

# NETWORK



APRIL 2023



## HIGHLIGHTS



LTC's Kathryn Stephens named Adult Learner of the Year by IACEA.



Work on the Crawford County Recreation Center continues to move along.



Javier Milla takes on new role as the head soccer coach for LTC.

## TELECOM MOVES FORWARD AFTER TORNADO



On March 31st, a tornado wreaked havoc on Lincoln Trail College's Crisp Center, the home of the Broadband Telecom program. Despite the destruction, the college is pleased to announce that the semester will continue as scheduled.

To ensure the program's seamless operation, the students have been temporarily relocated to the College's Professional Annex Building on North Campus. Cynthia Boyce, Dean of Instruction at LTC, stated that the College is actively procuring necessary supplies for the students. Additionally, a pole yard is being established to enable students to receive hands-on experience in setting poles and hanging line. Corporate partners of the program have come forward to donate supplies to aid the students for the remainder of the semester.

In the meantime, the College is also working to begin internships for students earlier than usual. Normally, these internships take place during the summer; however, LTC is hoping to start them as soon as next week so that students can gain valuable hands-

on experience. Several companies have already agreed to take students early.

LTC's Broadband Telecom program is the only one of its kind in Illinois. It provides students with training for careers in the telecommunications industry and covers a wide range of topics, including copper and fiber optic cabling, home and business phone systems, computer hardware and software, networking, and central office switching.

The Crisp Center, which housed the program, was not only a classroom, but it also had several unique labs where students could have hands-on training. It also had an outdoor lab where students could learn how to perform tasks such as climbing poles, outside plant operations and maintenance, and operating equipment.

The College would like to express its gratitude to everyone who has offered their support and assistance during this difficult time.

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## **STEPENS NAMED ADULT LEARNER OF THE YEAR**

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The Illinois Adult and Continuing Educators Association recognized a Lincoln Trail College student at its 2023 Conference and Awards Luncheon in Springfield. Kathryn Stephens won the Paul Simon Adult Learner of the Year Award.

The Paul Simon Adult Learner of the Year award aims to honor exceptional Adult Education students who have exhibited outstanding leadership in both traditional



### **UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS**

- 4 S'more Improv Performance**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 5 Last Day of Spring Semester Classes**
- 7 Youth Recitals**  
1:30 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater & DeMent Auditorium
- 8-11 Final Exams**
- 12 Alpha Delta Nu Recognition Ceremony**  
5 p.m., DeMent Auditorium
- Nursing Pinning Ceremony**  
5:30 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 53rd Annual Commencement Ceremony**  
7 p.m., Sports Center
- 14 Tumblebees Showcase**  
3 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 15 Intersession Classes Begin**
- 17 Leadership Crawford County Graduation**  
5 p.m., DeMent Auditorium
- 18 LTC Foundation Concert Series:  
Through the Years - Kenny Rodgers Tribute**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 25 LTC Foundation Meeting**  
12 p.m., Lincoln Room
- 29 COLLEGE CLOSED: Memorial Day**



and nontraditional learning settings. The award recognizes learners who have made positive changes in their lives and those around them through their learning experiences, despite difficult circumstances. It also acknowledges learners who have maintained their family, civic, or employment responsibilities while pursuing their educational goals and have supported other learners in their journey. The award also recognizes individuals who have received accolades and recognition for their educational achievements from educational institutions, communities, or civic groups.

Stephens earned her High School Equivalency Certificate in September of 2022 at Lincoln Trail College and is now enrolled as a full-



time student. She managed to complete the GED program in about four weeks.

Stephens says that when her daughter went to preschool, she used it as motivation to go back to school and earn her GED. "This is so much more than just a piece of paper to me. This is my whole life. All the doors have opened because of this piece of paper. It's gave me all my self-worth and everything. My confidence is through the roof now because I know that I can do it and my potential is endless."

Stephens intends on going into the counseling profession after earning her college degree.

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## ***PROGRESS MADE ON CCRC STEEL STRUCTURE AND EXTERIOR WALL PANELS***

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Work on the Crawford County Recreation Center continues to move forward. The construction of the building's steel structure and installation of vertical exterior metal panels are nearing completion.

With most of the exterior vertical metal panels installed, contractors have shifted their focus to interior work throughout the building. Wall framing is nearly complete, and electrical and plumbing rough-ins within the framed walls are progressing quickly. CMU wall construction

in the shower area is almost finished, and roof panel installation is approaching completion.

