

USI's "Mr. Fix-It" honored

Ross Hettenbach, lead maintenance mechanic in the Physical Plant, received well-deserved recognition when he was presented with the 2009 Support Staff Performance Recognition Award at the Support Staff luncheon on August 11.

Established in 2007, the award "recognizes extraordinary professional contributions and quality service of support staff and their integral role in advancing the University's mission and fulfilling its promise in preparing students to live wisely." It includes a \$500 prize, recognition in *USI Today* and on the Staff Council Web site, and a traveling trophy.

In nominating him for the award, Hettenbach's colleagues cited his responsiveness, expertise, and positive attitude. "Ross seems to be one of the most sought-after individuals on campus, yet somehow manages to be right where you need him, when you need him," one wrote.

Others were similarly complimentary:

"Ross is USI's personal Mr. Fix-it. There is no job too big or too small; it seems he can do it all."

"Ross understands the concept of team work and combines two concepts that all too often are not found together: hard work and a friendly attitude."

"Because of Ross's work ethic and personality, he has a way of getting everything done somehow, someway."

Hettenbach joined USI in 1985. As lead maintenance mechanic, he is responsible for electrical, plumbing, locksmith, painting, and general maintenance. He and his wife Susan have two grown sons and four grandchildren.

Also nominated for the Support Staff Award were **Marinea Gross, Billy Littlefield, Linda Dillbeck, Bonnie Scheller, Barbara Goodwin, Kay Myrick, Lucy Schenk, Wendy Lemons, Carol Diedrich, and Kim Reddington.**

Only full and part-time benefit-eligible support staff are eligible to nominate a support staff member for the award. Staff Council members cannot nominate a staff member or receive the award. Voting takes place April through June.

New G.I. Bill education benefit for veterans

A new education benefit for veterans with active duty service after September 10, 2001, is available through the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. The new benefit provides for tuition and fees, a monthly housing allowance, and a book stipend. Those eligible can begin using the benefit this month.

Andrew Zellers, assistant registrar at the University of Southern Indiana and the school's certifying official, said, "The new Post 9/11 G.I. Bill will greatly assist veterans in reaching their education goals. As it should, the new benefit now adequately honors those who served their country, and makes attending college possible for many who under previous benefit chapters would not have had the financial means of doing so."

The staff of USI Veterans Support Services is available to talk to veterans who have questions about the new benefit and assist with the application and approval process. They can also help with answering questions regarding eligibility and discuss the differences between the older benefit and the new benefit.

Zellers and Veterans Support Services are located in the Orr Center at USI and can be reached by email at vetaffrs@usi.edu or by calling 812/464-1857.

Education major interns in Lugar's Evansville office

Elementary education major **Amy Zenthoef** got an inside look at how education policies develop and move forward through a summer internship in the Evansville office of U.S. Senator **Richard Lugar.**

"We're trying to fill the need for the whole child," she said. "Children have to have their physical and emotional needs met before they can thrive in the classroom."

Zenthoef compiled information about resources that can help teachers increase parental involvement in their children's education or help parents find assistance with issues, such as housing or health, that may prevent their children from thriving at school. For instance, she recommends the National Dairy Council for its excellent materials on nutrition. Ultimately, her report may be used throughout the state.

Larry Ordner, director of Lugar's Southern Indiana office in Evansville, said "We are pleased to have Amy as our first intern from the Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services. Studies show that parent or family involvement makes a big difference in determining whether a student is able to reach his or her potential. As a result, Senator Lugar's office is working to put together a set of resources for schools and parents with ideas on how to increase parental engagement. As a student teacher and a parent herself, Amy brings a special expertise to this project. We are thrilled to have her."

In connection with her research, Zenthoef attended meetings with Evansville area school officials and staff members from Lugar's Washington office. She also worked closely with Georgiana Reynal of the senator's Indianapolis office.

A nontraditional student, Zenthoef has always wanted to be a teacher, following in the footsteps of her mother who taught for 30 years in Owensboro, Kentucky. Zenthoef's primary interest is middle school mathematics and science.

