Matheny '61
7. Paul and Donna (Carrabine) Lewis '61
8. Don '61 and Kathy Blanton
9. Bill '61 and Carolyn Allen, left, Jacqueline and Bobby Ballard '61
10. Martha Jo (Phillips) '61 and Charles Starcke '60

A wine tasting at WineStyles—owned by Kathy (Anderson) Daniel '80—in Beaumont attracted alumni and friends to savor different vintages.

11. Mary (Moorhouse) '90 and Bobby Smith
12. Christine Stetson, Michele (Yennie) Smith '88
13. Cathy (Bebeau) Zummo '78, Laurie Maida, Sherry (Jones) Goth '78, '86
14. Frank Maida, Tommy Goth '77, '80, Frank Zummo

Former homecoming queens returned to campus on Oct. 22 and posed before their luncheon with First Lady Susan (Williams) Simmons '68.



Marcus Cooper '09, B.S. electrical engineering, is an instrument and power distribution engineer for DuPont in Victoria, where he lives with his wife, Tyson.

Janet Davis '09, M.Ed. administration, was named 2011 District 21-3A Girls Basketball Coach of the Year. She coaches in the Hardin-Jefferson school district and lives in Beaumont.

Jerome Delafosse '09, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is employee relations and compensation manager for Jefferson County. He lives in Beaumont with his wife, Sabrina.

Cindy (Eddy) Dozier '09, B.S. chemistry, is a research and development technician for INVISTA. She lives in Vidor.

Stacie (McKee) Gardner '09, B.S. biology, is a crime scene technician for the Beaumont Police Department. She lives in Groves.

Lana Gauthier '09, B.B.A. marketing, is marketing coordinator for State Farm Insurance in Port Neches. She lives in Bridge City.

Alice Hubbell '09, B.S. chemistry, started medical school in the fall at Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine. She lives in Temple.

Brahmam Kapalavavi '09, M.S. chemistry, is a teaching assistant for East Carolina University and lives in Greenville, N.C.

Kristin King '09, B.S. communication, is salon manager for On Stage Hair Design in Beaumont, where she lives.

Gary Long Jr. '09, B.S. mechanical engineering, is a reliability engineer for LyondellBasell in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Valerie.

Danielle Mason '09, B.A. psychology, '11, M.Ed. community counseling, is HCS service coordinator for the Spindletop Center in Beaumont. She lives in Vidor.

Maria (Sachitano) Miller '09, B.S. family and consumer sciences, is student development specialist for the biology doctoral program at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She lives with her husband, Mark, in San Antonio.

Lindsey Moore '09, B.S. communication, is master control coordinator for K TEN media in Denison, where she lives.

Bryan Narvaez '09, M.Ed. administration, teaches eighth grade in the Alamo Heights school district in San Antonio, where he lives with his wife, Rebecca.

Brett Parsons '09, B.B.A. economics, '09, B.B.A. finance, is executive director of business services for Troup school district, where he lives with his wife, **Taryn (Maida) '09**, B.G.S. general studies, and their two children.

Ashish Pawar '09, M.E.S. engineering science, is process engineer for ESP ASIA PVT in India, where he lives.

Sabrina (Rushing) Pomales '09, M.Ed. administration, teaches in the Brazosport school district. She lives in Lake Jackson with her husband, Benjamin.

Alicia (Berwick) Rector '09, B.A. English, is a high school English teacher in the High Island school district. She lives in Port Neches, with her husband, Rob.

Brian Roberson Jr. '09, B.S. communication, '10, M.Ed. educational technology leadership, is director of housing and residence life for McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La., where he lives.

Elizabeth Romero '09, B.S. family and consumer sciences, is nutritionist and a certified lactation counselor for Hardin County Women, Infants and Children Program. She lives in Kountze.

Lauren Rush '09, B.S. exercise science and fitness management, is participating in a World Race Christian mission trip that will take her to 11 countries in 11 months, doing everything from construction work to volunteering in orphanages. She lives in Garland.

Bikram Shrestha '09, M.S. computer science, is an IT consultant for Verizon Telecom. He lives in Irving.

