



LRSC Branches

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LRSC unveils new Learning Commons

When one walks into a library, a person is customarily met with the silence of concentrating, reading, or researching students. The Paul Hoghaug Library at Lake Region State College provides a different experience. Instead of being greeted with the usual silence, visitors hear a captivating hum. Students are studying, interacting, and creating!

Libraries are still centers of knowledge on American college campuses. However, like everything in today's world, libraries have adapted and evolved with technological changes.

Such is the story of the Paul Hoghaug Library, which recently underwent a renovation to add a "learning commons" atmosphere. Learning commons share space for information technology, remote or online education, tutoring, collaboration, meetings, reading, study, and more.

That is exactly why stu-

dents flock to the the new Learning Commons.

Eric Johnston, who tutors students, holds study sessions in one of the smaller, private study rooms. Equipped with a whiteboard and a large monitor that shares his computer screen, he's able to interact with students needing assistance with their coursework.

"Students are seeking areas to collaborate on team projects," said LRSC President Doug Darling. "They want to work on assignments with the resources they need right at hand, a place to feel comfortable and relaxed."

The 13,655 square feet of space were renovated and then updated with new fixtures, furnishings, technology, and learning materials. The last library renovation took place in

1995 when the college took part of South Hall (a men's residence hall) and converted it into library space.

"That renovation was right after the college's fiftieth anniversary. It just so happens that this renovation took place after our seventy-fifth anniversary," said Elonda Nord, Executive Director of the Community College Foundation.

Elonda also chaired the renovation project committee while she served as interim library director.

An open house and ribbon-cutting took place May 3. Students, staff, and community members arrived to tour the renovated space and had the opportunity to try out some of the latest technologies being used by faculty and students.

A large portion of the project was funded with a grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation.

The new LRSC Learning Commons includes

- two private study rooms;
- three individual study booths;
- a community classroom with Smart Board;
- a recording, video, and editing studio;
- fourteen desktop computers available in the Learning Commons;
- twelve laptops available for checkout;
- multiple stations for students to use laptops;

(LRSC unveils new Learning Commons, continued on page 3)

What an opportunity!

Do you want to make a difference in someone's future?

Recently, we were fortunate to hear our Student Senate president, Adrianna Bibeau, speak to us about the impact scholarships had for her during her two years at LRSC. She was able to focus on her studies and other extracurricular activities without the additional worry of earning money to help pay for her education.

Effective July 1, 2017, the North Dakota Legislature once again extended the Higher Education Challenge Match to colleges and universities throughout North Dakota.

This is the third round of match funding provided by the ND Legislature, and LRSC is eligible to receive up to \$200,000 for scholarships or program support. This challenge fund encourages giving by providing a fifty-percent match for qualifying gifts.

Rules for accessing the match remain much the same. There is a priority for endowed gifts meaning that the gift itself is never spent; only the earnings are distributed.

Establishing a new endowment is easy! It requires a commitment of \$15,000, and the Challenge Match will provide \$5,000 of that commitment. As in past campaigns, gifts may be pledged and paid over five years. Gifts to existing endowments are

(What an opportunity!, continued on page 4)



On hand at the ribbon-cutting for the new LRSC Learning Commons (l-r) Adrianna Bibeau-Student Senate President; Laurel Goulding-CCF Executive Director, retired; Lloyd Halvorson-VP for Academic and Student Affairs; Paula Vistad-Director, Devils Lake Area Chamber of Commerce; Erin Wood-Public Affairs Director; Dr. Doug Darling-LRSC President; Elonda Nord-CCF Executive Director; Sheila Collins-Paul Hoghaug Library Director; and Jan Kurtz-President, CCF Board of Directors.

New named endowments

An endowment is a wonderful gift that lasts forever! More than 150 endowments have been established by individuals or families wishing to support scholarships or programs at LRSC. A gift of \$15,000 or larger is required to establish a new endowment. Once the funds have been invested for a year, the cash earnings are awarded annually to support the scholarship or educational program of the donor's choice. The following endowments are new:

■ **Robert and JoEllen Hall Endowment**—Robert and JoEllen were both born and raised in the agricultural community of Munich, North Dakota. After they were married, JoEllen ambitiously attended classes at LRSC while they raised a family of three. Her accounting background served her well; she recently retired after 28 years at an insurance agency in Munich. Robert, also retired, worked for Cavalier County for 28 years. JoEllen appreciated LRSC for providing a good transition from a small high school to college. Cost savings were also a factor in her choice to attend LRSC. She and Robert decided they would like to assist others who want to earn college degrees. They established this endowment to support exemplary students attending LRSC who have financial need.

■ **John and Ruth Haugland Endowment**—John and Ruth (Sinness) Haugland believed the path to success and happiness in both their personal and professional lives was through education. They instilled that belief in their three daughters who were all fortunate to earn college educations, and the importance of education has now been passed on to the next generation. John and Ruth's fathers immigrated from Norway, and their mothers were born in Dakota Territory. John practiced law in Devils Lake and is remembered in the Hall of Fame for his ability to facilitate large donations to support LRSC. This endowment was established in their honor to assist students to achieve the knowledge needed to be successful in their endeavors.

