

The LAMP

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Ex-worker pleads guilty

He stole \$700,000 from college

By Isaac Warren
Lamp Editor

SPRINGFIELD — A former Lincoln Land employee pleaded guilty to stealing almost \$700,000 from the college.

On Monday, February 6, 2017, John H. Martinez entered his guilty plea to fraud charges, the United State Attorney's Office said. From 2005 through 2012, according to the Central District of Illinois' news release, Martinez committed forgery and embezzlement. The grand total of money he took from LLCC was \$695,401.

LLCC President Charlotte Warren sent an email to faculty and staff, commending "all agencies involved

in the case." According to the email, Martinez was caught in February of 2012 and resigned shortly after. Warren said that the losses are insured, as well.

LLCC Public Relations and Marketing Department issued a public statement, which reads as follows:

"Lincoln Land Community College is a strong institution with dedicated faculty and staff. Unfortunately five years ago we found that a staff member had allegedly violated the trust of us all. When we became aware of financial irregularities in 2012, evidence of possible criminal activity was referred to the Illinois State Police, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the U.S. Attorney for the Central District of Illinois. The employee was immediately placed on administrative leave and resigned soon thereafter. Fortunately the loss

to the college was insured.

"We have just learned that after a five-year investigation, the former employee has pled guilty of defrauding the college. We commend all agencies involved in resolving this case.

"Any questions regarding the investigation should be addressed to the U.S. Attorney's Office."

The court case indicated that Lincoln Land referred the case to law enforcement, and was aided by the U.S. Postal Service, as well as the college's police department.

Martinez admitted on Friday, February 3, 2017, that while he was a telecommunications director, he would repeatedly forge his supervisor's signature on expenditures, so that he could send checks to an addresses that was not real. The checks would be returned in the mail

to Martinez, who would then pocket the money.

Martinez also sent checks to two other vendors he knew personally, the news release stated. To avoid suspicion, the two parties would cash the checks Martinez sent them and pay him back in cash while they pocketed some money as well.

Martinez admitted that the money was used on himself, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, citing he used the money to fund "repeated personal travel, and alcohol expenses."

Martinez is expected to reappear in court on June 5, 2017 for sentencing. He could face a prison sentence of up to 51 months, and has already been ordered to repay Lincoln Land the entirety of the money he stole.

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Belize trip not all fun and games

By Logan McHenry
Lamp Writer

BELMOPAN, Belize — Professor Dave Cox and 12 Lincoln Land students recently traveled to Belize to continue more than a decade of research that aims to assure there is safe drinking water in the Central American nation.

Cox's class tested the pH, nitrate, phosphorus and dissolved oxygen levels of the Sibun River. The types of macroinvertebrates that currently live in the river were also examined.

"The macroinvertebrates, I think, are the most important to look at," said Cox, who teaches biology. These organisms are a better indicator of the quality of the water that lies in Sibun River. Theoretically, the more organisms in the river, the healthier the water.

Macroinvertebrates are small invertebrates, but they are large enough to be seen with the naked eye.

A LLCC student, Ryan Neal, states his favorite part in the research process, "I loved using the nets to catch the various macroinvertebrates in the river. I liked learning to identify them and seeing the diversity present in the water."

The class observed a total of 22 different types of organisms, which categorized the water quality in the low end of the "excellent" range. Knowing that many organisms still live in these parts of the water are a good sign that the water quality is not declining.

Every year, Cox takes a group down to Belize, and they continue to grab more samples. If one type of organism starts to become missing after a few years, it draws suspicion to why it has vanished.

He likes to show the students how to test for various factors that can alter the water quality and likes to help the students realize how fortunate they are with the quality of water here in the United States.

"Everyone needs water. Water is essential. Access to clean, safe water is something that we take for granted in this country. It is a luxury," Cox claims.

Some people in other countries less fortunate than the United States have no way of determining if the water that they are drinking is safe or not. The water could contain some type of contamination or pollutant.

"I think our study was very valuable to the people of Belize," said Catherine Wittler, a Lincoln Land student who went on the trip. "And it was very rewarding for us to know

Taylorville crash



Submitted photo

A car rests next Lincoln Land Community College's Taylorville campus on Sunday, Jan. 8. A driver crashed into the building during the early morning hours forcing a shuffling of classroom and temporary closure of part of the building.