Divyakumar Sosa '09, M.E. industrial engineering, is an industrial engineer for Arch Plastics Packaging in Chattanooga, Tenn., where he lives.

Abhilekh Thakur '09, M.S. kinesiology, is a physical therapist for Genesis Rehab Care in Dillsboro, Ind. He lives in Batesville, Ind., with his wife, Meeti.

Jessica Van Zandt '09, B.B.A. general business, is in administrative services for Weaver and Tidwell. She lives in Midland.

Heather (Richard) Wiggins '09, B.A.A.S. applied arts and science, '10, A.A.S. nursing, '11, B.S.N. nursing, lives in Silsbee with her husband, James.

Amanda (Quick) Allison '10, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, lives in Vidor with her husband, Andrew.

Vijay Boorla '10, M.E. electrical engineering science, is an electrical engineer for Douglas Scientific in Alexandria, Minn., where he lives.

Kimball (Crone) '10, B.S. communication, and **Garret Bromley '10**, B.S. family and consumer sciences-dietetics, married July 23, 2011. She is employed by the Beaumont Enterprise, and he is employed by Discover Research. They live in Groves.

Kim Dobie '10, B.B.A. accounting, is staff accountant for Family Services of Southeast Texas in Beaumont. She lives in Winnie.

Laxmi Duddu '10, M.E. electrical engineering, works for Optimos Inc. in Reson, Vt., and lives in Groton, Conn.

Miranda (Thornton) Flowers '10, B.G.S. general studies, coaches varsity volleyball in the Hardin-Jefferson school district. She lives in Silsbee.

Vasdev Gullapalli '10, M.E.S. electrical engineering science, is an application infrastructure specialist for Skolix LLC in Milwaukee, Wis., where he lives.

Gordon Hill '10, M.Ed. administration, is assistant principal for the Denton school district, where he lives with his wife, Brenda.

Jennifer (Virva) Hodges '10, B.B.A. human resource management, works for Pizza Hut as shift manager in Silsbee. She lives in Kountze.

Colby Jones '10, B.S. mechanical engineering, is a machinery engineer for ExxonMobil in Baton Rouge, La. He lives in Denham Springs, La., with his wife, Missy.

Sunny Kancherla '10, M.S. chemistry, is a lab technician for Inspectorate America Corp. He lives in Beaumont.

Rachel (Mills) Mann '10, M.Ed. teacher leadership, teaches in the Jacksonville school district. She lives in Flint, with her husband, Aaron.

Jeffery Mitchell '10, B.B.A. accounting, '10, B.B.A. management information systems, is an audit assistant for Deloitte and Touche Foundation in Houston, where he lives.

Geetika Motwani '10, M.S. kinesiology, is a physical therapist for Select Medical Corp. and Kessler Core in Brooklyn, N.Y. She lives in Ozone Park, N.Y.

Dinesh Naredla '10, M.E. electrical engineering, is .NET developer for Amensys Technologies. He lives in Bellevue, Wash.

Christopher Orlea '10, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is recreation superintendent for the city of Angleton. He lives in Manvel with his wife, Malinda.

Srinivasa Para '10, M.E.S. engineering science, is reliability engineer for Cheniere Energy. He lives in Beaumont.

Krunal Patel '10, M.E. electrical engineering, is an electrical and instrumentation engineer for Sofec Inc. in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Prakruti.

Noel Reed, Jr. '10, M.Ed. administration, teaches and coaches in the Duncanville school district. He lives in DeSoto with his wife, LaTresa.

Whitney (Mott) Richard '10, B.S. communication, lives in Orangefield with her husband, Ryan, who is a second-class petty officer with the U.S. Coast Guard.

Gerardo Sifuentes '10, B.B.A. management, is account control financial advisor, for JP Morgan Chase and lives in Beaumont.

Jonathan South '10, M.Ed. administration, teaches and coaches in the North East school district. He lives in Bulverde with his wife, Amanda.

Vandell Stewart '10, B.S. chemistry, earned a master's degree from Webster University in environmental management. He is laboratory manager for Keystone Cement Co. in Bath, Penn. He lives in Whitehall, Pa.

