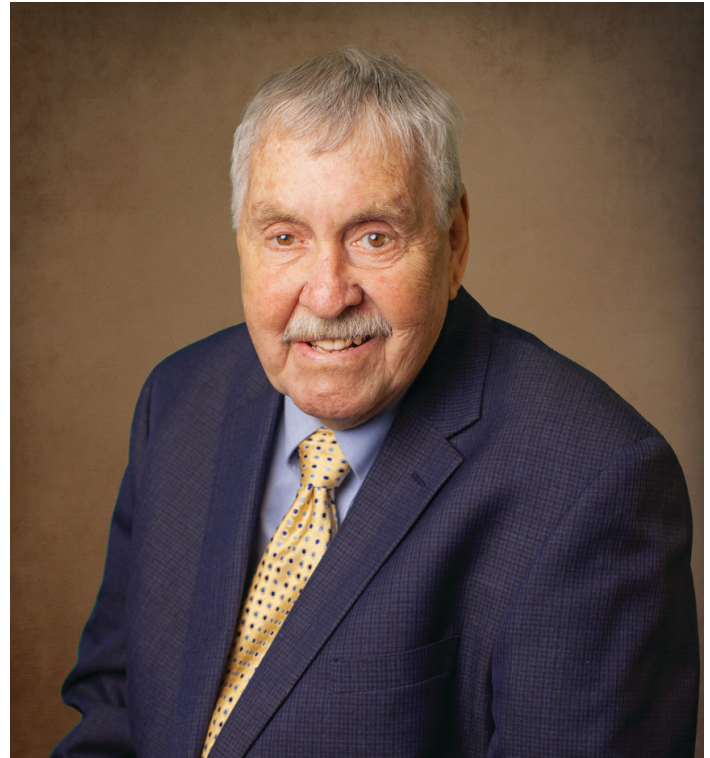


# NETWORK



APRIL 2024



## HIGHLIGHTS



BWXT visits welding program, makes donation



Phi Theta Kappa inducts new members



LTC prepares for Children's Summer Theater

## HARMON RETIRING AS FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

After dedicating nearly 50 years to Lincoln Trail College as an instructor and as the Executive Director of the Lincoln Trail College Rod Harmon is retiring in June. Here are some of Harmon's memories of his career in his own words.

Education is a wonderful occupation. I always said if you have a year and you change one or two people's lives in that year in the classes that you teach. If you change one life, make one life better. It's been a great year.

It's funny how many students remember you. Students are always coming up to me and saying, "Rod I had you in 1993 and do you remember me?" And I generally can say, I remember the face. I can't always attach a name to a face, but it's a good feeling.

### On coming to Lincoln Trail College

Somewhere around '77, I got a call from Olney Central and they invited me down to run their Studies Skills Center. Chuck Novak was the president at that particular



## UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

- 1-2 **Grad Fest**  
7:30-4:30, Learning Commons
- 3 **Last Day of Spring Semester Classes**  
  
**Employee Recognition Dinner**  
6 p.m., Irene's Vineyard & Winery
- 5 **Pancake & Study Night**  
6 p.m., Statesmen Grill
- 6-9 **Final Exams**
- 10 **Last Day of Spring Semester**  
  
**Alpha Delta Nu Recognition Ceremony**  
5 p.m., DeMent Auditorium  
  
**Nursing Pinning Ceremony**  
5:30 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater  
  
**54th Annual Commencement**  
7 p.m., Sports Center
- 13 **Intersession Classes Begin**
- 23 **LTC Foundation Meeting**  
12 p.m., Lincoln Room
- 27 **COLLEGE CLOSED: Memorial Day**
- 28 **Children's Summer Theater Begins**
- 31 **Last Day of Intersession Classes**

time. I went down and interviewed, but that's what I was doing at Murray State University already. It didn't appeal to me, so I politely refused and went on.

About two or three months later, Bonnie Burns, who was one of the original members of the faculty at Lincoln Trail, I think there were seven who started the college. She was a graduate of Murray State University. We received a Title III grant. She wanted to administer that, kind of wanting to go into administration, but she was teaching history and math at Lincoln Trail. So she called the college. She called Murray to Dean Harrell, who was one of my advisors. And she said, "Do you have someone with a degree in history who might be interested in coming to teach two quarters at Lincoln Trail?" Dean Harrell said, "Rod Harmon, just you got one in May, six months ago, or whatever he might be interested. I'll give him a ring."

