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I had the opportunity to talk with Dr. Robert Ballard while he visited the campus during Founders Day in November. In a moment, you sense the urgency and commitment to science, exploration and discovery in the voice and manner of the man who found the wrecks of the Titanic, Lusitania, Bismarck and many others. Dr. Ballard has found ways to improve the methods and efficiency of exploration. At the same time, he has engaged the rest of us to experience the wonderment of his discoveries and inspire a younger generation to follow and go beyond his own bounds, which are far from being defined.

In December, the College lost a valued member of its board of directors. Dr. Simin Gharib Naraghipour was a faculty member who taught French and film at Lake Erie and other institutions. Her contributions went beyond the classroom, though, as she was an important volunteer at numerous other organizations in the area including the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland Institute of Art and the Holden Arboretum. Simin’s enthusiasm and spirit were infectious. I learned that in Persian, Simin means “silver.” She is a sterling example and a reminder to us all to live well by serving others. I will miss Simin, dearly.

Richard Canaday, an attorney from Portland, Ore., contacted me just before the holidays to inform me that Fred W. Fields had died. Although I never met Dr. Fields, who received an honorary doctorate degree from Lake Erie years ago, I learned that he lived an amazing life. Fields grew up on a farm, served his country and became a successful businessman through hard work. At his memorial service, his brother said, “Fred was faithful as a friend.” Mr. Canaday informed me that Dr. Fields remembered Lake Erie College with an unrestricted bequest of $1 million. We remember our friend who shared his life and fortune with the College on the cover and in a feature story in this issue.

I am mindful in my position as president that it is important to present our students with as many strong role models and examples of success as possible. The purpose is to inspire these students to find their own meaningful pursuits that will define who they will be, what they will DISCOVER, how they will SERVE, and what they will SHARE.

In our country and in life, it does not matter where you start; it matters how you finish. In this issue, you will learn about many of our alumni and students who are well on their way or have recently died. It matters to us that they started at Lake Erie College, and we know that they, too, are exceptional in their own right.


The purpose is to inspire these students to find their own meaningful pursuits that will define who they will be, what they will DISCOVER, how they will SERVE and what they will SHARE.”

Michael T. Victor, President


These are three words of action that you may take away after reading this issue of the Lake Erie magazine.

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Lake Erie College received the welcome news just before the holidays that it will be the recipient of a $1 million bequest from longtime friend Fred W. Fields. Fields, the former owner of Coe Manufacturing Company, passed away Dec. 13, 2011 at age 88.

Fields’ life story truly was one of rags to riches. He grew up on an Indiana farm, where he learned the values of hard work and coping through difficult times. The large family had little money beyond that needed to pay the mortgage and keep themselves clothed. The farm itself had no running water or electricity and, because there was no money to buy coal, the Fields burned corn for heat.

With his older brother, Eugene, age 12, and five horses, Fields, age 10, farmed the 100 acres during the Depression while his father worked at General Motors; by then, the older children had moved away to begin lives of their own. The boys learned to make do with what they had – they maintained and repaired the farm equipment themselves, using whatever makeshift parts they could concoct from what was available.

After graduating from high school, Fields began his college studies at Ball State and Indiana universities before being drafted into the U.S. Air Force during World War II. During his service, he trained pilots in navigation and instrument flying. After the war, he completed his studies in mechanical engineering at Purdue University.

Fields was an athlete, having played basketball and football in high school and football on the Air Transport Command team and in the Canadian Football League. He credited team sports with teaching him to work collaboratively with others, set high standards and strive for superior performance.

In 1947, Fields began working as a junior engineer with Coe Manufacturing Company in Painesville, Ohio. Coe, which was begun by Harold Hayes Coe and Leonard Anderson in 1852, designs and constructs machinery that mills various types of lumber.

George Milbourn spoke in a phone interview about Fields’ beginnings with Coe. George is the grandson of Frank W. Milbourn, Sr., president of Coe from 1920 to 1957, and son of Frank W. Milbourn, Jr., president of the company from 1957 to 1976. George himself was vice president of Coe and a consultant to Fred Fields.

George said that Coe always sent an engineer to supervise the installation of large pieces of machinery, which was the case in the installation of a dryer in a plant in Indiana in 1947. Fields had been working on the construction crew during the installation, and the supervising engineer observed him as a hard-working, intelligent young man who could do anything. The engineer reported to Frank Milbourn, Sr., “I met this guy we need to hire – he can outwork anyone.” And thus began Fred Fields’ lifelong career with Coe.

At Coe, Fields was originally a field service engineer who volunteered to go anywhere around the world – including Africa – and could do any job imaginable. He was transferred to the Pacific Northwest early in the 1950s and, in 1959, became Coe’s West Coast manager and was instrumental in the building of the company’s plant in Tigard, Ore. He settled in Oregon, which he loved, and soon gained the respect of people throughout the wood products industry.

Fields married Suzanne (Sue) Schoenfeldt, a Portland native, in the fall of 1958. The couple enjoyed 50 years of marriage, ending with her death in 2010. Together, they made countless gifts to support a number of worthy organizations.

Fields’ longtime attorney and friend, Richard A. Canaday, wrote in Fields’ obituary, “Fred’s philanthropy in education and...
the arts in Oregon is legendary. He and Sue believed that education prepares and stimulates young people to innovate and develop ideas collaboratively. To this end, the Fields advocated improving college faculties and facilities as keys to quality education."

In a phone interview, Canaday described Fields as “one sharp businessman. He was an expert at the art of doing business – he was a true Westerner.” He also described Fields as “a man of strong principles, who put his money where his mouth was.” And, said Canaday, "He could tell a darn good story!"

George Milbourn got to know Fields well, because Fred and George’s father were good friends. George said that Fields was a “big guy and a good athlete” and shared a personal story of his commitment to his beliefs. “A manufacturing facility in Portland was not unionized. Fred would arm wrestle anyone who felt could beat him. He said that if anyone beat him, he would unionize. No one ever did!”

Milbourn also said that Fields “hated the Wal-Mart principle.” He was a great salesman who really knew his product and felt strongly that, “We sell the best, and therefore we should get the highest possible price for it.”

Fields bought Coe from Frank W. Milbourn, Jr. in 1976. Under Fields’ leadership, the company continued to expand and, by 1999, it had acquired 15 other companies with expertise in new areas of technology, particularly computer-controlled automation in plywood and lumber production. In 2000, Fields sold Coe to a venture capital firm and retired from the lumber business.

In 1997, Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Ore. named its new fine arts building the Fred W. Fields Center for the Visual Arts. “Fred W. Fields is a man committed to quality. He expects and elicits the best from all around him. And he makes things work – simply, quietly and effectively,” was written in the brochure describing the new building.

At Lake Erie College, Fields served on the advisory committee to President Hal Laydon in the 1990s. Recognizing the urgent need for technology at the College, he gave the first gift to bring computers to campus in 1993 and, in 2000, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree during commencement.

When Fields was presented his honorary doctorate from Lake Erie College, Gary Swanson, co-chairman of the board of trustees, described him as “an individual who had an idea, pursued it, fashioned it, tenaciously clung to it against all odds, and then produced it for the good of both the seller and the user.”

Fred Fields’ life was celebrated in a memorial service held at Lewis and Clark College on Jan. 21, 2012. Scott Evans, vice president for institutional advancement at Lake Erie College, attended the service and heard many tributes to a man who had been a friend and inspiration to many.

Barry Glassner, president of Lewis and Clark College, had known Fields through his longtime involvement as a college trustee and benefactor. “Fred Fields was a signature man who led a signature life,” Gassner said.

Fields’ attorney and friend, Peter Richter, spoke of Fields’ strong leadership. “Abe Lincoln said, ‘Be sure to put your feet in the right place, then stand firm.’ That was Fred,” Richter said.

Another attorney and friend, Susan Marmaduke, quoted from the poet Hannah Senesh. "There are stars whose radiance is visible on Earth though they have long been extinct. There are people whose brilliance continues to light the world though they are no longer among the living. Fred Fields is one of those people."

In 2010, Rich Donnell published the story of Fields’ life as Fields told it to him in the book, “My Times with Coe.” In the preface to this book, Donnell said he felt a great loss when Fields retired from the industry. “Here was a man who epitomized the American Dream, starting out on the family farm during the Great Depression and ultimately purchasing a long-established American manufacturing company and substantially enlarging it. … The ingenuity and passion that (men like Fields) demonstrated is a valuable lesson in the business of America.”

Lake Erie College is fortunate to benefit from Fred Fields’ generosity. His “rags to riches” life will continue to influence others for many years to come. We can all learn from Fields’ commitment to hard work, strong principles, imagination and innovation – as they say in Oregon, we can “carry the sunshine in our hearts” despite hard times. We, too, can light the way for others and guarantee their success.

Fields’ brother, Don, said during the memorial service, “I thank the Lord for giving us such a kind and generous man.”

We, in turn, thank Fred W. Fields for his kindness and generosity to Lake Erie College.
The passenger liner Titanic sank after hitting an iceberg in the North Atlantic on Apr. 15, 1912, killing 1,514 of the 2,224 passengers and crew aboard. The passenger liner Lusitania sank after being torpedoed by a German U-boat off the coast of Ireland on May 7, 1915, killing 1,198 of the 1,959 people aboard. The battleship Bismarck was sunk by the Royal Navy in the North Atlantic on May 27, 1941, killing all but 114 of the 2,200 men aboard. The passenger liner Andrea Doria sank after hitting another ship while approaching New York Harbor on July 25, 1956, killing 46 of the 1,706 passengers and crew aboard.

These are but a few of the tragic maritime disasters that have occurred in the past 100 years, and they represent only a fraction of the ships that have been discovered under the depths of the sea.

The College was fortunate to have oceanographer Dr. Robert Ballard, discoverer of these and other shipwrecks, as the keynote speaker for the celebration of Founders Day on Nov. 14, 2011.

Ballard grew up in California in the shadow of the ocean but, just like most people, all he saw was the surface of the water. “Captain Nemo was my hero when I was a child,” Ballard said. “He walked on the floor of the ocean, and I became fascinated,” he said.

Ballard wrote a letter to the Scripps Institute of Oceanography as a junior in high school in 1959, was offered a scholarship for a summer program and went on his first expedition. “I fell in love with oceanography, and my life has been one of discovery ever since,” he said.

He is most known for his discoveries of sunken ships lying on the ocean’s floor, but he considers something else his greatest accomplishment – the discovery of hydrothermal vents. The average depth of the ocean is 12,000 feet. Protons from the sun can’t reach that depth; therefore, no photosynthesis is possible, and there are no plants.

“Like all great discoveries, we were looking for something else,” Ballard said. “On the ocean floor, we saw a mineralization process taking place in black smoke released from vents in the earth’s crust. Here, we found a concentration of life – worm-like creatures with giant claws but no internal organs. Their bodies had been taken over by bacteria. This is called chemosynthesis.”

The fascination with sunken ships is part of the mystique of the sea, however, and Ballard considers these discoveries important as well. “The ocean is the largest museum on earth,” he said.

The discovery of the Titanic was just that – a discovery of a real museum of American history. Titanic was one of the most luxurious ships ever built and, at the time of its sinking on its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York City, it carried an eclectic mix of passengers. These included such first-class travelers as millionaire John Jacob Astor, industrialist Benjamin Guggenheim and Macy’s owner Isidor Straus. Titanic also carried such third-class travelers as blacksmith Anthony Abbing, box maker Jennie Dropkin and shoemaker John Garfirth. Class distinctions meant nothing when the ship sank, however, as very few survived.

Ballard described the scene when Titanic was finally revealed in its watery grave. “We celebrated, then became somber and respectful – after all, this is where over 1,500 persons lost their lives,” he said.

When asked what is left of those who drowned and whose bodies were not recovered, Ballard said that flesh disintegrates quickly, bones dissolve in about five years, but the shoes remain. “It is possible to visualize exactly where the bodies fell, based on the location of the shoes,” he said.

Ballard firmly believes that discoveries like that of the Titanic should be explored and documented, but that they should be left intact. “Grave robbers take items out of
provenance, so their origins and true value are destroyed,” he said.

“The Civil War was the darkest moment in our history – everyone killed was an American,” Ballard said. “You don’t take bullets from the battlefield, and you don’t take shoes from the ocean.”

Ballard no longer physically travels to the depths of the sea but, rather, explores from a command center onboard the Exploration Vessel (EV) Nautilus. “We go where no one has gone before on Planet Earth,” he said.

“Given the advancements in technology and the ways people work and live, more and more of us are going to have Avatar-like experiences in the future, where we’re connected to work, home and fun simultaneously. I can now leave my body every day and explore through the wonders of technology. Where the world is wired, everywhere is only a quarter of a second away.”

Ballard has recently turned his sights on older history, with the discovery of the largest concentration of Roman ships ever found under the sea. “Ancient mariners drank wine and threw their empty bottles overboard – this ‘highway of trash’ led us to their sunken ships in the Mediterranean between ancient Carthage and Rome.”

Ballard doesn’t know what he will find next under the surface of the water, but he does know that the ocean bottom holds the key to countless undiscovered mysteries. “It is by logic that you prove, but by intuition that you discover,” he said.

The founders of Lake Erie College would agree.
Lake Erie College Alma Mater
Sung to the tune of “The Ash Grove”

We sing of Lake Erie, the green and the white,
The friendships we make here will never grow old.
The mem’ries of Lake Erie – ideals and traditions –
As we grow together, horizons unfold.
Our goals ever nearer, our loyalties dearer,
Endeavors rewarded in our college days.
Too soon we will leave you, but always remember
The halls of Lake Erie, the green and the white.

College history celebrated on Founders Day

The College’s annual celebration of Founders Day took place Nov. 14, 2011 in Morley Memorial Music Building. The program honored the six men who founded Lake Erie College in 1856 – Charles Avery, Reuben Hitchcock, Silas Ladd, William Perkins, Timothy Rockwell and Aaron Wilcox – and showcased the College’s distinguished 156-year history.

President Victor highlighted the College’s history through its presidents, and a newly formed Glee Club, under the leadership of Dan Call ’80, led the audience in the singing of the College Hymn and Alma Mater. Featured presenter, Dr. Robert Ballard, spoke about his oceanic discoveries.