Ronak Varia '10, M.E.S. mechanical engineering science, is a manufacturing engineering manager for Merla Wellhead Solutions in Houston, where he lives.

Michael Ward '10, B.S. electrical engineering, is an engineer for Williams Fire and Hazard Control. He lives in Vidor.

Jamil Jackson '11, M.Ed. teacher leadership, teaches and coaches at Episcopal Collegiate School. He lives in Little Rock, Ark., with his wife, Dionne.

Megan (Shay) '11, B.S. communication disorders, and Philip Olmsted married on May 21, 2011. They live in Sour Lake.

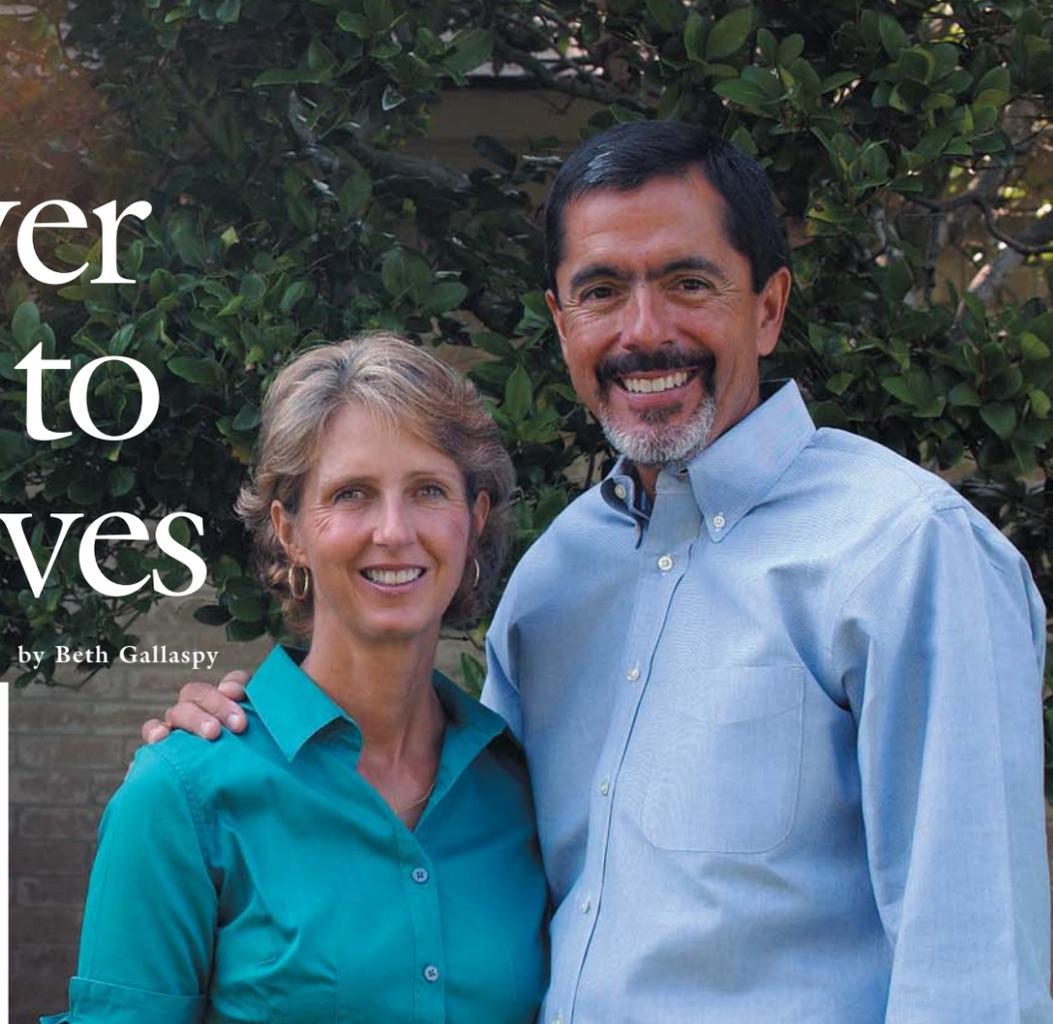
Amanda (Forrest) Powers '11, M.Ed. administration, teaches in the White Settlement school district. She lives in Fort Worth.

