

Dear Nevada Alumni,

Welcome to fall at the University of Nevada! For the Alumni Association, this season means it's time for Nevada traditions such as football pregame parties and Homecoming festivities that includes congratulating all of our 2008 alumni award recipients!



This is the perfect time to come home to our alma mater and visit the campus that changed so many of our lives.

Many of you live in Northern Nevada and don't get an opportunity to come up to campus often. I encourage you to visit the University and take a walking tour. In the last few years, there have been some very impressive changes including the building of the Joe Crowley Student Union and the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center as well as the groundbreaking of the Davidson Mathematics and Science Center. All of these buildings have and will continue to change and improve the face of the University of Nevada.

Finally, this past year as Alumni Council President, the Alumni Association was able to bring our events back to the University and show off our beautiful campus, strengthen our relationships with students and alumni chapters as well as grow our paid membership base. It was a successful year of change & implementation. I'd like to thank all council members, staff and devoted alumni who helped achieve these accomplishments!!

Sincerely,

Cindy Buchanan '95

President, Nevada Alumni Council

**Nevada Alumni Council  
Executive Committee**

- Cindy Buchanan '95  
President
- Randy Brown CPA '89  
Past President
- Mike Dillon '94  
Treasurer/President-Elect
- Lauren Sankovich '98  
VP for Community Outreach
- Michael Pennington '95  
VP for Student Involvement
- Roberta Bibee '83  
VP for Volunteer Involvement
- Kerri Garcia '92  
VP for Marketing and Membership

**Board Members**

- Chad Blanchard '93
- Kelly Bland '91
- Todd Cabral '91
- Jim Conkey '83
- Roger Deidrichsen '71
- Larry Digesti '72
- Seema Donahoe '02
- Jason Frierson '96
- Stephanie Clemo Hanna '96
- Mary Harmon '93, '97
- Sam Hudson '94
- Judy Machabee '91
- D.J. Miller (SAA Rep)
- Patrick Martinez '95
- Marlene Olsen '74
- Mercedes Parsons '84
- Eli Reilly (ASUN President)
- Jeff Pickett '89
- Julie Rowe '94
- Chris Vargas '95
- Charlie Walsh '86
- Cary Groth  
Director, Intercollegiate Athletics

**Staff Members**

- John K. Carothers  
Vice President, Development & Alumni Relations
- Bruce Mack  
Associate Vice President, Development & Alumni Relations
- Amy J. Carothers '01  
Director, Alumni Relations
- Christy Jerz '97  
Assistant Director, Alumni Relations
- Juliane Di Meo  
Alumni Program Manager
- Lindsey Harmon '06  
Alumni Program Coordinator
- Hope Hepner  
Administrative Assistant II

**CLASS CHAT  
DEADLINES**

Winter issue:  
Oct. 24

Spring issue:  
Feb. 2

email:  
chatter@unr.edu



Steven Parish '69

**'40s**

**Doris Sinofsky '49** (journalism) was awarded a Telly for the documentary *Our Heroes: the Veterans of Cedar Crest*. She produced the film at the independent living community where she lives.

**'50s**

**Dru Thiercof '51** (premedical) and **Frances (Batt) Thiercof '50** (general studies) moved back to the Reno area in 2004 to be closer to their kids and grandkids. The Harris Fire of 2007 took their house and all of their belongings. However, they are now, finally, in their new home and enjoying every minute.

**'60s**

**George Allison, Jr. '60** (political science) and **Barbara (Ruark) Allison '60** (secondary education) enjoy traveling to various places, many of which include children and grandchildren in Calif., Nevada and Holland.

**James Atcheson '62** (premedical), a Reno physician who practices with Renown Health Medical Group, has been recognized as the Distinguished Physician of the Year by the Nevada State Medical Association. James specializes in diabetes, endocrinology, metabolism and internal medicine. He has practiced medicine for 42 years.