■ **Darwin and Ruth Kenner Endowment**—Darwin and Ruth (Dokken) Kenner raised cattle, grain, six daughters, and three sons on a farm west of Devils Lake. Both came from large Norwegian families. Darwin grew up in Devils Lake and was a member of the first class of students to attend our college in 1941 before serving in the U.S. Army during WWII. Ruth was raised in Towner, North Dakota, but had strong ties to the Lake Region. Although neither had much opportunity for formal education beyond high school, both were ardent supporters. Several of their children and grandchildren have attended LRSC, and their son, Corry, has been the vice president for Administrative Services since 1984. This endowment was established in their honor to provide an opportunity to students with desire and ability but without adequate financial means.

■ **Maurice and Carol Olson Endowment**—Maurice and Carol were both born and raised in the Devils Lake area. Maurice became a farmer, and Carol—one of the very early students of LRSC—became a farm wife. She was also a true “Rosie the Riveter” during WWII, working on the P-38 Lightning for Lockheed. Their three children, Jay, Allen, and Paula (Ramsey), were raised in the agricultural tradition, and Jay and Allen both attended LRSC. Jay eventually became a Farm Management instructor at LRSC, a position he held for forty years. The family established this endowment to provide scholarship opportunities for students interested in furthering their education in the field of agriculture.

■ **Toofawn Simhai Memorial Endowment**—Toofawn Simhai, a tenacious, loving, life-long learner, was deeply devoted to her family and fascinated by computers and technology. Toofawn hails from Suffield Connecticut. She met the love of her life, Faramarz Simhai, when she was eighteen, and they moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, and then Devils Lake where they celebrated 46 years of marriage, raised two children (Rostam and Mina), and she spent the rest of her life. Toofawn graduated from LRSC and went on to earn her BBA summa cum laude and MBA, both from UND. For almost twenty years, Toofawn worked at



From the desk of
Doug Darling
 President
 Lake Region State College

Dear Lake Region State College Friends,

Dr. Seuss once said in one of his books, “The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”

Students in our Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society experienced that this year when they participated in a variety of community service projects, like many of our campus organizations do.

I reference Phi Theta Kappa because one of their service projects took place in the Collinson Room within our new Learning Commons which is featured on the front page. The students created a Harry Potter escape room activity, presenting students with a critical thinking activity. In the process, they raised awareness of our PTK chapter and raised money to support its many activities. And they brought students and new patrons into the college’s Learning Commons.

Many of you may remember author Robert Fulgrum’s famous credo, “ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten.” I would agree that we received our foundation in kindergarten, but as individuals, we never should stop seeking knowledge and learning. Life sometimes gives us lessons we’re not expecting. People around us at work, home, or other situations do, as well. These lessons may be positive or negative, they may cause joy or sadness, but they always create an opportunity to learn and grow.

The new Learning Commons provides people an environment to learn and grow, whether accessing resources, creating video, holding a group discussion, taking community classes, and more.

My hope is that our students will embrace the new atmosphere the Learning Commons offers, and I hope they and all who are reading this issue of Branches continue to seek knowledge through lifelong learning.

I invite you all to visit our Learning Commons area and see all Lake Region State College offers.

Have a great summer!


 Doug Darling, Ph.D.

Courtyard revival

Have you been on the LRSC campus lately and seen the beautiful new windows surrounding the courtyard?

Workers installed the new windows during fall semester, and for the rest of the school year sunshine has been streaming through to the Student Union and hallways warming our souls on chilly winter afternoons.

The courtyard windows are wonderful (see photo on page 4), but now, as one looks out into the courtyard itself, it's easy to see that we need to provide some additional love and care for the landscape.

A re-design process was begun during the college's 75th anniversary celebration when we asked alumni and friends to honor the college's history of education and service by purchasing landscaping bricks. The bricks will be engraved with the donor's name(s) or as memorials or honorariums, and they will be displayed as part of a new design element within the courtyard.

We're currently in the landscape design phase of this exciting project. New retaining walls for flowerbeds will be added as well

as pathways and lighting. Additional foundation plantings, a hosta garden, and possibly an herb garden may be added. A new fountain and a brick patio are also being considered.

Our vision is to hold both student and community events in the courtyard. Imagine a string quartet playing as guests enjoy the beautiful surroundings during a garden party. Or students and community members studying the plants in the microclimate created within the walls of the courtyard. Imagine a group of students simply sitting outdoors enjoying the warmth of the spring sunshine on their faces.

As we continue with the courtyard re-design, we invite you to help by adding a brick or by providing your time, your talent(s), or financial support. And then we hope you'll drop in for a visit to enjoy nature's beauty!