Katherine (Menefee) Tuomey '11, M.Ed. administration, teaches in the Crowley school district. She lives in Fort Worth with her husband, Ryan.

Visit lamar.edu/alumni to view more photos, class notes and In Memoriam.

The power of touch to change lives

by Beth Gallaspy



Dr. Alan Coleman '80 views his abilities as a dentist as a gift from God. Two years ago, while out for a morning run, he began thinking about sharing that gift with people in need around the world. He couldn't get the thought out of his mind. He saw it as a message from God—one he shared with his wife, Julie (DuBois) Coleman '80 the next day.

"She said, 'I've been telling you that for years,'" Coleman recalled. "I said, 'Yeah, but someone else has told me now, so I have to go.'"

That was the beginning of Hands For God Ministry, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization the couple formed in early 2010 with contributions from friends helping them purchase dental equipment. Already, the effort has taken the couple to Haiti in October 2010, nine months after the devastating earthquake, and to the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota in June 2011 to perform free dental work.

"It was mind boggling in Haiti because I had not seen anything like that. You think you're prepared for it, but you're not. What would those people think if they were able to walk into a place like this where you could flip a switch and turn on a light and turn a spigot and have water come out?" Julie said as the couple sat on a sofa in the family room of their Beaumont home. "Their homes are a quarter the size of this room."

Active members of Wesley United Methodist Church in Beaumont, the Colemans worked through the United Methodist Church to arrange the Haiti trip. They joined an established group from Mount Carroll, Ill., that had been making three trips a year for 10 years to provide medical and dental care in Juampas, Haiti. For the October 2010 trip, the Illinois dentist scheduled to go couldn't make it, so Alan stepped in. Julie, who teaches American history at All Saints Episcopal School in Beaumont, took care of cleaning and sterilizing the instruments to allow Alan and a dental assistant from Illinois to focus on the patients. They saw more than 60 patients in four days, mainly extracting damaged teeth. He did one memorable root canal, using a safety pin and a little bit of bleach to clear an abscess for a 12-year-old girl.

"Dentists found out on the next trip whether it worked or not since there's no X-ray equipment there to confirm that. Down there, you just did what you could do. I saw the worst teeth I'd ever seen in my life," Coleman said.

He compared conditions in the stuffy clinic to hot, sticky days in Southeast Texas immediately after a hurricane. People in that part of Haiti had no running water and survived on about \$3 a day. Piles of rubble remained everywhere when the Colemans visited about nine months after the devastating earthquake. They also were able to assist the Illinois group in delivering \$4,000 worth of rice and beans to Haitians in need, including in Port au Prince, the capital city three hours away where living conditions were even more dire.

Although the Haiti trip was the first for Hands For God

Ministry, it was Alan Coleman's second foray into international mission work. In November 2008, he accompanied a United Methodist Church group to Cote d'Ivoire as part of the Nothing But Nets campaign to distribute mosquito nets, de-worming medication, vaccinations and vitamin A supplements. Because of dangerous political conditions, couples were not permitted to make the trip together, so Julie was unable to join him. Coleman said he was stunned by the poverty he saw. The first day, he asked the team leader to rate how bad conditions were on a scale of one to 10.

"If I just saw a three or a four, I was going to freak out. She said, 'You just saw a 10. This is my first 10 as far as worst conditions.' It really did change the way you see the world."

Hoping he had already seen the worst, Coleman decided he could handle additional mission work. With Hands For God Ministry, he and Julie hope to continue making one trip a year, alternating sites in the United States with those in other parts of the world. The ministry's first domestic trip took them to the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in Mission, S.D., in June 2011. For that trip, Julie got a crash course in dental assisting, and Alan got a temporary South Dakota dental license. The couple then loaded a portable dental unit in the crew cab of their truck and hit the road. Tree of Life Mission supplied them with a small house that they transformed into a temporary dental office. For four days, they saw 10 patients a day in the dining room. This time, Coleman primarily provided fillings with a few extractions. The patients kept requesting the restorative dental work because the only dentist at their local clinic normally chose to pull teeth rather than fill cavities.

