



# LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE *Network*

OCTOBER 2016

## UPCOMING NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 1 **Spring Semester Registration Begins**
- 2 **LTC College Fair**  
9 a.m., Sports Center
- Eating to Reduce the Risk of Diabetes**  
5 p.m., Library
- 4 **Into the Woods**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 5 **Pearson VUE Testing**  
7 a.m., Williams Hall 117/118
- Into the Woods**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 6 **Into the Woods**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 7 **SIU Visit**  
9 a.m., Williams Hall Foyer
- 8 **Election Night Viewing Party**  
6 p.m., Cafeteria
- 9 **Broke Holidays**  
7 p.m., Library
- 11 **COLLEGE CLOSED - Veterans Day**  
**Into the Woods**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 12 **Into the Woods**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 15 **University of Illinois Transfer Session**  
10 a.m. & 1 p.m., Theater
- IECC Board Meeting**  
7 p.m., Cafeteria
- 16 **SIU Free Application Day**  
9 a.m., Williams Hall Foyer
- 17 **EIU Visit**  
9 a.m., Williams Hall Foyer
- LTC Foundation Concert Series Presents:  
Merry Christmas Darling Carpenters'  
Christmas**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 19 **Lip Sync Battle**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 22 **Polgar Family Fundraiser**  
4 p.m., Gym/Cafeteria
- 23 **Last Day to Withdraw**
- 24-25 **COLLEGE CLOSED - Thanksgiving Break**

Network is a joint project of Lincoln Trail  
College & Lincoln Trail College Foundation

## LTC GEARS UP FOR TRICK OR TREAT AT THE TRAIL



Lincoln Trail College will celebrate Halloween with the annual Trick or Treat at the Trail event on Oct. 27 from 4-6:30 p.m.

Children from around the area come to Lincoln Trail College, where they can trick or treat in a fun and safe environment. The annual event

typically draws more than 2500 people to campus.

The three main buildings on campus are transformed into different themes by clubs, organizations and offices. Students, faculty and staff dress up in costumes as they pass out candy to the children. Several local businesses also participate in Trick or Treat at the Trail and have stations where they pass out candy.

Trick or Treat at the Trail is co-sponsored by the Lincoln Trail College Foundation. Local businesses also help by providing candy and donations for the annual event.



## LTC OFFERING TRAINING TO METRONET EMPLOYEES

The partnership involving Lincoln Trail College and fiber optic provider MetroNet continues to grow. Dialogue between the college and the company that began in early 2016 has evolved into an arrangement that provides dedicated classes for MetroNet employees who receive customized training and college credit.

Broadband Telecom lead instructor Jesse Allen says the training is a mix between the classroom and hands-on work. “We show them things like ladder safety, drop installation, how to fish walls, how to splice fiber and pretty much anything that they’ll run into on an install.”

MetroNet executive vice president and general manager Kevin Stelmach says one of the biggest benefits of the training is the hands-on work, which is something that was difficult for them to provide before. “The hands-on that we’re able to get at Lincoln Trail College has really enhanced the knowledge and consistency with our field technicians that have gone through here.”

Stelmach believes that the consistency their technicians learn at LTC really improves the customer experience.



“When they see consistency in a technician, and how they perform their job and their function, that gives confidence to a consumer.”

He says their technicians also learn some valuable customer service skills through their training at LTC. The training program covers topics like how to work with consumers, the importance of educating the consumer on products and services, and the importance of troubleshooting steps with a consumer.

Allen says providing the training has been good for Lincoln Trail College. He says not only does the college get students out of the training, they get a chance to learn from the training as well. “You get different ideas from their different markets where they might be using different equipment.”

He says they can take that kind of information and use it while teaching other students in the Broadband Telecom program. Allen says another benefit of the partnership is equipment. “They give us equipment to use while their guys are here so we can do full-blown fiber to the home training for our students.”

Allen says they’re working on trying to get a live fiber from MetroNet’s Vincennes market. That would allow LTC to practice installations and get real results for TV’s, phone service, and Internet service.