Descendants of the founders in attendance were Charles Hitchcock, Christopher Hitchcock, Elizabeth “Bobbie” Hitchcock, Reuben Hitchcock, Sterling Hitchcock, Julia Smith Siegel and Lisa Strausbaugh. They were guests of honor in the President’s Box and were treated to a singing of the Founders Day song, “Reuben, Reuben, I’ve Been Thinking.” Another descendant, Betty Hitchcock Rose, had visited campus a short time earlier and was unable to be present on Founders Day.

Today’s students are part of a long line of alumni and friends who have studied at Lake Erie College and whose lives have been transformed, thanks to the vision of six forward-thinking gentlemen. It is fitting that members of the College community pause each year to honor these founders and their descendants.
The six gentlemen listed below signed articles of association establishing the Lake Erie Female Seminary in Painesville on June 23, 1856. The articles stated, “The object of this institution shall be to promote thorough and complete female education and for that purpose the system of instruction, the principles of government and the general plan of management shall be substantially after the model of the Mount Holyoke Female Seminary of South Hadley, Massachusetts.”

Charles Austin Avery supervised the construction and was largely responsible for securing the grounds on which the College stands. He was a self-made man who came to Painesville from Connecticut in 1837.

Reuben Hitchcock was a Lake County Common Pleas Judge and president of the Cleveland and Mahoning Railroad. He had been president of the Willoughby Medical College and a trustee of the Willoughby Female Seminary, which was a predecessor of Lake Erie Female Seminary.

Silas Trumbull Ladd ran a general store with Timothy Rockwell. The store was lost in a Main Street fire in 1858. Ladd moved to Hudson to serve as treasurer of Western Reserve College.

William Lee Perkins was a long-time lawyer who had served as a prosecuting attorney for Lake County. He had also been a trustee of Willoughby Female Seminary.

Timothy Rockwell produced pig iron at the Concord Furnace Company. He, too, had been a trustee of Willoughby Female Seminary and was also a trustee of Western Reserve College.

Aaron Wilcox served several times as mayor of Painesville and was president of a society that operated the Painesville Academy. He was a wealthy judge until the failure of his Lake County Bank in the 1870s.

In 1898, the breadth of coursework had been modified to qualify graduates for a college degree instead of a seminary diploma, and the name of the institution was changed to Lake Erie Seminary and College. In 1908, the State of Ohio granted a charter establishing Lake Erie College. It is due to the vision of these six founders that the College serves as a leader in higher education today.
Dedication ceremony opens Homecoming Alumni Weekend

Alumni from the Classes of 1960 through 2011 returned to campus for the annual Homecoming Alumni Weekend from Sept. 23 through 25, 2011. A variety of events for alumni and current students took place over the weekend.

Opening the weekend, President Victor was joined by students, staff, faculty and members of the community to honor Dana ’76 and Sherry ’03 Dennis with the unveiling of the Dennis Fountain in front of Kilcawley Hall.

The September 23 event marked the year-old project and completed the first phase of the improvement plan that features a new and safer driveway and a gated entrance to the campus. The dedication included the unveiling of a bronze plaque bearing the Dennises’ name at the foot of the fountain.

The Dennis Fountain, complete with bench seating and brick-lined walkways, offers a courtyard-like setting for students and passers-by to enjoy. During the holiday season, the fountain is winterized and replaced by the College’s magnificent 25’ Christmas tree, which is lit during the tree-lighting ceremony conducted during Christmas Vespers.
Class of 1961 celebrates golden jubilee anniversary

Members of the class of 1961 were honored and recognized with Golden Diplomas as Lake Erie College celebrated their 50th reunion during Homecoming Alumni Weekend.

Alumni, their spouses and invited guests shared in the dinner celebration held at Kirtland Country Club. The event brought alumni and friends from all over the world back to Lake County. In addition to the class of 1961, the College also paid tribute to members of the class of 1986, celebrating their silver jubilee.

“Some classmates and roommates hadn’t seen each other since graduation – it was amazing to watch them reconnect and pick up as if time hadn’t even passed,” said President Victor.

National Alumni Board presents Distinguished Alumni Award

Following the dinner, National Alumni Board President Janeane Cappara ’95, MBA ’04 conducted a brief annual meeting and update and then introduced Vice President Barbara Trainor ’67, as she presented an eloquent and moving account of accomplishments of this year’s Distinguished Alumni recipient, John Williams.

Williams graduated from Lake Erie in 1975 and went on to earn his master’s and doctoral degrees from The Ohio State University. He is a recognized expert in the field of forensic science and is one of 60 certified forensic anthropologists in the United States recognized by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology. He is currently the director for both the Forensic Anthropology Program at Western Carolina University and the Western Carolina Human Identification Laboratory. He works as a biological anthropologist specializing in forensic anthropology, the study of the human skeleton in legal situations.

Williams and his wife, Frances Caswell Williams ’75, expressed thanks and recounted how Lake Erie College formed the foundation for their careers and – as they met in college – their future together.
All wound up and full of energy, the Lake Erie College athletic mascot, Stormy, greeted alumni and guests, students, their families and members of the community during the Homecoming Alumni Weekend tailgate party, football game and crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen.

Under the warm fall sun on a picture-perfect day, event-goers of all ages were treated to a sumptuous cookout, toe-tapping music and the spirit of Lake Erie College. The Lake Erie College color guard opened the game with 2,452 fans filling Jack Britt Memorial Stadium, the largest crowd in College history, to watch the Storm football team provide an outstanding display of athletic talent against Hillsdale College.

During halftime, the class of 1961, our 50th reunion celebrants, were recognized and applauded. Alumni and friends also watched as Alison Heming of Cincinnati was crowned queen and Steve Bensinger from Poland, Ohio was crowned king. Members of the court included Cameron Crossan, Mitchell Crossan, Jessica Kenny, Jennifer Kenny, Mike Robare and Liz Stephens.
“Harry Potter” lecture delights science buffs

Saturday afternoon offered an alternative to the hootin’ and hollerin’ of the football game as Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr. Johnathan Tedesco explored the role of science in societies in his presentation of “The Science of Harry Potter.”

The audience was entranced as Tedesco spoke of ancient Egypt and Greece as well as medieval Europe and modern times. He discussed the evolution of science through those societies and the roles it played in religious and mystical rituals. He investigated the links and conflicts between science and religion and how they may have influenced each other. He also discussed limitations imposed on scientific thought and development by societal standards, governments and religions throughout mankind’s history.

Homecoming traditions continue with annual musical celebration

Carrying on the long-standing College tradition during the weekend celebrations, Professor Paul Gothard arranged a masterful production featuring Dr. Mark Bell on the Skinner organ, the Lake Erie College Community Chorus, Judith Elias conducting the Lake Erie College Flute Choir and Deborah Hoffman ’11 and Patrick Shelby ’13 on the piano. Roberta Whitely accompanied the pianists.

Alumni and their guests were treated to the concert in the spirit of Harold Fink and dedicated to the distinguished memory of Henrietta Hathaway Townsend ’50. Selections included the College Hymn and arrangements from the works of Chopin, Langlais, Christiansen, Debussy, Mozart, Palestrina and Casterede. Gothard presented an original reading of “Spring Haiku,” verses to the victims of the Tsunami of March 11, 2011. The concert concluded with a moving and never-before heard performance of “Ash Grove” by the flute choir.
Memories, laughter and the sounds of Artist-in-Residence, Steinway pianist Joe Augustine, filled the night as President and Mrs. Victor welcomed alumni and their guests to the annual alumni cocktail reception. The event was held at the beautifully appointed Victor Manor House.

Each class year was photographed and friends mingled among one another and members of the College administration, faculty, emeriti and LEC student ambassadors.

During his update, President Victor recounted the accomplishments of the past year and in an “unusual, but pleased to oblige” request, turned the microphone over to Jamie Blanchard, stunt coach for the LEC cheerleaders.

With a shaky voice, beads of sweat on his brow and nearly 200 eyes upon him, Blanchard took the microphone, commanded the floor and professed his love for Cami Harkless ’90, and with that, knelt to one knee and proposed marriage. The crowd was taken aback with excitement and emotion and without hesitation, Cami replied with conviction, “YES!” Celebrations and toasts continued on to the Rathskeller and throughout the night for both the happy couple and the long-lasting friendships of the College.
Dr. Holwick presents engaging perspective on today’s academics

The Dickinson Lecture Hall served as a return to the classroom as Dr. Jana Holwick, vice president of academic affairs, presented an open forum on the state of Lake Erie College academics. During the breakfast event that concluded the Homecoming Alumni Weekend activities, Dr. Holwick discussed the components of curriculum, mandates, reporting requirements and the standards today’s faculty face as they educate students in a world filled with ever-changing demands.

“Our faculty are in step with not only what is required for learning, but also how students respond – we integrate the use of SmartBoards, study tours, guest lecturers and technology to augment the traditional classroom methods of delivery,” said Holwick.

Young alumni share in camaraderie

Over 100 alumni representing classes from 2005 through 2011 gathered at the Winking Lizard, Mentor, for a Friday evening of celebration and reconnection. Organized by Katie Staats ’09, MBA ’11, Adam Foxx ’06 and Rudy Glenn ’10, alumni enjoyed door prizes, tasty appetizers and libations. President and Mrs. Victor were touched to realize that those attending had matriculated into the College at the start of his presidential term. The festivities continued well into the night in what will become an annual tradition.

“It’s so important for our young alumni to stay connected with not only the College, but also with others in the area. The event was a fun mix of familiar faces and making new connections. As we build our careers, we found that the networking aspect to this type of event is invaluable as well,” said Staats.
**1970s Classes** (l. to r.): Candace Shireman ’74, Carley Cumberworth Hosler ’72, Deb Blanchard Remington ’74, Margaret Roll ’80, Patricia Nocero ’73, Carol Peffer ’72, Tracy Dickinson ’78

**Class of 1981:**
Lisa Benedetti,
Nona Sweeney Stanich

**Class of 1991** (l. to r.): Danielle Tisch Sprow, Lori Atwood, Susan Paruleski Paulic, Cami Harkless

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**Class of 1971** (First row, l. to r.):
(Second row, l. to r.):
Leslie Burton McPhillips, Barbara Stone Amidon, Nancy Vallentine Sinclair, Deborah Lenz Withers, Pat Schafer Harper, Laurie Good Martin

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Candace Shireman ’74 is featured Homecoming Alumni Weekend speaker

by Susan Licate, ’05, MBA ’08

Coming full-circle with her alma mater, Candace Shireman ’74, engaged an audience filled with alumni, friends and political and historical buffs as she presented a fascinating account of the collections and art of Blair House, the president’s guest house. Working for the State Department, Candace serves as curator of Blair House, a position she has held for 11 years.

Shireman explained how her educational foundation at Lake Erie helped shape her growth personally and professionally; the day after she arrived on campus, her father suffered a fatal heart attack. Sad, confused and unsure if she should remain in school due to financial considerations, Lake Erie offered work/study opportunities, scholarships and an outright gift through the Dads’ Club. The College assured her mother she would be taken care of and her chance to get an education would not be comprised.

“Lake Erie taught me what could be done – what is possible through hard work – and reminded me they would be here to help me develop my potential. I’ve never forgotten that time in my life,” she said.

Shireman went on to receive her master’s degree in American Studies from George Washington University and worked for a local historical society in D.C. She learned from both her LEC and GWU experiences to understand the inter-relationships of people, culture and things. “Objects send symbolic messages,” she commented.

As curator, she is responsible for the stewardship of historical collections within Blair House and for furnishing the diplomatic reception rooms at Harry Truman Museum. Presenting one breathtaking slide after another featuring the many focal points of each room, it’s clear Shireman takes great care in the presentation. She ensures the collections are equally as impressive as embassies and museums of other countries though still reflecting their American grandeur. An invitation to stay or meet at Blair House is an honor for a foreign head of state.

“Blair House is to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our foreign representatives yet provide representation of the American citizens and our president,” she said.

Shireman said her biggest challenges today are trying to maintain the “home” aspect of the guest house while ensuring the mandates for preservation are upheld. Built in the 1820’s, there’s a balance between restoration and functionality. This, she noted, takes flexibility, camaraderie and innovation.

To learn more about Blair House, visit their website at www.blairhouse.org, plus hear an interview featuring Shireman on C-Span’s website www.c-span.org/BlairHouse.
Today, most people understand the benefit of exercise, the variety from which there is to choose and the relatively simple skill needed to do ‘something’ to achieve a positive result. Though with most, trying to find the balance of time to make it effective proves to be the biggest challenge. Work, family, Ohio weather… all these things can cause the pendulum to swing to the other side. Add in the idea of exercise with competition, and time becomes more precious.

For Rob Zeller ’92, a focus on balance is the key to successful outcomes, personally and professionally. Zeller has been running since 1997 and a competitive runner for seven years. When I first sat down with Zeller, I was immediately struck by his calm, seemingly low-stress manner. Most competitive athletes I’ve met have a fast-forward aura about them that presents a bundle of energy just waiting to burn. Most also talk about how career and family time comes after the sport. Zeller’s passion for running, however, doesn’t trump the other important aspects of his life.

Married for 18 years to Lorna and father to 10-year-old daughter Leilani and 17-year-old son Robbie, Zeller chooses to train very early in the morning, before work and before the family wakes. “I feel blessed. I am able to train, come home, be with my family… and they are equally supportive in my training needs, I couldn’t fully enjoy running if it interfered with my family,” he said.

Running in the 2004 Cleveland Clinic Sports Health River Run, his first half marathon after three years of prompting and encouragement by a coworker, Zeller was quickly bit by the competition bug. He finished that race at 1:57:25 and immediately set his sights on a better time for 2005. With a full year of training under his belt, Zeller crossed the line nine minutes faster, clocking in at 1:48:35. He was now motivated to do a full marathon. He began intense marathon training yet still held true the tenets of balance.

In May 2006, Zeller ran the popular Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon in 4:08:40. A personal goal accomplished. A sense of empowerment gained. A determination to continue instilled. His runner’s high propelled him to train for and enter the Road Runner Akron Marathon in 2007, which he finished with an impressive 4:03:19.

About this time, he had watched the film “Spirit of the Marathon,” a documentary which featured five athletes – three amateurs and two elites – train and run the Chicago Marathon. The 30-year-old Chicago Marathon is one of the largest marathon road races in the world, attracting 45,000 entrants and grabbing the attention of 1.5 million people who watch the race. Zeller was energized. He decided it was time to set his next goal: train for the Chicago Marathon.