"Either they can't afford the filling or they can't afford to drive where another free place is to get the filling. The lady at their clinic is just going to pull it," Coleman said. "They were very nice. They gave us gifts when we left. They were hugging us and thanking us. One lady wrote back that we fixed her front teeth, and she was going to quit smoking because she didn't want her pretty teeth to get dirty again."

"She was talking about exercising and changing her whole life," Julie added. "There was a guy who'd had all his front teeth broken off. He'd been in a lot of fights. He was a rough character. Alan totally changed his appearance because he fixed all those front teeth. I like to think that he might feel a little differently and change his life a little bit now."

Although Hands For God is still in its early stages, the idea of service and living their Christian faith are nothing new for the Colemans, who have been married for 28 years. The couple began working with Young Life, a non-denominational Christian ministry for teens, when their three sons were younger. Their youngest, John, has spent the past few summers as a mountain guide for Young Life in Colorado. Their middle child, Chris '09, volunteered for Young Life while in college and now lives in Beaumont with his wife, Anna (Garlock) Coleman '10. Their oldest, Steven, lives in Beaumont with his wife, Meegan (Cryer) Coleman '06, and they teach Sunday school at Wesley UMC.

Between their jobs, their family and their other commitments, which include Alan's service on Beaumont City Council, "sometimes I don't know how we have time to do all the stuff that we do ... but it just works out," Alan said.

"Everyone in his entire family is service minded—his mother, his uncles and aunts. Everyone who came from Gilberto and Consuelo Dominguez gives back to their community," Julie said, referring to Alan's grandparents, who emigrated from Mexico. "It's just kind of ingrained, giving back what you've been given."

Lamar University has been one of the beneficiaries of that service. Coleman's mother, Celia Coleman, has been a longtime supporter of Friends of the Arts, which provides financial assistance to the College of Fine Arts and Communication, and was a past chair of Le Grand Bal. Coleman was a longtime leader in LU's alumni association and fondly remembers his days as a student leader, where he was active in Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. "I felt really fortunate because at Lamar you can excel in student activities because the student population is just the right size in relationship to the organizations available," he said.

Although the Colemans eventually hope to provide opportunities for others to join them in service through Hands For God Ministries, they are not ready for that yet. They have been invited by Buckner International to travel to Busia, Kenya, next summer to treat children at a Buckner orphanage. In the future, Julie would like to invite young people along and expand into construction projects in the places they work. Alan foresees adding a second dentist and a physician on the trips. For now, though, they



Julie and Alan Coleman stand with some of the children they met in Haiti.

only need three people—himself, Julie to assist and someone to clean and sterilize instruments—and maybe a little assistance buying equipment. They pay for their own travel.

"We call it Hands For God because we're actually touching the people and trying to help them," Alan said. "How it all evolves and grows, I don't know, but it's moving in the right direction, and it feels good."

Building anew

by Brian Sattler

When Sina Nejad '80, '81, left Iran to pursue a college degree in the U.S., he had no intention of making America his home. Revolution would change his life.

Nejad and a few of his fellow Iranians had intended to matriculate at the University of Houston, but, as fate would have it, they missed the fall registration deadline. Considering, and then rejecting, the idea of a three-month "holiday" until the next semester, the group decided instead to enroll at "a small school" 80 miles to the east of Houston and then transfer to UH in the Spring. Thus began Nejad's adventures at Lamar University and his respect and admiration for what its engineering college had to offer.

"Lamar has been a great school," Nejad said. "I think I took every engineering course Lamar had to offer. There were some really, really good professors back then, and there still are today. When I started working, I had absolutely no deficiencies, thanks to the superb training I had received at Lamar."

During his time at Lamar, he returned to Iran to spend time there with his family while the school was in holiday recess. It was a time of serious civil unrest in that country, and Nejad witnessed several violent scenes of shooting, looting and burning. He was fortunate to catch the last Pan-Am flight out of Tehran and managed to get back to Texas via Istanbul, Beirut and Rome.