Stelmach says he can see the partnership with Lincoln Trail College growing in a lot of different ways. LTC and MetroNet are already working together to develop additional curriculum, including developing commercial-specific training for commercial installations and repair work. “We see this as an opportunity to continue to grow curriculum and teach our technicians more advanced services and techniques.”

Overall, Stelmach says they’ve had a very positive experience working with Lincoln Trail College. “I can’t think Lincoln Trail College enough for this partnership. David Carpenter, Jesse and teams have been very helpful, very open minded of all the things that we’re looking to do and accomplish. We couldn’t ask for a better partner.”

## METRONET AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

MetroNet, among the largest 100% fiber-optic communications service providers based in the Midwest, recently awarded its first college scholarships to full-time students pursuing careers in broadband telecommunications.

Four students in the broadband telecom program at Lincoln Trail College (LTC) in Robinson, Ill. met the academic, citizenship and residency criteria for the scholarship. Each has committed to two years' employment as a Field Operations Technician for MetroNet after graduation. Nick Konopasek of Mount Erie, Ill., Taylor Brown of Noble, Ill., Issac Davis of Dieterich, Ill. and Scott Lewis of Palestine, Ill. were each awarded scholarship to offset expenses during the fall semester at LTC.

Kevin Stelmach, general manager for MetroNet, said the company initiated the scholarship program to help develop industry talent and do it in a way that would generate economic and educational opportunities in the Midwest. "MetroNet, as a local service provider, has created local jobs in broadband communications for many years. Through the scholarship initiative, the company is now encouraging and utilizing educational institutions to prepare students for a future in the broadband communications field," Stelmach said.

The scholarship program is open to students at technical colleges, vocational high schools and other institutions offering, or soon to be offering, telecommunications-related courses. Successful applicants must also meet residency and academic criteria and commit to a minimum of two years' employment with MetroNet.

MetroNet will conduct additional rounds of scholarship offerings; details will be released to the media and applications made available through regional technical schools well in advance of application deadlines.

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## INTO THE WOODS CAST ANNOUNCED

Interim theater director Barbara Shimer has announced the cast for this fall's production of Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods*. Brennan Seth Tracy steps back on to the stage after directing the summer production, *Snoopy!!!* as the Baker, a harried and insecure man who wants to his wife to be happy and will go to great lengths to ensure that. Becky Miller plays his bright, determined wife. Jennifer Vela, best-known for her portrayal of Peter Pan, and her most recent role in *Godspell*, will play Cinderella with Debbie Knight as her stepmother. Dan Dix will play Cinderella's Prince, while Brittney Herrell and Cyndi Rehmel are cast as the stepsisters, Lucinda and Florinda. Grant Oxford and Kathleen Moore will appear as Cinderella's father and mother. Heather Moore and Ben McCullough will play Rapunzel and her prince, while Tara Gallion is the obsessively protective Witch. Ryan Mikeworth is the adventurous giant killer, Jack, while Maureen Hill portrays his mother. Amy Drake as Little Red Ridinghood, John Sharma as the Wolf, and Rachel Carter in the dual role of Granny and the Giant round out the familiar characters. Tom Moore is the Mysterious Man, newcomer Levi Whigham is the Steward and Jim Hill will narrate.

### INTO THE WOODS PERFORMANCES

Nov. 4	7 p.m.
Nov. 5	7 p.m.
Nov. 6	2 p.m.
Nov. 11	7 p.m.
Nov. 12	7 p.m.

Including dazzling songs like "Children Will Listen" and "No One Is Alone," *Into the Woods* is an epic fairytale about wishes, family and the choices we make. The story follows a Baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's Festival; and Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the Baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a child because of a Witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break the curse. Everyone's wish is granted, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later with disastrous results.

## LTC HOSTS FAFSA NIGHT

Changes in the rules for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form mean students have a chance to complete that form earlier this year. With that, Lincoln Trail College is going to hold its ninth annual FAFSA Completion Night from 4-6:30 p.m. on Oct. 18 in Williams Hall.

The free event gives parents and students a chance to prepare for college in a single night. Participants can complete and submit the FAFSA form online during the open house event.