With training, there are bound to be obstacles in the proverbial road. For Zeller, it was the physical toll. “In September, 2009, I suffered a stress fracture; I was laid up for four months and certainly wasn’t able to run. I began to supplement my training with other athletics, such as weight lifting, to keep my body in some type of condition.” In the late winter, Zeller started running again. His goal? To do two four-mile runs by May. “I figured, if I could get through those runs, I could begin my training with a half marathon,” he said.

Zeller began a 10-month training endeavor that included five months of 18 miles over three days per week followed by five months of a split training program, running eight to nine miles during the week and 20 miles on the weekend. He changed his diet to complement performance: good whole foods, no alcohol, no soft drinks. He knew if he wanted to do this, only he would be the one to stand in his way.

On October 9, 2011, Zeller completed the Chicago Marathon in 4:05:49. With a fully-supportive family with him during each stride of the 26.2-mile race, a determination to overcome limitations and an inner voice pushing him, Zeller achieved his goal.

Zeller’s approach to a myriad of passions is a unique blend of time management and the ability to integrate his family to his sport. “In the summer, we’ll pack up the bikes and head to the towpath. My wife and kids will bike, I’ll start a run, then we all circle back together. I think the difference in my approach is that I run when it’s not family time, instead of vice versa.”

The same holds true for his career, where he’s just marked his 23rd year with Parker Hannifin and 21 years as a volunteer for Junior Achievement. Zeller has managed to find the door to a healthy life and the key to a life in balance.
The old English proverb, “Where there’s a will, there’s a way,” describes someone with the desire and determination to accomplish something. Sebastian Hoffmann was determined to come to the United States from Germany and obtain a college degree. In 2004, that became a reality, and Lake Erie College was his choice.

From 2001-2003, Hoffmann studied in a dual-education program (school and on-the-job training) to become a certified banker. In Germany, a bachelor’s degree is not required for a job; instead, one enters a program that usually takes three years to complete.

A person who is most willing to do something daring seems to get farther in life. Hoffmann did just that, traveling back to Germany and eventually returning to the United States to live and work in Chicago.

Hoffmann attended Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University in Bonn, Germany to study business administration. In 2007, Dr. Mark Bell, associate professor of German and French, offered Hoffmann a teaching assistantship at Lake Erie College.

“I knew immediately this was my opportunity of a lifetime. After visiting the campus, there was no doubt in my mind that this was where I wanted to spend my senior year of college,” said Hoffmann.

The Lake Erie students, faculty and staff gave Hoffmann one of his best experiences ever. A degree from a U.S. college is highly regarded in Germany and gives a student a clear competitive advantage.

Using his will to succeed, Hoffmann graduated from the College in 2008 with a bachelor of science in international business. He returned to Germany to begin working at one of the world’s largest professional service organizations, Ernst & Young (EY), as a project manager working for the Managing Partner of Germany, Switzerland and Austria (GSA). EY and Hoffmann fit together through similar traits of enthusiasm, courage and doing the right thing.

“Before attending Lake Erie College, I worked as a freelancer for EY. I enjoyed the international environment, the spirit, the energy and the company that encouraged critical thinking, giving suggestions to the leadership team and being part of the future of EY,” said Hoffmann.

Hoffmann was eager to join EY on a permanent basis as soon as he graduated, an opportunity he quickly embraced. Over time, he developed into a role as assistant chief operating officer for the tax department of EY in GSA. The next year, he moved back to Chicago to coordinate the inbound and outbound business between the tax department and with GSA and the United States, in addition to his assistant chief operating officer role.

“This job gives me the opportunity to travel throughout the United States and at least once a month to Europe. My main offices are in Chicago and Cologne, 

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On May 18, 2011, I awoke with butterflies in my stomach as an incredible wave of excitement fell over me. The day that I had been so anxiously awaiting had finally arrived; today I would be embarking on my incredible journey to a country I had only dreamed about visiting for as long as I could remember: Italy. Later that afternoon, I found myself at the Cleveland International Airport with 16 other seniors and our two advisors, Dr. Paola Basile, associate professor of Italian and French, and Steven Gutierrez, assistant professor of integrated media, ready to board our flight to New York City. Unfortunately, menacing clouds and maintenance issues hindered our departure, and it was with heavy hearts that we made our way to a hotel in Independence for the night.

The following evening, after further delays, major rushing and our patience with airports wearing pretty thin, we were finally on our way to Italy. And, nine and a half hours later, we arrived in awe upon observing the seemingly never-ending rolling hills, lush vineyards, and the overall beauty surrounding me. As the afternoon sun smiled down upon the Tuscan countryside, I was transported to another world. Exploring Castellina in Chianti truly allowed me to immerse myself in the language and culture of Italy, even if only for a short period of time. I found that the locals spoke little English; this did not pose a problem for me, as I was happy to converse with them in Italian. Visiting the open air markets in the morning, I purchased the freshest strawberries and cherries, still warm from the sunshine. Now, back at home, I am still dreaming about finding fruit as sweet and delectable as that in Castellina in Chianti. At the small grocery store, I was always greeted with a friendly smile and offered a tasty sample, like a slice of prosciutto. The gelateria in Castellina boasted an array of flavors, including rose, making it exceedingly difficult to choose just two or three. I was never disappointed in the new flavors I tried; in fact, choosing just one as my favorite was impossible.

While staying at the Hotel Squarcialupi, we visited various cities, including San Gimignano, Siena, Florence and Pisa. Each of these places, while still in the region of Tuscany, was remarkably unique. San Gimignano is a medieval hill town, and I enjoyed visiting the local shops, talking with people and admiring their craftsmanship. Florence, on the other hand, is a huge city, and there is something new to discover around every corner. It was truly amazing to observe the contrast between cities like Florence and Castellina in Chianti. Both are rich in history and culture, yet diverse and unique in their own ways.

After spending four amazing nights in the countryside, we said “Arrivederci” to the quieter, calmer pace of life, and “Ciao” to the international hub of Rome. The eternal city opened my eyes to a vast array of cultures, and I was amazed at the blend of ancient and new within the city. Visiting old ruins, walking on roads built by the ancient Romans, and seeing sights that I have learned and read about, was really incredible. I was amazed at how well the many fountains (the Trevi...
A select group of Scholars (Honors) students traveled to Washington D.C. during fall semester break as part of our inaugural Scholars Academic Travel Series. It is our hope to offer similar travel experiences each fall semester as part of the Scholars academic programming. In addition to visiting the traditional sites and attractions, the goal of these trips is to introduce students to more substantial aspects of the visited city than the average tourist might encounter. While enjoying full days of traditional sightseeing and museum-hopping in Washington, students also participated in a variety of special meetings and private tours.

As examples of exposure to Washington culture, students had the opportunity to meet with local congressional representative Steven LaTourette to discuss national issues directly related to their areas of study. LaTourette also provided a guided historical overview and behind-the-scenes tour of the U.S. Capitol presented by one of his aides. Students then met with Marc Machter, interim director of the Smithsonian Museum of National History, and were given a private tour of the museum by one of the senior curators, Dr. David Allison.

The other important goal of the series is to connect students to Lake Erie College alumni in the host city. This is designed to demonstrate the varied paths alumni follow to achieve career success or prominence in the communities they serve. Alumna Janet Bullinger ’60 graciously hosted a reception for our Scholars at the University Club and shared her own personal journey from LEC to life in Washington D.C., where she now serves as a docent for the Supreme Court.

Dr. Susan Culotta, director of the Scholars Program, served as faculty advisor of the trip. She was joined by her husband, Judge Vince Culotta, who provided the context for discussions regarding the Supreme Court and other related institutions in Washington. To view a slideshow of the trip, visit www.lec.edu/scholars.

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What is intriguing to young students about traveling to countries across the world? Could it be the thrill of not knowing what to expect? Is it the amount of focus and willpower needed that captures the curious eye? Whether it is escaping everyday life or just wanting to experience life away from home, the idea of experiential learning and unlimited opportunities has become a hot commodity at Lake Erie College.

From the Baffin Islands to the Amazon and now to India, Lake Erie College students have set the bar high for world travel. Alumna Sandi Nypaver ’11 trekked the Baffin Islands, and senior Bridget Beury communicated with the indigenous people in the Amazon. From Nov. 28 - Dec. 4, senior Jessica Kenny participated in a 270 km. run across the Thar Desert in Rajasthan, India.

Kenny received an email at the end of July, selecting her as a youth ambassador for the run across India with the Impossible 2 Possible (i2P) program. The focus of the travel would be world health while vicariously exploring the future of our youth. Other youth ambassadors who would join Kenny were from Illinois, Canada and India.

“I ran a half marathon once before, but this was my first time experiencing long-distance running, a challenge I was eager to accept,” said Kenny.

Kenny followed a strict training schedule to prepare her to run a marathon a day for seven days. As she arrived in India, the environment was the greatest shock of all. Trash filled the streets, houses were made from clay, and animals such as buffalo, antelope, goats and sheep ruled the roads.

“About 1 km. into the running, we were chased by a buffalo. The girls ran ahead as the guys stayed behind with rocks in each hand. It was definitely something to experience,” Kenny said.

Along with running, Kenny and the rest of her i2P team visited various health clinics and hospitals, sharing their experiences with followers across the world via videos and photos. Public facilities were not available; showering consisted of baby wipes and bushes turned into toilets.

Unfortunately, on Day Two, Kenny began experiencing pain in her lower shin. Feeling discouraged, the other youth ambassadors ran to her side, literally.

“Harshveer took long walking strides beside me while Emma wore my hydration pack to relieve some of the weight,” said Kenny.

As her energy became low and the pain increased, Kenny’s spirits remained

“When your legs get tired, run with your heart”

by Katie Staats ’09, MBA ’11

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Lake Erie College has been blessed with over 10,000 generous and successful alumni who continue to give back in unimaginable ways. The idea of giving back doesn't always equate to dollars, but the chance to reach out to young students who have not yet taken that first step towards their career. Through an internship in California, junior Kyle Johnston and senior Jeremiah Dotson, both military veterans, were able to pursue their dreams and confirm their future direction.

After the military, Johnston and Dotson were unsure of their career. They began their educational journey at the community college level and became interested in media and production. It was at Lake Erie College and courses with Steve Gutierrez, assistant professor of integrated media, that they became interested in the Los Angeles (LA) Internship program.

“We were looking for a production or media-based internship so we could experience video editing, creating effects and hands-on work rather than just shadowing someone,” said Johnston.

The LA Internship program was made possible by a generous donation benefiting Lake Erie College and Emerson College from Lake Erie alumna Carol (Lewis) Morris ’67 and her husband, Robert Morris. The Morrises provide housing, transportation and several meals while matching students with professionals in the media, public relations, advertising/marketing, film and television and corporate/business communication industries.

Johnston and Dotson arrived in Los Angeles for six weeks of business exploration. After settling in, they met with the program’s coordinator, Janice Payne, and the other students involved in the program.

Initially, Johnston and Dotson worked closely with two non-profit organizations: Boarding for Breast Cancer (B4BC) and The Wall Las Memorias Project. Their tasks consisted of shooting, editing and fully producing promotional videos. They also worked at a Spanish film festival for the release of the movie “Cowboys and Aliens” at The Egyptian Theatre. In addition, Dotson had the opportunity to work for a game show called “Supersaver Showdown” featured on the Oprah Winfrey Network.

As the trip progressed, Johnston and Dotson were invited to stay with Brian Weidling, owner of Tumbleweed Entertainment, a digital and new media company based in Brentwood, Calif.

“Weidling was one of the various people we met who taught us about funding, networking and ways to increase self-branding,” said Johnston. “He is still a very good connection to this day.”

Johnston and Dotson have been offered several production-based jobs after working on a documentary called “Symphony of Hope,” based on the 2010 Haiti disaster. They devised a system of cohesion and crunching numbers, which required 16-20 hours of work per day.

“Symphony of Hope: The Haiti Project” began as a musical fundraising project designed to help the thousands of lives that were ruined by the Haiti disaster. The musical collaboration contains 25 of today’s leading Oscar, Tony, Grammy and Emmy-winning composers.

“Kyle and I were able to finish synching audio and other requirements in one week, a project that top editors said would have taken three months to complete,” said Dotson. “We had ownership of this project and we wanted to finish it before we left, and we did.”

Johnston is majoring in integrated media, digital art and technology and Dotson is double majoring in integrated media, digital art and technology and marketing with a minor in Italian. The pair is currently brainstorming ideas to help jump start their own production business and open the doors to new opportunities.
The Painesville Area Chamber of Commerce annually selects one area resident to receive the prestigious award of Citizen of the Year. In 2012, that person is Michael T. Victor, president of Lake Erie College. Victor was honored at a dinner held at LaMalfa Party Center on Jan. 29.

Richard A. Kessler, current member and former co-chair of the Lake Erie College Board of Directors, introduced Victor to the large crowd in attendance that evening. He talked about chairing the selection committee that chose Victor as president of Lake Erie College in 2006. "Victor's life goal was to be the president of a college or university. He always wanted to be in education, always wanted to help direct the formation of the lives of young people," Kessler said. "At Lake Erie, he has done exactly that."

Victor has accomplished a great deal in his six years as president of Lake Erie College, not only for the College, but also for the community. His leadership is evident in the aggressive programs that are now in place, the buildings and campus that reflect a new image, and the overall dynamic culture of student life. Victor's accomplishments at the College have been discussed in previous issues of Lake Erie, but what hasn't been touched upon is what he has done to transform Painesville itself.

On beautiful Saturday afternoons in the fall, the sights and sounds of football waft from the grounds surrounding Jack Britt Memorial Stadium. Fans enjoy tailgate lunches; cheerleaders, bagpipers and the mascot Stormy himself add their own blend of pageantry; and an overall aura of excitement fills the air. During the games themselves, the stands are filled to capacity with screaming fans as the football players battle for supremacy on the field.

In his acceptance speech, Victor spoke of the formation of the Lake Erie College Storm football team and how it is tied to his past. He had tried out for football while in high school, but his coach told him the following when he was cut: "Victor, you have no talent. You will get hurt if you remain on the field. You and football have no future together."