**Steven Parish '69** (animal science) has been awarded the 2008 Distinguished Veterinary Alumnus Award for Excellence in Teaching and Research at Washington State University. He has also won several national teaching awards, such as the American



Jared Chaney '75



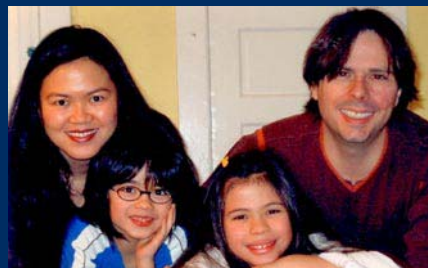
Kevin Paff '81



Robin Joyce '83



Mike Dini '91



Timothy Shields '91

Veterinary Medical Association's Teaching Excellence Award and the North American Outstanding Teacher Award from the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges.

## '70s

**Frank Y. Jackson '70** (political science) was recently nominated by Governor Schwarzenegger and confirmed as an associate justice of the Second District Court of Appeal, Los Angeles. He was sworn in to his new position by Chief Justice Ronald M. George of the California Supreme Court.

**Jarrett Griffin '72** (history) recently retired after 34 years at the University of California, Davis, most recently as senior adviser for undergraduate admissions. Jarrett and his wife, Tandy, have relocated to Leavenworth, Wash., where they are active in the community and enjoy backpacking, skiing, hunting, cycling and sailing their boat, Morning Mist, around the Pacific Northwest with their two golden retrievers, Fiona and Ailan.

**Jared Chaney '75** (journalism) has been named executive vice president of corporate communications and advertising at Medical Mutual of Ohio. Jared is chief adviser to the company regarding internal and external communication.

## '80s

**Michael Martino '80** (social services corrections) has been selected for induction into the Latino Hall of Fame at this year's Adelante Awards. Mike is a longtime advocate for

Hispanic youth. He is being recognized for his work as a community outreach program manager for the Juvenile Services Department and as a member of the board of directors of Nevada Hispanic Services.

**Kevin Paff '81** (renewable natural resources) was recently selected as the senior natural resources program manager for the northwestern division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In this position, Kevin oversees the recreation and environmental stewardship programs at over 78 lakes in 12 states. Kevin and his wife, Shanna, reside in Vancouver, Wash. with their daughter, Denae, and son, Austin.

**Jeffrey Pepple '82** (managerial sciences) was appointed general manager of Spa Resort Casino in Palm Springs. Jeffrey first joined the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians as director of finance at Spa Resort Casino in 1999.

**Robin Joyce '83** (journalism), '04M.A. (journalism) has been named chair of the new dean's council for the Reynolds School of Journalism. The council will serve as a working group of professionals to assist Dean Jerry Ceppos and to promote the school's mission and programs. Robin is president of Joyce & Associates, a public relations and political consultation company based in Las Vegas, and is finishing a second master's degree in Christian leadership at Hope International University. He also serves as a part-time pastor at Canyon Ridge Christian Church in Las Vegas.

**Cindy (Zeng) Ferrell '88** (biochemistry), '92M.D. has been named the pediatric residency program director at Oregon Health and Science University. The pediatric program has 39 residents and two chief residents. Cindy received her master's in education from the University of Southern California in 2003 and has interests in curriculum development and competency-based medical education. She continues as a pediatrician and attending physician at Doernbecher Children's Hospital.

## '90s

**Mike Dini '91** (journalism) recently became advertising and public relations manager for Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in Mount Pleasant, Mich. and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino in Standish, Mich., both enterprises of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

**Timothy Shields '91** (accounting/computer information systems) has accepted a tenure track from Chapman University, where he will have appointment with Agyros School of Business and Economics. Timothy and his family now reside in Orange, Calif.

**Paige Coatney '92** (social psychology) is employed as a protective service worker in San Diego County in child welfare services and was recently transferred to the teen unit to help prepare foster youth for emancipation. She has been happily married to ShawnaMarie Livingston since 1998.

**Kevin Dunn '94** (health science/premedical) has finished his residency and now lives



Thomas Lowder '97



Daniel Rushin '98



Jerri Conrad '01



Josh D. Luke '03Ph.D.



Lauren Basic '08 with little brother, Jacob

in Las Vegas. Kevin and his wife, Cassandra, are both general surgeons. They recently celebrated the birth of their second child, Grace, who joins big brother Logan.