To learn more about the Buy-A-Brick project, contact the Foundation Office at (701) 662-1520. ■

(LRSC unveils new Learning Commons, *continued from page 1*)

- a big screen TV;
- large volumes of e-books;
- a color printer;
- two height-adjustable desks;
- new reading areas; and
- many shelves of books, reference materials, and past issues of magazines in the back which are available for students, faculty, staff, and community members to browse and check out.

New types of technology continue to be added. Fall semester students will enjoy virtual reality equipment. A digital art display will be added, and student art projects will be displayed throughout the school year. Periodically, visiting artists and authors will be featured. Learning Commons patrons will also enjoy an electronic information center.

Plan to stop in and visit with Sheila, the library director. Get a feel for our new Learning Commons and see how LRSC has responded to changing technology. We think you're going to like it! ■

Meet our new CCF President

"I was honored to be elected president of the Community College Foundation effective January 2018. I had been involved with the foundation prior to this, but I had a desire to serve on the executive board because I have a passion for LRSC.

"My background with LRSC goes way back to my childhood when my father, Clarence Laber, worked with the college in several capacities. I recall that LRSC was ahead of other higher ed institutions in many ways: handicapped accessibility throughout the entire campus, availability of vocational and academic classes, the excellence and commitment of its faculty and staff, and its commitment to offering financial assistance. I firmly believe that today LRSC still provides excellence in higher education.

"The Community College Foundation is vital for financial support. Established in 1959, the foundation has 501(c)(3) status with the IRS and accepts gifts on behalf of LRSC. Its board of directors is committed to good stewardship and works hard to direct support to the areas of greatest need. Support can be provided for scholarships, instructional programs, construction or renovations, athletics, faculty development programs, and community and legislative advocacy. There are many levels of investing, including the Named Endowment



Program, estate planning, and undesignated one-time donations for scholarships and programs. The foundation also accepts donations of time and talent. Many special events, such as the annual Key Event, are made possible with the help of volunteers.

"A special opportunity has been provided by the North Dakota Legislature. Learn how your gift to LRSC can be increased through the Higher Education Challenge Match (What an opportunity, page 1.) As you will see, now is the perfect time to consider an investment in education!

"Please enjoy this edition of *Branches*, and don't hesitate to contact me with questions, donations, or suggestions you may have. I am committed to LRSC and its foundation and look forward to the coming months!

"Thank you,"

Jan Kurtz, CCF President

The challenge? Find all seven Horcruxes

Rid the Wizarding World of He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named once and for all

Oh, and get it done in less than fifty minutes. That was the premise of the temporary Harry Potter Escape Room at LRSC. Fittingly, a student from England was the genius behind the design.

Harvey Barr, known to many as the 7'1" center for the Royals basketball team is fascinaed by Harry Potter, and thus, the Harry Potter Escape Room. Harvey packed the room with enough Harry Potter clues and challenges to make it great fun!

If you're a Harry Potter fan, check out the study abroad opportunity coming next summer (see page 6). Special side trips will feature Harry Potter-themed locations.

Because the Collinson Room, where the



(L-r) Harvey Barr, Nic Fassos, and Evan Stack created an awesome Harry Potter escape room.

adventure began is in the college library, players also had the opportunity to check out the new Learning Commons. ■

(What an opportunity!, *continued from page 1*)

also eligible for the match, so this is a wonderful time to strengthen previous gifts. In addition, North Dakota continues to allow a forty-percent tax credit to eligible North Dakota residents.

Match dollars will be provided for endowed gifts, but smaller gifts are also eligible. Gifts of all sizes are welcome and will provide support for scholarships or instructional programming as designated by the donors!

If you're interested in learning more about how you can help a student at LRSC, please contact us at (701) 662-1520. The Challenge Match program will expire on December 31, 2018, so don't delay. Take time today to help a student at LRSC. ■

Mark your calendars

The 2018 Key Event is set for November 2, 2018. Make plans now to attend the biggest party in the Lake Region!

(New named endowments, *continued from page 2*)

LRSC as Chief Information Officer. She valued innovation and worked tirelessly to keep LRSC on the cutting edge of technology. Toofawn loved helping people fulfill their potential and was passionate about the importance of education. Her son, Rostam, attended LRSC, and both he and daughter Mina went on to earn graduate degrees. Toofawn gave so much of herself to LRSC during her life that it seemed natural to her family to create this endowment. Scholarships will be awarded to exemplary students, with a preference for women who demonstrate interest in IT or computer science.

■ **Tabert Family Endowment**—Ed and Georgene Tabert arrived in Devils Lake in 1962 when Ed purchased Lake Region Sheet Metal. They raised a family of three—Dianne (Dennis) Lunde, Duane (Myrna), and Mark (Eileen)—who grew up in the Lake Region. Duane and Mark eventually became owners and operators of Lake Region Sheet Metal and Depot Stor-All. This endowment was established by the family to provide scholarships to exemplary students attending LRSC. They agree that "giving back to this community is important to all of us."

See what we have to offer!