Football was in Michael Victor's future, however. His vision made Storm Football possible, and it is the same with the other 22 sports in which Lake Erie College athletes now compete.

Performances in Morley Music Building by groups like Apollo’s Fire; presentations by nationally known speakers such as Bob Ballard; and celebrations of long-held traditions including Founders Day bring capacity audiences to campus.

Michael Victor’s vision helped to make these events happen, also.

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Dr. Kim McQuaid quoted in national magazine

Dr. Kim McQuaid, emeritus professor of history, was recently quoted in “Mother Jones” national magazine in an article on “Plutocracy Now” by former “New York Times” reporter, Kevin Drum. Drum’s article investigates U.S. liberalism’s de facto abandonment of many “working class” economic issues and the rise of organized big business lobbying groups in the 1970s, 1980s and beyond. McQuaid has published two books on the latter subject, as well as an article in the “Harvard Business Review.”

McQuaid said that reading historical change “on the fly” like this is risqué for a mere historian; but, his teachers in economic history in the Economics Department at Northwestern University encouraged him to try, and so he did.

Simin Naraghipour served others throughout her life

Simin Gharib Naraghipour was a noted educator, journalist and volunteer. She had been a member of the Lake Erie College Board of Directors for two years when she died of cancer on Dec. 29 at age 64. With her passing, the College lost a good friend, inspirational leader and devoted ambassador.

Naraghipour met with President Victor earlier in December, requesting that her funeral service be held in Morley Music Building on the Lake Erie College campus. She also asked Victor to speak at her service, an honor he considered to be very special.

Naraghipour spent her life, just as she did her last days, thinking of others. She taught French in area public and private schools and was a professor of French literature, languages and film at Case Western Reserve University and other colleges, including Lake Erie. She also spent seven years as a film reviewer and entertainment reporter on WJW-TV 8 in Cleveland.

She was most known, however, for the volunteer work she did for a number of Cleveland-area institutions. She served on the boards of the Holden Arboretum, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland Institute of Art, Hiram College and Le Cercle des Conférences Françaises de Cleveland, in addition to Lake Erie College.

Naraghipour regularly opened her home as the gathering place for groups to plan benefits for these and other organizations. She was a gourmet cook and often planned and carried out elaborate parties and fundraisers, mostly using a French theme.

“She had the ability to motivate people to get involved, come to events and contribute,” said Scott Evans, vice president for institutional advancement.

On the recreational level, she was an avid and talented tennis player. She played tennis almost daily and always carried a racquet in her car, in case the opportunity to play arose unexpectedly.

Naraghipour was born in Tehran and moved as a young child to New York City, then to Minnesota and finally to Northeast Ohio. She graduated from Case Western Reserve University, earning baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees in French. She and her husband, Dr. Hossein Naraghipour, had one daughter, Pari.

Victor said at her funeral service, “I admired Simi for her many inspirational qualities – her abundant and positive energy, compassion, dedication, and passion for people. Even when she was planning her own funeral, she was thinking of fundraising events, because that is who she is and was – a servant for the good of others.”

Her sister, Susie Gharib, who anchors PBS’s “Nightly Business Report,” said during the service, “She had a zest for life. Simin was like a thousand-watt light bulb.”

Simin Gharib Naraghipour’s light bulb will remain lit forever, in the hearts of the many persons whose lives she touched. We at Lake Erie College are privileged that she shared part of her life with us.
Gifts of life insurance help the College

A gift of life insurance can be another charitable option to consider. Lake Erie College accepts gifts of life insurance either as the beneficiary of a policy or as the sole owner and sole beneficiary. Either way, we can use these gifts to enrich our students’ experiences.

You may name Lake Erie College as the primary beneficiary of your life insurance policy as a contingent beneficiary, should your other beneficiaries not survive you. After your lifetime, the benefits from your policy pass to the College free of federal estate tax. Changing your beneficiaries is easy. Simply contact your insurance carrier and request a change of beneficiary form. Since you can change this arrangement at any time, it does not qualify for a current charitable tax deduction.

You may also donate your paid-up life insurance. When you make a gift of a whole life policy that is fully paid up, your charitable deduction is measured by your policy’s replacement cost or your cost basis, whichever is less. If your policy is not fully paid up, your deduction cannot exceed your cost basis. The exact value in either case can be obtained from your life insurance company. An outright gift of life insurance usually qualifies for the maximum charitable deduction limitation of 50 percent of your adjusted gross income.

For more information about gifts of life insurance, bequests or other planned gifts and how to become a member of The Reuben Hitchcock Society, please call Scott Evans, vice president for institutional advancement, at 440.375.7255.

Books still needed!

The book collection in the Victor Manor House Library has undergone a complete transformation in recent years, thanks to the generosity of several alumni and friends of the College. The shelves are starting to look almost like they did when Charles Morley added the fireproof library addition to the Manor House in 1921. Many beautiful leather-bound and embossed sets now grace the shelves, and first editions of books can be found scattered throughout. Additional books are still needed to complete the transformation – if you have any pre-World War II books in good condition that you would like to donate, please contact Holly Menzie at 440.375.7240 or hmenzie@lec.edu. Thank you in advance for your commitment and generosity to this special project!
Class act: Class of 1960 endows scholarship

After the recent establishment of their endowed scholarship fund, the Class of 1960 has reached their goal of raising $50,000, the largest gift ever given by a Lake Erie College class. Fifty-six members and friends contributed to the scholarship which will be awarded for the 2012-13 academic year.

Leaders of the fundraising effort were 1960 alumnae Joan Blanchard Gay, Kathie Stamm Havener and Delores Persichitti Saada. These ladies were instrumental in encouraging their classmates to donate to the fund, and the College thanks them for their special efforts.

The Class of 1960 Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund was established during Homecoming Alumni Weekend 2010 in honor of their 50th anniversary and in memory of their deceased classmates. The milestone was acknowledged by President Victor during the 2011 Homecoming Alumni Weekend in the Louise Price Social Parlor, where the idea began one year earlier.

The scholarship will be awarded to students demonstrating financial need, with preference given to students who have shown a high level of commitment to their classmates and/or the College through their individual or group efforts and activities.

Alumna attorney joins the College board

Maria E. Quinn joined the Lake Erie College Board of Directors in October 2011. She has over 25 years of experience in estate planning for individuals and families, including trust preparation, guardianships, probate, estate and trust administration, elder law and charitable planned giving.

Quinn is experienced in the organization and governance of non-profit institutions and counsels both the institution and the individual in choosing the appropriate charitable gift-giving techniques. She serves in a variety of roles for area nonprofit organizations and family foundations and will serve on the institutional advancement committee of the College board to share her knowledge of planned giving with her alma mater.

Quinn has been a guest on area television and radio talk shows. She has been published or quoted in “Money Magazine,” the “Cleveland Bar Journal,” the “Plain Dealer,” “Cleveland Magazine,” “Northern Ohio Live,” “Crain’s Cleveland Business” and “LaGazzetta Newspaper.” She has been profiled in Cleveland Magazine’s “Inside Business” as one of “Northern Ohio’s Top Estate and Trust Attorneys (December 2001-2008).

She graduated from Garfield Senior College with a B.S. in accounting and finance (cum laude) in 1976 and earned her juris doctorate degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1979.
As part of the liberal arts education Lake Erie College instills within its scholars, we as students tend to focus on our continuous search through the human spirit. Through our broadened knowledge, we are taught to explore ourselves by learning about other cultures and the values of customs from around the world. An important lesson we are taught through our studies is the value of tradition, especially around Christmas.

In years past, before Christmas vacation, Lake Erie students participated in an ancient tradition and English custom, the “hanging of the greens.” Students decorated the College in the spirit of the season, gathered in Social Parlor to usher in the College's traditional Yuletide customs and welcomed the festive atmosphere the holiday season brings. With arms brimming with decorations waiting to be placed, students joined together in singing familiar carols from around the world, followed by the reading of a warm-hearted Christmas story before the Parlor's pine-adorned fireplace.

Another special College tradition is the Vespers program. Vespers is one of the best-loved traditions in the life of the Lake Erie student. Weekly Sunday Vespers programs date back to the early 1900s, with the last Sunday event before finals being designated “Christmas Vespers.”

As the only surviving Vespers program, Christmas Vespers is presented annually in all its pageantry and almost all of the same elements as nearly a century ago. The Christmas Vespers program traditionally features the semester-long efforts of the Music Department, including those of students, faculty, musical ensembles and invited guests. As tradition, the service begins in light and concludes in darkness, as the aura of candlelight fills the auditorium of the music hall in a seasonal glow.

When LEC alumna Delores Saada ’60 was asked about her own College memory of Vespers, she spoke of her most-loved experience on campus. “Christmas Vespers, especially in Morley Music Building, was such a special occasion for us all! It’s been 50 years, but I remember precisely. All of us girls were so excited to hear the majestic organ as it was refurbished that year at Christmas time. I recall President Weaver spoke at the conclusion of the program my senior year. He wanted to remind us of the reason behind the season and how fortunate we were to take part in such a special tradition at Lake Erie College. Each year, when my classmates get together and talk about our College experiences at our alumni reunion, Christmas Vespers is one of those special memories we will forever hold dear to our hearts.”

A remnant of the past still held today following Christmas Vespers is a lavish formal dinner held in honor of the holiday season. A candlelit meal, exquisite formal wear and splashes of evergreen and holly decorating the tables make the occasion memorable for today's students. The dinner is a time-honored tradition President Victor has kept.

The newest tradition introduced on campus is an intertwining of past and present – behold, the tree lighting ceremony! Presented first during the 2010 holiday season, President Victor established this custom for current and future students to keep the College's value of tradition alive. Following the conclusion of the Vespers program, the president leads the College community to the 25-foot decorated pine tree placed in front of Kilcawley Hall for a tree-lighting ceremony.
Sophomore student Skyler Nick explains, “It's a celebration of the holiday season in a countdown from ten to zero, similar to a New Year's celebration as the tree is lit. Once the tree is lit, what follows is the roar and applause of the cheering college community welcoming the Christmas season!”

Through our broadened knowledge, we are taught to explore ourselves by learning about other cultures and the values of customs from around the world. An important lesson we are taught through our studies is the value of tradition, especially around Christmas.
Apollo’s Fire concert delights capacity audience

Cleveland-based baroque orchestra Apollo’s Fire delighted a standing room-only crowd November 2 as Lake Erie College presented a musical treat in the spirit of its liberal arts foundation. Morley Music Building came alive as Jeanette Sorell led the 13-piece orchestra for an evening of unforgettable music and moving arias.

The concert, “Fireworks,” featured highlights from Apollo’s Fire 2011 international tour. Dueling pairs of instrumental soloists faced off in Vivaldi concertos, and baritone Jeffrey Strauss sang opera arias written for Handel’s superstars of the stage.

The audience was on their feet in a standing ovation for what was unequivocally one of their best shows the College has hosted. “We are excited to partner with an international talent that is located right in our backyard. Apollo’s Fire brings much more than music to the stage; students can see opportunities in music exploration, entrepreneurship, business and travel and what dedication and commitment will produce as they work to develop their career and follow their dreams,” said President Victor.

Bike-a-thon

President Victor, along with students, faculty and staff, participated in the College’s first-ever Bike-a-thon fundraising event. Participants rode a stationary bike in the Arthur S. Holden Center for 30-minute intervals throughout the 24-hour event. The Student Government Association raised just over $320 through the Bike-a-thon. These proceeds, along with $500 raised in November by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, were donated to the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

“48 Hours of Making Art”

Local artists came together to simultaneously work on pieces for two full days. The art was displayed in Royce Hall for the Fine and Performing Arts in an exhibition called “48 Hours of Making Art.” Viewers, including Lake Erie College students and persons from the local community, were able to meet with the artists and engage in discussion. Theater, dance and musical performances were performed throughout the exhibition.
DisCanto

DisCanto, an Italian recording band, presented a concert of ethnic music in Morley Music Building on Oct. 9, 2011. DisCanto’s music reflects influences of the Mediterranean and Abruzzo regions, combining lyrics and vocals with the guitar, mandolin, violin, cello, accordion, percussion and traditional bagpipes.

Observations of behavior during riding classes included data on calmness, response to riders’ cues, tail swishing, agitation and suppleness in movement. In the stalls, physical and behavioral characteristics such as pawing were also observed. Equestrian students Holly Hendershot, Jessica Meyer, Bridget Beury, Taylor Graham and Ashley Townsend along with Mary Pardee, instructor of equine studies, all contributed their hard work to the study.
Fencing Club

The Lake Erie College Fencing Club, a new student organization, has opened the doors to those interested in learning the art, science and sport of sword play. Members can engage in basic fencing skills such as footwork, attacking and parrying, while receiving instruction in the classic French school style of foil fencing. The Lake Erie College Fencing Club has an inaugural roster of 12 members and welcomes new participants.

Flute Choir

Under the direction of flautist Judith Elias, the Lake Erie College Flute Choir celebrated its tenth anniversary during the annual Christmas Vespers concert in Morley Music Building. The choir presented a beautiful set of four works, including two in collaboration with the Community Chorus. The program also featured faculty and student soloists with works by Bach, Sowerby, Tchaikovsky, Rutter, Fauré, Manz and many others.

Rainbow Radiothon

Seven Storm football players volunteered their time during the annual WDOK Rainbow Radiothon at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital in Cleveland. For a two-hour shift on Dec. 9, athletes Mike Robare, Taylor Leppla, Sam Marcotte, Ben Bryan, Brian Standiford, Brendan Gallagher and Ryan Bitzer answered phones and took donations to benefit the hospital.

The team’s involvement in the radiothon was arranged by Emily Hazzard, wife of Storm offensive coordinator Jerry Hazzard. The couple’s first child, Jerry IV, was born 14 weeks premature and spent over 100 days at Rainbow before coming home.

B Fit 4 Life Corporate Challenge

Twenty employees from Lake Erie College are competing in the B Fit 4 Life Corporate Challenge, a five-month long initiative against 32 other local businesses. The idea is to increase the level of physical activity and overall fitness while achieving the maximum amount of participation from the entire team. The team, calling themselves Team Tiberius, is led by Vice President Robin McDermott.