**Thomas Lowder '97** (physical education) was awarded a two-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to study the role of exercise on regulatory T cells in asthma. Thomas is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

**Kristie (Alexander) Howlett '98** (nursing) has received a master's of science from the University of California, San Francisco. Kristie majored in nursing with a focus in oncology. She has accepted a position as a clinical nurse specialist for cancer services at Sutter Roseville Medical Center in Roseville, Calif.

**Timothy Garcia-Jay '98** (environmental policy analysis) has joined Urology Nevada

Ltd. as chief executive officer. Timothy will be charged with both the northern and southern offices.

**Daniel Rushin '98** (accounting) has been promoted to senior manager for the Certified Public Accounting Firm of Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. Daniel will be responsible for the planning and execution of financial statement audits and federal compliance audits.

### '01s

**Jerri (Williams) Conrad '01** (journalism) was appointed to the board of directors for the Nevada Humane Society of Reno. Jerri holds an MBA from the University of Phoenix.

**Julie (Tholl) DeJan '01** (general studies) has been named executive director for the Angel Kiss Foundation, a local nonprofit organization benefiting families battling pediatric cancer.

**Liane Lee '01** (criminal justice) works as a legislative officer for the city of Las Vegas in the Government and Community Affairs Department. She is responsible for lobbying on behalf of the city on local, state and federal issues.

### '03s

**Laurie Bower '03Ph.D.** (English) was named one of the Idaho Women of the Year 2008 by the *Idaho Business Review* for her work developing curriculum and teaching World Relief refugees how to work and live in America, as well as for her ongoing efforts teaching communication, literature and writing at the University of Phoenix.

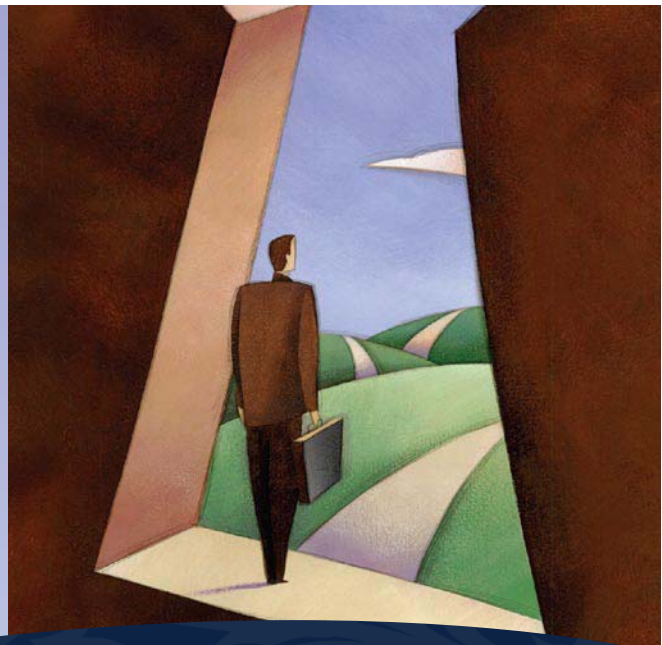
**Josh D. Luke '03Ph.D.** (educational leadership) was named chief executive officer of Western Medical Center Anaheim, a 188-bed acute hospital in Anaheim, Calif.

## Unlock your potential. Create your future.

### Executive, management and leadership development from Extended Studies —

*More than 100 new and time-tested courses and programs that support your professional growth.*

- Advanced Management Program
- Custom certificates
  - Human Resources Management*
  - Public Management*
  - Supervisory Management*
- Mediation and Conflict Resolution
- Nonprofit Management Institute
- Paralegal Studies Certificate
- Project Management
- The Leadership Challenge® Workshop



## ExtendedStudies

Continuing Education and Professional Development from the **University of Nevada, Reno**



Visit us at [www.extendedstudies.unr.edu](http://www.extendedstudies.unr.edu) / (775) 784-4062 / 1-800-233-8928



Ananda O'Brien '08



Amy Stechman '08

## Wolfmates



Erik York '96 (management) and Kate (Senfield) York '05 (accounting) were married at the Plantation Golf Course in Maui, Hawaii on May 13. Erik runs a family business and Kate is a CPA at Solari and Sturmer, LLC. The couple resides in Reno.

