

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A newsletter for faculty, staff and students of The University of Findlay

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PRESIDENT EXPRESSES APPRECIATION, DISCUSSES PROJECTS AND PLANS

As he thanked the faculty and staff members, gathered at an Appreciation Breakfast on May 16, for their work on many activities during the academic year just completed, University president Dr. DeBow Freed pointed out that their dedication and commitment have a very positive effect. "Students and parents comment consistently on the good spirit, helpfulness and cooperative way that things are done here," he said.

The president reviewed several initiatives undertaken during the year, including substantial work toward academic accreditation that involved 12 visits, reports or endorsements; restructuring of the Graduate Council; and successful acquisition of the former Owens College facility at 300 Davis St., which was open for tours after the breakfast. Plans for the facility include the development of areas into common-use classrooms as well as dedicated space for education and pharmacy offices and laboratories for several disci-



University President Dr. DeBow Freed addresses faculty and staff at an appreciation breakfast May 16 in the AMU.

plines.

He also discussed the University's approach toward the recently proposed \$58 million redevelopment project for the area north of the Blanchard River to the UF campus. The Town Center proposal includes facilities such as a baseball stadium, student housing, a performing arts center, a corporate training center and a new community

library. The University is supportive of cleaning up and developing the area and will review each proposed feature of plans to assess how that feature affects UF.

The president noted that the University will continue to offer opportunities to those who seek more responsibility through its policy of promoting from within when warranted, and he mentioned several support staff who have taken that approach. The tuition remission program has helped many prepare themselves for additional responsibilities. Faculty and senior staff positions will continue to be recruited on a national basis, adding to the exceptional faculty and staff at UF.

"Much of the success of the University is attributable to the atmosphere of concern and kindness, helpful attitudes, pleasant conditions, respect for each other, and sense of community you have created and helped to sustain," he said.

MAZZA OFFERS UNIQUE SUMMER LEARNING EXPERIENCE

A busload of children's picture book enthusiasts left Findlay this morning to visit nine children's picture book artists and authors as part of the 2006 Mazza Summer Study Tour. Fifty-two people will travel through Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri and Kansas to see where artists find their inspiration, how they work and how they live.

In its 11th year, the week-long Summer Study Tour attracts a variety of people. Teachers, librarians and Mazza Museum patrons, enthusiasts, staff and volunteers look forward to the trip each year for its unique learning experience. This year, the tour attracted participants from not only northwest Ohio but also from Cincinnati, Ashland and

Fort Wayne, Ind.

Tour participants will visit the personal homes and studios of some of the children's picture book artists and authors featured in the Mazza Museum. Artists scheduled for the 2006 tour include Lawrence Shles, Angela Chostner, Cheryl Harness, Lisa Campbell Ernst, *See Mazza, Page 2*

WOMEN BUILD HOUSE - AND CHARACTER - THROUGH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



Cindy Bormuth, Deb VanAtta, Linda Fielder, Penny Gerdeman and Heather Martin hang dry wall for Habitat for Humanity.

More than 400 women, including 17 University of Findlay and Winebrenner Theological Seminary (WTS) female faculty, staff and students dominate the construction site at 4351 N. Main St., Findlay, to participate in the city of Findlay's first Habitat for Humanity Women Build June 3 - June 18.

The UF/WTS volunteers spent their afternoon working together on June 7 to help construct a house that will be given to a single mom raising her two young children.

The Women Build is a very educational experience, says Crystal Jones, AmeriCorps VISTA campus and community collaboration leader for Campus Compact and UF Habitat for Humanity adviser. "It is a great way to teach women construction skills and home maintenance skills in a non-threatening environment."

Volunteer and UF executive administrative assistant to the president's office, Meg Flemion, agrees and explains, "I always thought that the Women Build would be something fun to do and challenge me to stretch my abilities."

"Although the volunteers are physi-

cally building a house for the partner family, they are also building a strong home full of love, strength and community," adds Jones.

In the end, the build will have taught women some new things about construction, notes Flemion, but more importantly, with hundreds of women working together for a single goal, she says she was able to learn a lot about herself and the special opportunity the Women Build provides for everyone involved.

Habitat for Humanity's Women Build provides opportunities for women to learn and grow on Habitat

MAZZA, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Brad Sneed, Arthur Geisert, Lois Elhert, Kevin Luthardt and Eric Rohmann.

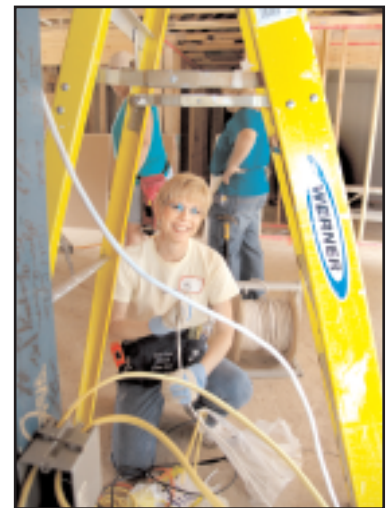
Each artist will spend time with the tour group answering questions, signing books and giving insight to his or her world of children's picture book illustration.

