

LWF Alumni Connection

A true leader has the ability to inspire and gain respect while setting and achieving goals. Or as Sir Gustav Nossal, a great Australian community leader, scientist, thinker and former Australian of the Year, put it:

“Community Leadership is the courage, creativity and capacity to inspire participation, development and sustainability for strong communities.”

Self-awareness: Knowledge of your own values, passions, skills, strengths and weaknesses, as well as an ability to admit and learn from mistakes and to seek information to fill knowledge gaps.

Integrity: A strong sense of “what is right” and a demonstration of ethical practices that sets the tone for others. A commitment to teaching by example.

Courage: The strength to act in accordance with your own values

Qualities of Good Leadership

and the greater good despite pressures pushing in other directions.

Confidence: A belief in your ability to meet most challenges.

Vision: A strong sense of where you are going as a person and where you think your community should be going—and how it might get there.

Enthusiasm: A lively interest in the people, issues, and events around you, a feeling of excitement about the possibilities, and the energy to guide them towards fruition.

Innovation: The ability to “think outside the box,” take risks, and develop new/effective solutions to old and emerging problems.

Wisdom: Intelligence coupled with insight and empathy, as opposed to raw intelligence.

Adaptability: A willingness to be flexible/to respond quickly and effectively to changing circumstances, with a commitment to continual learning—formal and informal—and the ability to put that learning into practice.

Strong interpersonal skills: An ability to interact and work harmoniously with others.

Effective communication: A willingness and ability to listen to and understand the thoughts, ideas and concerns of others and to clearly communicate your own.

Belief in others: The desire to

build the capabilities of others, praise them where appropriate, go to bat for them, provide them with helpful feedback and motivation.

Peer respect: An ability to inspire respect, allowing a person to capably lead discussions, maintain discipline and encourage the contribution of others.

Insight: The ability to see the big picture and an ability to intuit problems before they arise or before become insurmountable.

Sense of humor: The ability to laugh at yourself and relieve tense/stressful situations.

Competence: Others are unlikely to follow the lead of a person who does not appear to know what he/she is doing.

Delegation skills: A willingness to trust others and cede some responsibility.

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Alumni-Sponsors-Class of 2015 Social

As has been the tradition, once the current class has been together for a bit of time, it's time to introduce them to past Best Class[es] Ever and those who sponsor the programs.

That time is closely approaching...and you are invited!

Come spend just a couple of hours and meet the Class of 2015 and the program/LWF sponsors. In addition to the social time, the food, drink, and

interactive activities are sure to engage all in attendance.

If you haven't already done so, please RSVP by clicking [HERE](#).



Where: [MSU Sikes Lake Center](#)

When: Tuesday, March 10th, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Who: Every LWF Alum (and guest) is invited

How much: FREE!

Why: Catch up with your LWF class and meet the current class and sponsors

What: Food and drinks (yes, the adult kind too) provided

2003 Alum Makes Run for Councilor Seat

The deadline to apply to run for the upcoming elections closed on Friday, February 27th. The municipal general election, set for May 9th, has six candidates running for three positions, and one candidate is a LWF alum: Stephen Santellana.

Running for the Councilor, District 1 position, Santellana—born in Wichita Falls and a Midwestern State University graduate with a double major (Political Science and Criminal Justice)—wants to encourage economic growth that supports both small and large



businesses in the local area. Additionally, he believes in support for the police and fire departments. He has stated that they need “serious consideration” so that they will be equipped to provide public safety.

Besides being a Leadership Wichita Falls alum (Class of 2003), he’s one of the 20 Under 40 (Class of 2012). He also serves on nonprofit boards and is currently active with Leadership Wichita Falls and Wichita Falls Crime Stoppers.

Volunteer Opportunities: Hospice of Wichita Falls

As a [Hospice of Wichita Falls](#) volunteer, you can make a difference by offering your friendship and support to individuals near the end of their lives. Being a volunteer can challenge your spirit, fill your heart, and enrich your own life.

Hospice has many opportunities for volunteering based on your areas of interest, schedule and special gifts. You may choose to have direct patient contact and visit those individuals at their place of residence or spend some time in the inpatient care facility. You could choose to help with some administrative duties or in the bereavement program. Hospice has several special events throughout the year also for your consideration. Hospice

would like to encourage you to wait 1 year after a significant loss before becoming a volunteer. They invite those who might be interested in volunteering with Hospice of Wichita Falls to call one their Volunteer Coordinators and discuss their talents and interests so they can make your volunteer experiences as rewarding for you as it will be for them.

Volunteers - An Essential Part of the Team

Volunteers provide invaluable support and direct contact to our patients and their fami-

lies. At Hospice of Wichita Falls, they have several areas to volunteer.

Direct Contact volunteers work with our patients and families

They provide respite for caregivers, run errands for patients and families, write letters, and assist in our children’s grief programs and provide support to the grieving.

Administrative volunteers

These volunteers receive training to assemble admission packets, file, shred, copy, fax,

write acknowledgements, and assist with other office needs. Volunteers help with fundraisers such as mail-outs, Friends of Hospice Golf Tournament, Tree of Lights and other fundraising events as well as community outreach programs.

If you are, or someone you know is, interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact a Volunteer Coordinator at 940.691.0982.

