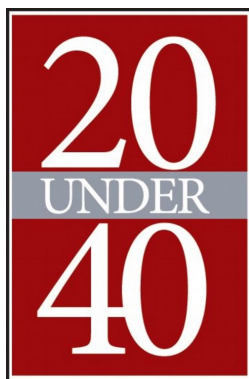


LWF Alumni Connection

9 Vie for 20 Under 40



The 2014 20 Under 40 nominees have been named, and LWF has 9 alums as candidates:

Lance Cannedy
(Class of 2008)

David Cartwright
(Class of 2012)

Darrel Dickey
(Class of 2013)

Reagan Foster
(Class of 2006)

Paul Hopkins
(Class of 2008)

Brad Mills
(Class of 2007)

Cosme Ojeda II
(Class of 2013)

Shannon Rogers
(Class of 2012)

Nick Schreiber
(Class of 2011)

The nominee list contains a total of 39 young professionals.

All finalists will be invited to the 20 Under 40 Awards on Tuesday, January 27, 2015.

Finalists will be announced in a special section in the Times Records News on Wednesday, January 28, 2015.

Nominees are 20 years old as of January 1, 2014 and not yet 40 years old on December 31,

2014. A panel of community leaders will evaluate the nominees in four categories:

Business/Professional Background

Leadership in Business

Accomplishments

Community Involvement

After four classes, 30 (37.5%) of the 80 award recipients are LWF alums: 10 in 2010, the inaugural year, 7 the second year (2011), 4 in 2012, and 9 in the 20 Under 40 Class of 2013.

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LWF Class of 2015 Recruitment Under Way

Leadership Wichita Falls is now accepting applications for the "Next Best Class!"

As you know, the purpose of Leadership Wichita Falls is to recruit, develop, and prepare individuals for civic leadership while providing a foundation and ongoing opportunities for community involvement.

Whether an individual is new to the area or grew up in Wichita Falls, this unique opportunity

engages participants in special behind-the-scenes snapshots and interactions of what makes Wichita Falls a wonderful place to live and work.

We invite all go-getters to step up and join the ranks of this powerful and life-changing journey of discovery.

Do you know someone ready for this experience? Is someone from your organization ready to join this amazing legacy?

Application forms may be downloaded from <http://tinyurl.com/2015lwf>, and the tentative 2015 class schedule is on page 4 of this newsletter.

Completed applications should be submitted by mail or electronically no later than January 2, 2105.

Direct questions to LWF board of directors president, Matthew Park at matthew.park@mwsu.edu.



Do You Have to be a “Born Leader” in Order to Lead?

No. People learn how to lead. Even the people who seem to do it naturally had to learn the skills of leadership. They might have learned by watching their parents, teachers, or clergy. They might have been given a lot of responsibility when they were young and might have been expected to take charge. They might even have taken classes in “leadership development.”

The point is this: If you don't feel that you are a “born” leader, don't let that stop you. You can learn to be a leader.

Below is a list of what community leaders do. You don't have to be able to do all of these things right now. But most likely, you are already doing some of them. You can pick up other skills as you go.

Dream Big to Create Your Personal Vision

Maybe you didn't think that day dreaming was part of being a leader. Well, it is! Day dreaming is one of the first things you need to do as a leader.

If you are going to be a leader, it is necessary to dream big for yourself and for what you want to accomplish.

Young people often have big hopes and dreams for what they can do to improve their worlds. If each one of us could remember our dreams as children, we might recall that we had some ideas too.

Try these exercises:

Interview a few young people. Ask them what they would do to change the world if they could. Ask them what they wish were different.

Try to remember when you were a teenager. What did you want to change in the world?

Put aside practical considerations and fears. Brainstorm a list of dreams you would like to see come true.

So How do You Take Your Dream and Make it Reality?

You can start by creating your own personal vision statement. You put your dream into words that communicate to others a picture of what you want to do. Organizations have vision statements; you too, as a leader, can have your own vision statement.

EMPOWERING THE LEADER IN ALL OF US



Write out a few sentences of how you want some part of your world to be. Your vision statement will remind you of where you want to be going. As you wade through the day-to-day tasks of community organizing, sometimes without recognition or encouragement, remember to, “keep your eyes on the prize.”

Listen to People

Listen to what people have to say. You need their thoughts and input. They will grow in confidence and become more engaged if they know their opinions are valued.

Even the most difficult people have some important things to say. We just have to learn to listen well enough to find the kernels of truth among all the chaff.

Decide that You are the Person to take Responsibility for Your Community

You have to make a *decision* to

lead and view yourself as a community leader. No one else can contribute what you can. You have a point of view that no one else has. You have a set of skills that is unique. Your corner of the world will be different if you decide to act on its behalf.