He called me at Murray, a very long story short and, I remember John Schulte and Bonnie and Lew Aukes was the Dean, and they interviewed me to teach two quarters. It was in the winter quarter and the spring quarter. And even though I had a good job at Murray, they had the idea of teaching history was so appealing that I said yes.

### One of his favorite memories with coworkers

Some of the stories that came out of those staff meetings are just priceless. I remember one lady was at the staff meeting. She was very upset because she had found in a classroom chalk dust in the chalk tray. And then later, a week or so later, she got in the van and found cigarette ashes in the ashtray and she was going on about how we were going to hell in a handbasket, what we're going to do. Finally, Steve McDevitt, who is one of my favorite, favorite people, said, "You know, if all we have to do is worry about chalk dust and the cigarette ash in the ashtray, this would be the greatest community college in the history of the United States." That kind of quieted her down a little bit.

### Shenanigans in the classroom

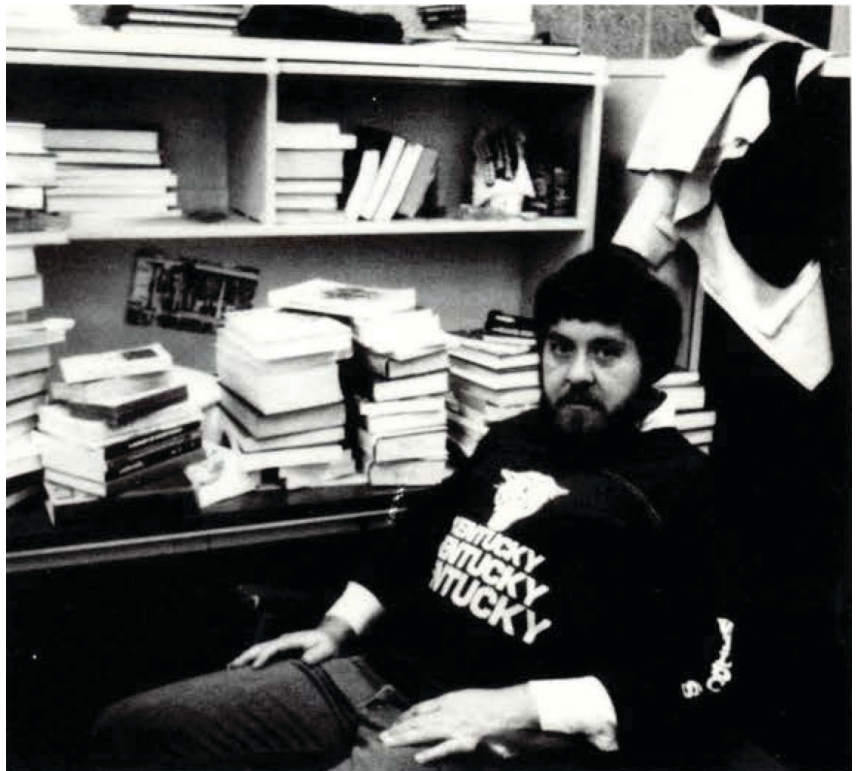
I developed a class called A History of Vietnam. I'd been drafted and, you know, and did a little stuff in the Army and well, I wasn't a very good recruit. I've always often maintained that was probably the worst soldier in the history of the U.S. Army. Anyway, I developed this class on Vietnam and I went to the Foundation board and asked them for 13 tapes, the history, it was broken into PBS tapes and they had made 13 tapes. I think the whole shebang was worth about \$130 to get the tapes.

I built the class around the tapes and the way we were doing it was on a Tuesday, Thursday class, Tuesday, I came in and lecture, and then Thursday we would see a film of what I lectured on Tuesday. And so Thursday, the way it went, I would go to a little room where all the TVs were and the VCR. I'd come in, I'd throw the tape on the desk and my notes or whatever, and then I'd run to this room, unlock the door, get a camera and TV, bring it out to put it in the room, hook it up to the tape and we'd be off and running. That was the routine. Well, one day, one Thursday, I put tape on the desk, went to get the TV, brought it in, plugged it in, took the tape, put the tape in, and it was a triple X porno, right in the middle of the tape.