Her goal is to be prepared to teach by the time her youngest child enters kindergarten. She and her husband **Roger** have four children: **Devan, 17 Kayla, 9 Nathaniel, 4 and Samantha, 2.** The family lives in Haubstadt, Indiana.

"immanent blue" from seed to art

Artist **Rowland Ricketts** plants his art from seed. His exhibition "immanent blue" will open with a reception at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, August 22. The reception is free and open to the public. The exhi-

bition runs through Sunday, October 4.

Ricketts works exclusively with indigo dyes and dyed textiles. Using a process he learned while studying in Japan, he grows and cultivates his own indigo plants starting from seeds, ferments the leaves to create a pigment, and mixes it with ash and limestone and further ferments it to create a dye. Using centuries-old dyeing techniques, he transfers the plant's color to yarn and weaves it into cloth.

He apprenticed at two indigo dyeing farms in Tokushima, Japan, from 1996 to 1998 and then opened Ricketts Indigo Farming and Dying in Shimane, Japan from 2000 to 2003. Ricketts holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in East Asian Studies in 1993 from Wesleyan University, Connecticut and a Master of Fine Arts degree in fibers from Arrowmont School of Art and Craft in Tennessee.

He is currently an assistant professor at the Henry Radford Hope School of Fine Art at Indiana University in Bloomington. He has exhibited at the Malvern Artists Society in Malvern, Australia Dunedin Fine Arts Center in Florida The Textile Museum in Washington D.C. Snyderman-Works Gallery in New York Cavin-Morris Gallery in New York Hillsborough Community College, Ybor City in Tampa and Gallery Gen in New York.

The exhibition was made possible through the support of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana Arts Commission.

Ribbon-cutting and open house for Recreation, Fitness, and Wellness Center is September 3

Excitement is building across campus as students and employees anticipate the opening of the expanded Recreation, Fitness, and Wellness Center. A ribbon-cutting for the RFWC, at double its former size with an additional 44,000 square feet, will be held at 10:15 a.m. Thursday, September 3, followed by tours of the facility from staff and students. The department's annual Welcome Fun Fest, with food, games, and door prizes from 100 local vendors, will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. that day.

With lounges, flat-screen television sets, and a game room, the improved RFWC will be more than a place to work out. **Dave Enzler**, director, said he hopes the RFWC will be a place people come to "recreate themselves."

"It's a recreation center," he said. "People should do whatever they like to do to feel better and get rejuvenated. There are a lot of ways to do that: for some it's using the treadmill or weights, for others it's watching TV or playing video games."

A 3,860-square-foot lounge with lounge furniture, computer stations, café tables, and a large-screen television will greet students and employees as they enter the new RFWC. Enzler predicted the lounge will be "the place to see and be seen."

"This is a place to congregate, not just to work out, but to meet and socialize," he said. "Our hope is that the lounge will be an enticement to come in and work out. We've made it as user-friendly and inviting as we can. If we can get them into the building, maybe we can get them to cross the threshold."

An adjacent "quiet lounge" can be reserved by groups and organizations. In the new game room, students can play pool, foosball, table tennis, and video games (Xbox or Wii). The game room also will include café tables and a vending area.

The expanded RFWC was designed to attract new users, but also to satisfy dedicated ones. "We don't want it to be an intimidating place, but we also want to serve the hardcore exercisers. That's a challenge, and we think we've met the challenge," Enzler said.

Zach Ryder, a junior physical education major, is a regular user. He said, "During the school year, it'll be busy. It'll be a cool place to hang out when classes start. It'll be more of a place to go on cam-

pus to hang out."

The expanded RFWC has more exercise equipment, and almost all of it is new. There are 48 cardio machines (formerly, there were 26) and the first row is equipped with attached television monitors. From the rest of the machines, users can plug in headphones and choose from one of a dozen 52-inch television sets hanging from the ceiling. The entire line of Cybex weight machines is new, and there are areas dedicated to stretching and abdominal work adjacent to the cardio area and the track.

On the lower level, a third basketball court is available since the cardio and free weight areas were moved into the expanded area. There are twice as many stations in the free weight area, which includes all new weights and built-in benches and cubbies.