“One of the really nice things about this is we are there to help,” says Lincoln Trail College Coordinator of Financial Aid Barbara Webster. “There can be a lot of questions when you fill out the form and we’ll be there to give you that helping hand so you can properly fill out and submit your form.”

This year is the first year you can fill out the FAFSA form in the fall. Previously, the earliest you could do it was Jan. 1. Webster says it is important to fill out the form early because there are some financial aid pieces that are essentially on a first come, first served basis.

In addition to information on Financial Aid, students can get their questions about college answered at the event. Lincoln Trail College instructors will be on hand to talk about the academic and technical programs available at the college. Students can also learn about a variety of different scholarship opportunities and get answers to other college-related questions.

There are a few things participants will need to have when they attend the FAFSA Night. They will need their Social Security Number, their latest tax information, including W-2s and records of any untaxed income, and a FAFSA pin or FSA ID.

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## LTC TO HOST REGIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

Prospective students will get a chance to get information from dozens of colleges and university at Lincoln Trail College’s annual Regional College Fair on November 2.

“This is a great opportunity for prospective students of all ages who are thinking about attending college in their future,” says LTC Director of Academic Advising and Recruitment Tyler Browning.

Lincoln Trail College’s career and technical programs will be represented at the college fair. Students can also learn about the three other schools in the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District, Frontier Community College, Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College.

Altogether, more than 40 colleges and universities from throughout the Midwest will be represented at the Regional College Fair, including the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Indiana State University and Eastern Illinois University.

Local high school students have been invited to attend the free event. It is also open to the community.

## LTC CELEBRATES ADULT ED WEEK

National Adult Education and Literacy Week, September 26 – October 1, underscores the continued demand for programs and services for adult students who need to improve basic skills in reading, writing, and math and obtain a high school equivalence certificate. More than 36 million adults nationwide, including 1.2 million in Illinois, lack basic literacy skills that limit their ability to advance in education and at work.

Lincoln Trail college is one of more than 84 adult education providers offering programs funded through the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) that improves and expands the nation's available pipeline of workers by assisting those who lack the educational requirements to achieve gainful employment in today's increasingly high-tech, global job market. Adult education provides a path from low-income jobs and limited opportunities to the middle class wages and family sustainability. Full-time workers with a high school diploma earn almost \$10,000 more per year than those without a diploma.

"It is a big step to tell someone you want your GED," says Rena Gower, the Director of the Learning Skills Center at Lincoln Trail College. "Here at LTC, we take that seriously. We have caring and experienced teachers that give our students not only skills and knowledge to pass the exam, but also encouragement and a little push to go beyond what they ever expected they could."

Justin Ellis is one of the students that earned a GED at Lincoln Trail College. He says one of the things that really stood out to him about the program was how helpful everyone was.

"The teachers, the administration, they really made it work for me. My teacher never let anyone go on their own. She was there with everybody, supporting them morally and with the education. Rena was also there to help too. No one was left behind, everyone was helped."

Ellis is now enrolled at Lincoln Trail College. He's planning to get his degree at LTC and then transfer to a four-year university with hopes of pursuing a career in the medical field.

Rachel Winters also earned her GED at LTC and is currently enrolled in the college's Broadband Telecom program. She says if you're planning to get your GED, be prepared to put in the effort.

"It's harder to get your GED if you're not going to dedicate yourself to come to class. If you're not going to try, there's no point in doing it, but definitely do it. With today's economy, you have to have some kind of diploma to get a job and if you don't have your high school diploma, that's the first place to start."

"Nearly 90 percent of the fastest growing jobs of the future require education and training beyond high school," says Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson, ICCB Executive Director. "Illinois has taken the lead in creating partnerships between adult education providers and employers to ensure a seamless pathway for students to higher education and employment in high growth occupations."

"I love walking into the classrooms and have students tell me what they are learning, or that they just received a high score on a practice test, and now are ready for that section of the GED exam," says Gower. "Our students help each other, they become a team that strives for excellence. Earning your GED is a big life changer, I urge anyone who did not graduate high school, ages 16-90, to give us a call and let Lincoln Trail College help you start you on that path to success."