I'm up there and I'm trying like hell to get the TV turned off. The class is roaring. They're down on the

floor. And I'm thinking, how did that porno tape get in my Vietnam tapes? It turned out the students had made an exchange of the porno tape for the videotape while I was gone to get the TV. They thought that was the greatest coup, probably in academic history. Anyway, it was years, years later, one of my students came to me and said he was the one who had, he had dreamed up that little incident. But it was one of those funny things and what I remember most, though, was trying to turn the TV off, and I couldn't find I couldn't find the right button.

My tests were always short answers and essays. I did three essay questions, pick two, and short answer questions were, oh, something short answer. And one of the questions I always ask is what is history. What is history? You know, it's a simple question, but you gotta think of history. What is it? And I got a lot of great answers over the years.



Rod Harmon sits at his desk in a photo from the 1981 Lincoln's Logue

The best answer I ever got, and I don't know if he read it somewhere or if it was his own answer, but he wrote "History is just one damn thing after another." And I looked at that answer and I laughed. I still laugh about that because I don't know how you grade that answer. You know, it certainly is accurate.

### On fate

I served in one capacity or another with every president we've had at Lincoln Trail College from Piland on. Some were better than others. Some were outstanding. Some were less than outstanding. But, it was a great joy and a great 40 years.

I often think if when I was working in the Study Skills Center at Murray and the phone rang, I wondered if I'd been in the bathroom or something had gone to do something else, and I missed Dean Harrell's phone call asking me if I wanted to go to Robinson and check out a history job. I wonder if I missed that call, how my life would have changed.

### On the Lincoln Trail College Foundation

I just can't tell you how much I appreciate that school and how much it's done for me. And as a Foundation person. We've done some good stuff out there. The Foundation. And I'm not talking about me. I'm talking about the Foundation. When I started, we were doing maybe \$15,000 in scholarships. And now, 20 years later, we're doing \$200,000 in scholarships. And, that's the work of a lot of good people in the community and a lot of good people at Lincoln Trail College.

### On Miller Lake

If when I'm gone, I guess my legacy, I hope my legacy is Miller Lake. Because when I came, Miller Lake was a slough. It was a swamp. It was grown up and it was there were telephone poles in it





LEFT: The state of Miller Lake circa 2006. RIGHT: Habitat and wetland conservation project photo from FY 2009-10. Images shared by the Lincoln Trail College Foundation.

and it was just a mess. And, when I got selected for the board, one of the questions that we raised was Miller Lake, and one of the things we had to decide what to do with it.

Some of the board wanted to cut the levy, take a dozer, go in and cut the levy, fill it in, and sow it down with grass. I didn't want to. I said, once we lose Miller Lake and the potential of Miller Lake, if we do that, we'll never have a lake. It'll be gone and we'll never come

back and revisit that and do it again. So we talked and talked and some people in the community indicated they would help. And finally, the board said, yeah, okay, we'll spend some substantial money and we did. And what we see now is Miller Lake, and it's a beautiful part of the campus. We have walking paths around it and we have the fountain.

### On legacy

Very often we measure success, and we measure what we've done in our lives. And, I guess there are variables that you can look at: how much money you have, how big your house is, that sort of thing. Those are all good. All positive. But I think the thing that is most significant to me is I really believe we've made a difference in people's lives.

I think contributing what little I've contributed to Lincoln Trail over the 35, 40 years, I think if we changed a few lives, and I believe we have, I think that that's when the end of the road comes, that's what I'll remember most is, the few lives that we may have altered and made their lives better.

Being on the faculty has brought enjoyment to my life. The stories and the history. I'm a good history teacher because I think history is basically stories. And I've always had good rapport, not bragging, but I've had a good rapport with students and students, they've always seemingly, developed something other than a teacher-student relationship. I think it's all about personalities and my personality is history oriented. I love to tell a story. And that's what history is, a story. And, so I'm proud of that and I'm proud of, I'm proud of the little role that I played in, in, changing lives, because I really do believe that education is about changing lives, and like I said, I couldn't have picked a better occupation.





## BWX TECHNOLOGIES REPRESENTATIVES SPEAK WITH WELDING STUDENTS



Two representatives from BWX Technologies' Mt. Vernon, Ind. location visited Lincoln Trail College's welding program to talk with students and make a donation.

Josh Duncan and Jared Smith talked to students about BWXT work environment. The company does Naval nuclear work, powering submarines and aircraft carriers. They also design and fabricate specialty nuclear and non-nuclear components for United States government, commercial, and university locations.