Only one classroom remains closed after early morning

By Andrew Paisley
Lamp staff

TAYLORVILLE — A single vehicle accident led to quite the hectic beginning of the spring semester at the Lincoln Land Community College campus in Taylorville.

On Sunday, January 8, 2017, at approximately 2:21 AM, a 2015 black vehicle driven by a male driver on Spresser Street was driving over a ramp in the road, when he lost control of the vehicle. The vehicle went airborne, flying over the Taylorville Lincoln Land Community College sign, flipping at least 3 times, and crashing into the eastern regional education center building of

the campus. The accident caused major damage to the side of the building of which contained three rooms, a computer lab, classroom, and the adjunct office.

Dee Krueger, Director of the Taylorville campus, said that the incident was witnessed by a nearby MBM driver, who described the events. The damage of the building caused a whiteboard and printer in classroom 1104 to fall off the wall, as well as causing the outdoor brick to crack just about to the roofline.

The driver of the vehicle, whose name was not released to the public by Krueger, was driving at approximately 60 miles per hour. He suffered

some scratches and back pain, and was transported to St. John's Hospital in Springfield, where he was discovered to have a possible broken arm and a broken back.

Classes for the spring semester of LLCC started the following day on Monday, January 9, and Krueger stated that it was questionable as to what their plan was.

"At first, we had to decide what to do as to whether or not we would even have classes on Monday. We then decided that in case it happened to cause damage to the rest of the building, we

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This newspaper is dedicated to the students, faculty and staff of Lincoln Land Community College.

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My surgery journey

By Ed Gerson

Lamp Writer

At 8:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 18, 2016, I reported to Memorial Medical Center for a repair to a right inguinal hernia, a congenital anomaly. The surgery was originally estimated to last 20 to 30 minutes. It lasted two hours.

While Renata, my nurse, ties the Velcro straps behind my bare back, she explains to my wife and me what lies ahead and how this blue, polyethylene suit I wear is supposed to work.

Renata's long blond hair is confined to a light blue cap, which compliments the green smock she wears and sets off her deep blue eyes. She reminds me of those birds of brilliant hue who dart around so bent upon their tasks they are oblivious to those who watch. (Just observing her move around is enough to click the switch on the turbine that is my bipolar mind. It begins to hum, will soon whirl, then roar.) What's odd about her appearance though is that the gown she wears is covered with tiny images of Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy. Meeting my wife's quizzical eyes, Renata laughs and says, "Oh these. I'm on loan from Peds."

She and my wife, taking me by the hands, help me up onto the gurney. Once outstretched, I can only look at the two women hovering over me, my head snapping first right, then left.

As Renata moves quickly down my body snapping fasteners to hold the suit in place, she says, "You'll wear this when you go to surgery; it's unique. See? It inflates with either hot or cold air. You control it from here."

She bends over me and snaps a switch and suddenly I blow up like one of those rubber dummies one sees waving wild arms before used cars. Warm, luxurious air plays over my naked body and I begin to relax. It feels like sinking into a warm bath.

"You look like Gumby," my wife remarks.

"I feel like Mr. Bill," I reply.

Renata crosses to the room's other side, moves an infusion rack next to me and with well-manicured hands finds a vein and pierces it. Then she moves her index finger down the suit pointing to various holes.

"These are for the surgeon's use," she says, "so he can enter you from here – and here – and here."

She notes my nervous eyes. "You still seem anxious,"

She says and smiles, "Is there something I can do?"

"Give him something," my wife instructs.

"Oh sure," Renata says.

She reaches for the infusion switch, snaps it and I am gone.

I awake on a deserted San Diego beach. The night seems to press the sun down onto the horizon's rim. It bleeds, flowing red light to right and left. I hear the cry of angry gulls, look up and see two birds gyring upward against the sky, clawing and tearing at each other's throats and breasts for possession of a fish.

"Johnny," a woman cries. A child runs down the beach. It's Susan and the kids: Jim, John, and Sarah. Susan's dressed in the see-through gown she always wore for me, the one with bare shoulders that revealed her chest and throat, the one where you could see her body whenever she faced the sun. The dwindling light has turned her long, curly, red hair a brilliant orange-gold.

"I wanted you, Susan, and loved your kids" I say. "But I was afraid to take the risk. My tour was over and I longed for home."

"I knew that, Ed, but we could have worked that out."

She starts to drift away.

"Susan," I say, "I want to forget you but I can't."