The challenge began on January 1 and will consist of completing six monthly events by May 31. Some events include snowshoeing, a biathlon, boot camp, disc golf and Zumba. Teams also have the option of competing in the Lake Health half marathon in June. The overall champion will receive a B Fit 4 Life trophy and the 7th annual Lake Health Heart of the Community award.
In November, the Storm Athletics Department sent four representatives to the 2011 NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum in Chicago. Juniors Samantha Smith (cross-country and track) and Zach Mosbarger (baseball) attended the forum with Griz Zimmerman, athletic director, and Lisa Liotta, coordinator of athletic facilities. The forum’s goal was to enhance the self-confidence and leadership skills of a diverse and dynamic group of over 400 athletes and administrators.

During the forum, the group participated in a series of activities, starting with a game of Ultimate Rock-Paper-Scissors, an elimination tournament among the 400-plus representatives. The game set the mood for the rest of the forum, as all of the representatives were compelled to meet one another and experience being with athletes and administrators like themselves. Other icebreaker activities included a dance competition and team “Olympics,” which featured various competitions.

The athletes from schools of various sizes, locations and demographics conversed and laughed about how similar their joys and stresses were, no matter the level of competition at which they play. Every athlete has inconvenient practice times, a coach he or she may or may not like, and teammates with personal conflicts. While sharing experiences and socializing was fun for the first evening, the NCAA had additional plans for building the group’s skills.

Before traveling to the event, each representative had to fill out a DISC (dominance, influence, steadiness, compliance) assessment, which classifies four aspects of behavior by testing a person’s preferences. Upon arrival, everyone was told that they scored within one of the four classifications and were separated according to their score. This separation allowed the representatives to learn about traits that many didn’t know they had and traits to look for (and work with) in other people. These groups then went to select activities, such as guest speakers relevant to their traits or instructional sessions to hone particular skills.

The forum had other purposes as well. It served as a chance for athletes and administrators to be together for an NCAA governance meeting, which discussed actions and rules concerning sportsmanship and teamwork. The forum also introduced ideas for schools’ Student-Athlete Advisory Committees, which typically govern schools’ athletes and carry out numerous fundraisers.

As a challenge to the representatives, the NCAA arranged for a practical challenge during the weekend. Children from a local group were brought to the forum to help make no-sew blankets for the Salvation Army. Together, the representatives made 200 blankets in just 90 minutes. Their teamwork proved that they could accomplish nearly anything when they worked together.

To close the forum, the NCAA brought in two guest speakers, author Kevin Carroll and legendary NFL coach Don Shula. Carroll shared an inspirational story urging the athletes to get out more and be active in life and their community, and avoid being strapped down with modern technology. Shula motivated the attendees to take initiative and make an impact during every day.

Both Smith and Mosbarger find themselves volunteering and helping others more often. They learned that there’s no time to be shy in life and that no one is too ‘cool’ to do anything. Smith and Mosbarger had a life-changing experience at the convention, learning about themselves and how to do more positive things for the world around them.

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Nick Twins in “National Geographic”

Sophomores Skyler and Spencer Nick were featured in an article focusing on identical twins in the January 2012 issue of “National Geographic.” The article explained that even though some twins may have the same eyes, hair color and DNA, they can still yield different personalities. Spencer was too shy to pose for picture day in kindergarten, so he switched shirts with his brother, although their mother wasn’t fooled. In high school wrestling, the twins would often try to fool the referee during a match by wrestling for each other.

“We feel blessed to have been featured in and represent Lake Erie College in such a widely known publication,” said the twins.

Mountain Day

Students and other members of the Lake Erie College community celebrated the annual Mountain Day tradition on Sept. 26, 2011. The morning began with pipers and drummers as the students awoke from their slumber. The day continued with a special breakfast, inflatable activities, the East Coast Custard van, campus-wide treasure box hunt and cookout. Mountain Day concluded with a delicious steak dinner in the Arthur S. Holden Center.

“The Philadelphia Story”

The Lake Erie College Department of Theatre welcomed thespians to the 1939 classic romantic comedy, “The Philadelphia Story.” The production, directed by Dr. Jerry C. Jaffe, assistant professor of theatre, told the story of Tracy Lord, played by freshman Katie Hovlik, a young socialite whose wedding plans were complicated by the simultaneous arrival of her ex-husband, played by area actor Boyce Blanchard, and an attractive journalist, played by faculty member Matt Theisen. The supporting cast included students Michelle Trask, Kristen Tapassi, Richard Keay, Michael Prince and Patrick Abbey. Community actors included Elaine Mesaros and Bruce Bogart.
In early 2011, the College initiated the Veteran Education and Transition Support (V.E.T.S.) program, and many great strides have been made for the benefit of those who have served our country. V.E.T.S. supports active duty, veteran and dependent students with guidance in their curriculum and assistance through the College's administrative processes.

Lake Erie College is also home to its own chapter of the Student Veterans of America (SVA), the StormVets. Lake Erie College was also named a 2012 Military Friendly School by “G.I. Jobs,” the premier magazine for military personnel transitioning into civilian life.

While the recognition and honors the College receives are certainly remarkable, the actual service provided to veterans is astonishing. Many veterans are currently enrolled in the program, each with different backgrounds, accomplishments and needs. Every veteran enrolled in the program is guided by Bob Mastronicola, program coordinator. Mastronicola is a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Going above and beyond the call of duty, Lake Erie College and Mastronicola have gone so far as to provide veterans with “The Bunker,” a veterans-only area for studying and socializing. The Bunker, furnished with a TV, comfortable furniture, microwave and coffee maker, supports veterans through the daily dealings of being students. It was made possible through donations from several local American Legion and VFW posts.

A large number of veterans can be found on any given day in The Bunker. Former and active service men and women and their dependents all make use of the facility. Some focus on their studies, but many engage in the College community and take advantage of the many extra-curricular opportunities, such as student groups, Greek affiliations and NCAA athletics that are available.

One veteran, Matt Tapassi, has taken full advantage of the V.E.T.S. program, working with Mastronicola to ensure that he’s maximizing his military benefits, getting the most out of his classes and professors and enjoying his time on campus.

A sergeant in the Army Reserve, Tapassi had two tours in Afghanistan, doing various assignments such as long-range surveillance, personnel recovery and infantry patrol; he even served as a paratrooper. Life at home changed in his time overseas and made his reacclimation to civilian life a difficult challenge, which led Tapassi to reach out to new avenues to better himself. Tapassi was

Continued on page 45
The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) is nationally recognized in NCAA Division II for its blend of strong athletics and academics. The conference boasts 246 athletic teams and nearly 5,000 student-athletes. Only one of those students gets the honor of representing the GLIAC at the NCAA level and, for the next three years, that student-athlete will be Lake Erie College sophomore wrestler Jared Merritt (Cranesville, Pa./Northwestern).

Merritt was nominated to be the GLIAC representative on the National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) board. SAAC is a student-athlete run organization on campuses across the country with the mission of “enhancing the total student-athlete experience by promoting opportunity, protecting student-athlete welfare and fostering a positive student-athlete image.”

Merritt’s new responsibilities will include attending and participating in the three national SAAC conferences each year and running the two annual GLIAC SAAC conferences. At the national SAAC conferences, he will discuss and vote on proposed NCAA legislation and issues and make recommendations on best practices for coaches and institutions which address the concerns of the student-athletes. Along the way he will meet student-athletes, athletic directors and other key personnel from institutions throughout the country as well as key figures with the NCAA.

“It’s a real honor to have been chosen to this important position,” said Merritt.

“It’s a wonderful opportunity to be representing the GLIAC at a national level. The people I meet there are going to be great contacts, and I can learn a lot from them and how they became successful through athletics and college.”

“It’s a great chance for professional development for Jared,” said Lisa Liotta, Lake Erie College’s SAAC co-advisor, assistant athletic director for sport operations and student.
development, and senior woman administrator. “In addition to representing the GLIAC at a national level, he’ll be able to learn what it’s like in the professional world – be it wearing a suit, getting experience on proper greetings and meetings, or just general proper etiquette techniques.”

Merritt got involved with Lake Erie SAAC in the fall of his freshman year due to its mission and community projects. These include raising funds for charities such as the Make-a-Wish and Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundations, and community-involvement projects such as playing bingo with the elderly at local nursing homes and helping to run events for the Special Olympics.

SAAC is not the only group Merritt has invested his time with during his days on the Painesville campus. In addition to being a member of the Storm wrestling squad, the sophomore is also a residence assistant, orientation leader and member of student government.

“Since the day he stepped on campus, Jared has embraced what it means to be a Lake Erie student-athlete,” said Kevin Hoogenboom, head wrestling coach. “Jared is a leader on and off the mat and is recognized by his peers for his dedication and strong work ethic.”

More than any other, there is one activity from which visitors to Lake Erie would recognize the Cranesville, Pa. native – singing the national anthem at various Storm sporting events, including football and basketball games. Merritt is also a member of the Lake Erie Glee Club.

“I love being involved and think the college experience is a lot more than just athletics or just academics,” said Jared Merritt. “To have a good college experience, you need to be well-rounded. You get to meet so many people, and the connections and friendships you can make are priceless.”

“Pretty much everybody who is in national SAAC is one of those student leaders on campus – presidents of almost every club they’re in, hands in everything going on,” said Liotta. “They’re great kids, maybe not necessarily all-star athletes, but team players who are always go-to persons when you need something.”

“I love being involved and think the college experience is a lot more than just athletics or just academics,” said Jared Merritt. “To have a good college experience, you need to be well-rounded.”

That description is a great portrayal of what Merritt has brought to the Storm’s wrestling program during his – and its – first two seasons. As a freshman in Lake Erie’s inaugural season of wrestling in 2010-11, Merritt was a full-time starter at the 184-pound weight class, winning eight matches. This season, Merritt’s role has been reduced to part-time action at two weight classes, but the sophomore is as committed to the program as ever.

“I believe I’m wrestling better than last year, but (sophomore) Zev Green (Marysville, Ohio/Marysville) is a great wrestler too, and is doing positive things for the team,” said Merritt. “So, being a sophomore, I’m trying to be a role model for the freshmen. We all came in last year without experience or set leadership, so we sort of had to find our own way. Now that we’ve done that, we can bring that experience to the younger guys on the team.”

Being a wrestler is going to make Merritt stand out when he attends his first national SAAC meeting in July. He is the only wrestler on the Division II national board and is believed to be the only wrestler represented among all NCAA divisions.

“Wrestlers are usually thought of as just a bunch of meatheads,” jokes Merritt with a chuckle. “It’s a real honor representing the sport of wrestling, and I think it’s good for the sport of wrestling to have one of its own to represent it on the national SAAC.”

This season is wrestling’s first as an official sport in the GLIAC and is just Lake Erie’s second as a member of the conference. It is a major honor for a junior institution of the conference to be recognized for its highest student-athlete position.

“Before even our first year in the GLIAC, one of our members [track and field runner Zach Adams] was the vice-chair of the GLIAC SAAC,” said Liotta. “Now having the national representative, we’re continuing to put our name out there as an institution and showing we’re here to be an integral part of the GLIAC.”

“[Representing Lake Erie] is a great honor,” said Merritt, who intends to attend law school after his time at Lake Erie. “I love the school and we are doing so many great things here. Just getting into the GLIAC we can be overlooked by bigger schools, but we really are showing that even though we have small numbers, we are doing big things.”
Winter sports teams making national waves

At press time, Lake Erie College has already had three student-athletes qualify for the 2012 national championships in their respective sports. Freshman Ivan Cizmar (Zagreb, Croatia) reached an “A Cut” time in the men’s 200-yard backstroke in a meet at Ohio Wesleyan University in late November to automatically qualify him for the NCAA Division II Swimming & Diving Championships, becoming the first Storm swimmer to achieve that feat.

Freshman Joe Postwaite (Rochester, N.Y./Gates-Chilli) has leapt to the national stage by provisionally qualifying for the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field championships in the triple jump. He’s joined by a familiar face, 2010 All-American junior Isaac Snyder (Salesville, Ohio/Buckeye Trail) who hit provisional qualifying in the heptathlon in his first meet of the season. The Storm men entered the season ranked 11th nationally in the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) Computer Rankings and were ranked 13th when this issue went to print.

In addition, sophomore swimmer Julian Milinkovsky (Ukraine) has four NCAA “B Cuts” on the year and was selected as a national “Swimmer of the Week” by the website Collegeswimming.com after winning four individual events at the Ohio Wesleyan invitational.

The Storm women’s basketball team has made one of the most dramatic turnarounds in the country this season. After posting a 3-22 overall record last year, including a 2-17 conference mark, Lake Erie opened the season by winning its first seven games and were 13-4 (7-3 GLIAC) and contending for a playoff berth at the end of January.

In their second season, the LEC wrestlers posted two wins over nationally-ranked opponents, including a thrilling 25-12 win over then 12th-ranked West Liberty University at home on Dec. 14. Freshman Matt Vandermeer (Clarkston, Mich./Clarkston) became the first Lake Erie grappler to surpass the 20-win mark individually and was ranked as high as seventh nationally in the 165-pound weight class. He was also one of nine Storm wrestlers to earn top-eight regional rankings in mid-January.

For updates on these teams, student-athletes and more log on to LakeErieStorm.com.

Major League draft pick Ryan Rua honored with special night at LEC

Lake Erie College formally recognized former baseball standout Ryan Rua during halftime of the men’s basketball game against Wayne State University Dec. 1. Rua, an All-American at shortstop during his career in the green and white, became the first player in school history to be drafted when he was selected by the Texas Rangers in the 17th round of the June First-Year Player Draft. Head Coach Brian McGee, Director of Athletics Griz Zimmermann and Rua’s former teammates and coaches took part in a special ceremony honoring Rua’s accomplishments.

Coach McGee and the team presented him with a framed jersey from his playing days and his parents with a special framed print of Ryan in a Storm uniform and that of the minor league Spokane Indians, the team he played with last summer after being drafted. Rua is currently in Spring Training in Arizona preparing for the 2012 season.
Lake Erie College junior pole vaulter Eric Klucar (Medina, Ohio/Highland) has been invited to represent Team USA at the 2012 World Deaf Athletics Championships to be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada July 15-21. This is the second year for the event.

“I am really excited about being selected for the team and for the opportunity to participate in the Deaf Championships,” said Klucar, who lost his hearing as a toddler while undergoing chemotherapy to battle cancer. “It is a tremendous honor to be able to represent our country at an international competition.”