"Participants are able to take the things they learn from the artists back to the classroom, or to the library or to the museum," said Benjamin Sapp,

job sites and collects information for Habitat for Humanity International regarding the strengths and challenges of its female partners and their supporters across the globe. The event encourages women to tackle all aspects of the male-dominated field of construction to quickly become skilled and engaged volunteers.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action.

For more information visit www.habitat.org.



Meg Flemion rolls wire in the house being built for a single mom with two kids.

deputy director of Mazza Museum. Meeting each artist face to face gives group members the opportunity to develop their own personal stories that they are able to share with others.

Seventeen volunteer docents, otherwise known as art museum tour guides, will be among the tour group members. The docents will use their new knowledge and stories to share with students who visit the museum throughout the year.



Rick Metzger, CSP, spoke to a group of 225 high school sophomores at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) conference, held at UF May 19-21. Metzger grew up on a family farm and is a three-time gold medalist at the World Cup of Powerlifting. He travels the country empowering students, parents, coaches, athletes and executives. HOBY prepares students to become effective, ethical leaders.



Steven Davis, a resource conservationist with the Ohio Natural Resources Conservation Service, presented geographic information system data for the Blanchard River watershed. UF hosted a "Public Forum on the Blanchard River" on May 17 in the Alumni Memorial Union. The watershed is a vital water source for seven counties in northwest Ohio.



UF's Student Veteran Association hosted "A Tribute to Memorial Day" at the flagpole on the front lawn of Old Main on May 24. The Legion of Honor (pictured above, left) folded the flag while Tech Sgt. Larry Lauger offered an explanation of what each fold means. The flag was presented to a 5-year-old girl (pictured above, right) whose father, Zachary Wobler, was killed in the line of duty in Iraq in February 2005. The girl's mother is a 1999 graduate of UF.



Mrs. Ellen L. Fish officially retired from The University of Findlay on May 31. She began her career at UF in 1985 as a clerk in the postal room. In 1995, she received her bachelor's degree and began working as an associate registrar. She continued to work in that capacity until her retirement. Tony Goedde, registrar, commented that Ellen has been "a truly immeasurable asset to the Office of the Registrar." She will be well remembered for her kindness and consideration toward others, her positive attitude and her willingness to go the extra mile.

SIFE TEAM COMPETES IN NATIONAL COMPETITION

Five students from The University of Findlay's SIFE team traveled to Kansas City, Mo., to compete in the national SIFE competition last month. The team was one of 140 from around the country. The group was split into 20 leagues, with seven teams in each league. Although the UF group did not earn a top place in the competition, students learned about team building, as well as character building.

Each team at the competition prepared a 24-minute presentation to give

to two rows of high-level executive judges from big businesses. Students were allowed five minutes before the presentation to set up computers and equipment, distribute annual reports and shake hands with each judge.

At the end of each presentation, judges asked students pointed questions about the team's project. SIFE members were expected to answer the questions with confidence and sell the team's ideas.

Dr. Greg Arburn, SIFE adviser, said

of the competition, "We had a young team this year, and the best way for them to learn what it takes at national competition is to be there." Arburn expects the team to continue to improve, making it a competitive force in next year's contest.

The team won the title of USA SIFE Regional Champion at a competition held in Chicago, Ill., in March. SIFE is a non-profit organization active on more than 1,600 college and university campuses in 40 countries.

PHI ALPHA THETA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Seven students were recently inducted into the Phi Alpha Theta history honor society at The University of Findlay.

Founded in 1921, the Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society promotes research, publication and the exchange of ideas among students, teachers and writers.

The inductees include Paul Curtis, Kimberly Haddix, Peter Jackel, Carrie Lockhart, Nicholas Meyers, Juan L. Ortiz and Richard Sissen.

Other Phi Alpha Theta members include Mitch Aring, Stacy M. Donaldson, Nancy Hiser, Ryan Ludwig, Devin Miles, Jacob W. Pinkava, Bruce D. Schroeder, Renee M. Smith and Timothy A. Umfleet.

Dr. Kathy Mason, assistant professor of history at UF, is the adviser.

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UF Hosts OSHA CONFERENCE



Ruth McCully discussed OSHA's role in homeland security and emergency preparedness from a national perspective. McCully is the director of the directorate of science, technology and medicine in Washington, D.C.



During breaks from scheduled sessions, attendees had the opportunity to network with exhibitors, pictured at left.



Paul D. Biddinger, M.D., FACEP, director of operations and director of prehospital care and disaster medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital, discussed the role of hospitals and public health professionals in an all-hazards approach to disaster planning, preparedness and response.