Set Goals

Give your vision a sharper image. Turn up the focus. Set some long-term and short-term goals. That is how you carve a real path to your vision.

Get the Work Done

Someone has to wade through the mud and do whatever it takes. This includes getting others to help, and making sure that all the bases are covered so that the job gets done right; when need be, it also means printing out labels, cleaning up the kitchen, making those extra phone calls, staying up late, or getting up very early.

Recruit and Teach Others to Become Leaders

Last, but not least: One of the central and long-term jobs of a community leader is to develop other leaders. Developing leaders is how we build a strong community of individuals that can work together to achieve goals. It is the basis for how a democracy works.

Developing leadership is a way you can have a legacy behind you – people who will continue to advance your cause and your goals after you have left the scene.

Community leaders should spend a good chunk of their time recruiting, encouraging, training, mentoring, and supporting others to be leaders.

Here are some steps you can take:

Find people who have leadership potential. There are people all around you who would love to be invited to lead something.

Think About the Individuals in the Group

As a leader, you need to think about how each individual is affecting the group. Are there individuals whose talents are not being well used? Is someone acting in a way that is divisive or is draining the group of its energy? Is there a person who needs some help learning how to work in a team?

Think About the Group as a Whole

Someone has to think about the group as a whole. Is the group cohesive? Do people in the group have a shared vision? Is there trust and a sense of mutual support? Does the group need some training to help it function better? Are there some policies the group needs to strengthen it?

Propose Programs and Policies

Groups need direction and policies to keep them moving towards their goals. You don't

Continued on the next page

"Born Leader?" continued

Help people view themselves as leaders. You can do this by helping them notice the informal leadership they have already taken in their lives. Are they parents? – that is *certainly* a leadership position.

Help people identify the reasons they want to lead. Listen to people talk about what is important to them and what they wish they could change.

Assist people to choose leadership goals that are attainable and that will help them build their confidence. Nothing succeeds like success.

Support people while they work to reach their goals. Listen to them talk about their successes and their feelings of discouragement; appreciate them and encourage them to keep going.

Support people when they make mistakes. Everybody needs help when they make mistakes. Help them get on the right track and encourage them to stick with it.

Challenge people to take the next step.

Leadership development is a long-term investment. Often community leaders have to put the development of other leaders ahead of achieving short-term goals. For example, it may be more important to take the risk of letting a relatively inexperienced person chair a small meeting and acquire new skills. If the meeting gets messy, perhaps that is not so bad. Leadership development is not a tidy endeavor.

So now we have a preliminary job description for a community leader. Does it seem overwhelming? Remember: You don't have to know how to do all these things when you start. You have the rest of your life to master them. —*Marya Axner*

WF Board and Commission Opportunities

Boards and commissions play an important role in city policy and development.

Current vacancies:

Emergency Medical Services Board (1 position). Qualifications: Physician

The Emergency Medical Services Board ensures a quality EMS program by monitoring the personnel, vehicles, financial information and service level of the joint Ambulance Services Contract between the cities of Wichita Falls, Burkburnett, Iowa Park and Wichita County; and to review citizen complaints.

Lake Wichita Revitalization Committee (3 positions)

On May 7, 2013, the Wichita Falls City Council appointed the newly created Lake Wichita Study Committee and charged the committee with the task of developing goals and recommendations for recreation and non-recreation uses with consideration being given to, but not limited to: water usage, shoreline usage, public safety, maintenance, and commercial development.

The name was changed to Lake Wichita Revitalization Committee (LWRC) on October 7, 2014. The reason was to coincide with the City Council extension of the LWRC term another 18 months, done by the same resolution, and to recognize a more active role by the LWRC to achieve improvements to Lake Wichita.

Over the next 18 months, the committee will work to develop an action plan that can ultimately be implemented to bring the vision to fruition!

Traffic Safety Commission (2 positions). Qualifications: District 5 resident AND expertise in alternative modes of transportation (motorcycle, bicycle, and pedestrian modes)

The Traffic Safety Commission provides assistance in the development of ordinances concerning traffic safety, for consideration by the City Council. Further, the Commission reports and recommends to the City Council appropriations and expenditures of the Traffic Safety Commission funds. The Commission also acts to promote traffic safety through education, coordination, recognition and awards.

Veterans Advisory Council (4 positions). Qualifications: Wichita Falls Resident AND veteran.

The purpose of the Veterans Advisory Council is to:

1. Build awareness and support in the City and in the surrounding communities in helping our veterans.

a. Honor our veterans for their courage, sacrifice, and perseverance by helping those families of deployed veterans and easing their day-to-day obligations.

b. Develop a Welcome Home program to greet veterans and military personnel at the city's bus stop and airport.

c. Promote all local veteran functions through all forms of media.