The next volunteer training sessions run March 12th-April 19th, 1:30-4:00 p.m. Sessions are conducted on Thursdays. To sign up or to request more information, contact Darbi or Cindy at 940.691.0982.



In Memoriam—Larry Nash (Class of 2004)



The City of Wichita Falls, as an organization and as a community, lost a leader whose positive impact on this community was just beginning. Larry Nash, Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, passed away early February 2nd. His work at the center as well as his civic involvement throughout this community will be sorely missed.

Larry coached many youth sports teams through multiple organizations and impacted the lives of children throughout the city. “The thing about Larry, he transcended all boundaries—whether racial, rich or poor, no matter what school you went to or young or old,”

WFHS girls basketball coach Joe Golding said. “He committed his life to making life better for others, and there’s very few people who can say that.”

Larry also worked for the City of Wichita Falls for the past 18 years, and he served on numerous boards and community committees.

Larry is survived by his wife, Christy Nash, principal at Hirschi High School; two teenage sons, Garron and Aeneus; and a legacy of being one of the most instrumental men in the lives of those who had the good fortune of crossing his path.

Help! LWF Needs Your Assistance

Since its inception, Leadership Wichita Falls has produced over 1,100 alums. As you might imagine, keeping up with that many people is quite a task. Even as technology makes the task easier, it can still be rather daunting.

The LWF board currently has email addresses for only 437 alumni members. And of those, when the board reaches out to them, the contact percentages vary between 22-48 percent. We've reached as few as 97 and as many as 177 with each of our 42 (to date) Mail-Chimp.com mailings.

For each month in 2015, a list of names of alums for whom

we do not have an email address will be posted in this newsletter. Also included in the posted list will be people for whom we do have an email address, but for whatever reason, the alums are not opening our mailings. True, it is possible they are reading the mailings but for some reason Mail-Chimp is not recording them.

You can help us by contacting those alum you know and asking them to contact us with a "good" email address (one they'll use to read our mailings) with which we can keep in touch. Direct all correspondence to our alumni email address lwf.alumni@gmail.com.

Class of 2014:

Lori Ramsey

Michael Smith

Class of 2013:

Tony DiSanto

Class of 2012:

Tina Bounds-Childer

Jennifer Tansey Briley

Mark Bullock

Ben Crabb

Bill Dixon

Bob Elmore

Julie Gilmore

Brenda Ginnings

Michael Hicks

Jennifer Horton

Colby Huffman

Jason Jentsch

Blake Jurecek

Donnie Kirk

Katie Lovelace

Carlos Ruiz

Suzanne Stone

Samuel Sutton

James Wagner

Youth LWF 2015



It has been more than a month already since the members of Youth Leadership 2015 first came together and embarked



upon the journey that is Youth Leadership.

The Youth Leadership team of Cammie Dean (Class of 2010), Carla Rogers (Class of 2012), Jan Driver (Class of 2012), and Steve Sims (Class of 2012) and leader, Vicki Donahue (Class of 2013) put together and are executing a diverse program for this year's class of bright teens.

The class is scheduled to get together 16 times between January and May. On those 16 program meetings dates, the

youth participate in programs such as "Special Needs"

(Cunningham Elementary, Children's Aid Society, Work Services, Beacon Lighthouse for the Blind), "Education" (Midwestern State University, Vernon Community College), an "Etiquette Dinner," "City Government & Public Safety," "Sheppard Air Force Base," "In the News" (radio, TV, Times Record News, Crane West), "Health" (United Regional), "Youth in Action" (Food Bank, The Kitchen), "Common



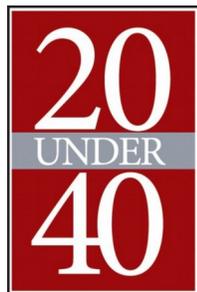
Ground," the always-exciting "ROPES," three "Service Projects" (Adopt-a-Highway, T.H.O.R., Miracle League), and of course "Graduation."



None of these programs would be possible without the support of community sponsors. Sponsors this year include Partners in Education, Midwestern State University, Junior League of Wichita Falls, Coca-Cola, United Regional Health Care System, The Kitchen, and LWF.



Congratulations! 20 Under 40



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Times Record News revealed the 20 Under 40 Class of 2014 on January 28th, and LWF alumni representation made it to the class.

With nine LWF alum in contention, the following six made it to the Class of 2014:

Lance Cannedy
(Class of 2008)

David Cartwright
(Class of 2012)

Reagan Foster
(Class of 2006)

Paul Hopkins
(Class of 2008)

Cosme Ojeda II
(Class of 2013)

Nick Schreiber
(Class of 2011)

With the fifth class of 20 Under 40, 36 (36%) of the 100 honorees are LWF alums: 10 in the inaugural year (2010), 7 the sophomore year (2011), 4 in 2012, 9 last year, and 6 in the 20 Under 40 Class of 2014. Click link for more info.

www.timesrecordnews.com/20under40

Related Story

Michael Keesee (Class of 2003) was named as one of Corpus Christi's 2014 Under 40 honorees. To learn more, go to <http://ccu40.org/>



www.leadershipwff.org

www.facebook.com/LeadershipWichitaFalls

2015 Schedules

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 Mills (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