LRSC is committed to being a progressive and diverse institution as it prepares students for success in a rapidly changing local, national, and world community. We offer unique and varied programs which will provide students with exciting job opportunities and advanced positions of responsibility. Enroll in one of these exciting programs of study:

■ **Associate in Arts/Associate in Science**—Universities throughout the country are transfer-friendly. It's not uncommon for AA and AS degrees to be accepted as a block of study in place of specific first- and second-year course requirements

■ **American Sign Language and Interpreting Studies**—Interpreters are needed in a wide variety of settings including education, medical, human service, legal, and performance arts.

■ **Automotive Technology**—Work in a variety of fields in the industry including dealerships, independent shops, and service centers.

■ **Business Administration**—Prepare to transfer for a baccalaureate degree after completing this AA program which provides a broad understanding of finance, management, and marketing. Students may focus on accounting, marketing, or management.

■ **Early Childhood Education**—Learn to work with children in childcare facilities, recreation centers, schools, private homes, and children's institutions.

■ **Farm Management**—Designed to provide farmers with the opportunity to gather information and develop the skills they need to keep pace in the rapidly advancing technology of production agriculture.

■ **Fitness Trainer Technician**—Play an invaluable role in promoting healthy living through proper nutrition and physical activity.

■ **Information Technology**—Acquire the business application and technical skills needed for entry-level

positions in a wide array of business settings.

■ **Law Enforcement**—A common requirement for advancement in law enforcement careers.

■ **Marketing**—Prepare for exciting jobs in sales, digital marketing, and marketing management.

■ **Nursing**—Begin a challenging career in nursing and learn to care for patients in a variety of health care settings such as hospitals and long-term care facilities.

■ **Peace Officer Training**—A rigorous one-semester program to prepare for employment as a peace officer in North Dakota.

■ **Precision Agriculture**—The demand on farmers to continuously produce more food, fiber, fuel, and pharmaceuticals for the world has made it necessary that they become more efficient by using various forms of precision ag technologies.

■ **Simulation Technology**—Learn to troubleshoot, repair, and maintain electronic and mechanical components of simulators used in pilot training, entertainment, and other applications.

■ **Speech Language Pathology Paraprofessional**—Become a school-based paraprofessional. Learn to administer speech language screenings and carry out therapeutic tasks.

■ **Wind Energy Technician**—Rapid industry growth has sparked a growing need for technicians. It takes one highly trained technician to maintain and repair ten wind turbines.

Helping students succeed is our number one priority. LRSC offers educational outreach and life-long learning opportunities that encourage our students to reach beyond their limitations.

Enroll today and take the first step toward a lifetime of success!



Students arrived from across the US and around the world to attend LRSC. Above, Hawaiian students shared their customs with onlookers during a cultural exchange event. At right, a student from "Down Under" celebrated Australia Day.



Kelsey Schlenk (see story at right) was inducted into the LRSC Athletic Hall of Fame by Athletic Director Danny Mertens during the Hocus Pocus Key Event in October.

At right, Auto Tech faculty and students proudly showcase this complete automotive assembly. It was constructed last summer by faculty member Rick McAllister and is used for instruction as well as recruitment.



LRSC

The year in photos

It's been an exciting and fun-filled

Top, left—Members of LRSC's volleyball team. Here, two young Royals in waiting hang out

Precision agriculture students work with dairy business operations. Upper left—Students visit out to the field test plots.

Left—Beautiful energy-efficient windows in the courtyard creating a new and improved view. A new building is under the works. To learn more, see Courtyard renovation

Above—Seven DECA students from LRSC participated in a business competition in Washington DC. They competed in front of Senator Heidi Heitkamp at the White House and the Pentagon on the National Mall.

The LRSC Precision Ag program is growing corn on its 40-acre test plot. The school's president of Academic and Student Services took the corn harvester on a tour of the field to work and progress.

Students in the Fitness Training program participate in some of the activities that promote health. At right, a student checked his





A visit to the John Deere Museum and Tractor Assembly Plant in Waterloo, Iowa, was a high point for Precision Ag students.



Wind Energy students climbed to the top of the college's wind turbine. Below is the Polaris they use to reach the wind tower when snowdrifts are deep.



Each year, student nurses hold a pediatrics lab, and pre-schoolers from College Care for Kids participate. This little girl had her hearing tested by a student nurse.

Year at Lake Region State College.

Team opened up sessions for Future Royals. t with the student athletes.

ones as an integral part of farming and agri- worked on calibrating a drone before heading

were installed surrounding the campus court- much-needed landscaping project is now in vival page 3.

attended the International DECA Confer- various events and were able to meet , tour the U.S. Capitol Building, visit tagon, and tour monuments at the

gram planted, tended, and harvested north of the campus. At right, vice Student Affairs, Lloyd Halvorson, a few rounds to check the students'

iner Technician program showcase take place in a day of a trainer. At s oxygen level after a brief workout.



Housing Director Scott Dunbar brought a new friend to school. Loki, at right, quickly became a favorite of everyone on campus.