Nejad earned his undergraduate engineering degree at Lamar and planned to return to Iran to start his professional career. He had carefully packed and shipped all of his books and materials home in expectation of that next step, but his father's assessment of the political situation at home led him to encourage Nejad to stay at Lamar to pursue a master's degree to give time for things to settle down.

When Nejad completed his master's degree in structural engineering in 1981, returning to Iran was not a good option, and the U.S. economy made finding an engineering position tough. After many weeks of searching, applying and waiting, he received two calls in one night. Nejad went to work for a local full-service

contractor and construction management firm where his experience fully qualified him to earn his professional engineering credentials. He became one of the few engineers to gain this status without having to work five years under the direct supervision of another engineer.

After several years with the local firm, Nejad started his own company, Sigma Engineers Inc., which handles all phases of construction of commercial and industrial buildings, foundations and structures. The bulk of Sigma's work is for refineries and the petro-chemical industry, including particular specialties in the design of blast-resistant structures and the retrofitting of existing buildings to meet more stringent load requirements, a sophisticated and exacting process.

"Blast loads are so great and happen in such short duration that they are highly difficult to determine and to resist," Nejad said. "You basically must design the structure to pass the load through itself using a unique design process so that lives can be saved and still keep the basic building standing."

Sigma Engineers is expanding its influence worldwide. It has done design work for Houston-based Hunter Buildings, one of the top blast-resistant building contractors in the world. This has included projects in Kuwait, Canada and Great Britain as well as many projects in U.S. locations. Most recently, Nejad has acquired an engineering license for Canada and is working on projects for an energy operation in Northern Alberta.

Nejad has also done many projects on the Lamar campus—mostly renovation and structural stabilization working on the Mary and John Gray Library, the Dishman Art Museum, Cherry Engineering and the Speech and Hearing Building. One Sigma project that is greatly enjoyed by campus visitors and tourists is the replica of the 1901 oil derrick at Lamar's Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum. Nejad designed the replica derrick using the well-known Trost photograph of the Lucas Gusher. "I estimated the man in the photo to be five foot, five inches tall," he said. From this he extrapolated the derrick's height and the height of the plume or "rooster tail" of oil that spewed forth on that memorable day back on January 10, 1901. The replica derrick was built and erected by Mason Construction. Other notable projects with the Sigma Engineering mark are Dowlen Road Neches Credit Union, the convention and visitors building, additions to Saint Anthony Cathedral Basilica and the arches and building renovations on Crocket Street in downtown Beaumont.

Nejad is very much a family man, and he was pleased to have wife, Soheila, present at the huge centennial celebration in January 2001 and to have his son Amir and his daughter Layla join Evelyn Lord, the centennial chairman, in pushing the button to successfully "bring in" the well before an audience of more than 20,000 people, including former President George H.W. Bush.

"It turned out just like the photo," Nejad said. "The whole celebration was really a magnificent feat, and blowing the gusher was the highlight." While designing the pump and rigging wasn't hard, he admits they got lucky on determining the correct amount of pressure to get it to blow that high and to repro-

duce to perfection the rooster tail.

Nejad has been showered with accolades and has been named Engineer of the Year by the Society of Professional Engineers Sabine Chapter and Business Person of the Year by the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce. A member of Lamar's College of Engineering Advisory Board, he has also served on the board of trustees of the Lamar University Foundation. He actively shows his appreciation of his new home and citizenship through his service on many boards, including CHRISTUS St. Elizabeth Hospital, Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School, United Way of Beaumont and North Jefferson County, Anayat House and the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce. He is a past president of the Symphony of Southeast Texas and presides over the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Beaumont.

Soheila, a graduate of the University of Southern California with both bachelor's and master's degrees in business, manages the daily business of Sigma Engineers. Although she was not enthusiastic about her initial move to this part of the country, both she and her husband have grown to appreciate the advantages that it offers and have found it a great place to rear their family. Their children are now both college students, and Soheila and Sina have established the Amir and Layla Nejad Scholarship in Civil Engineering at Lamar in their honor.