I try, but each time something inside my head says 'no'...

Ruefully, her voice grows faint as she moves away.

"We're ghosts now, Ed. Forget me. Forget us," she says, drifting away, leaving me to the enveloping night, the roar of waves.

A burst of light blinds me, so severe I must raise my hand over squinting eyes.

"Here, take these!" Charlene says. She throws me a pair of latex gloves.

"Help me. Now!" she commands.

A body lies sprawled on the table, a maw where its chest should be. Its intestines have spilled out and blood, mucus, semen, slick the floor.

"Give me a hand," Charlene instructs. "I can't unscrew these clamps. You try."

I do but my fingers slip. The man's dead body won't comply.

"Kravitz tried to tell them, Charlene says, 'He's old, he's poor, he's black, he's dead,' He said.

'Call him.' But Sheldon said, 'No! It's Training Day. Crack him'. So they opened him up, played around, then left."

Charlene and I pull hard. The clamps give way and we yank the vise out.

"You take that side while I take this," she commands. Now push!" We manage to close the body.

"Great," Charlene pants. "Now I can sew. By-the-way, I understand you and Jenny have split up."

"Jenny let me go," I reply. "She showed me who I am. She's set me free so I could leave."

"Well, good luck," Charlene says. "But you'll walk a lonely path, that's for sure."

She snaps off the corpses' final suture with her teeth.

I am in the city now. Night battles with the dawn, holding firmly to its victory, but the light cracks through.

"Get on, get on," Michael says. He charges up his cycle. His short blond hair is flecked with gray; his black leather jacket, belt, and boots silver studded. "Hold on," he commands, "Hold on!" And we are off.

We dart left, then right, shooting past lights, swerving round cars.

"Do you remember how when we were kids we looked so much alike people thought we were brothers?"

"Yes," I say. "I loved you, Bro'," Mike says, turning his head so I can hear. "Did you know that?"

He turns the cycle onto the open road.

"Yes," I reply, "but I couldn't return your love. I was straight..."

"No," he says, turning his face to me. "You were nothing; still are... Your head is hollow, filled with fantasies and dreams. You'll never know what real love is."

"Where are we going, Mike?" I ask. "Where are you taking me?"

"To your dead parents," he replies, "They want to see you. They're in a place where there are no regrets," he says. "I'm taking you home." And with his words, the night explodes.

I awake in bed, my wife next to me, and our puppies by our sides.

"Our daughter called," my wife says. "She wanted to know how you were."

"I'm alright, I guess," I say. "Hold on! What the hell is this?"

"You've been catheterized," my wife answers.

"The doctor's afraid that if you pee, you'll pop."

"That's very considerate of him," I say.

"More frightened of malpractice," my wife responds. "The nurse says that even after, you'll still have to wear adult diapers but not for long."

"And I suppose you'll be the one to help me put them on?" I say.

"You have someone else in mind?" My wife replies.

Our dogs -- so happy to see me home -- fight for my attention.

"God," I say, "I'm glad that's over. And I'm so, so tired."

"Yes," my wife says, "I know" and pulls me to her. I place my head down on her shoulder, seek the hollow of her neck.

"Everything's going to be ok." She says. "Now rest and go to sleep."

I shut my eyes; I sigh; I drift off.

Staff helps with accommodations

By Dalen Lewin

Lamp Writer

Being visually impaired, I have always been a bit annoyed when I am reminded to write an accommodation letter to my professors. Often this occurs before the semester has even started.

But after sitting down with several professionals who work with people with accommodations, I now have a greater appreciation for why they prod us to start early.

They have to get them as soon as possible because time is essential. All of that paperwork and money would be nothing without being on time. The key word being "time." The accommodations have to be given at a certain time or the students will be left in the dark. If the letters are not sent to the coordinator on time, it will be too late to receive the accommodations.

Everyone that I spoke with said that, while they love their jobs, they hate the paperwork. They have to write Individualized Education Plans



Dalen Lewin

for students on a daily basis, which can be about 60 pages.

While you might think that scrolling through emails with accommodation requests, doing the necessary paperwork, and calling the necessary people would be boring and redundant, that is not the case, according

to Kim Eddings, the Lincoln Land Community College accessibility services coordinator.

"There is never a same day," Eddings said. "I love talking to different people with different accommodations, hearing about their strengths and weaknesses."