New to Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame was unveiled in June of 1991 as part of the college's fiftieth anniversary. Planners were seeking a way to publicly appreciate those who had invested their time and energy, talents, and resources in the college over the years. We were pleased to induct Lee Ann Johnston and Kelsey Schlenk into the LRSC during the 2017 Hocus Pocus Key Event.

■ Lee Ann Johnston—Growing up in the Lake Region, Lee Ann (Tabor) Johnston was familiar with the local community college. But in 2001, as a first-time member of the planning committee working to organize a fundraising gala—the Key Event—Lee Ann began to develop a new and deeper understanding of the mission of Lake Region State College and its foundation. She could see how funds raised at the Key Event directly impacted the lives of students. After working for a couple of Key Events, she welcomed the opportunity to serve on the board of directors for the Community College Foundation. She embraced her board member role, assisting with fundraising and advocacy projects to advance the college and foundation. Lee Ann's first six-year term on the board concluded in 2008. After a required one-year absence, she was elected to serve a second six-year term. This depth of experience prepared Lee Ann to step into important leadership roles, including two years as board president at a time when the foundation and college faced special challenges—the search for a new LRSC president, legislative advocacy for an improved college budget, and quiet nudging of the legislature to create the Challenge Match fund.

Lee Ann remembers, "When we learned the legislature had funded the Challenge Match, I was excited, but also apprehensive. How could we ever raise two million dollars in eighteen months? But we did it, by trying one strategy after another—a quilt raffle, a motorcycle raffle, tile parties, Giving Hearts, Royal Social—it all helped to get people excited. We each made our own commitment, and then we asked our friends. And it worked!"

Reflecting on eighteen (and counting) years of foundation involvement, including twelve years on the board of directors, Lee Ann explained, "Meeting grateful students and talented staff has been my reward. My husband, Terry, went to school here, and my kids, Ashley, Ali, and Tory, took classes, but it wasn't until I got involved with the foundation that I really came to understand the powerful positive impact this college has on individuals and on our community."

The Community College Foundation and LRSC are grateful that Lee Ann chose to invest her time and talents working to provide the keys that open doors to educational opportunities for students of today and tomorrow.

■ Kelsey Schlenk—Qualifying for national tournaments is a once in a lifetime event for many, but for LRSC graduate Kelsey Schlenk it happened four times!

"She was the first athlete I made a home visit to and the first to sign and commit with me as head coach," says Danny Mertens, athletic director and head women's basketball coach. Kelsey played golf and women's basketball at LRSC. The East Grand Forks, Minnesota, native came to study nursing and to be a Royal.

"It was a great honor to represent Lake Region at four national tournaments. I met a ton of people from across the country, and it was an experience of a lifetime. Attending Lake Region was the best decision I've ever made!"

As a golfer for LRSC in 2015, Kelsey was a medalist in five of six tournaments. She was a medalist in the Region XIII tournament, making her the first LRSC golfer, male or female, to reach that milestone. Her accomplishments qualified her for the national tournament in Mesa, Arizona, where she finished 91st overall. Her success continued in 2016 when she medaled in three of five tournaments and was runner-up in the Region XIII tournament, qualifying for the national tournament in Daytona Beach, finishing 77th overall.

As a member of the 2014-2015 Lady Royals basketball

(New to Hall of Fame, continued on page 7)

In the news

■ Dr. Betsy Banner, associate professor of chemistry online, recently completed training to become a certified Solar System Ambassador. The Solar System Ambassador program is a public engagement effort organized by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. They coordinate motivated volunteers who communicate the science and excitement of NASA's space exploration missions and discoveries. Betsy will host NASA-related events in the Milwaukee area and also in North Dakota. *"I look forward to hosting family-friendly NASA Trivia Nights and children's moon-mapping classes, as well as lectures on topics from NASA's space telescopes and probes to recent discoveries related to planets, stars, and black holes,"* she says. Betsy holds a Ph.D. in Adult/Continuing Education and a Master's in Analytical Chemistry. International speaking engagements and research interests include global trends in higher ed and motivation of online learners.



Dr. Betsy Banner

■ Congrats to Oybek Turayev, Precision Agriculture instructor at LRSC. Oybek successfully defended his doctoral dissertation and passed his oral examinations for a Ph.D. in Teaching and Learning from UND with emphasis in Higher Education and Curriculum Development. He also has a Master's in Agricultural Education and Crop Production. Oybek was born and raised in Uzbekistan where agriculture was always a big part of his life. His father and uncle operated a poultry farm. To learn more about poultry farming, Oybek took part in young farmers exchange program through the University of Minnesota. When he returned to his home country, he worked to share all he had learned with the local farmers. He chose to come back to the U.S. to study at NDSU, combining agriculture and education. After being employed by Pioneer Seeds, Monsanto, and Germains Seed Technology, he joined the Precision Agriculture team at LRSC and teaches soil science and other subjects. Oybek has a passion for agriculture and for education. *"I like smaller colleges. I believe they are able to offer more opportunities to students in a personal way,"* he says.



