



NOVEMBER 12, 2009

## CALENDAR | NOVEMBER 12-18

- 12 • Chamber Brass
- 13 • Classic Movie Night
- 14 • Earn Your Turkey 5K
  - Try-A-Tri I
  - Collegiate Showcase
- 17 • Devotional, James Smyth
  - Baroque Ensemble
- 18 • *Pioneer Song*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Automotive Free Inspection Night

Get your vehicle checked out Nov. 12 from 5-8:30 p.m.

### The University Store Christmas Sale

The University Store will hold its annual Christmas Sale next week and will have special extended hours for employees Nov. 10-12 until 7 p.m. Employees can double their discount from 10 percent to 20 percent during the sale.

### McKay Library Workshops

RefWorks, a bibliographic management program, saves time and helps manage research papers. Workshops will be Nov. 11 and 19 at 3:15 p.m. in McKay 190.

## BYU-Idaho donates computers to aid family history research

With over 4,500 family history centers operating in more than 100 countries, FamilySearch has launched a program that provides used computers to numerous family history centers all over the world. BYU-Idaho recently contributed to this program by donating 419 of its five-year-old Hewlett Packard and Compaq computers. These computers have been cycled out from various offices and labs all over campus.

Mike Povard with FamilySearch said, “The work of family history has become more dependent on computers and access to Internet resources. This program is one way that we can help the centers and the patrons in their research.”

Once the computers are received at the FamilySearch support offices in Salt Lake City, they receive an overhaul. They are upgraded with more memory, broken or defective parts are fixed and the hard drives are reformatted with software that allows patrons to access family history records.

Based on the data received from various family history centers around the world, FamilySearch then provides the newly formatted computers to the centers in need of newer computers.

“The cascaded computers are not meant to increase the inventory of computer equipment in a family history center; rather, we’re just updating the older ones,” said Povard.

Never before has BYU-Idaho donated as many computers as they have this past year. “This is a great effort. We have been working with FamilySearch for a number of years; but for the last two years, we have really worked to increase our donations. It’s a good ongoing cooperation,” said Doug Thomson, BYU-Idaho Technology Support Director.

FamilySearch receives hundreds of computers every year to support family history centers worldwide. BYU-Idaho isn’t the only institution involved in the donations, Church Education System institutions join in donating cascaded computers too.



## LDS missionaries create opportunities for students and exposure for the Church

In a time of economic downturn, Latter-day Saint missionaries are giving college students a head start on their careers.

Brigham Young University-Idaho is utilizing service missionary couples in 13 U.S. "Hub Cities" to create internship and career opportunities for students. BYU-Idaho requires nearly every student to gain hands-on experience through an academic internship, resulting in more than 3,000 interns each year.

"We've found most of the students are very motivated, and it only takes a modest amount of information and guidance to set them on the right path," said Steve Zollinger, an internship coordinator at BYU-Idaho. Zollinger works with a full-time missionary couple at the university to supervise the Hub Cities project. They also stay in constant contact with missionaries in all the Hub Cities to keep updated on work being done throughout the nation.

The senior missionaries in each Hub City work 10-20 hours a week in their hometown, making and maintaining contacts with potential internship providers and employers for BYU-Idaho students. They expand the number of companies open to BYU-Idaho interns and then stay in touch with employers during each internship to make sure things are going well. They also make the experience more pleasant for BYU-Idaho interns by assisting with housing needs, providing firesides and extending a helping hand to students far away from home. Since The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints started calling these missionaries three years ago, their efforts have blessed the lives of hundreds of students and employers, in turn blessing the lives of the missionaries too.

"I received a greater feeling of satisfaction as a service missionary for BYU-Idaho than at any point in my career," said Marty

Oestreicher, who served for two years as a service missionary in New York City. "The best part was convincing an employer to give a BYU-Idaho student a shot at an internship and then seeing the employer ask for more students just like him or her at the end of the internship."