Klucar was selected based on his performances in the pole vault during his first two collegiate seasons. As a sophomore, Klucar set a personal best by clearing 16’ during the indoor season, which qualified him for the 2011 NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field National Championships in Albuquerque, N.M. He also has a best jump of 15’ 3” outdoors, set as a freshman.

It was at the national meet where Klucar first learned about the opportunity to participate as part of the USA Deaf Track and Field (USADTF) team, a centrally-governed organization for deaf athletes nationwide affiliated with both the United States of America Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) and United States of America Track and Field (USATF).

“A strong performance this year for the Storm can better position Klucar for a spot on the team. He knows, however, that if he achieves his goals during the college seasons, then a spot near the top of the national team will follow.

“I want to make it back to nationals and work towards being an All-American,” he said. “My teammates and our coaches push me in training, and I owe a lot of my success to them. I just want to push myself and do better each time out.”

“This is a great individual honor for Eric, and we’re really proud that he has been selected to represent the United States at an international event,” said head coach Bryan Harmon. “He still needs to perform well during the college season to guarantee himself a spot, and I think that, as well as the desire to go back to nationals, will give him something to strive for and work hard to achieve.”

Five Storm football players to play in Ohio Senior Bowl All-Star Game

Lake Erie College will be represented by five football players at the third annual Ohio College Football.com Senior Bowl presented by the Ohio Army National Guard. Quarterback Sean Bedevelsky (Brunswick, Ohio/Brunswick), receiver Brandon James (Mentor, Ohio/Mentor), offensive linemen Mike Gritz (South Euclid, Ohio/Brush) and Mike Hounshell (Willoughby, Ohio/Notre Dame Cathedral Latin) and linebacker Kevin Chapman (Cincinnati, Ohio/Anderson) will play for the North Team in the game, which will be held Saturday, April 14 at 1 p.m. in Columbus. The OCF.com Senior Bowl will be played at the 22,500-seat Crew Stadium, home of the Columbus Crew of Major League Soccer, for the second year in a row. Regional cable network SportsTime Ohio will air the game on a tape-delay basis.
A dozen Lake Erie College student-athletes earned conference, regional and national recognition for their on-field and on-court performances during the fall sports season. Headlining the list were men’s soccer players Ricky Carreira (Toronto, Ont./Dante Alighieri Academy) and Randy Danso (Toronto, Ontario/North Count Community), who were named first-team All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC), and football receiver Brandon James (Mentor, Ohio/Mentor), who was a second-team All-GLIAC pick. Freshman Willy Cognee (Montreal, Quebec) was the league’s men’s soccer “Freshman of the Year,” while another seven players earned honorable mention from the league in football, women’s tennis and volleyball.

Regionally, sophomore Danny Eborall (Sheffield, England/Averett University) earned a spot on the Daktronics All-Midwest Second Team. He, Carreira and Cognee were also named to the Ohio Collegiate Soccer Association All-Ohio NCAA Division II/NAIA Second Team. Football seniors James, quarterback Sean Bedevelsky (Brunswick, Ohio/Brunswick) and offensive lineman Mike Gritz (South Euclid, Ohio/Brush) were selected to both the East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division II Football All-Star Team and the OhioCollegeFootball.com NCAA FCS/II First Team.

In the classroom, a total of 53 student-athletes received special recognition from the GLIAC as either All-Academic or All-Academic Excellence team members. Twenty-one Storm members were listed on the Academic Excellence chart for those with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher. The Storm football team had the most selections, with 22 overall, while both women’s soccer and volleyball had 10 players named. Those two squads had six players receive Academic Excellence recognition.

On Feb. 4, the College recognized three women’s basketball players who all scored their 1,000th career point during the season. The players are (left to right): graduate senior forward Alyssa Wagers, senior center Stephanie Rogers and senior guard/forward Jen Caiola. All three rank in the top eight in career scoring at Lake Erie and at or near the top in several other career statistical categories. Lake Erie also recognized Head Coach Bob Booher for his 200th career college coaching victory, which came in a 67-43 win over Lake Superior State on Jan. 19, with a commemorative game ball during that same ceremony. Visit LakeErieStorm.com for a video and photo gallery of the Feb. 4 ceremony.
The revamped Lake Erie College Storm Club, the official booster organization for LEC athletics, kicked off the 2011-12 school year in style with the inaugural Storm Club BBQ on Friday night, Sept. 17. Over 100 guests enjoyed the evening outside under the new Storm Club tent at Painesville Kiwanis Recreation Park.

The event marked the opening of the school year and allowed an introduction of the Storm Club’s new advisory board. A traditional southern BBQ menu was provided by Beckham’s B&M BBQ of Cleveland, and area businesses donated raffle items totaling nearly $1,000 in value.

“Our goal is to provide access to Storm games and events for all of our fans, family and friends,” said Jason Tirotta, assistant athletic director for external operations. “We want to make sure that travel or a busy work schedule is no longer a hindrance for seeing a game.”

The event was a special hospitality area under the Storm Club tent in the endzone at Jack Britt Memorial Stadium and welcomed area businesses as part of the Mentor Area Chamber of Commerce night during a January 19 basketball doubleheader.

The Club hosted a special hospitality area under the Storm Club tent in the endzone at Jack Britt Memorial Stadium and welcomed area businesses as part of the Mentor Area Chamber of Commerce night during a January 19 basketball doubleheader.

Storm Club BBQ a big hit

The Club, which is a vital part of helping our student-athletes achieve their goals on and off the fields of play, is currently in the midst of its 2012 membership drive. For more information, as well as a list of member benefits, visit the Storm Club page at LakeErieStorm.com or email stormclub@lec.edu, to find out how you can get in and be part of the team behind the teams!

Spring sports schedules available online

Visit LakeErieStorm.com or call 440.375.7475 for schedules and information about these sports: baseball, softball, men’s lacrosse, women’s lacrosse, men’s tennis, outdoor track & field, men’s golf and women’s golf. To have all the news about your favorite Storm team sent directly to your email inbox, log on to LakeErieStorm.com and click on the “Storm Alert” icon on the left column of the homepage.
National Alumni Board welcomes you!

by Adam Foxx ’06

It is an honor to be able to share with my fellow alumni the importance of the National Alumni Board (NAB) here at Lake Erie College. Since becoming a member, I have seen firsthand how a small group of caring alumni play a major role in helping contribute to the ongoing success of the College. The NAB gives alumni a great opportunity to give back to the place that gave them so many fond memories. As a member of NAB, you plant the seed of success into the students of Lake Erie College.

I can’t stress the importance of NAB without telling my own story of my journey back to my beloved alma mater. My years at Lake Erie were truly a magical time in my life. The time I spent at 391 West Washington Street really molded me into the person I am today. It was the place where I found friends who are more like family, caring faculty and staff, and enough stories to tell anyone who will listen. I really did receive a well-rounded experience at Lake Erie College. So, it was a bittersweet day when it was my time to move on from the place and the people who meant so much to me.

As I started the next chapter in life a part of me always missed LEC. Then, years after my last days on campus, I received a call from Janeane Cappara informing me that I had been nominated to the NAB. I never saw myself ever being asked to serve on any type of board, especially one at Lake Erie College, and I proudly accepted the invitation. My time as a member of the NAB has been a humbling experience. It has giving me a chance to help continue the legacy of Lake Erie College.

If you have the same love for Lake Erie College and want to help the College in achieving its mission, we in the NAB will welcome you with open arms and open minds. If you want to stay in touch with your classmates in another important way, we are in need of class agents. Learn more about the class agent program on page 44.

Adam Foxx ’06 lives in Columbus, Ohio with his schnauzer, “Bo.”

LEC alumni gather in the Big Apple

The Colony Club provided the backdrop for a gathering of alumni and friends at the December 8 New York City Alumni Reception. The event, hosted by Dr. Deborah Goodrich Royce ’80 and her husband, Charles Morgan Royce, brought alumni together where they met President and Mrs. Victor and watched as he presented a pictorial tour and an update of the College.

President Victor spoke of the accomplishments of the past year, which included surpassing the capital campaign goal, the installation and dedication of the Dennis Fountain, the opening of the renovated Austin Hall of Science and the continual rise and rank of the College’s national profile. President Victor concluded with the announcement of the June 2012 launch of the next capital fundraising project, the rebuilding of the Lincoln Library.
Alumni and friends from the East coast attended the Boston Alumni Reception held at the Ritz Carlton, Boston Common. Joan Gay ’60 helped to coordinate and host the November 5 event comprised of an evening of great food and drink plus plenty of reminiscing and reflection.

President and Mrs. Victor, along with Scott Evans, vice president for institutional advancement, and Susan Licate, director of alumni and public relations, welcomed nearly 60 alumni from the classes of 1952 through 2009.

“[It is wonderful to see so many alumni and friends gather together to share in the spirit and camaraderie of the College. It’s also a great opportunity to learn about the reward of becoming a class agent, such as what Joan Gay has done here, as she worked so diligently to bring everyone together],” said Susan Licate.

Do you know any Garfield Senior College alumni?

Celebrating the importance of history and tradition, President Victor is championing the ongoing integration of Garfield Senior College alumni to the College. “[I] have met so many of our accomplished alumni from Garfield Senior College over the last five years. I look forward to this year’s Homecoming Alumni Weekend to celebrate Garfield Senior College and meet even more of our alumni,” said President Victor.

Dana Dennis ’76, will lead the initiative and form a sub-committee of Garfield Senior College alumni who will work together to find classmates, faculty and staff. In addition, Janeane Cappara, president of the National Alumni Board (NAB), said the NAB members welcome Garfield Senior College alumni to serve and sit on the NAB.

At this time, recruitment is underway for Garfield Senior College class agents. Ideally, one or two agents per class year will serve as the link between the class and the College to keep communication open for contact information updates, special events and activities. If you are a graduate of Garfield Senior College and wish to be on the College publication mailing list or learn more about the NAB or class agent program, please call Susan Licate, director of alumni and public relations, at 440.375.7253.

Naples Alumni Reception

A group of alumni and friends gathered Feb. 16 to reconnect with Lake Erie College during the annual Naples, Fla. reception. Scott Evans, vice president for institutional advancement, and Susan Licate, director of alumni and public relations, shared news of the progress of the College and status of the key areas of measurement: philanthropy, academics, enrollment and athletics. Several members of the Class of 1962 were in attendance and spoke of their search to find classmates as they plan to gather this fall to celebrate their 50th reunion.
Tropical themes heat up National Alumni Board event

The B.K. Smith Gallery in Royce Hall for the Fine and Performing Arts was transformed into a sandy oasis for the February 18 fundraiser, “Beach Fantasy.” The event featured a silent auction, Chinese auction and wine pull. Heavy hors d’oeuvres were served, and live island music added a festive flair.

Alumni and friends supported the event, which raised several thousand dollars for the College. They were delighted with the extensive array of auction items, including a relaxing getaway, tickets to sporting events, and health, wellness and spa treatments.

“Each year, our alumni and friends rise to the occasion and recognize not only the fun of a night out, but the purpose of the greater good. We are excited to again host an event that serves the College and helps the students,” said Janeane Cappara, president of the National Alumni Board.

Spring Greetings!

It’s hard to believe we are well underway in our preparations and planning for Homecoming Alumni Weekend, 2012. It doesn’t seem that long ago when we greeted many alumni who joined us for last year’s magnificent celebration!

Save the date for October 12-14, 2012 as we gather once again for our weekend-long reunion!

This year, in addition to our festivities for all LEC alumni, we’ll honor the classes of 1962 (50th) and 1987 (25th), plus recognize the Garfield Senior College alumni. Many events and activities are being planned along with our traditional Friday night formal dinner, Saturday tailgate and football game, the Skinner organ concert and the Victor Manor House cocktail party, complete with the opening of the Rathskeller. This year, we’ll introduce a Saturday full of family-friendly fun. Watch the alumni page of the College website (lec.edu/alumni) for the full listing of activities as they develop.

We’re here to help you connect with your classmates, roommates and friends. The Office of Alumni and Public Relations together with the National Alumni Board will help you find classmates and share the spirit of the College during this special time. There is no time like now to reconnect with your alma mater – the National Alumni Board welcomes your involvement as a prospective member, and the College is always in need of class agents to help keep our Lake Erie College spirit alive.

If I can help you, please don’t hesitate to contact me at 440.227.1111.

Sincerely,

Janeane Cappara, J.D., ’95, MBA ’04

President, National Alumni Board

Member, Lake Erie College Board of Directors
Student Spotlight

V.E.T.S. Program

introduced to Lake Erie College by alumna Karen Krueger ’86 and enrolled at the College in fall 2010.

A business major, Tapassi found his stride quickly at the College, becoming a founding member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity and president of SVA; he also participates in intramurals and volunteers for local community organizations. He hopes to eventually earn his MBA from Lake Erie College and commends the V.E.T.S. program for the guidance and encouragement that he needed.

In just one year, the V.E.T.S. program has positively impacted the College and the lives of students who display the honor and patriotism that were hoped for in its creation last spring. The dedication to our troops is yet another reason Lake Erie College is a special place.

Faculty Spotlight

President Victor Named Citizen of the Year

Weddings take place regularly in Morley and on the grounds of the Victor Manor House; summer camps fill the residence halls and courts and fields around campus; and bands and community groups turn the College Green into a beehive of activity during the Welcome Back Concert and other events.

Michael Victor’s vision helped to make these activities possible as well.

With the transformation of the College has also come a revival to Painesville itself. New shops and restaurants have opened; new events are taking place downtown; and many more students and their families and friends are patronizing these businesses. The city has become a real college town.

Michael Victor’s vision has helped to shape this revival of Painesville.

This is why Michael Victor was named Citizen of the Year by the Painesville Area Chamber of Commerce and why his leadership will continue to make a difference at the College and in the community.

In accepting the award, Victor spoke candidly about his first impressions and present feelings. “When I drove into Painesville for the first time and saw this incredibly wonderful city with a charming town square and the equally impressive college that looked a bit forlorn, I knew it had tremendous potential. I saw Painesville and Lake Erie College as only a stranger could see them – I saw all of their virtues, charms and opportunities, and I communicated this when I was introduced to the trustees of the College. They, because of their vision and support, enabled my executive team, our faculty and staff to transform Lake Erie College and, hence, Painesville, into a college town.