In addition, the painting of the structural steel in the gymnasium portion has recently begun. A new electrical service to the building was trenched across the LTC yard and is being prepared for Ameren's work and completion. Underground water and sanitary sewer work was recently completed, and the drive south of the new building received new asphalt paving to repair the area disturbed by the underground utility work.



The installation of horizontal exterior metal wall panels has begun on the southwest corner of the new building. Terra cotta-colored panels, matching the recent Performing Arts addition panels, will soon be installed on the west face of the building.

In the coming weeks, many trades will continue to work on the interior and exterior activities currently in progress, as well as begin and move forward with other activities such as hanging drywall, continuing to pull wire for the electrical service throughout the building, installation of plumbing piping, and HVAC duct work installation.

## ILLINOIS EASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGES JOINS #CCMONTH CAMPAIGN



Illinois Eastern Community Colleges announced that it will join #CCMonth, a monthlong grassroots education and stigma-busting campaign coordinated by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). The primary goals of #CCmonth are to improve awareness of the economic, academic and equity advantages of attending community colleges, and to bust longtime stigmas wrongly associated with public two-year colleges.

"The past year has proved beyond any doubt that our college is absolutely vital to our community and our state," Dr. Ryan Gower, Chancellor, Illinois Eastern Community Colleges said. "#CCMonth is an opportunity to reach out into both and to demonstrate not only that community colleges should be the first choice of many collegegoers, but why community colleges are first-class institutions that are vital to our local and state economies."

Public community colleges are a uniquely American educational model that was designed to guarantee access to affordable, high-quality higher education for all people. They are the primary educators of life-saving nursing and other healthcare professionals among many others. They also serve as an onramp to bachelor's, master's and higher-level degrees for many students, and particularly for the most demographically and socioeconomically diverse students. They guarantee fair admissions for all students. They offer supports for adult students who have to work to support their families. And without community colleges, many American students would not be able to access higher education at all.

In short, community colleges were created to serve the needs of their communities, and they do it exceptionally well.

Despite all this, many American people wrongly believe that community colleges are inferior institutions, and in most states, universities receive significantly more per-student state support than community colleges do. These negative attitudes and disparities support and encourage ongoing socioeconomic and demographic disadvantages and inequities in the United States.

"Community colleges are engines of diversity, equity and inclusion," said ACCT President and CEO Jee Hang Lee. "They give opportunities to all students, and they support all students throughout their educations, whether they attend to attain an associate degree or certificate, intend to transfer on for a bachelor's or higher degree, or they take one or a few courses to learn a new skill or expand their horizons."



# LTC PREPARES FOR POPULAR CHILDREN'S SUMMER THEATER PROGRAM

**CHILDREN'S SUMMER THEATER 2023**  
MAY 29-JUNE 23



FOR KIDS ENTERING 1<sup>ST</sup>-4<sup>TH</sup> GRADES  
MONDAYS-FRIDAYS • 9-11 AM • MAY 29-JUNE 23



CHILDREN'S  
SUMMER  
THEATER



FOR KIDS ENTERING 5<sup>TH</sup>-9<sup>TH</sup> GRADES  
MONDAYS-FRIDAYS • 12-2 PM • MAY 29-JUNE 23

**REGISTRATION: APRIL 22, 8-10 AM**  
**ZWERMANN ARTS CENTER THEATER HALLWAY**

Registration for Lincoln Trail College's Children's Summer Theater program will take place from 8-10 a.m. on April 22. Registration will take place in the Zwermann Arts Center.

The popular theater camp for children entering 1st-9th grades begins May 29 and runs through June 23. There are two shows this year: *Willy Wonka Kids* and *Newsies, Jr.*

Kids entering 1st-4th grades in the fall of 2023 will perform *Willy Wonka Kids* on June 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. at the Zwermann Arts Center Theater. They will rehearse Monday through Friday from 9-11 a.m. May 29 through June 23.

Kids entering 5th-9th grades in the fall of 2023 will perform *Newsies, Jr.* on June 24 at 7 p.m. and on June 25 at 2 p.m. at the Zwermann Arts Center Theater. They will rehearse Monday through Friday from 12-2 p.m. May 29-June 23.