Eddings enjoys socializing, which is the main focus of the job. She was warm and friendly throughout the interview. She loves her job and it does not sound like she has plans to leave her current position any time soon.

Sara Wells is the Assistive Technology Teacher at Illinois School for the Visually Impaired. She was a former Lincoln Land liaison, which means she helped the visually impaired with their college work. I call her the assistant liaison, because she still helps out either when the other worker has her hands full, or is not available. As an Assistive Technology teacher, she decided to become a liaison, because, as she puts it, "I help Lincoln Land students with their technology, so they go hand in

hand."

As for how much she likes her job, she had this to say: "I have been in the field of vision for 16 years and I absolutely love it! I love working with the students and watching them grow and learn, especially the college students, to see them take that next step."

Jasmine Wells is the current Lincoln Land Liaison, or as she describes it, the current Coordinating Assessment Educator. She helps accommodate the visually impaired for their college classes. She also writes, plans, and attends IEP meetings for the students. On top of that, she helps the lead teachers that are new to helping the visually impaired. This is her second year on the job. Like the others, she loves her job. "I love my job. I love helping students figure out what they need to do to take that next big step of going to college."

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Crash

Continued from Page 1

Taywould possibly hold classes in different locations in Taylorville, such as a room in the fire station and different churches”, Krueger stated.

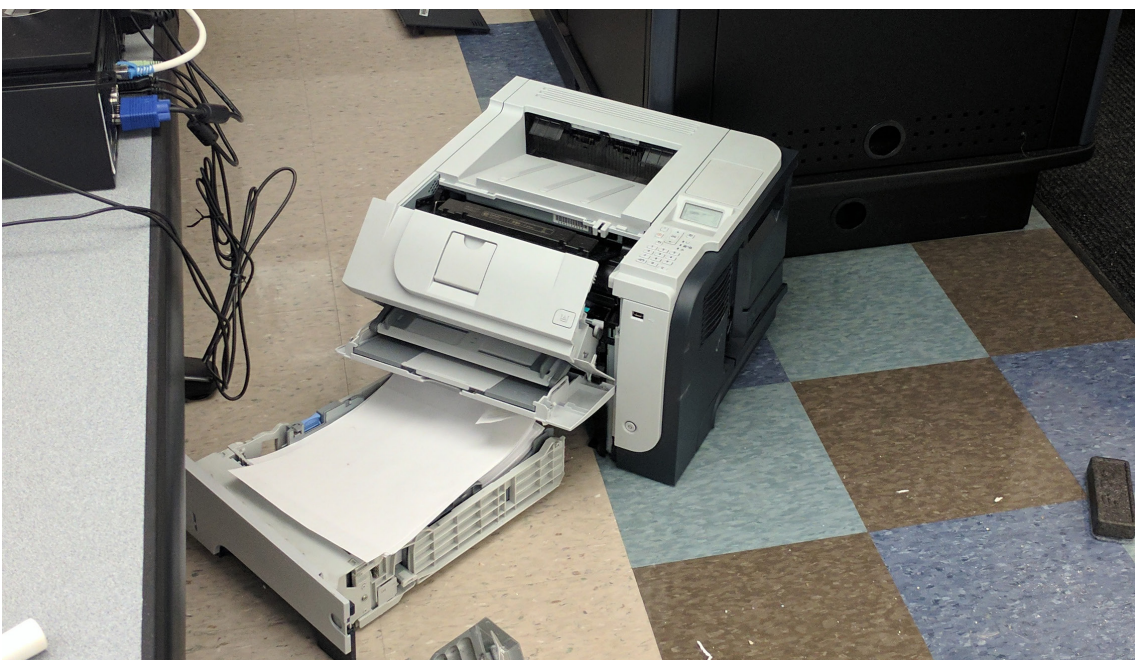
Although these were all options, classes were not canceled and they were still held in the building. However, due to the damages of the rooms, at least eight classes had to be relocated to different rooms in the building, causing a lot of confusion for students, especially on the first day of the semester, but only Room 1104 remains closed.

Krueger stated that the estimated repair time for the building is currently unknown. Evans Construction Company was in town at the time working on repairs for another school building, and they have been at Lincoln Land the past week helping to assist in repairs for the damage. It is estimated that the wall of the building will have to be knocked down and be completely rebuilt. There are no exact estimates of the costs, but Krueger states that it will most likely be at least around \$100,000.