**NOVEMBER SPORTS CALENDAR**

**Men's Basketball**

1	at Three Rivers	7:00
4	Motlow (at NW Florida)	3:30
5	at Northwest Florida	7:30
8	at Illinois Central	7:00
12	Parkland	3:00
16	at Wabash Valley	7:30
19	Illinois Central	3:00
22	Southwestern	7:30
30	at Lake Land	7:30

**Women's Basketball**

5	at Lindenwood	1:00
12	Lindenwood	1:00
16	at Wabash Valley	5:30
22	Southwestern	5:30
30	at Lake Land	5:30

Follow the Statesmen at  
[ltcathletics.com](http://ltcathletics.com)

**LTC FALL EXPOSURE SHOWCASE**

Area high school baseball players will get a chance to show off their skills to college baseball staffs from throughout the country during an upcoming event.

Lincoln Trail College will host its annual Statesmen Baseball Fall Exposure Showcase on Oct. 22 at Parker Field. The event begins that morning at 10:00.

The first session gives infielders, outfielders, and catchers the chance to showcase their abilities in a pro-style workout. It includes a 60-yard dash, defensive evaluations, and batting practice. Pitchers, meanwhile, will learn the everyday drills the Statesmen incorporate and utilize. The event also features a live game where players can further showcase their skill set. Participants and parents can also take part in a question and answer session during the event.

In addition, players can receive written evaluations from members of the Lincoln Trail College coaching staff, including head coach Kevin Bowers and assistant coaches Danny Chambliss, John Hutchinson and Bob Boyll. Players can also request a written evaluation from a Major League Baseball scout.

Pitchers will need to bring a glove and a hat, catchers will need to bring their own gear and a bat, and position players need to bring a glove, bat and a hat. All participants are required to wear baseball pants.

The cost to attend is \$75 as a position player or a pitcher. Players attending as both a position player and a pitcher will pay \$100 for the showcase. Players can register online at [lincolntrailbaseballcamps.com](http://lincolntrailbaseballcamps.com).

2016-17 LTC MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

11/1	at Three Rivers	7:00
11/4	Motlow (at NW Florida)	3:30
11/5	at NW Florida	7:30
11/8	at Illinois Central	7:00
11/12	Parkland	3:00
11/16	at Wabash Valley	7:30
11/19	Illinois Central	3:00
11/22	Southwestern	7:30
11/30	at Lake Land	7:30
12/3	Shawnee	3:00
12/10	Southeastern	3:00
1/7	at Kaskaskia	3:00
1/11	Rend Lake	7:30
1/14	at Vincennes	6:00
1/18	John A. Logan	7:30
1/21	at Lewis & Clark	3:00
1/25	Olney Central	7:30
1/28	Wabash Valley	7:30
2/1	at Southwestern	7:30
2/4	Lake Land	7:30
2/8	at Shawnee	7:30
2/11	at Southeastern	7:30
2/15	Kaskaskia	7:30
2/18	at Rend Lake	3:00
2/22	Vincennes	7:30
2/25	at John A. Logan	7:00
2/28	Lewis & Clark	7:30
3/3	at Olney Central	7:30

2016-17 LTC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

11/5	at Lindenwood	1:00
11/12	Lindenwood	1:00
11/16	at Wabash Valley	5:30
11/22	Southwestern	5:30
11/30	at Lake Land	5:30
12/3	Shawnee	1:00
12/7	at Mineral Area	5:00
12/10	Southeastern	1:00
1/7	at Kaskaskia	1:00
1/11	Rend Lake	5:30
1/14	at Vincennes	4:00
1/18	John A. Logan	5:30
1/21	at MacMurray	5:30
1/25	Olney Central	5:30
1/28	Wabash Valley	5:30
2/1	at Southwestern	5:30
2/4	Lake Land	5:30
2/8	at Shawnee	5:30
2/11	at Southeastern	5:30
2/15	Kaskaskia	5:30
2/18	at Rend Lake	1:00
2/22	Vincennes	5:30
2/25	at John A. Logan	5:00
2/28	MacMurray	5:30
3/3	at Olney Central	5:30