Duncan and Smith told the students about the wages and benefits available from BWXT. They also explained the company's interview process and what the onboarding process looks like when someone gets hired.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Reno Bemont, Jared Smith, Josh Duncan, Robert Conn, Jackson Hemrich

BWXT donated pipes and other materials to LTC's welding program. They told the students that part of the interview process is demonstrating an understanding of welding equipment and how to weld pipe. The pipes that they donated are the same kinds of pipes that the interviewees weld.

Duncan and Smith offered the students advice about practicing the fundamentals of welding. They both said you can always learn something by watching other welders and that students should pay close attention to better welders so they can pick up their techniques.

The two complimented students for pursuing welding because there's great demand for welders right now. They also said that even if they don't end up welding in their career, they have a great skill that they can always fall back on.



## PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS



Lincoln Trail College inducted its newest members into the Alpha Iota Epsilon Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Phi Theta Kappa recognizes the academic achievement of college students and provides opportunities for its members to grow as scholars and leaders.

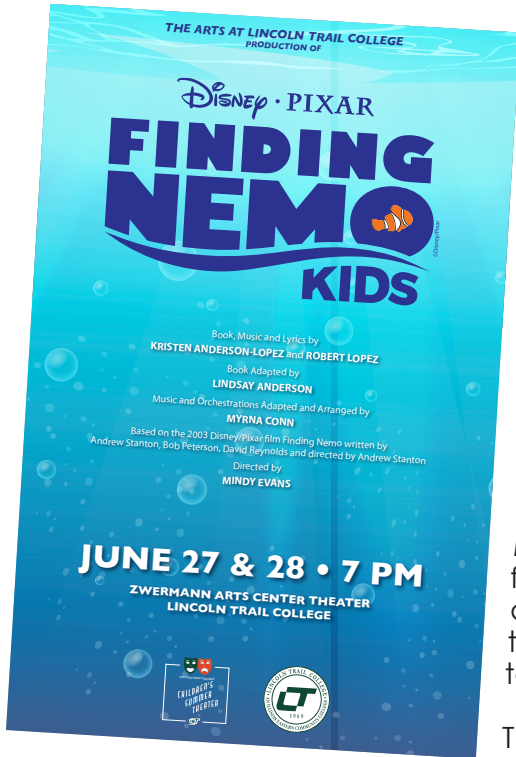
Phi Theta Kappa officers led the induction ceremony. Vice President of Leadership Jacie Bradbury presented the candidates, and President Guadalupe Amicone led the Presentation of the Charge. Vice President of Scholarship Ana Guedes, Vice President of Fellowship Krista Phillips, Vice President of Service Tomas Bascon Blacut, and Bradbury explained symbolism to new members. Amicone led the Phi Theta Kappa Pledge and Phillips led the Solemnity. Olivia Teska sang the Phi Theta Kappa song.

New members inducted into Phi Theta Kappa were: Diego Olguin Aguilera, Sergio Alvarez, Zoe Angot, Vasco Bernardes, Jacie Bradbury, Cassie Brinkman, Emily Cissell, Maya Curtright, Madison Davis, Andrew Gilliam, Letecia Guimaraes, Tayllor Hall, Austin Hargrave, Brenna Higginbotham, Kevin Hilton, Kylee Hosman, Christopher Ivers, Autumn Kelly, Maxwell Layne, Gracie Lemmon, Zoe Martin, Cheyanne McDonald, Haley McNary, Benjamin Meier, Sara Mills, Curtus Moak, Mateus Moura, Kearsty Nielson, Jazmin Osborn, Benjamin Pena, James Petty, Damien Pierce, Graycie Poe, Kambry Price, Olivia Riggle, Katharine Schrader, Kassey Shipman, Faith Shull, Maci Smith, Autumn Stevenson, Katelyn Stewart, Kendyn Syfert, Cole Tingley, Hayden Trier, Aiden Vandehatert, Logan Webster, and Megan Young.

Established by Missouri two-year college presidents in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society recognizes and encourages the academic achievement of two-year college students and provides opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership, and service programming. Today, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education, with over 3.8 million members and 1,300 chapters in 10 countries.

## LTC PREPARES FOR CHILDREN'S SUMMER THEATER

Lincoln Trail College is preparing for two Children's Summer Theater productions this June.