Those who enjoy group exercise classes will be pleased that the new RFWC offers two group exercise rooms, allowing for more classes. One of the new rooms holds a collection of brand new spinning bikes. A third room is outfitted with padded walls, speed bags, heavy bags, and mats.

The lower level offers access to the 33-foot-tall rock climbing tower, painted to resemble limestone bluffs near campus. The tower, surrounded by glass walls, can be viewed from all levels of the building. The climbing room is equipped with a padded floor and multi-colored lights that can be adjusted to mimic different times of day, and also includes a 12-foot-high bouldering wall for horizontal climbing. Climbers will be required to take a training course from RFWC staff.

Mick Ballart, a junior mathematics major, said he thinks the rock wall will be popular. "I'm looking forward to it," he said.

Students who want to get out into nature can check out tents, sleeping bags, backpacks, and lanterns from the RFWC. There is additional office space, a conference room, consultation rooms for personal training appointments, and more storage. Two more locker rooms will supplement the two already offered, and will be complete soon after the opening.

The groundbreaking for the \$7.75 million expansion was held in April 2008.

More places to park this fall

Although parking spaces in lots A, G, and J have been lost - permanently or temporarily - to construction projects, the USI campus has more parking spaces in total in fall 2009.

Just over 200 parking spaces in lots A and G were lost to the roundabout and road expansion project, and about half of parking lot J is currently in use as a staging area for construction of the Business and Engineering Center. At the same time, more than 200 parking spaces have been added, by expanding existing parking lots or building new ones.

Parking lot F, across University Boulevard from the Ceramics Center, has been expanded to include an additional 39 spaces. Lot M, south of Ruston Hall, has 27 more parking spaces, allowing students to park closer to the residence halls and freeing spaces in lots D and E. And there is a new parking lot, L, with 226 additional parking spots on Bluff Lane beyond lot K and the tennis courts. The parking lot across from the Physical Plant has 50 added spaces as well.

Steve Woodall, director of Security, recommended that during the first couple of weeks of the fall semester, students and employees drive directly to the outlying parking lots rather than cruising the first few rows to find a space.

"There will be ample parking," he said. "It may not be right next to your building, but there will be parking. If you go to the back of the lot or places that are off the beaten path, you will find a place a lot quicker."

Woodall said that the University's fleet vehicles will be moved out of lot G so that individuals have access to those parking spots.

"Obviously the first couple of weeks is the busiest time," he said. "Allow yourself time to find a parking spot."

USI participating in One Book One Community roundtable

Community leaders, including President **Linda L. M. Bennett**, **Dr. Betty Hart**, professor of English, and **Harold Calloway**, USI trustee, will gather for a roundtable discussion of this year's One Book One Community title, *Life on the Color Line: The True Story of a White Boy Who Discovered He Was Black* by **Gregory H. Williams**, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, August 25, at Barnes & Noble. The event is free and open to the public.

Other participants include **Diane Clements**, City-County Human Relations Commission, **Father Steve Lintzenich**, St. Mary Catholic Church, **Matt Meadors**, Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana, **Reverend Deane Oliva**, Unitarian Universalist Church of Evansville, **Orvietta Shannon**, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, and **Mizell Stewart III**, *Evansville Courier & Press*.

The panel will discuss themes from the book including the effect of community and family on children, education as a path to success, father/son relationships, and segregation and racism. Their discussion will be moderated by WNIN 88.3 radio news reporter and producer **Micah Schweizer**.

The author, who is now president of City College of New York, will speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, October 1, at Bosse High School. His presentation is co-sponsored by One Book One Community and the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana.

USI Center for Applied Research to receive award for Innovation Discovery Process

The University of Southern Indiana Center for Applied Research will be presented with the Federal Laboratories Consortium Partnership Award for the development of a process to help Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane Division capture innovations by its scientists and engineers in order to identify potential intellectual property.

The Innovation Discovery Process designed by **Dr. Susan J. Ellspermann**, director of CAR, and **Gene Recker**, manager of education and entrepreneurship for USI at Innovation Pointe, is a model for federal research laboratories across the country. The award will be presented during the FLC Midwest Regional Conference today in Bloomington.