Dr. Oybek Turayev

■ The end of an era came with the retirement of one of LRSC's staffers who's been a fixture for decades. Juast last year, Janice Eback was honored for thirty-five years of service. Now, on the day of commencement, Jan retired. During her time at the college, she served the bottomless appetites of college students and did housekeeping work between semesters. *"Jan has always been dependable,"* says Rose Seibel, Dining Services director. *"She had fun with the faculty and students."* Some of that fun came about when Jan created the McJan, a made-to-order breakfast sandwich that helped add a signature style to 70 breakfasts on a normal morning out of 200 meals a day. That easily adds up to over a million meals served with the industrial efficiency of major fast food franchises ... except with more home-cooked style. Every day, Jan made sure things were ready to go by seven a.m., well before the first students came through before classes. What kept her getting up early all these years? The people, she said with a smile.



Jan Eback

2017/2018 a busy year for Playmakers Drama Club

Playmakers opened its season with its own rendition of the classic tragedy *Medea* by Euripides. Theater Program Director Casey Paradies says it tasked their imaginations with props and costumes ... and most of all with storytelling. Heather Brown and Angelica Rodriguez each received Irene Ryan Scholarship nominations for their performances. During the holidays, the group worked both on stage and backstage with the Presbyterian Church's reading of the Christmas play, *A Candle in the Window*, directed by Casey.

In January, the Playmakers headed to the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival. The students competed for Irene Ryan Scholarships and did a lovely job. Upon their return, they presented the comedy *Dearly Departed*. Heather Brown once

again received a nomination for her performance as well as Kaitlyn Halvorson.

The Playmakers were happy to take in opening night of the national tour of *Kinky Boots* and even got to meet the star. They did some community service with Firehall Theatre in Grand Forks, and as payment, they will attend a preview of *Fiddler on the Roof*, directed and choreographed by Casey.

The group was also quite a hit at last fall's *Hocus Pocus* Key Event where they appeared as characters ranging from Wednesday Addams to Shaggy and Scooby Doo. They also created a very successful murder mystery as a fundraiser for the club which was sold on the Opportunities Auction.

Anticipation is high for next year's activities with more creative endeavors to pursue. ■

Opportunity found

When describing the events of the past few years, one quickly concludes that MorningStar Bjornson is a strong person with goals. Devoted to making a difference and a better life, MorningStar has persevered over the challenges she's faced.

She dropped out during her junior year of high school. Hanging with the wrong crowd, MorningStar made some poor life choices and lost focus on her studies. It didn't take long for her to find out that being independent and on her own as a teenager wasn't easy. *"I was eighteen and on my own. It was a struggle at times. I tried going back to school twice,"* she said.

In 2014, MorningStar added the job title of parent when her little boy was born. That was when she knew things really had to change. After discussions with family, school became a more realistic option. Her mom, Carla Bjornson, and friends urged her to earn a GED. *"It was finally time to get things together."*

Soon she was enrolled.

She studied from nine to noon every day. Her parents continued to support and encourage her, and in May 2017, she graduated earning the honor of Devils Lake Adult Learning Center Student of the Year.

"The Student of the Year award is designed to recognize outstanding students," said April Duchscher, director of the Adult Learning Center. *"This is an opportunity to identify students who have demonstrated excellent academic achievement while pursuing their diplomas."* Not only are they maintaining success in the classroom; they also balance many different aspects of life.

In the fall of 2017, MorningStar enrolled in classes at LRSC, finding opportunity with a college that, like a family, fosters students to grow and excel. College studies made her apprehensive at first. *"Change is a big thing. You're always scared of failing."*

But again, she is persevering, tackling her studies, working in the college bookstore, surrounding herself with advisors and

Dublin? London? Edinburgh?

Three European capital cities all in one trip?

The 2019 LRSC Study Abroad trip features time in each of the cities, giving travelers a "taste" of the British Isles and its culture. All in ten days!

The trip has a dual focus. First are the artifacts and art associated with Humanities Survey classes, from pre-civilization to modern times. Stonehenge, the Rosetta Stone, mummies, and more, as well as artists (*Hogarth, Holbein, van Eyck*) and authors (*Joyce, Burns, Swift, and Rowlings*). Yes, Rowlings, as in J. K. Rowlings of *Harry Potter* fame! Special side trips will feature Harry Potter-themed events. One of the stops will be Platform 9¾ at King's Cross Station. The highlight will be an afternoon at the actual Warner Brothers Studio for Harry Potter.

Experience all the sights (Big Ben, double decker busses), sounds (Irish music, Scottish accents), and cuisine (Irish Stew, fish and chips) found on any tour of the British islands.