It was their support and the hard work of a lot of people that has led me to accept this incredible honor for the city that has adopted me and the one I have come to love,” Victor said.

Congratulations to President Victor on this well deserved honor.
the surface of something to discover what lies beneath. At night, the eternal city did not slow down one bit, but transformed into something magical. Seeing the Colosseum, the St. Angel Bridge and all of the fountains so gorgeously lit up was spectacular. I was almost afraid to blink for fear of missing something.

Every narrow street that I walked down was like stumbling into a new world, waiting to be discovered by each passerby. I tried to steer clear of the shops and stores geared towards tourists; instead, I wanted to discover some of the many unique gems that can be found in Rome and the surrounding area. One of my favorite memories was stumbling upon a small bakery, tucked away in a less crowded street, with a simple wooden sign above its entryway. Peeking inside, the baker, hard at work rolling dough for the following morning, caught me observing him. Smiling, he waved me inside, eagerly showing me his preparations. He spoke minimal English and was surprised when I began talking to him in Italian. The kindness and pride in his eyes was international; it was clearly evident that this baker was passionate about his work. And, for him to allow me to come in to his tiny bakery and converse with him for a few minutes was priceless. This is a memory that will remain with me forever.

Eight days was not nearly enough for me, but getting a taste of a country as rich and beautiful as Italy was, by far, the best experience of my life. Taking Dr. Basile's courses at Lake Erie College, and going on this trip, has enabled me to gain a greater appreciation not only for Italy, but for the world and life in general. Her encouragement, mentoring, and contagious passion for learning more about our world has taught me so much more than just the bare facts and Italian language; she has truly enriched my life.

This study abroad tour has greatly influenced my decision to finish my studies in Rome next fall, and I am absolutely ecstatic to be embarking on a new journey next August, for three and a half months. In conclusion, this tremendous experience has changed me for the better, and I have learned more about myself and others around me, and I can honestly say that my dream came true. My fervent hope is that the study tour abroad program here at Lake Erie College will continue to flourish, because traveling and exploring the world in which we live in will only make us stronger, more well-rounded individuals, prepared to compete and attain further success in a global society.
1939

**PHOEBE ANN (FORD) HAMLIN** reports that she is doing fine. “Have not been swimming for a bit but still play Bridge and goof off somehow,” she says.

**JEAN (FULTON) KNOWLES** has moved to assisted living, “where she has her ups and downs with falls, pains from arthritis and generally growing-old pains. But she maintains her good spirits and attitude and is a pleasure to visit when we are able,” said her daughter, Sarah (Knowles) Aamot ’67. Aamot also said her mother is a great-grandmother now (her brother’s daughter) and loving it!

1948

**BONNIE LORE BEYER** recently contacted all of her classmates whose addresses are known and received updated information from the following: **MARJORIE (PRENTICE) COUTTS, VIRGINIA (LANDERS) CUMMINGS, JANE (PATRICK) EIMAN, LOIS (DEETZ) ESTERLINE, JANE (ROSS) HAYDEN, LOIS (MEYER) HINSHAW, POLLY (FARR) HOY-COLTON, MIRIAN LEE, JOAN (DOREMUS) LENGEMAN, JOANNA (ORTON) MEEHL, FRANCES (SHORT) RESCHER, BARBARA (KAY) SCHUMACHER, ANN (KEATON) SUTHERLAND and LAURA (LUCAS) THOMPSON. These ladies are now about 85 years old and live all over the U.S., including Hawaii! Their information will be compiled in a memory book, which will be mailed to these 15 “young-at-heart” members of the Class of 1948 – thank you, Bonnie, for making this book possible!

1950

**CHARLOTTE (SHOUL) BACKMAN** attended Lake Erie for two years, 1944-45 and 1946-47. She extends good wishes to all from her home in Dedham, Mass. and says, “I feel so fortunate to be well and enjoying new lectures, new interests and new friends.”

1957

**CAROLINE (SEWARD) HOLLADAY** writes that all is well in the Houston, Texas area. She and her husband, Glenn (who turns 80 in March 2012), are still traveling – they drove three weeks to and from Montana in August 2011; in late October, they flew to Barcelona, Spain, and then cruised for two weeks to Galveston, Texas. Holladay said her mother, Mandee Seward, lived to be 109 years, five months and 11 days and died in February 2010.

1950

**REGINA (EVAUL) KING**, a retired educator, lives in Clayton, N.Y., overlooking the St. Lawrence River. She and her husband, Bob, enjoy watching the river and each ship passing in front of their place. The winter of 2011-2012 marks their sixth winter there, and they are still intrigued by the abundance of waterfowl and fish. In early November, King said, “We have the return of a pair of mute swans, pure white, and their four cygnets, changing from a black-brown tweed-like appearance to almost gray.” She said that each winter the river freezes all the way across to Canada, and ice fishing is still popular.

1963

**JUDITH (LINHART) CYLVICK** has been a resident of Wyoming for 15 years after living on Long Island for 35 years. Her husband, Frank, owns a company that manufactures electronic equipment for the military. One son, Eric, is owner and inventor of the extreme cable ride company, Ziprider. Her two grandsons are ages two and four.

1966

**CAROLINE FEISS** recently published a biography about her father, Carl Feiss, titled “Remaking American Places.” In the book, Caroline writes about her father’s award-winning achievements in architecture, urban and regional planning and historic preservation. Caroline herself has also enjoyed a long career in planning. After receiving her master’s degree in regional planning, she worked for state, regional and local governments managing large projects and writing legislation and major reports. Numerous jurisdictions have published her work, including the Tennessee Valley Authority, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the state of Washington.

**JOAN McGINNES** and her husband, Dick Coffin, traveled from sunny Florida to enjoy a day of fall beauty on the Lake Erie College campus. President Victor showed the couple around campus, and Susan Licate, director of alumni and public relations, treated them to lunch in the Holden Center. “I liked seeing all the positive changes and hearing the updates. It makes me excited to come back and attend an alumni weekend,” McGinnes said.

Alumni are welcome to visit campus anytime. Call the Alumni Relations office at 440.375.7253 to arrange a tour.

**PAMELA (HASENZAHL) MOUNT** recently left township government after 12 years of service as councilwoman and four years as mayor of Lawrence, N.J. After graduating from Lake Erie, she and her husband, Gary, joined the Peace Corps and spent three years in Micronesia, where they built a school and taught
about 100 small children basic academic skills. After returning to the United States, they bought Terhune Orchards, a farm they have operated ever since. Terhune was recently appointed chairwoman of Sustainable Jersey, a program for municipalities that want to go green.

**1970**

**Gratia Banta** of southern Ohio visited her alma mater on Oct. 31, 2011. Banta enjoyed a campus tour, including a stop in College Hall, where she quickly found her old dormitory room, and in Andrews Hall, where she saw how the students of today live. In Lincoln Library, she reminisced about her college years. “I think the library was the first place in my life I had spent time in such an innovative building. As a result, I went on to become a library administrator and brought in a series of authors and illustrators to my community,” Banta said.

**1978**

**Tracy H. Dickinson** has recently become a trustee for Grounds For Sculpture, a 42-acre sculpture park and arboretum in Hamilton, N.J. She is also a long-time board member of Lake Erie College, research chair of the Endometriosis Association at Dartmouth Medical School and a volunteer and board member of the National Endometriosis Association.

**1981**

**Lynn (Masterson) Hammerlund** appeared on the hit game show, “Jeopardy,” on Jan. 19 and 20, 2012. Hammerlund, a librarian at the Judson University Library in Elgin, Ill., finished in first place on Jan. 19, taking home $22,500 in prize money. “This has been a dream of mine since I was ten years old,” she said.

**1991**

**Susan (Paruleski) Paulic**, D.V.M. is co-owner of Austinburg Veterinary Clinic in Austinburg, Ohio. The clinic was named one of five finalists from across the United States for the 2012 American Animal Hospital Association Practice of the Year. The awards will be announced at the conference to be held in Denver, Colo. in March.

**1992**

**Heather Kinney, D.V.M.** returned to Eminence, Mo. for a week-long trail-riding vacation in October 2011. This was her first visit back to Missouri since the birth of her son two years ago. Kinney’s mother, Sandra Holmes, watched Taran in camp while Kinney rode her horse, Gunner, a 21-year-old Paint gelding, 106 miles on the Cross Country Trail Ride. The trails crossed two of the most scenic rivers in the country, the Jack’s Fork and the Current. “The weather was spectacular, and we all had a fund time,” Kinney said.

**1998**

**Michele (Pratt) Lemly** is a Wayne County Sheriff’s Reserve Deputy. She and her equine partner, Fred, an American Saddlebred horse, served together until his death in December 2011.

**2002**

**Tricia Sorine** and two other sixth-grade social studies teachers completed an intense, seven-day immersion into early American history at the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute in September 2011. Sorine has taught for 10 years and has been the social studies department chair for two years at Bluffton Middle School in Bluffton, S.C.

**2003**

**Bernadette (Serenari) Armbruster** is director of human resources for Logos Energy Inc. and its operating company, Phycal, Inc. in Highland Hts., Ohio. Logos Energy Inc. was established to bring together the fields of science, engineering and business to create new standards in renewable energy technologies. Armbruster was interviewed for an article in the December 2011 issue of “HR Trends Update,” a monthly update for HR professionals.

**2009**

**Christina (Barnes) Arrington** teaches criminal justice at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, from which she received her Ph.D. in 2009. She is also in charge of statistics at the Virginia State Crime Commission, an advisory and research body to the state legislature and executive. Arrington was recently quoted in many publications, including the “Washington Post,” in connection with one of the reports she worked on related to issues including campus crime, the incarceration and deportation of illegal immigrants and more.
LAURA (WAGNER) KLECKER has been training dressage horses and teaching adult amateurs in Aiken, S.C. since 2005. She is a USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist and has been working at Aiken Equine, the oldest veterinary practice in Aiken, as a tech, since 2008. Her favorite memory of Lake Erie College is that class took place in the barn.

MELISSA McGrath married Brian C. McGrath on Sept. 23, 2011. The ceremony took place in the pouring rain in a park in Boston, Mass and a celebratory party outdoors in Boston the next day. "The threat of rain was prevalent all day, which was worrisome since we had an outdoor party planned. Those dark clouds moved at dusk, and we had the most gorgeous sunset to end the best weekend of my life so far," McCue-McGrath said.

2005

NICKOLAS B. GOODNITE was selected the Canton Highway Patrol Post’s 2011 Trooper of the Year. He was selected for this honor by fellow officers and supervisors based on his leadership abilities, professional ethics, courteous treatment of others, work attitude and cooperation with supervisors, peers and the public. Goodnite joined the Highway Patrol in 2007 and has served at the Canton Post his entire career.

DJ HELLERMAN delivered the keynote address at the Ohio Art Education Association Annual Meeting in Dayton in November 2011. Hellerman is an adjunct instructor in arts and humanities at Lake Erie College.

2006

IRIS GONZALES MBA ‘07 gave birth to a baby daughter, Iris Fernanda, on Dec. 13, 2011.

2007

REBECCA REX is a veterinary surgeon with Wilton House Veterinary Clinic in the United Kingdom. She received her degree in veterinary medicine from the University of Edinburgh in 2011.

2011

JOHN BLEBEA, M.D. received his M.B.A. from Lake Erie College in 2011. He recently accepted the position of chairman of the department of surgery at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine at Tulsa and credits his Parker MBA for successfully setting him apart from other candidates for this position.

Lake Erie College part of newly-released novel

Lake Erie College at the turn of the 20th century provides a fascinating backdrop and creates the setting for one of the main characters in several chapters of the book “The Bakery Girls.”


Ditlow presents a heartfelt and poignant perspective of three beautiful sisters growing up in the family business while discovering their individuality, independence and identity. The bakery action is complemented by chapters depicting Louise’s studies at Lake Erie, in which she examines pie baking as well as marketing. “The dietetic studies were real, history factual, but the story fictitious,” said Ditlow.

“The Bakery Girls” (theBakeryGirls.net) is out in paperback and available on lulu.com.
March 30-April 1
DRESSAGE PRIX DE VILLES
George M. Humphrey
Equestrian Center

April 12, 5:00 p.m.
BFA ART EXHIBITION
Royce Hall for the Fine and Performing Arts

April 13, 11:30 a.m.
“ENTREPRENEUR FUNDING AND HUMAN CAPITAL”
Guest Speaker, Andy Passen
Coe Conference Room, Arthur S. Holden Center

April 19-21, 7:30 p.m. and April 22, 2:00 p.m.
“ARE YOU SURE?”
THEATRE PRODUCTION
Royce Hall for the Fine and Performing Arts

April 20-22
HUNTER JUMPER PRIX DE VILLES
George M. Humphrey
Equestrian Center

April 28, 10:30 a.m.
APOLLO’S FIRE FAMILY CONCERT AND WORKSHOP
Royce Hall for the Fine and Performing Arts

May 3, 7:30 p.m.
SPRING DANCE CONCERT
Royce Hall for the Fine and Performing Arts

May 6, 4:00 p.m.
SPRING MUSICAL ARTS CONCERT
Morley Music Building

May 18, 1:00 p.m.
HONORS CONVOCATION
Morley Music Building

May 20, 11:00 a.m.
COMMENCEMENT
Jerome T. Osborne Family Athletic & Wellness Center

June 2, 6:00 p.m.
INNOVATORS BALL
Union Club, Cleveland, Ohio

June 14, 8:00 a.m.
FLAG DAY CEREMONY
In front of Austin Hall of Science

June 16-17
THE DRESSAGE DERBY OF OHIO I AND II
George M. Humphrey
Equestrian Center

August 13, 2012
GOLF OUTING
Kirtland Country Club

August 22, 2012
NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION
Morley Music Building

October 12-14, 2012
HOMECOMING ALUMNI WEEKEND

November 2012
FOUNDERS DAY
Morley Music Building

Visit the Lake Erie College website, lec.edu, or call 440.375.7230 for detailed information about these and other College events.
I do not want my information to be included in the LAKE ERIE magazine.

☐ This is new information. ☐ This is updated information.