Disney and Pixar's Finding Nemo KIDS is scheduled for children entering 1st – entering 5th grade, meeting weekdays from May 28th – June 28th from 9 a.m.-11 am. Show times will be June 27th and 28th at 7 p.m.

Dive into the big blue world of Disney and Pixar's Finding Nemo KIDS! This new stage musical, designed for elementary school-aged performers, is a 30-minute adaptation of the beloved 2003 Pixar movie Finding Nemo, with new music by award-winning songwriting team Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez. Marlin, an anxious and over-protective clownfish, lives in the Great Barrier Reef with his kid Nemo, who longs to explore the world beyond their anemone home. But when Nemo is captured and taken to Sydney, Marlin faces his fears and sets off on an epic adventure across the ocean. With the help of lovable characters such as optimistic Dory, laid-back sea turtle Crush, and the supportive Tank Gang, Marlin and Nemo both overcome challenges on their journey to find each other and themselves. Featuring memorable songs such as "Just Keep Swimming," "Fish Are Friends Not Food," and "Go With the Flow," Finding Nemo KIDS brings a vibrant underwater world to life on stage in a story full of family, friendship, and adventure.

The Zwermann Arts Center will be filled by the smell of rebellion when LTC's CST presents Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.

The Arts at Lincoln Trail College will have children entering 6th – entering 9th grade performing Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. May 28th – June 28th from 12-2 p.m. weekdays with performances on June 29th at 7 p.m. and June 30th at 2 p.m. New this year Matilda The Musical JR. will have early auditions on May 13th and 14th from 4-6 p.m., children will only need to attend one night.

Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. is adapted from the full-length musical which was based on the book by Roald Dahl, and features a book by Dennis Kelly and music and lyrics by Tim Minchin. The show opened on the West End in 2011 and made its Broadway premiere in 2013. The musical earned seven Olivier Awards, including "Best New Musical," and five Tony awards, including The Tony for "Best Book of a Musical."

Matilda, a little girl with astonishing wit, intelligence and psychokinetic powers, lives with cruel parents who find her to be a nuisance, a lousy little worm, and a bore. When Matilda enters her first term at school, she captures the attention of Miss Honey, a kind teacher, and the two form a wonderful friendship. Unfortunately, the school is ruled by a tempestuous and mean headmistress named Miss Trunchbull, who hates children and delivers cruel and unjust punishments to all her charges. Matilda is determined to change her story, but will her cleverness and courage be enough to withstand the reign of Miss Trunchbull?

The CST cast for both shows includes up to 50 students each, led by Mindy Evans. Cost is \$150 cash or check due with completed registration forms; pre-registration is April 27th from 8-10 a.m. in the Zwermann Art Center hallway.







## MAY ATHLETIC EVENTS

### Baseball

2	Kaskaskia College	3:00
4	at Kaskaskia College (DH)	12:00

## KNIGHT SIGNS WITH OAKLAND CITY



Lincoln Trail College sophomore Macy Knight has officially signed on to continue her volleyball career with Oakland City University (OCU). The decision comes after a successful two years at Lincoln Trail College, where Knight showcased her talent and leadership on the court.

Knight expressed her excitement about joining Oakland City's volleyball program. "After our season finished up, I knew I wasn't ready to stop playing volleyball," said Knight. "I trusted that everything would happen how it was meant to, and that's when I started talking to Coach Moorman! I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to play for another two years."

Knight's decision to join Oakland City was solidified after her visit to the campus and meeting with Coach Moorman. "I knew immediately after my visit with Coach Moorman that Oakland City was the right fit for me," Knight remarked. "I left my OCU visit with the same feeling as when I visited LTC for the first time, which I took as a good sign!"

Dana Goodwin commended Knight's commitment and talent. "I knew it was a matter of time before Macy announced her commitment," said Goodwin. "Oakland City University is getting an overall fantastic athlete and individual. Macy can hit from multiple positions at the net, put up a solid block, play defense, as well as serve receive. I am so proud of Macy and can't wait to see her achievements at OCU."

Prior to Knight's commitment, Abigail Vaughn and Hannah Saucerman had announced their commitment to Oakland City. Knight expressed her enthusiasm about continuing to play with two of her Lincoln Trail teammates at OCU. "I am beyond excited to be joining two of my Lincoln Trail teammates at Oakland City," she shared. "I am so blessed to be continuing my journey with two great friends by my side!"

