Faculty and staff of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, bolstered by a generous gift from John M. Lawrence ’73, will once again provide a student lounge complete with food, drinks, and music during final exam week. Beginning at 8 a.m. each day of finals week, students will be able to find comfort and a tasty snack in HP 2058. The room is open until 5 p.m. every afternoon. The Learning Caring Community Committee members plan this event at the end of each semester.

**FINALS WEEK BASH PLANNED FOR EXAM WEARY STUDENTS**

**DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS PERFORM ORAL CANCER SCREENINGS**

USI's senior dental hygiene students performed oral cancer screenings at the Women's Addiction Recovery Manor in Henderson and at the C.K. Newsome Center in Evansville in October and November. They calculated an oral cancer risk level for each participant, performed visual, manual, and ViziLite screenings, and provided the participants with oral health education, toothbrushes, and floss. The students were accompanied by Emily Holt, Mara Beth Womack, Phyllis Maddox, Dr. Phillip Gentry, and Dr. Michael Wolf.

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PINNING**

Thirty students from the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program will return to USI from their clinical experiences (internships) on December 8. After sessions with their fieldwork supervisor, they will be honored in a brief ceremony in which they will receive their OTA pins. The ceremony will be followed by a reception.

**MASTERS OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

The Masters of Health Administration Symposium and Graduation Reception will be held on Friday, Dec. 11th in the lower level of the David L. Rice Library. The following students will complete their degrees: Patrick Burdsall, Carol Cloud, Brad Gant, Nick Harley, Paul Hawa, Jennifer Roberts, Lori Roth, and Janie Swedenburg.

**December 11, 2009**

5:00 p.m.

Mitchell Auditorium

Commencement Ceremony December 12

Winter recess December 19-January 11
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov 6 – Jacki Spainhour
Nov 8 – Linda Evinger
Nov 11 – Roberta Hoebeke
Nov 15 – Marty Reed
Nov 16 – Beth Bonham
Nov 26 – Ann White
Nov 27 – Tony Schmitt
Dec 2 – Karen Parker
Dec 8 – Kevin Valadares
Dec 10 – Joy McBride
Dec 30 – Pam Shaw
Dec 31 – Susan Seibert

INDIANA DENTAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SESSION

Katie Salm, American Dental Hygiene Association Student Chapter President, and Emily Book represented USI’s Dental Hygiene Class of 2010 at the Indiana Dental Hygiene Association Annual Session on November 6 and 7. Both students served on a committee that addressed questions about resolutions and continuing education, the both served as student delegates during the House of Delegates.

RESPIRATORY STUDENT WINS LITERARY AWARD

Brandi Pigg, Respiratory Care student, received the Literary Award of $1,000 during the September ISRC Annual State Education meeting. Congratulations to Brandi on her fine efforts and success in completion of the Literary Award contest.

NEW EDITOR OF LEARNING CARING COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Hi, My name is Janet Selby and I am the new editor of the Learning Caring Community Newsletter. I am also the new Administrative Assistant to the Radiologic & Imaging Sciences Program. I recently worked at Wabash General Hospital for 8 years as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Nursing/CFO of the hospital. I am a graduate of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, with a Bachelor of Science in Consumer Economics & Family Management. I am a mother of four, two boys and two girls.

I am very excited to share exciting news with all of the “readers” of this newsletter. If you have any news you would like to share, please email me at jfselby@usi.edu and I will be happy to possibly include it to the newsletter.

Janet Selby
jfselby@usi.edu
812-465-1181
Yvonne Beavin has accepted the position of Administrative Associate to the Dean of College of Nursing and Health Professions. She was recently the Administrative Assistant/Receptionist for the College of Nursing and Health Professions and Respiratory Care. Yvonne started with USI last November. Before coming to USI she taught 6th, 7th, and 8th graders for ten years. When asked why she likes working at USI, Yvonne stated “Really great people, close to home, and I get to see two of my children who attend USI.” Yvonne is a graduate of USI with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with minors in Language Arts, Social Studies, and a Middle School Endorsement.

Congratulations on your new positions!
May you have continuing success!

Jacki Spainhour has accepted the position of Administrative Assistant/Receptionist for the College of Nursing and Health Professions and Respiratory Care. She was recently the Administrative Assistant for the Food & Nutrition and Occupational Therapy Assistant programs. Jacki has been with USI for over two years. She has served with the United States Air Force for four years in Information Technology. When asked why she likes working at USI, Jacki stated “People, working environment, good benefits, chance to go to school.” Jacki and her husband, Brandon, are currently taking classes at USI.

Happy Holidays
The College of Nursing and Health Professions

“INPUT FOR EXCELLENCE” offers students and staff an opportunity to make suggestions, offer praise, etc. “INPUT FOR EXCELLENCE” boxes are located in the School Community Lounge HP 110, the Charles Day Learning Resource Center, and the Reception Desk in HP 2068. Use this handy tear-off to share your thoughts with us or email your comments to jfselby@usi.edu.
Jan Oakley’s abstract “A Model to Reduce Health Disparities in Diabetes Management in a Hispanic Population Using Community Health Workers” was accepted by the 35th Annual Nursing Research Conference for a poster presentation. The conference is sponsored by Clarian Health, Indiana University School of Nursing and Sigma Theta Tau International, Alpha Chapter.

Dr. Roberta Hoebeke has a research poster titled “Physical Activity in Rural Low-Income Mothers: Sharing Science to Promote Women’s Health”. It will be presented at the AWHONN 2010 Convention.