NAME last name/first/middle/maiden

SPOUSE last name/first/middle/maiden

HOME ADDRESS number/street/apartment/city/state/zip

TELEPHONE/E-MAIL ADDRESS

OCCUPATION title

EMPLOYER full name

ADDRESS number/street/apartment/city/state/zip

SPOUSE'S OCCUPATION title

SPOUSE'S EMPLOYER full name

SPOUSE'S ADDRESS number/street/apartment/city/state/zip

SPouse's TELEPHONE/E-MAIL ADDRESS

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐ DOB: month/day/year

Child's Name

MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐ DOB: month/day/year

Sibling's Name

MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐ DOB: month/day/year

Sibling's Name

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE OF MARRIAGE

HONOR OR ACHIEVEMENT

RECENT HONOR OR ACHIEVEMENT

ALUMNI RECOGNITION

MY NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL ALUMNI BOARD

MY NOMINATION FOR ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME OR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

If you need additional space attach more pages.
In Memoriam

1942

MARGARET (HARRIS) PORTER, Englewood, Fla., is deceased; the College was recently notified of her death.

1945

LOIS (TERRY) BARNES, Columbus, Ohio, passed away Aug. 22, 2011. She attended Lake Erie College and graduated from The Ohio State University. She was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church and Columbus Country Club, founding member of the Capital Club, past president of the Women's Board of The Columbus Museum of Art, founder and president of two supporting units of The Columbus Symphony Orchestra and a devotee of Opera of Columbus.

She is survived by her sons, James, Brian, Randall and Russell; three grandsons; and three granddaughters. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd W. Barnes, M.D.

1946

JEANNETTE (ORTON) BLOSS, Orchard Park, N.Y., died Nov. 7, 2011. She taught third grade for 23 years with the North East School District, retiring in 1981. She was a member of Park United Methodist Church and enjoyed spending time with her family, reading, cooking, doing crafts and working in her garden.

She is survived by four daughters, Susan Dixon, Georgia Goodspeed, Patricia Bloss and Holly Wilcox; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Walter Bloss.

1948

LOIS (BRUNDAGE) BAKER, Boca Raton, Fla., died Nov. 27, 2011. She volunteered for many organizations, in New Jersey and Florida. She loved her alma mater and wrote in 2005: “Lake Erie College will always remain in my heart and mind as an exciting, rewarding and challenging college. I learned a great deal about life, love and the pursuit of happiness during my four years on campus. Long may it thrive!”

Baker is survived by her husband, Joseph, and children, Lucy Long, Kathryn Lockhart and Chester.

1950

MARION (FISHER) ABEL, Greenville, S.C., died Oct. 1, 2011. She attended Lake Erie College in 1946-1947. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Marling; daughters, Mary Anne Dunnivant and Sally A. Hipps; sons, Thomas D. and E. William (Bill); and nine grandchildren.

VERNA (CIPRIANI) MARPLE-CALLENDER, Painesville, Ohio, passed away Nov. 22, 2011. She was the first in her family to graduate from college; after Lake Erie, she earned a master’s degree in education from Cleveland State University. She taught on the middle school, high school and college levels for more than 28 years, retiring in 1994 – her expertise was in biology, anatomy and physiology. She was a member of St. Mary’s Church and the Altar and Rosary Society. In the community, she was active in the Red Hat Ladies, Holden Arboretum and Auburn Career Center, and she was a staunch supporter of multiple sclerosis fund raising events. She loved drawing, painting and music and was an inspiration to all who knew her.

She is survived by her son, Richard Marple; daughter, Kathleen Juniper; eight grandchildren; and son-in-law, Steve Dutton.

1952

ANN (HYDE) SCHOEN, Etowah, N.C., died Oct. 1, 2011. She was a homemaker. She is survived by four children; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years, Frank.

JANET (WATSON) HARDESTY, Ormond Beach, Fla., passed away Dec. 2, 2011. She received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama in 1988 at age 58. She worked in land development with her husband, Henry, until his death in 1977. During summers while he was growing up, she tent camped all over the United States and Canada with her son, Marc. During the Gulf War, she organized and directed the Family Support Group in Jacksonville for the 345th Combat Support Hospital and, for three years, she organized the Family Support Group for the 194th Transportation Detachment Unit of Daytona Beach.
She volunteered for a number of local organizations and was an adjunct instructor at Daytona Beach Community College. She traveled throughout the United States, Bahamas, Panama Canal, Australia, New Zealand, Scandinavia, Alaska, Hawaii and the Baltic with her friend and companion, Dr. Charles L. Brock. She enjoyed hot air ballooning, parasailing, white water rafting and horseback riding and, especially, camping with her grandchildren.

Hardesty is survived by her son, W. Marc; grandchildren, Meredith and Marcus; friend and companion, Dr. Charles L. Brock; and other relatives and friends.

OLIVE “SIS” (STEWART) BREWSTER, Orchard Lake, Mich., died Jan. 10, 2012. She loved her college experience, enjoying her friendships, academics, sports, dance and riding. She was a full-time mom, wife and homemaker who was very active and supportive of her children’s school and recreational activities while they were growing up and, later, her grandchildren’s activities. She was active with many interests, including reading, bridge, golf, skiing, swimming, gardening, antiquing, decorating, entertaining friends and family, and traveling with her husband and family.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Robert; children, Leigh Brewster and Robert Brewster (Maureen); two grandchildren, Elaine and David Brewster; a brother and sister; three brothers-in-law; six nieces and nephews; and 13 great nieces and nephews.

ELSIE (PURO) SHAW, Providence, R.I., passed away Jan. 1, 2012. She was a member of First Baptist Church where she sang in the choir, was a Sunday school teacher and was on the Board of Trustees. She was a member of the Republican town committee and held office on the committee. Prior to having children, she enjoyed a career in medical research.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Earl Shaw, Jr.; sons, Mark, Justin and Gary; daughter, Sarah Corrao; three grandchildren; and two siblings.

1958

1960

JANICE L. HECKROTH, Des Moines, Iowa, died Dec. 17, 2011. She earned a bachelor’s degree in home economics from Iowa State University, a master’s degree in family resource management from Michigan State University and a doctorate from the University of South Dakota. She was director of kitchen and laundry at Norge Appliance Manufacturing, Chicago, and was an editor of “Better Homes and Gardens,” as well as advertising director for General Growth Properties, both in Des Moines. She was a professor at Westmar College, University of Akron and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She received multiple awards for writing, research and voluntary work. She is survived by two nephews, Jeffrey and James Anniss.

RUTH (TAIPALE) STEVENSON, Fairport Harbor, Ohio, passed away Nov. 8, 2011. She received a master's degree from Case Western Reserve University and served in the field of elementary education for 36 years. She taught in the primary grades for several years and was an elementary supervisor for the Lake County Board of Education and a reading supervisor and administrator for the Painesville Township Schools. She served as principal for three schools before retiring in 1992. She was a reading specialist and served on the Ohio State Committee to establish the Ohio Chapter of the International Reading Association. She was a member of many local and professional organizations and was a trustee for the Fairport Senior Citizen Center.

Stevenson is survived by her daughters, Nan Wanska, Donna Crews and Mary Jo Weaver; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a sister-in-law. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald.

ROBERT L. RAGLEY, Novelty, Ohio, died Nov. 12, 2011. He received his master's degree from Edinboro University in 1968. After serving as a science teacher and football and track coach at Geneva High School for five years, he taught biology and executive science, was chairman of the science, health and physical education department and was varsity football and track coach at Beachwood High School for 32 years. He also worked with education programs at the Holden Arboretum and was active in local, state and national wildlife organizations. He received teaching awards from the Beachwood City Schools, Ohio Academy of Sciences and the Roger Tory Peterson Institute and was a Martha Holden Jennings scholar. He also
IN Memoriam

sponsored six International Science and Engineers Fair students for their research in science.

Ragley is survived by his father, Andrew; stepbrothers, Gary and Eugene Dominish; uncle and aunt, Peter and Emily Chismar; and three cousins.

1966

VIRGINIA (WILLIAMS) PEREZ, Melbourne, Fla., died Sept. 9, 2011. She taught high school Spanish in Buffalo, N.Y. and in Anaheim, Calif., before relocating to Florida. In Florida, she worked in the front office of Johnson Junior High School until her retirement. She enjoyed playing cards, bargain hunting and spending time with her extended family.

She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Manuel; children, John and Susan; granddaughters, Victoria and Olivia; sisters, Susan and Catherine Williams; and four nieces and nephews.

1967

NANCY (DAME) PUTZKE, Madison, Ohio, passed away Dec. 1, 2011. She was a retired teacher. She was a member of Park United Methodist Church, Delta Kappa Gamma, Red Hat Society and Madison Historical Society and was a volunteer at Rabbit Run Theatre. She was a world traveler and loved quilting and spending time with her family.

Putzke is survived by her daughter, Andrea Rigby; son, William Putzke; five grandchildren; a sister and brother; and many friends and relatives.

1969

EVELYN (SIMERL) PARRETT, Venice, Fla., died Sept. 5, 2011. She received a master's degree in curriculum from Edinboro College in 1972. She taught third grade at Garden Elementary School in Venice, where she was honored in 1990 as the school's teacher of the year. She retired in 1992. Throughout her life, she assisted her husband as a minister's wife; they made mission trips to Haiti and cruised to many Eastern and Western Caribbean ports-of-call. She traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and England; her favorite U.S. destination was New York City to attend Broadway musicals. She loved to sew, crochet, read, shop and meet with friends.

She is survived by her sons, Daniel and James; daughter, Barbara Rannigan; three grandchildren; and one great-grandson. She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Rev. John Parrett.

1978

ROGER N. SMITH, St. Charles, Mo., died Aug. 16, 2011. Roger was a Vietnam veteran and recipient of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He retired from Tremco, Inc. after 26 years of service. He was the recipient of the Treuhaft Trophy with over $30 million in sales.

Smith is survived by his wife, Nadine (Cybulski) Smith; son, Matthew; daughter, Amanda Krueger; and grandchildren, Adelyn and Brady.

1979

NORMAN GLENN DILLEN, Mentor, Ohio, died Jan. 1, 2012. He was employed by the Illuminating Company at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant for several years and then owned and operated Family Home Inspections. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and enjoyed golfing and walking his dogs.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Linda; sons, Norman Jr. and Sean; four grandchildren; and four brothers.

2008

SYLVIA (LAMPINEN) WELCH-STANGE, Painesville, Ohio, passed away Nov. 16, 2011. She received her master of business administration degree from Lake Erie College in 2008. She was employed by the State of Ohio managing mental health facilities, including North Coast Behavioral in North Ridgeville and the Kados House in Maple Heights. She was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church and enjoyed fishing.

She is survived by her husband, Frederick John Stange VI; sons, Matthew and John Welch; daughter, Cassidy Stange-Stillman; six grandchildren; a brother; and a nephew.
HELEN RUTH (SMITH) AKERS, Reno, Nev., died Nov. 15, 2011. She worked at Lake Erie College, Kent State University and First National Bank in Akron, Ohio. She and her husband, Blair, spent summers in Ohio and winters in Florida. They attended many 71st Division reunions around the United States from Blair’s World War II Army service and, in 1995, they joined friends from the 71st Division on a bus journey that retraced the division’s path across Europe. Ruth had a great love of music, literature and the arts. She always showed a great curiosity about the world, had a keen awareness of current affairs, and was devoted to Cleveland sports teams.

She is survived by her son, David; daughter, Kathleen; son-in-law, John Beatty; and a step-grandson and step-great-granddaughter.

GLENNA “JEAN” ALLEN, Painesville, Ohio, died Oct. 28, 2011. She had worked at Lake Erie College for 14 years as a secretory. She had also been a secretary in the accounting department at Bank One for 14 years and a Sunday school secretary for 43 years. She was a member of First Baptist Church, American Baptist Women and the Caring Ministry Team.

She is survived by her daughters, Shirley Johnson, Sharon Chace and Carleon White; 25 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; one great-great-granddaughter; four stepchildren; and three sisters. She was preceded in death by her husband, Maynard Allen Jr.

DONNA GAIL CAMPBELL, Painesville, Ohio, passed away Oct. 25, 2011. She had worked in the office in The Commons at Lake Erie College for many years. She had also been a bartender and worked at The News-Herald. She was active in a number of local organizations, including Future Teachers of America and Business Leaders of America.

Campbell is survived by her brothers, Gary and Laddie; nephew, Brent; niece, Stephanie Kosier; and seven great-nieces and nephews.

HELEN M. CHILDS, Painesville, Ohio, passed away Nov. 13, 2010. She worked as a secretary for President Paul Weaver at Lake Erie College. Previously, she was a secretary for the Navy Department in Washington, D.C. and the Cuyahoga County Coroner. Childs is survived by her sons, Douglas, Robert and John; daughter, Gloria; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

NANCY I. REPLOGLE, Painesville, Ohio, died Jan. 8, 2012. She worked in several different departments at Lake Erie College, including the mail room. She was also an assistant to the executive director of Learning About Business and worked for the Lake County Historical Society. She was active in the Life Spring Christian Church and had a special love for animals. She is survived by her brother, James H. Replogle, and many nieces and nephews.

DR. PAUL J. VIGNOS JR., Hunting Valley, Ohio, passed away June 26, 2010. He had been a member of the Lake Erie College Board of Trustees from 1978 through 1985. Dr. Vignos spent his career at University Hospitals, where he founded the rheumatology division and muscle clinic and led its arthritis clinic. Known worldwide for his contributions to the treatment of muscle disease, he published and lectured widely on breakthroughs in orthotics, braces, surgery and steroid treatment and helped discover the gene behind Duchenne muscular dystrophy. He won many grants and honors, including fellowships from the American Cancer Society and the Royal Society of Health in London. He was a professor at his alma mater, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, and was a trustee for life of the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Cleveland Orchestra.

Dr. Vignos is survived by his children, Caren Sturges, Kathleen Folsom and Paul Vignos III; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a brother. He was predeceased by his wife, Edith Ingalls Vignos.
Save The Date

INNOVATORS BALL

This formal event represents the start of the Campaign to Rebuild the Lincoln Library at Lake Erie College

Saturday, June 2, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Union Club, Cleveland, Ohio

The Theatrical Grill Lives!

Join us for an evening just like it was back in the day when jazz was hot and drinks were cool at the Theatrical Grill in downtown Cleveland! You will experience the sounds, the lights and other delights from this special period in our history.

Black Tie Event

For more information and to reserve seats and tables, please call the office of institutional advancement at 440.375.7230.