In 2008, Ellspermann and Recker facilitated two Innovation Mining events at Crane at which inventors discussed their projects and a panel of experts identified potential disclosures - "documented concepts which can be used toward applying for a patent - to be pursued. Thirty-five potential disclosures and 89 commercialization ideas were identified. Four Department of Defense labs have requested to observe the next Innovation Mining event.

CAR was nominated for the award by **John Dement**, NSWC Crane's technology engagement officer. "We have felt for some time that we were capturing a fraction of the intellectual property developed in our many successful projects," he said. "Through the Innovation Discovery Process events, inventors have suggested that having the panel brainstorm disclosures on their work has been eye-opening to them and very positive. Most said they now understand intellectual property better, will be more likely to file a disclosure in the future, and will encourage their colleagues to do the same."

Dement also cited CAR's help in partnering NSWC Crane with the Growth Alliance for Greater Evansville (GAGE) initiating a Physics STEM Camp bringing together USI faculty and area high

school teachers with Crane's Technology Engagement office and designing and coaching an Electronic Warfare Technology Summit at Crane.

"NSWC Crane is a key source of technological innovation and economic development in southern Indiana," Ellspermann said. "USI is pleased to support Crane in identifying patentable innovations which will then become available to companies and entrepreneurs in our region resulting in new products and industries and increased employment and economic growth."

Yield to roundabout traffic

The roundabout entrance to the USI campus is now open. Motorists entering or leaving USI must remember to yield to traffic already in the roundabout on your left. Yield signs are posted.

Steve Woodall, director of Security, said, "If fail to yield and have an accident, you are the party at fault because you failed to yield the right of way."

Go to usi.edu/roundabout for an online tutorial.

To read more about the roundabout project, which will include a fountain, landscaping, and entrance sign to be complete in November.

Construction on the roundabout began in May.

The roundabout/entrance project is part of a larger road construction project known as Loop Road Phase 1B, which includes repaving Clarke Lane and Bent Twig Lane west of campus, adding a right-hand passing lane on Clarke, and building a bike path.

The right-hand passing lane, or "passing blister," will allow traffic entering campus from the roundabout to pass cars turning left into parking lots G and H and prevent traffic from backing up into the roundabout.

The bike path, already complete north of Clarke Lane from the Health Professions Center to the Children's Learning Center, will parallel the roads west of campus, hug Reflection Lake, and end at University Boulevard. **Fred Kalvelage**, construction manager, said the bike path will eventually connect to the Burdette Park-USI Trail.

Clarke Lane west of campus is closed from the Children's Learning Center to the University Center pay lot, but parking lots G and H can be reached by entering Clarke Lane from the roundabout and using either the service lane behind the Health Professions Center or the single open entrance into parking lot G.

Kalvelage said this subphase of Loop Road Phase 1B is expected to take a few weeks, barring weather-related delays.

In the next subphase, the bicycle path will be continued between the pay lot and the Grounds Center entrance. In the final subphase, the road and bike path will be paved from the Grounds Center entrance to University Boulevard.

Kalvelage said Loop Road Phase 1B should be complete by October.

Endeavor Awards offers more funding to students and faculty

Students and faculty who want to complete a research project, produce a literary work, artistic project, multimedia presentation, or technical programming, or present research at a conference can receive additional funding through the Endeavor Awards being offered at the University of Southern Indiana.

The Endeavor Awards for Research and Creativity are replacing the Research, Innovation, Scholarship, Creativity (RISC) program.

"The Endeavor Awards for Research and Creativity is a funding program across all disciplines with more muscle than its predecessor."

sor," said **Dr. Jim Durbin**, associate professor of geology, who directs the program with the assistance of **Dr. Brian Posler**, assistant provost for Undergraduate Studies.

"The funding available to support individual work has increased for all projects. The new program also has removed several restrictions on how funding may be spent, including an option that allows student to be paid to work on the project. A new option has been added to allow for faculty to more easily incorporate students into their academic research areas by allowing faculty to be the primary author on the proposal, provided students are brought into the project."