At this time, it is unclear as to whether or not the driver of the vehicle was impaired.

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Submitted
photos
show the
aftermath
of crash.



Lincoln Land at 50 years

LLCC will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding on Feb. 18.

The event begins at 1 p.m. in the Student Union and features music through by the LLCC Big Band, directed by Jane Hartman, professor of music. Speakers include Craig Findley, chair, LLCC Board of Trustees; Dr. Charlotte Warren, president; Dr. Robert Poorman, LLCC's first president; Bill Craig, founding faculty member; and Brandon Lewis, current student trustee.

Eldon Greenwood, founding trustee, and Bill Ames, first LLCC student, will be recognized.

A 25th anniversary time capsule will be opened, and a new capsule filled and sealed by students from Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

The new 50th anniversary book "50 Forward!" will debut and be on sale.

Following the ceremony, visit the opening reception and 50th anniversary historic display in the James S. Murray Gallery.

Women's and men's basketball games begin at 1 and 3 p.m. respectively in Cass Gym.

The LLCC Athletic Hall of Fame class of 2017 will be introduced during halftime of the men's game at approximately 3:30 p.m.



The Lamp held a show celebrating 50 years of the student newspaper as part of the college's 50th anniversary celebration. Photos show the reception and display in the James Murray Gallery during January 2017.



From the courtroom to the classroom

Judge Coady brings real-life experience to LLCC classes

By Jacob Schmedeke

Lamp Writer

TAYLORVILLE — Ten years ago, Christian County Court Judge John Coady sentenced me to two 16-month sentences for some youthful indiscretions.

But today, after taking classes with him, he invited me to his home to talk about Lincoln Land Community College and his future endeavors.

Teaching at Lincoln Land since 2009, Coady decided to take a leave of absences in the spring of 2017 to focus on his other activities.

Coady is president of three associations: the Illinois Judges Association, the University of Illinois College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Illinois State Employees

Association of Retirees.

Being President of these associations takes up increasingly more of his time, leaving less for teaching, Coady said. He said he would take at least one semester off, but he hopes to return to the classroom at Lincoln Land.

One semester, Judge John Coady presented a murder case to his class at Lincoln Land Community College.

The government and social sciences instructor in Taylorville asked them for a verdict in the case, and they went with not guilty. The real-life case, however, had ended with the defendant convicted of murder.

The students were angry, Coady recalled. They didn't understand why. They wanted to know more. They wouldn't allow class to continue because of this.

So, Coady, a retired Christian County circuit court judge, called the prosecutor of the case and let the class ask him questions and listen to him.

For Coady, this was one of his most memorable experiences as an instruc-

tor. His students were using the laws and critical thinking that he had been teaching all semester. And not just one student, but the whole class was engaged in critically thinking and actively participating in discussion.

Coady said he was happy and proud to see his students using their newly learned knowledge, and that's what he seems to be about.

"I think good citizens are informed on how their government works and how they can influence it," Coady said.

LLCC-Taylorville director Dee Krueger said Coady will always be welcomed back at LLCC.

Many former students spoke fondly of Coady and his passion for teaching.

"He was knowledgeable and was able to relate what he taught with passion to real life situations that he experienced as a Judge," said former student Dakota Clevenger, a Lincoln Land freshman.

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Jacob Schmedeke/Lamp photo
Judge John Coady is taking a leave of absence from teaching at Lincoln Land, to focus on boards on which he is president.

Good burgers, good eats

Springfield restaurants host weeklong burger extravaganza



Cafe Coco's Campfire Burger is covered with house-made macaroni and cheese and its famous baked beans.

By Karlee Thompson
Lamp Writer

SPRINGFIELD -- 217 food junkies had something to sink their teeth into at the end of January.

Burger Week featured 19 local vendors that put together a special burger to promote for this weeklong extravaganza. Locals could get a passport, try out their choice of burgers and vote on their favorites all week long. The special ran Jan. 23 to 30, with all burgers costing only \$5.

"This event definitely was successful and generated business," said George Huston, an employee at Gina's Café inside of Scheels. Roughly 180 burgers were sold in three days, and the number was expected to exceed 300 by the end of the week.

Huston also said that there was a lot of positive feedback from customers on the flavor of the Homemade Meatloaf Burger. If the event occurs next year, he said he would like to create something different.