Children's Summer Theater at Lincoln Trail College is under the direction of Mindy Evans.

## THE ARTS AT LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE HOSTING TWO SPRING CONCERTS



The Arts at Lincoln Trail College will host a part of concerts in April. The Spring Choral Concert is on April 21 at 7 p.m. at the Zwermann Arts Center Theater and the Spring Instrumental Ensemble Concert is on April 28 at 7 p.m. at the Zwermann Arts Center Theater.

The Spring Choral Concert features the Lincoln Trail College Singing Seniors under the direction of Brenda Harris, the Statesmen Singer under the direction of Dr. Michael Patilla, and the Community Choir under the direction of Yvonne Newlin. Selections include *Hold Fast to Dreams*, with text taken from a poem by Langston Hughes, *Battle of Jericho*, *Shenandoah*, and a John Rutter arrangement of *For the Beauty of the Earth*, featuring Sophie Kershaw-Patilla on flute.

The Spring Instrumental Ensembles Concert features performances by the Lincoln Trail College Orchestra and Jazz Band and a student-led rock group. The LTC Orchestra will play *Variations on a Japanese Folk Song*, *Into the Sky*, and an exciting piece called *Breakbeat*, where orchestra members stomp and clap in certain sections. Among the selections to be played by the Jazz Band are *Killer Joe*, *Over the Rainbow*, *Mack the Knife* featuring Michael Bach on vocals, and an exciting new work called *Cold Peanut Butter*. The LTC Music Theory Class will perform *Hand Work*, a body percussion piece.

Admission for each concert is \$5.



# LTC IN PICTURES



Lt. Cable (Colby McGahey) learns about Bali Hai from Bloody Mary (Antje Pippin) during LTC's production of South Pacific.



Nellie Forbush (Rebecca Trivett) sings I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outa My Hair during LTC's production of South Pacific.



Billis (Dan Dix) entertains the troops during the Thanksgiving Follies in Lincoln Trail College's production of South Pacific.



Emile De Becque (Jeremy Dix) reunites with Nellie and his children Jerome (Tyler Pleasant) and Ngana (Tessa Walton) in the finale of LTC's production of South Pacific.



High school seniors speak with advisors Dana Goodwin and Angel Kerner during LTC's Senior Blitz event.



High school students learn about the programs and opportunities available at LTC during Senior Blitz. Seniors from five high schools in the area visited the College.



Clint Wickliffe earned All-Conference and All-Region honors for the second time. He led the team in scoring, averaging 15.8 points per game.



Greg Jenkins earned All-Conference honors for the second consecutive year. Jenkins was the Statesmen's second-leading scorer with 13.7 points per game.





## MAY ATHLETIC EVENTS

### Baseball

2	Southwestern Illinois College (DH)	12:00
4	Olney Central College	3:00
6	at Olney Central College (DH)	12:00

### Softball

2	Southwestern Illinois College (DH)	2:00
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## MILLA NAMED HEAD SOCCER COACH



*Javier Milla talks with Madison McKenzie during a spring practice*

Javier Milla has been named Lincoln Trail College's new soccer coach. Milla, who served as an assistant coach for LTC in the Fall 2022 season, will oversee both the men's and women's programs.

"I am very excited for the opportunity," said Milla. "It means a lot. To be completely honest it was something I never imagined a year ago when I arrived to LTC. It is a big step for my young career as a coach."

Milla played soccer at the University of Illinois Springfield and served as a graduate assistant coach at Tusculum University before joining LTC.

Milla says he wants to keep building the culture that previous coach Alex Morais started. "I've known Alex for a few years already, and we see the sport in a very similar way. We want to keep being disciplined and enjoy the sport we love."

He believes both programs are in a phase of growth, but he also believes that next season they can compete to win the region, district and reach the national tournament. "Last season was a record-breaking one for both programs, but our expectations are to keep breaking records. Most of our players from last season, both with men and women, are returning for their sophomore year. This, plus the freshman that will be joining in August, will create a very competitive team. Both the men and women will have an ever-stronger squad. Now, my job is to put all the pieces together and create a team that will go compete and win."

He says the teams are focusing on their spring seasons and that they're using the spring to learn how he likes his teams to play. "The goal is to start getting the idea now in Spring, so in Fall of our returners will now what to expect. Everyone knows their job and what it is expected from them on the field."