Gina L. Schaar has a research poster titled “Postpartum Depression: A Community Based Education and Screening Program”. It will be presented at the AWHONN 2010 Convention.

Dr. Roberta Hoebeke and Dr. Beth Bonham submitted a grant proposal, “USI College of Nursing & Health Professions and Juan Diego Center Partnership.” This grant will provide funding for culturally diverse clinical experiences for interdisciplinary training of nursing and health professions students and promote health among a medically underserved disadvantaged population at the Juan Diego Center. This grant is funded by SWI-AHEC.

Kim Bastin submitted a grant proposal, “Access to Oral Health Care in the Underserved Population.” The University of Southern Indiana Dental Assisting Program is proposing to establish a program to provide dental services to the underserved community through collaboration with the Vanderburgh County Community Dental Clinic and other social service organizations in the tri-state area. The project would allow student clinicians an opportunity to serve the public and assist the tri-state of individuals in the underserved population. The program goal would be to provide oral health care treatment to approximately 100 patients. This grant is funded by SWI-AHEC.

During the fall AACN conference in Washington DC., Dr. Nadine Coudret and Dr. Ann White visited with Indiana senators and representatives on the Hill to lobby for support of the nursing professions and healthcare reform.

Connie Swenty and Jennifer Titzer were selected as “Rising Stars” by Sigma Theta Tau International. Both participated in poster presentations at the recent annual conference of Sigma Theta Tau International in Indianapolis.

Mary Ballinger, Senior in Food and Nutrition, from Chesterton, Indiana, finished fifth. Ballinger’s overall time of 20 minutes and 45.9 seconds for the 6k course. She holds the highest placement for USI in the women’s runner history. She has held the All-American status for the past three years.

Allison Shafer-Krieger, senior in Health Services, from Plainfield, Indiana also participated in the event. USI Women’s cross country team placed 12th in the NCAA II Cross Country Championships.

Gina L. Schaar has a research poster titled “Postpartum Depression: A Community Based Education and Screening Program”. It will be presented at the AWHONN 2010 Convention.
Amy Kozlowski, senior dental hygiene student, was recognized at an awards ceremony and celebration of FishHook, USI's student literary and arts magazine. Amy’s short fiction story titled “This is it Alia” was published in the 2009 edition of FishHook, the inaugural edition of the publication.

Susan Ahmad, Director of OTA, is proud to announce the birth of her new grandson:

Syed Kellen Thomas Ahmad  
November 23, 2009  
9 lbs 2 oz  
20 inches

Missy Hudson, 2nd Year Respiratory student, gave one local mother a lot more to be thankful for this Thanksgiving week. While shopping at WalMart, Missy heard a mother’s cry for help. Responding to her cry, Missy found a child who was not breathing and cyanotic. Missy was able to successfully revive the child by giving rescue breaths. She helped the fire department with additional respiratory care once they arrived and the child was transported to a local hospital in stable condition.

You will be a hero to this family forever. Missy, we are so proud of you!
2009 DECEMBER GRADUATES
COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

DENTAL HYGIENE
Jodi L. Hawkins
Jana L. Young

FOOD & NUTRITION
Katie S. Caldwell
Jessica R. Rains

NURSING
RN-BSN
Karen G. Beckman
Patricia L. Dixon
Ashley K. Hammer
Linda R. Henson
Julie A. Kemmeling
Kristina D. O’Daniel

BSN
Britney D. Craddock

MSN
Deborah Elliott
Lori Maloy
Vivian Marks
Tracy Phillips

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT
Greg Ambrose
Kathryn M. Anderson
Christie L. Ashby
Kathryn J. Barnes
Lisa R. Brown
Shaye K. Elaman
Michelle A. Ewing
Lorna S. Franke
Natalie A. Goebel
Mahealani L. Gregg
Kimberly K. Hayes
Kari M. Jenkins
Marie G. Kasinger
Stephanie R. Kelley
Robert A. Lawrence
Leslie A. Martin
Erin L. Meadows
Erica D. Melton
Meagan L. Musgrave
Anna N. Myers
Dustin R. Neighbors
Paulette Russin
Nikki D. Spinks
Calvin B. Stevens
Joy E. Wagoner
Angela M. Walls
Christina M. Ward
Amy L. Whitten
John A. Williams

HEALTH SERVICES
Christopher S. Austin
Rachel E. Beckley
Valerie M. Coulter
Janet L. Cross
Amber D. Davis
Mary J. Evans
Cheryl A. Farmer
Kimberly L. Galloway
Cathy L. Gross
Emily R. Hopf
Brittany Jenkins
Jeannie Jones
Lindsey N. LaGrange
Cory T. Matthews
Krista L. Mitchell
John M. Mullins
Amy M. Norris
Jessica L. Payne
Lowry B. Prather
Jodi M. Sander
Sarah R. Schultz
Brooke N. Scully
Allison L. Shafer
Amy D. Wagner
Alissa N. Wallace
Tricia L. Wallerstedt
Toni L. Warren
Jamie M. Wicker
Brandon T. Wilson

RADIOLOGIC AND IMAGING SCIENCE
Katelyn A. Eads
Megan Wratten

LEARNING CARING COMMUNITY
is a publication of the University of Southern Indiana, College of Nursing and Health Professions, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712.

Report news, updates, birth announcements, and obituaries to Janet Selby at 465-1181 or jfselby@usi.edu.

This newsletter and prior newsletter issues can be read on the website of the CNHP at http://health.usi.edu

Congratulations!