Though helping students get internships is a major part of their service, the missionaries also have other responsibilities. Once a year, a group of students visits each Hub City on an internship expedition for three to four days. The missionaries set up appointments at prospective businesses so students can learn more about the industry and, in some cases, interview for open positions.

"As we seek to help these outstanding young people find careers, we are also providing exposure for the Church," said John Porter, a service missionary in Seattle. "Many of the executives and employers we visit have never known a member of the Church. We're giving them the opportunity to know one, and we see it as a real missionary opportunity."

Ken and Kerry Driggs, former service missionaries, also said their mission had dynamic spiritual implications. They especially enjoyed being able to affect students' lives at a very important time.

"I would encourage anyone considering serving a mission to do it," Kerry Driggs said. "It will be an experience they treasure forever."

Information on missions for senior couples, including BYU-Idaho service missions, can be found at <http://www.lds.org/csm>.

## BYU-Idaho faculty member writes musical

A lone woman stands on the stage, retelling a story fraught with trials, hardship, hope and laughter. In 1997, Omar Hansen of the Department of Theatre began the journey of penning *Pioneer Song*, a musical inspired by the journals of women crossing the plains along the Oregon Trail.

Although the play has been performed once before, it has undergone an extensive reworking process. During the first production, Hansen was responsible for nearly all aspects of the play. This time, he has an entire army of talented directors, musicians and actors that have assisted in its development. “It’s so much easier this way, and I really believe it will be better than I ever imagined,” Hansen declared.

Despite its title, *Pioneer Song* is not about Mormon pioneers. The story begins when a young widow and her three daughters decide to make their way across the plains from the east. They encounter people of varied backgrounds, each of them seeking a new life. Heidi Merrill, a professional actress, plays the part of the protagonist, Ruth Merriman. “It is the most challenging role I’ve ever played, because the story is entirely centered around Ruth. I never have a break to regroup. It’s been

a challenge, but good for me because it makes me stretch,” said Merrill.

This musical has been designed to convey a strong woman’s voice. Twenty of the 28 actors are female, emphasizing the unique perspective of pioneer women. “The relationships between characters are powerful. When I first read the script, it spoke to me as a director,” stated Justin Bates, director and faculty member of the Department of Theatre.

BYU-Idaho’s Folk Ensemble is providing all orchestration for *Pioneer Song*. Eileen Wilcox, the music director for the play, expressed: “The music that [Hansen] has written is amazing. It captures a lot of emotion: the pain of loss, the excitement of adventure, the beauty of nature—they are all incorporated in the music.” The ensemble is made up of a guitar, banjo, mandolin, violin and bass. Before the performance, the ensemble will host a pre-show featuring music from the pioneer era.

*Pioneer Song* will be performed Nov. 17-20 and Dec. 1-5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Snow Drama Theater. The Folk Ensemble’s pre-show will begin at 7 p.m.

### NEXT WEEK’S DEVOTIONAL

JAMES R. SMYTH



Brother James Smyth serves as the University Resources Vice President at BYU-Idaho.

He studied accounting at BYU where he received a bachelor degree and did graduate study. Subsequently he became a CPA in the state of Utah. He and his family came to BYU-Idaho in 1979 where he served in two administrative capacities prior to his appointment as a vice president in 1989.

His Church service includes missionary labors in England, various ward and stake missionary assignments, multiple teaching opportunities, stake high councilor, bishop, and a counselor in a stake presidency. He currently serves as a gospel doctrine teacher in his ward and as an ordinance worker in the Rexburg Temple.

He and his wife, Mignon, are the parents of six children and currently have 11 grandchildren.





## Employee Profile

**Jackie Terry**  
Library  
*Library Assistant*

BYU-Idaho library assistant Jackie Terry couldn't wipe the smile off her face as she watched her 10-year-old grandson dismount from his racecar. It was the first time he had been tall enough to ride in the car he had longingly eyed since his first visit to Lagoon years before.

"I've probably never laughed so hard as when I took my grandkids to Lagoon this summer," Terry said. "They had so much fun, but then again, we always have fun when we get together."