Lincoln Land student Amber Oller couldn't stop talking about how delicious the Fried Philly from the Burger Bar was.

Oller, who works at Scheels, said the event was good for generating business across the 217 area. Not only was business booming there, but the Burger Bar was packed on the night she went.

On Wednesday of Burger Week, Oller said she hoped to try several more burgers before the week ended.

LLCC student Jeffrey Beck went to three locations and thoroughly enjoyed the event.

"It was a good excuse to have a good time," Beck said.

"My favorite had to be the one from Cooper's Hawk. It's a double for \$5!" he said.

Beck suggests that they should do it again next year, but would host a horseshoe-focused week since this is where it originated.

Even by looking through the hashtag on social media, (#217burgerweek) there is no doubt the event was a success. Many left comments and positive feedback on the Facebook page wanting more events like this as well.

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Ginna's Cafe at Scheels featured a meatloaf burger.

Karlee Thompson/Lamp photo



Obed and Isaac's Give 'em the Bird is a turkey burger.

Tess Peterson/Lamp photo

LLCC's writer-welder

Russell Stare is former Lamp editor, current welding teacher

By Andrew Paisley
Lamp Writer

Russell Stare began his career as a journalist before making a major shift: becoming a welding instructor at Lincoln Land and owning his own business.

Stare, a 1985 Taylorville Senior High School graduate, chose to attend Lincoln Land Community College.

"I chose LLCC in 1985 because I realized graduating high school did not immediately instill a direction of purpose in your life, and I figured why waste mom and dad's money -- and my own money -- going off to school and having no clue what I would do, so I jumped right into business administration," Stare said.

Stare was given a camera as a graduation present, and he liked to play around with automobile photography on campus. He was told that the school newspaper, *The Lamp*, needed another photographer.

In becoming a photographer for *The Lamp*, Stare learned darkroom, photo cropping and setting up a decent shot. After serving as a photographer for quite some time, Stare was approached by Ken Schroeder, then editor of *The Lamp*, who told him they needed someone to do reporting for the newspaper. Stare was quite interested, so he volunteered to do the job.

"It was kind of snowballed from there and I was hooked," Stare said. "I liked writing, and it was fun eventually being the 'big fish in the small pond.'"

After quite some time of doing reporting work for *The Lamp*, Stare dropped out of his business classes and started taking journalism classes.

He was eventually approached by Mary Wheeler, his creative writing instructor, who told him that he needed to develop a style with his writing. Stare said that his style became reporting. He laid out the facts without instilling his view, he made the information orderly, upfront and easy to digest. Because of his reporting work, Stare eventually transferred to Eastern Illinois University, where he moved from reporter to government editor and officially managing editor, all within two years.

After finishing college at Eastern, Stare worked in several jobs at small to mid-size community newspapers.

"It was challenging and interesting and usually fun, but it also began to get to me because I started to see that being a good reporter almost always meant you had to 'go get someone' and I didn't like to drag people down," Stare stated.

After a few years in newspaper work, Stare moved to magazine writing, design, and editing. He also did marketing and publications for a few agencies. Stare said that it was an OK job, but it also became very stagnant.

In 1998, Stare left the world of journalism, taking a 50 percent cut in pay, and went to work in Taylorville at a British foreign car restoration



Andrew Paisley/Lamp photos

Russell Stare works in his car restoration shop, PRO Stitch Auto Interiors and Upholstery Inc. in Taylorville. Stare started at Lincoln Land in 1985, becoming editor of *The Lamp*. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and worked as a journalist for 10 years before switching to car restoration and teaching welding at Lincoln Land.

shop.

"After the first day, I fell in love with it and I decided I had found my calling, and I wanted to work on cars," Stare said.

After three years working at the car restoration shop, where he restored vintage Jaguars, MGs and Triumphs, Stare moved into his own niche of the auto world in 2001, opening his own business, PRO Stitch Auto Interiors and Upholstery Inc., here in Taylorville.

Despite his leaving the journalism field for the auto field, Stare has still continued to maintain a career in journalism. For the last 16 years, Stare has been a columnist and technical writer for several industry magazines, which he says is a "nice change of pace".

Having a bachelor's degree in Journalism has certainly helped Stare, as he took a part-time position a couple years ago teaching welding classes at the Lincoln Land campus here in Taylorville.

Stare says it has been a challenge to juggle operating a full-time business, teaching, and writing, but they are all fulfilling and offer him a chance to use his skills and pass along some knowledge along the way.