Two funding options plus travel grants

The program offers two categories of research and creative work grants.

- With awards up to \$1,500, students can be principal researchers, authors, artists, playwrights, or creative directors under the guidance of a faculty member.

- Grants up to \$3,500 are available for faculty as primary researchers who receive meaningful involvement from students. Students have to make substantial contributions to the research by presenting at a conference or being listed as co-author on publications.

Endeavor's Presentation Award offers travel grants of up to \$1,000 to help defray the transportation and hotel costs students can incur when they are presenting their research or creative projects at professional and academic meetings.

First Friday deadlines

Applications for the funding research proposals will be accepted throughout the year. Submissions will be due at 4:30 p.m. on the first Friday of September, October, November, December, February, March, and April. Applications forms are available online at www.usi.edu/endeavor.

Hatch a New Idea promotion

"A marketing effort is underway across campus to generate interest in the program," said Durbin. "You'll see the 'Hatch a new idea' marketing message and the new Endeavor Awards logo on posters, the USI web site, and in advertising across campus.

"As the promotion suggests, 'Hatching poultry from an egg is routine, but hatching a robotic chicken from a golden egg is worth exploring.' We want students and faculty to participate and enter their new ideas for the Endeavor Awards."

Endeavor Awards will sponsor an undergraduate research symposium in April of each year. Student researchers, faculty sponsors, faculty researchers, and students contributing to faculty research have the opportunity to present their completed work at the event.

Durbin said, "Anyone who has done research or creative works of any kind, regardless of whether or not they have received monetary support from the Endeavor Awards is encouraged to present their effort at the Endeavor Undergraduate Research Symposium," said Durbin. "Of course those who do receive funds are required to present their work," he added.

The web site at www.usi.edu/endeavor offers more information about the qualifications for grant proposals and presentation awards.

The first application deadline for Endeavor Awards is September 4, 2009.

New Employee Welcome

Pamela Blessing has accepted a position as director of field experience in the Department of Teacher Education. She holds a Master of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Evansville. Blessing was employed as an assistant principal at Central High School.

Karen Brossman has accepted a position as nurse practitioner and clinical instructor in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a post-master's certificate from State University of New York Stony Brook as a family nurse practitioner, a Master of Science degree from the University of Saint Francis, and a Bachelor of General Studies degree and a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Brossman was employed as an assistant medical director at Winslow Community Health Center.

Erica Conn has accepted a position as senior library assistant in the David L. Rice Library. She holds a bachelor's degree in archaeology and classical languages from the University of Evansville.

Gerad Good has accepted a position as men's assistant basketball coach in Athletics. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education from Manchester College. Good was employed as a men's assistant basketball coach at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Landon Moore has accepted a position as assistant professor of biology in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a doctorate and Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University. Moore was employed as an assistant professor at Boston University.

Janet Oakley has accepted a position as instructor in nursing in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a Master of Science degree in nursing from the University of Evansville. Oakley was employed as a program manager at Deaconess Hospital.

Tory Pearman has accepted a position as advisor in University Division. She holds a doctorate in English from Loyola University Chicago, a Master of Arts degree in English from Purdue University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in English teaching from Indiana State University. Pearman was employed as an instructor at Loyola University Chicago.

Samantha Penney has accepted a position as program manager in Instructional Technology Services. She holds a Master of Arts degree in instructional technology from Austin Peay State University, a Master of Arts degree in mass communications from University of South Dakota, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism from South Dakota State University. Penney was employed as an online campus director at Daymar Colleges, Inc.

Oana Popescu-Sandu has accepted a position as assistant professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts. She holds a doctorate from University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, a master's degree in philosophy from Central European University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Bucharest in Romania.

Maria Shirey has accepted a position as associate professor of nursing in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She holds a doctorate in nursing science from Indiana University, a Master of Business Administration degree from Tulane University, a Master of Science degree from Texas Woman's University, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida State University. Shirey was employed as a consultant at Shirey and Associates and as an adjunct professor in the College of Nursing and Health Professions at USI.