Growing up with 13 siblings, Terry has always placed a high priority on family. She said she was particularly close to her sister Carla when they were young. With only a year and nine days between them, a lot of people had a hard time telling them apart, especially on the phone.

"I remember picking up the phone pretty regularly and pretending I was Carla," Terry said. "It was especially fun when it was her boyfriend. One time, I talked to him for close to a half-hour before she walked in and I gave her the phone."

When she's not spending time with family, Terry likes to exercise and read, usually simultaneously. She exercises in the John W. Hart Building every day during her lunch hour, reading a book while on a bike, treadmill or elliptical.

Her favorite books are LDS fiction. "I love anything Gerald Lund has written," she said.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Campus Clocks

Many clocks on campus are off one hour due to a daylight savings time computer chip. The university is working with the manufacturer to resolve the problem

### Mail Services (Veteran's Day)

In observance of Veteran's Day, the Rexburg Post Office will be closed on Wednesday. Mail picked up that day will be sent out on Thursday.

### Employee Training

Topic: Managing According to Gospel Principles. The training is available Nov. 18 and 20.

### James Smyth Retirement Reception

A retirement reception will be held for Vice President James Smyth on Friday, Nov. 13 from 2-4 p.m. in the MC Special Events Room.

### Earn Your Turkey 5K Run/Walk

Before you run, predict the time it will take you. The top three people who finish closest to their predicted times win turkeys. Sign up at the Fitness Center desk or show up at the Stadium Nov. 14 at 11 a.m.

## FOR SALE

2004 Ford Ranger, 88,214 miles, \$7,000 OBO. Call 552-0962.

2008 GMC Sierra 2500 HD pickup crew cab, excellent condition, 20,500 miles, 4WD, V8, 6.0 liter, automatic, power everything, leather heated seats, sun roof, bed liner, running boards, towing package plus more. Exterior color is stealth gray, inside is tan. \$36,500. Call Nicki at 680-2811 or e-mail warnickn@byui.edu.

PetMate barnhome dog house, \$20.

Portable dog kennel, \$20. Contact Gracie Hill at (208) 709-1889 or Ext. 3301.

## THANK YOU

I am extremely grateful to my colleagues, ward members and friends at BYU-Idaho for the many kind words, received both electronically and in person, expressing sincere condolences to my family. The pain and grief felt at the recent passing of my mother, Arlyce, was assuaged by those expressions. Thanks to administration for the huge and vibrant live plant sent to her services. I am greatly blessed to associate with marvelous people like you.  
*Steve Holley and family*

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the beautiful plant that was sent as well as the letters, cards, phone calls and visits I received during my recent recovery. The caring and concern from so many of you touched me deeply and certainly helped brighten each day. My BYU-I family is truly a special group, thank you for your thoughtfulness.  
*Laurie Francis*

## BIRTHDAYS | NOVEMBER 12-18

- 12 Robert Colvin, *Foreign Language*  
Doug Conway, *Software Eng.*  
Judie Hood, *Exercise & Sports Sci.*  
Jolynn Reed, *Teacher Ed.*  
Jeremy Snell, *Mathematics*  
Leslie Twitchell, *Library*
- 13 Preston Haley, *Exercise & Sports Sci.*  
James Helfrich, *Computer Sci. & Eng.*
- 14 Kevin Cook, *Technology Support*  
Jack Labaugh, *Communication*  
Dave Pfoft, *Technology Support*
- 15 Denise Merrill, *Foreign Language*
- 16 Steve Adams, *Curriculum Dev.*  
Louis Buhrlay, *Biology*  
Ralph Kern, *Teacher Ed.*  
Trent Rose, *Hist/Geog/Poli Sci.*  
Susan Whitfield, *Theatre*
- 17 Melinda Reese, *Food Services*  
Ben Stoddard, *University Store*
- 18 Craig Johnson, *Mathematics*

**BYU**  
IDAHO

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### News & Notes

*A weekly publication of University Communications*

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