For more details, contact Teresa.Tande@lrsc.edu or check out the full itinerary and costs at <http://www.efcst.com/2083416AZ>. ■



MorningStar Bjornson

faculty who encourage her, and creating a foundation and future for her son. *"I look at him and think about his future. I want to be able to support myself and him."*

MorningStar plans to earn her associate's degree and then transfer to a university to focus on studies in social work. ■

Lady Royals & Royals news



Fifty-four LRSC student-athletes have been recognized as Mon-Dak Athletic Conference Scholars for getting it done on the court or field and in the classroom with cumulative GPAs of 3.00 or higher. LRSC and Dawson Community College, Glendive, Montana, were tied in the lead with 54 students apiece. Congratulations to Ryan Alain, Harvey Barr, Adrianna Bibeau, Carly Boe, Jordan Bolton, Brett Boudreau, R'ionna Brocks, Nicholas Brooks, Shay'Lee Dayman, Rylan D'Etcheverrey, Madison Eriksson, Nik Fassos, Michael Fitzpatrick, Madison Foss, Eric Gilbertson, Maggie Gilbertson, Maren Gullick-

son, Jake Hanson, Kyle Henningsgard, Kayla Hinrichson, Nick Hoyt, Bryce Hunt, Alex Jinda, Annie Jorgenson, Erin Jorgenson, Kendra Karl, Karly Kennelly, Jayden Komrosky, Kevin Krumm, Baily Lam-po, Elizabeth Lucy, Cherie Malacas, Grantley Mildenhall, Tarick Morris, Maara Nelson, Kendall Parker, Blake VanLerberg-Patterson, Emma Poehls, Ashley Quam, Harry Reemst, Tyler Renken, Jaeleon Roberts, Emily Schafer, Sadie Schilling, Gina Selfe, Kylie Skadsem, Carly Standing Ready, Brody Stark, Amber Stewart, Caitlyn Stuart, Landyn Swenson, Drew Thielges, Zoe Willis Wildman, and Justin Young. ■

(New to Hall of Fame, *continued from page 5*)

team, she helped lead her team to a 27-6 record. The team won the Mon-Dak Conference and was champion of Region XIII and District D, qualifying for the national tournament. Kelsey was also recognized as a member of the All Mon-Dak Conference Academic Team. During her next season, the Lady Royals repeated the previous year's success, going 26-8, Mon-Dak Conference and Region XIII champs, District D champs, and national tournament qualifier. Kelsey also repeated as a member of the All Mon-Dak Academic team.

Throughout her studies at LRSC, Kelsey has excelled as much in the classroom as on the court or course. She was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, LRSC's honor society, and found time to give back to the community participating in five Samaritan's Feet shoe drives, volunteering at the Key Event, and participating in reading to elementary school students. She also spent one year as a student assistant for women's basketball while completing her nursing studies.

Today, Kelsey is a registered nurse working with Altru Health System in Grand Forks. She's continuing her education through the Mayville State University RN-BSN online program. She hopes to advance even further one day with a master's in nursing. Congratulations, Kelsey!

ing others rebuild their lives as well as their homes.

LRSC's group of ten was there for eight days raking lawns, doing roofing, and getting dirty on demolition and community clean-up. They even restored a Little League baseball park that was damaged by the hurricanes.

"There is something so humbling about being a part of something so big!" said Shaun Prince, club advisor. "When you worship in the morning and at the end of the day with more than three thousand people—All there to serve God and others—it changes your life forever." ■

Eight Days of Hope



CRU volunteers: I-r, Kaleb Spragg, Caitlyn Stuart, Johannes Wahle, Patrick Lang, Erin Nelson, Ricky Jorgenson, Alysha Moser, Shaun Prince (Advisor), Logan Clay, and Shelby Jorgenson

Volunteers from Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU), an LRSC club, traveled to hurricane-stricken Houston during Eight Days of Hope XIV-XV. It was an amazing fifteen days! Here is a quick update on what was accomplished.

A total of 4,692 volunteers from forty-eight states and seven countries served 844 families. More than four hundred family homes were rebuilt and other projects completed. The number of projects completed—1,251—was more than three times what has been accomplished in the past! More than four

hundred families had yard work, landscaping, and/or debris clean-up. Some received free furniture and/or appliances. A total of 302,100 volunteer hours were donated. Combining volunteer hours before and during the fifteen days, the cost of materials purchased, and furniture and appliances given away, about \$10.4 million dollars of work was accomplished!

Countless volunteers and homeowners made commitments of faith during this outreach! So many could not believe that college students would choose to spend spring break help-

LRSC holds 76th commencement ceremony

Outstanding students were honored at LRSC's 76th annual commencement exercise, May 11, 2018. Nearly 300 students graduated with certificates, diplomas, and/or degrees.

Harvey Barr, Adrianna Bibeau, Heather Brown, Rick Drury, Nicholas Fassos, Erin Nelson, Emily Schafer, and Evan Stack were named *Who's Who at Lake Region State College for 2018*.

Harvey Barr, Nicholas Fassos, and Evan Stack were named to the *All North Dakota Academic Team*. Heather Brown received the *Glenn H. Larson Memorial Drama Award*. Harvey Barr was awarded the *Richard D. Knoke Leadership Award*, and the *Writing Excellence Award* was also presented to Harvey Barr.