Although the tumult of history may have played a huge role in his personal story, Nejad is always quick to point out how very much he owes to the wonderful foundation he gained at Lamar and attributes many of the good things that have come to him and his family to the first-class education he found at Lamar University.



The right direction

by Larry Acker



Some dream about graduating from college and finding a great job. Others dream of starting a business to create great jobs. Alan Johnston '99 is one of the latter. From the time he graduated from St. Thomas High School, the third-generation Houston native envisioned himself as an entrepreneur. Lamar University helped him fulfill that ambition.

The career of this chemical engineering major has been filled with twists, turns and a few back flips to reach his goals. He began his educational career at Texas A&M University, majoring in architecture until the death of his father during his senior year halted that pursuit.

"Quite frankly, everything changed at that moment," said Johnston. "I needed to find a job and make some money. There was a time in my life when I wasn't sure I would be able to complete my education."

Circumstances like these can lead a man to do a good deal of soul-searching, and such was the case with Johnston. He landed a job at a refinery in Port Arthur, which inspired a new career decision. Johnston's father and grandfather were both engineers. That history, coupled with the fact he had done well in chemistry courses at Texas A&M, led him to Lamar's chemical engineering department and Jack Hopper, dean of the College of Engineering.

"I owe a lot to Dr. Hopper. Here I was with too many architectural classes and not enough science credits, and he helped me through the process of getting audited and enrolled," said Johnston. "From that moment forward, I knew there was somebody at Lamar University that cared about me and my success."

"Alan showed exceptional maturity and vision as an undergraduate student," said

Hopper. "His enthusiasm, commitment and loyalty to Lamar as a student was very impressive, and these same qualities have been even stronger as an alumnus of Lamar. I take great pride in Alan's accomplishments."

Armed with a degree in chemical engineering and eager to take the petroleum industry by storm, Johnston found reality once again shifting his plans. Oil was selling for \$10 a barrel in 1999, and convenience stores were advertising gasoline for 79 cents per gallon. Because starting a business wasn't really a good option at the time, Johnston accepted a position with a mechanical engineering company doing

“

Quite frankly, everything changed at that moment," said Johnston. "I needed to find a job and make some money. There was a time in my life when I wasn't sure I would be able to complete my education."

—ALAN JOHNSTON '99

”

HVAC design. That lasted two years—until he couldn't postpone his dreams any longer, and he established his own engineering consulting firm.

"I started the company one month prior to getting married, so obviously I felt some pressure to make the business successful. Fourteen months later, the business occupied one bedroom while my wife and our new baby occupied the other bedroom," Johnson said with a smile. "Christi was the most supportive wife you could ever hope for, but at the same time she would occasionally ask if I was sure I knew what I was doing."

Doing contracting work for Jim Hostetler, a semi-retired engineer specializing in the design of wastewater treatment

plants, gave Johnston another important mentor and adviser. That relationship eventually led to a business partnership sealed with a handshake. Five years later, in 2007, Johnston bought the company, and Johnston LLC was born. The company has 27 employees, two of whom are Lamar engineering grads. He is proud that, while most of the country was struggling under the worst recession in decades, his company grew 70 percent in 2009.

"The key to our success is not rocket science. From a business standpoint, we are very flexible," Johnston said. "We move seamlessly between mechanical, civil and electrical engineering. Our company has a diverse background in plumbing, architecture and program management, and we

have recently started a construction company. Our clients enjoy the special attention we give and appreciate the quality of work they get from the company."

Johnston serves on the Lamar University Chemical Engineering Advisory Council, and a recent visit to campus renewed his love of the great gyros he remembers from a longtime campus institution, the Kampus Korner restaurant. He reminisces about classes with Ku-yen Li, professor of chemical engineering, and recalls how Li seemed to be able to read minds. "Somehow, he could tell if you weren't paying attention and would call you out after class to prod you. That's the difference between Lamar and Texas A&M," Johnston said with pride.

"No man or woman does anything on their own; I don't care who you are," Johnston said. "At some point in your life, you need people like Dr. Hopper and Jim Hostetler to pick you up and point you in the right direction."

Johnston LLC is based in Houston where Alan lives with his wife, Christi, and children Joey, Victoria and Russell.