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Ready for spring training

Fans will get a look at changes

By Leanna Churchill
Lamp Staff

When some people think of February and sports the Super Bowl comes to mind. Other people think of Major League Baseball's spring training.

The Chicago Cubs and the St. Louis Cardinals will look a bit different when teams report in a few weeks but there will still be a large amount of excitement for fans.

The Cubs, with their first team workout scheduled for Feb. 18 at Sloan Park in Mesa, Arizona, will enter the upcoming season as reigning World Series champions. They also will return most the roster from that championship season.

A few of the noticeable absences are David Ross, Dexter Fowler, and Aroldis Chapman but there were also some additions made to the team.

David Ross retired following the 2016 season, putting an end to his 14-year career. Meanwhile, Fowler and Chapman became free agents following the season and signed with other teams.

The Cubs did not sit on the sidelines this offseason and filled some voids in the roster. They picked up free agent outfielder Jon Jay, who previously played for the Cardinals and San Diego Padres, and three relief pitchers.



Those three pitchers were Koji Uehara, Wade Davis and Brian Duensing. Uehara was the 2013 ALCS MVP for the Boston Red Sox's. Davis most recently won a World Series with the Kansas City Royals in 2015. Lastly, Duensing, who spent last season with the Orioles and the Twins before that.

Meanwhile, the Cardinals also return most of last year's roster when they hold their first workout on Feb. 17 at Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter, Florida.

There will be a few noticeable changes in the outfield this year for St. Louis. The team chose to not pick up the option on Matt Holliday's contract leaving him to

find a new home with the Yankees. This left a void in the outfield that they filled with former Cub Dexter Fowler.

The bullpen was also improved over the offseason by adding Brett Cecil and John Gant. Cecil has played the last eight seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays.

It is unclear as of now if Gant, who's MLB debut came in April of 2016, will be in the majors for the Cardinals this year. He was acquired from the Atlanta Braves, along with a minor-league pitcher and infielder, for starting pitcher Jamie Garcia.

Relief pitcher Seth Maness

should also be able to pitch this season. Maness was supposed to undergo Tommy John surgery in August and was expected to be out for the season. Instead his surgeon performed a new procedure that has a shortened recovery time. Maness is the first major-league pitcher that has had this procedure and should be ready opening day, just 7 half a month after surgery.

These NL Central rivals will open the regular season against each other on April 2 at Busch Stadium.

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Correction

In the Dec. 12, 2016, issue of The Lamp, there was a factual error in the article, "Make voice heard about election outcome."

In the article, it stated that Donald Trump's election was only the second time that the president won the electoral college but lost the popular vote. It was, in fact, the fifth time, but the second time in recent history.

In the 2000 election, Al Gore won the popular vote and George W. Bush won the electoral vote.

Former Lincoln Land Professor John Squibb sent a letter updating the history.

"It also happened in 1824, 1876, and 1888, after which there was a lapse of over 100 years before happening again in the election of 2000. In 1824, Andrew Jackson won the popular vote in a field of four candidates, but did not win a majority of the electoral vote, which threw the election into the House of Representatives, where John Quincy Adams was selected and led Jackson to cry 'corrupt bargain' for the next four years before he won in 1828. It happened again in 1876 when Samuel Tilden (D-NY) won the popular vote over Rutherford B. Hayes (R-Ohio) but lost the electoral vote by a single vote. In 1888, Grover Cleveland (D-NY) won the popular vote by about 100,000 over Benjamin Harrison (R) but got beat badly in the electoral vote. It is ironic that in the last four times this has happened (1876, 1888, 2000, and 2016) the Democratic candidate has won the popular vote, but lost the electoral vote and the Presidency to the Republican candidate."

The Lamp regrets the error.

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that we are helping make a difference in somebody’s life in another country.”

The research site is toward the head of the Sibun River with only a cattle farm, the resort the class stayed and a few houses between the site and the Maya Mountains. If a

problem occurs, the source of the problem would be easy to pinpoint.

Cox and his classes have been sampling for 11 years now.

“Fortunately, we haven’t seen very many changes in water quality over the years,” Cox said.

Logan McHenry can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu



Logan McHenry/Lamp photos

At top, students use a net to collect macroinvertebrates in the Sibun River. At the bottom, a student carefully removes the macroinvertebrates from the net.



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