Announcements

Educational Assessment course publish lessons

Students in **Dr. Michael Slavkin's** Educational Assessment

course recently completed and published a set of lessons for area school children to use before, during, and after field trips to Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve. Slavkin is associate professor and director of Graduate Education for Teacher Education, and is the NCATE accreditation coordinator for the department. **Dr. Jeff Thomas**, interim chair of Teacher Education, said, "The set of published lessons for area students demonstrate Mike's ability to connect the mission of the University and his talents as the University aims to promote and reward scholarship of engagement."

Guidelines for handling University cash

The Business Office is the only agent authorized to control, account for, and safeguard cash at the University of Southern Indiana. This office also is responsible for collecting fees and other income; making all fee refunds; invoicing third parties; preparing bank deposits; issuing petty cash disbursements; issuing change funds to authorized units; and assessing student fees.

Under no circumstances should an employee accept money in the name of the University without properly recording the income with an official University receipt. A receipt will be issued by the Cashier's Office for all cash received (with the exception of cash received by approved satellite operations). This includes any payments or plans to receive payments electronically via the internet. In addition, no University employee or department is to invoice any third party without the invoice being processed first through the Business Office. Departments approved to accept money are required to issue receipts and make daily deposits. These departments are responsible for maintaining their own receipt subsidiary record on forms approved by the bursar.

Loss of any funds should be reported IMMEDIATELY to the Cashier's Office and the Office of Security.

Thank you for your adherence to these important guidelines. Questions relative to cash control procedures should be addressed to the bursar at 464-1842.

Scholarly Writing and Research group meeting

A fall organizational meeting about scholarly writing and research will be open to USI faculty members from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 27 in HP 1079. Designed to help all members of the USI community maintain an active research agenda, the meeting will establish groups and plans for the fall.

Dr. Mari Hopper, assistant professor of biology, will talk about scholarly integrity.

Persons who are unable to attend the organizational meeting can contact **Dr. Karyn Sproles** (kzsproles@usi.edu) if they wish to participate in the group.

MDA seeks USI volunteers for "Lock-Up" event

Each year, the Muscular Dystrophy Association hosts its "Lock-Up" in which community members come together to raise "bail money" to help families in the Evansville and surrounding areas. This year's event is Wednesday, August 19, when willing prisoners will be brought to Blush Ultralounge. MDA needs volunteers to help pick up and detain its "jail birds." Participants must be 21. For more information or a volunteer application, call MDA at 812/479-6550.

USI has two ATHENA Award finalists

Two USI women are finalists for the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana's 2009 ATHENA award honoring leadership: **Dr. Nadine Coudret**, interim provost and vice president of academic affairs, and Nancy Bizal, instructor in business communica-

tion and career planning/professional development and coordinator of external relations for the College of Business. The winner will be announced October 22.

Passings

Margery Howell, mother of **Cyd Fithian**, assistant math specialist in University Division, died on August 11. Services were held on August 13 in Canton, IL.

Post your fall events on the USI online calendar

To get wide exposure for your fall semester events, load your information to the campus online calendar. The calendar is a USI web resource widely used by faculty, staff, students, and web visitors to reference and publicize campus events. The full calendar appears at https://www.usi.edu/webservices/calendar_03/. The menu across the top of the page has a Sign In icon and a How to Use icon for your use. You'll be prompted for your My USI login username and password to submit the event title; the time, date, and location of the event; and background on a speaker, purpose of the event, sponsor of the event, and who can attend the event. You can load a web address, if you have a web site related to the event. The form provides space for information about cost to attend the event and has a place to check if the event is free.

The daily campus events which appear on the front page of the USI web site and on several college and department web pages throughout the site are pulled from the main calendar. You'll get top placement of your event if you load it to the online calendar. If many events are scheduled on one day, the events appear according to the time of the event, with early-in-the day events appearing first. Events on the daily calendar are removed throughout the day, once an event is over, so events scheduled later in the day can appear. Take a look at the daily calendar at www.usi.edu.

Questions about the online calendar can be answered by web team member **Ed Scharf** at elscharf@usi.edu.