During her two years at Lincoln Trail, Macy had 420 kills, 240 digs, 170 blocks, and 37 aces.

## SAUCERMAN COMMITS TO OAKLAND CITY UNIVERSITY



Hannah Saucerman, has signed to Oakland City University to continue her athletic career and pursue her bachelor's degree in psychology. After an impressive tenure at Lincoln Trail College, Saucerman looks forward to joining the Oakland City University volleyball program and contributing her skills to the team.

Head Coach Dana Goodwin expressed her excitement about Saucerman's decision, stating, "I am very excited for Sauce to continue her volleyball career at Oakland City University. She will have no trouble running their offense and will easily adjust after running a 5-1 for us this season. She is such a team player with an infectious energy that has the ability to connect with her hitters."

Reflecting on her decision, Saucerman shared, "I knew I wanted to play another two years, but I was just waiting for the right opportunity. I had been in contact with Coach Moorman and had visited the campus, so I wasn't too worried or pressured about my future. Lincoln Trail has been such a blessing in my career. Through

volleyball, I have improved my leadership, teamwork, and overall game. Coach Goodwin has been an excellent coach in guiding and mentoring me through these past two years of my athletic career. She has taught me adaptability, resilience, and helped me find a burning passion for the game. Coach Goodwin, Pack, and Gazi have all helped me develop not only as an athlete but also as a person."

During Hannah's two years at Lincoln Trail, she had 1,902 assists, 495 digs, 47 kills, 53 aces, 40 blocks.

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## **MCBRIDE HEADED TO BRESCIA UNIVERSITY**

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Lincoln Trail College is proud to announce that Campbell McBride has committed to furthering her academic and athletic career at Brescia University after graduating from LTC in May.

Campbell shared on Instagram, "Overjoyed and blessed to announce that I'll be continuing to play at Brescia University. So thankful for everyone in my life who has played a role in my success! Excited for the next two!"

Head Coach Dana Goodwin also expressed excitement about McBride's commitment, stating, "I am very excited for Soup to continue her volleyball career at Brescia University. She is going to be a huge defensive asset to their team with her ability to read the hitters and move quick to the ball. She is a true leader and will bring the energy to the court as a Bearcat."



McBride herself is eager to join Brescia University's volleyball program, particularly admiring the rebuilding efforts of the team. She said, "I fell in love with the rebuilding of Brescia's volleyball program, and I am excited to be a part of a welcoming community. I look forward to these next two years and all that is to come."

During her two years at Lincoln Trail, she had 575 digs 51 assists, 6 kills, and 11 aces.

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## **CRAIL CHOOSES OAKLAND CITY**

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Lincoln Trail College is proud to announce that Katy Crail has committed to continue her academic and athletic journey at Oakland City University upon her graduation in May.

Head Coach Erica Arnold expressed her excitement about Katy's commitment to Oakland City University, saying, "I am so excited for Katy! Katy transferred to us from another college after her freshman year. After having a not so good experience, she was unsure about continuing to play. After many talks in the summer of 2022, Katy made the decision to give our program a chance. We are so lucky she did. Katy works extremely hard and is our vocal leader. She came in and made an immediate impact for us. Katy is going to do big things at Oakland City."

Crail reflected on her time at Lincoln Trail by saying, "The community here at Lincoln Trail is great, and they really make it easy to ask for help. Coach Arnold has pushed me not only on the field but also academically and personally. She has made me a better leader, player, and person. I chose Oakland City because I really like the coach there and what the school offers. They have a lot of resources, plus the campus is gorgeous. I'm excited to be a part of the team there!"



# LTC IN PICTURES



Guadalupe Amicone is joined in a photo by the Board of Trustees and IECC leadership during her final meeting as Student Trustee.



Guadalupe Amicone talks about her experience as a Student Trustee during her final board meeting.



John Brooks presents Dan McDonald a plaque to recognize his time as the Executive Director of the Crawford County Recreation Center.



Dan McDonald is joined by CCRC board members and interim Executive Director Rendi Bierman.



Cast member Ashlyn Reid (left) reads from a Frog and Toad book at a Read With Frog and Toad event at the LTC Learning Commons.



Brennan Seth Tracy (left) rehearses as Frog while Rowan Gray's Toad stays in bed. A Year With Frog and Toad is April 12-14 and 19-21.