Congratulations to all graduates! ■

In memory

A memorial gift is a lasting tribute and a meaningful way to honor loved ones. Since January 1, 2017, the Community College Foundation has received gifts in memory of the following:

James Ackerman, Gene V. Albrecht, Lloyd Albrecht, Sander Ambers, Lester N. Anderson, Wesley Asleson, Sr., Steven Baker, James H. Beatty, Fredrick L. Berdal, Carl Bloomquist, Dale Bloomquist, Duane A Bokn, Joe Bosh, Edith M. "Edie" Brown, Gary Brueckner, Loretta Margaret Buchmeier, Hilda Buckmeier, Shane Burthold, Irma Carter, Mary Ann Cavanaugh, Blair J. "Corkey" Chapman, Eloise Christianson, James Crane, Phyllis Dahl, Barbara Dahlen, Ervin Docket, Marie M. Dooley, Daniel Curtis Duncan, Alf B. Dybing, Jeffrey "Jungle" Engelhorn, Delores Fagerlund, Norris Fagerlund, Virgil Feather, Genevieve Ann Foss, Jeff Fosse, Helen Foughty, Howard "Bud" Gabbert, Ted Gathman, Ella Gebhard, Barbara Gefroh, Susan Gefroh, Delores Gereszek, Mary Elizabeth Longie Goodell, John Grann, Sr., Savannah LaFontaine Greywind, Sandra Hall, Earl Hanson, James Dale "Skinny" Hanson, Renil M. Hanson, William C. Harrington, Dorothy Haugen, Jayson Haugen, John Haugland, Nicole Henke, Dean Hermanson, Ken Hietala, Guy Hildremyr, Lula Mae Hinderscheit, Curtis L. Hofstad, John Holznaegel, Kari Janae Hoover, Jared Horejsi, Perry Horner, Donald Howe, Faye Huffman, Merle L. Huhner, Aqueleia Jaeger, Ruth Kenner, Dorothy Kitterman, Gunda "Connie" Koble, Muriel Kopecky, Dorothy Kosobud, Tadashi Kuno, Douglas A. Kurtz, Timothy Kurtz, S. G. Lindy Lange, Byron Langley, Glenn Lannoye,

Scott Larson, Colleen Learned, Fredrick R. Lehmann, Richard Little, Jonathan Lommen, Robert Lord, Anna Lucille Hennessy, Maxine Lysne, Rick C. Lysne, Janet Magnusson, Doris Martinson, Bud Matejcek, Mildred Matejcek, Carl McKay, Brooklyn Isobel McManus, Marcee Mertens, Adeline Miller, Allen Miller, Betty Moen, Douglas E. Mootz, Roberta Mundahl, Howard Oakland, Jeanet Carol Oji, John Olderbak, Carol Olson, Joyce Olson, Janice Orness, Wayne Owens, Phyllis Papachek, Melinda M. "Lindy" Pare, Marilyn Pederson, Mary Jane Pershke, Jerry Peters, Tommy Peterson, Glenda Kay Poitevint, Maurice Railing, Shirley L. Ray, Douglas G. Rerrick, Grace Ringdahl, Donald Ripplinger, Frank Ritterman, Emma Rognlin, John P. Rutten, Marcella Sackenreuter, Luella Schafer, Gordon "Bumpy" Schmid, Helen Schottenbauer, James Schroeder, Donald Schulz, Charles D. Schumacher, Jerry R. Seibel, Charles W. Shipley, Randy Shirek, Stephany Shirek, Toofawn Simhai, Ramona Sletten, Beverly "Ducky" Smith, Irene Steffan, Shirley Stein, Ed Stoltman, Irene Streifel, Dallas Sturlaugson, Betty Swartz, LaVonne Tabor, George Thompson, Mary Thompson, Jean Tofsrud, James Toso, Gordon Tostenon, Larry Tostenon, Wendall Uthke, H. Kent Wakeford, Dr. Adolf Walser, Judith Walswick, Peter Wang, Raymond H. Weed, Vernon Wieland, Delores Zahradka, and Leonard Ziegler. ■

About this newsletter

This is the 44th issue of Branches, a project of Lake Region State College and its foundation, the Lake Region Community College Foundation of Devils Lake ND. This twice-a-year newsletter helps us stay in touch with our friends and alumni. We need your help finding members of the LRSC family who are not yet on our mailing list. Please give us a call at (701) 662-1520 or 1800-443-1313. You may also write to LRSC. foundation@LRSC.edu.

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LRSC Precision Ag Program presents

Damian Mason



Ag: Trends, Topics & Tomorrow

An insightful and entertaining look at current issues impacting the “F” words of agriculture.

Thursday, June 28, 2018 | Tickets \$40 | (701) 662-1600

- Evening events:
- 4pm plot tours at DPAC 40 next to NDTC
 - 5pm Social in Dining Room
 - 6pm Dinner in Dining Room
 - 7pm Presentation in Auditorium

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