2. Inform and educate veterans on:

a. Local job training programs and preparation to attend college.

b. Family support programs and reintegration into the community.

c. Available medical and behavioral facilities to help returning and wounded warriors and their families. (Counseling for PTSD).

d. Housing options and support for homeless veterans.

3. Annually award a Distinguished Veteran Award to an individual with close ties to the City of Wichita Falls, Texas who has served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States and who has had an exceptionally distinguished military or civilian career and who reflects great credit on Wichita Falls and the military services.

4. Promote volunteerism and foster true patriotism to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom.

5. Be a central repository for information and documents concerning veterans' benefits (medical, educational, vocational, and housing); Communicate and publicize information through the City of Wichita Falls website and other electronic media.

Zoning Board of Adjustment (1 position)

The Zoning Board of Adjustment hears requests for variances from the Zoning Ordinance, and decides administrative appeals from decisions made by any administrative official of the City in the enforcement of this ordinance.

Applications for ALL boards and commissions are being accepted, even if there are no current vacancies. Applications will be kept on file for 1 year.

Applications—and additional information—available on-line at www.wichitafallstx.gov or contact the City Clerk at 940.761.7409 or tracy.norr@wichitafallstx.gov





LWF & YPs Join to Celebrate the Holidays



LWF
LEADERSHIP WICHITA FALLS

Leadership Wichita Falls
P.O. Box 8344
Wichita Falls TX 76307

leadershipwff@gmail.com

LWF.alumni@gmail.com

Leadership Wichita Falls Alumni and Young Professionals of Wichita Falls team up for the year's best Christmas party! We will provide food, drinks, games, door prizes, a photo booth, as well as a limo to give Christmas light tours! We will also be taking the opportunity to give back with a "gift wrapping" station; so, we ask everyone to bring 1 or more gifts for children ages 1-17, which will be donated to CASA. (please no "violent" toys).



Looking forward to seeing you there!



Date: December 11, 2014

Time: 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Location: Hamilton Building 12th Floor Ballroom

Address: 900 8th St Wichita Falls, TX 76301



Event is free for all alumni and their guests

www.leadershipwff.org

[www.facebook.com/
groups/123983764313053/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/123983764313053/)

X

Adult Programs

January 10* Orientation & Road Rally
January 13..... Leadership I
January 20..... Health
January 27..... Education
February 3..... Leadership II
February 10..... What's Happening in WF
February 17* Government
February 28* Community Awareness
March 3..... Public Safety I
March 10..... Alumni/Sponsors
March 24* SAFB/Nonprofits
March 28* Ropes
March 31..... Common Ground
April 7* Special Needs
April 21..... Public Safety II
May 1-2* Retreat
May 5..... Graduation

*Denotes day program.
Schedule subject to change.

Youth Programs

January 26* Focus Meeting
January 31..... Orientation
February 3..... Special Needs
February 10..... Education
February 17* Etiquette Dinner
February 24* Teen Court
February 28..... Service Project #1
March 3..... City Gov't & Public Safety
March 24..... Sheppard AFB
March 28..... Ropes
March 31..... In the News
April 2..... Common Ground
April 11..... Service Project #2
April 14* Health
April 25..... Service Project #3
April 28..... Youth in Action
May 4* Graduation

*Denotes evening program.
Schedule subject to change.

Board of Directors (Class of)

Executive Committee:

Matthew Park (2004) Chair
M&FD, Finance, Governance
LeAnn Scharbrough (2010) Chair Elect
M&FD, Governance chair
Michael Mills (2005) Secretary
M&FD
Marla Malone (2010) Treasurer
Chair Immediate Past Chair, M&FD, Finance

Board Members:

Cammie Dean (2010) Youth Programs
Carla Rogers (2012) Youth Programs, Governance
Chris Aday (2013) Adult Programs, Alumni
Clayton Hein (2011) M&FD
Donna Vaughn (2001) Adult Programs
Gene Strouth (2003) Alumni chair, Governance
Jackie Hamm (2012) Adult Programs, Alumni, Finance
Jan Driver (2012) Youth Programs
Julie Ayres (2013) Adult Programs co-chair
Michael Boyle (1996) M&FD co-chair, Finance
Missy Seay (2008) Adult Programs co-chair
Shelly Agee (2012) Alumni, M&FD
Stephen Santellana (2003) M&FD co-chair
Steve Sims (2012) Youth Programs
Tina Taylor (2009) Alumni, Finance
Vicki Donahue (2013) Youth Programs chair

M&FD = Marketing & Fund Development