Aqueelah (Thompson) LaGrone '03 (psychology) and Carl LaGrone, Jr. '04 (liberal arts) were married June 6 at Mackay Stadium, the first-ever wedding hosted in the facility. Aqueelah is an academic adviser at the University, and Carl teaches within the Washoe County School District. They met as undergraduate student-athletes at Nevada; Aqueelah was a member of the women's basketball team, while Carl was a member of the football team. Together they share a blessing in their two-and-a-half year old son, Carl LaGrone III.



### '08s

**Lauren Basic '08** (general studies) was named Big Sister of the Year for the community-based mentoring program, Big Brothers, Big Sisters. Lauren was matched with Little Brother, Jacob, 8, while she was a student at the University.

**Ananda O'Brien '08** (journalism) has been named assistant account executive at MassMedia Corporate Communications. She will be responsible for creating press materials, handling media relations, planning events and coordinating social media plans.

**Amy Stechman '08** (accounting) has been hired as staff accountant for the Certified Public Accounting Firm of Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. In her new role, Amy will perform financial statement and compliance audits, as well as individual federal income tax returns. [N](#)



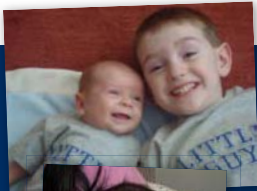
# Homecoming Bonfire 2008

Friday, October 17th at the North Parking Lot at UNR

It kicks off at 6pm! Be there and get fired up for Homecoming!

ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide accommodations to people with disabilities attending the event. Please call 775-784-6589 as soon as possible to arrange appropriate accommodations.





Kellie (Creekmore) Guild '92 (business education) and David Guild would like to announce the birth of their son, William Robert, on March 6. He joins big brother, Matthew, 5.



Sheila (Genio) Looney '92 (accounting/ computer information systems) and Mark Looney '94 (electrical engineering), '95M.S. (electrical engineering) would like to announce the birth of their son, Cayden Daniel, on Dec. 14, 2007. Cayden joins big sister, Gabrielle, 10, and brother, Brandon, 7.



Karena (Nygren) Zevely '93 (interior design) and James Zevely are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Lynnea Marie on May 23.



Daniele (Woodward) Espinosa '96 (psychology), '05M.A. (literacy) and Shawn Espinosa '95 (conservation biology) are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Noah Raymond, born Nov. 12.



Stephanie (Clemo) Hanna '96 (journalism) and John Hanna '96 (computer information systems) are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Collin Royce, born July 2.



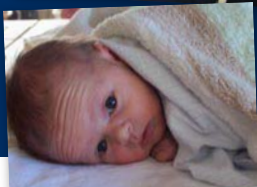
Joell (Stiner) Key '96 (criminal justice) and Jimmy Key would like to announce the birth of their son, and future University of Nevada, Reno golf team member, Jackson Robert on Nov. 21, 2007.



Monette (Romero) Greer '97 (chemical engineering) and Brian Greer '97 (mechanical engineering), '99M.S. (mechanical engineering) are pleased to announce the birth of Jordan Pierce on March 31. He is also welcomed by big brother, Tyler.



Janelle (Silva) Heinrich '97 (health education) and Scott Heinrich would like to announce the birth of their son Andrew Scott on Jan. 29. He joins big brother Jacob, 3.



Lauren Sankovich '98 (accounting) and James Bashista are proud to announce the arrival of Jake Steven on June 3. Jake and the family are home and loving every minute together.



Cheryl (Foster) Roth '00 (biology) and Eric Roth would like to announce the birth of their son Aidan Marcell on Jan. 7, 2007.



Erin (Omohundra) Farber '01 (journalism) and Nick Farber '02 (criminal justice) announce the birth of their son, William Joseph on April 25.



Susie (Fleming) Garaventa '01 (Human Development and Family Studies) and Ryan Garaventa are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Dominic Joseph on April 29.



Amy McFarland '02 (health ecology), '04M.A. (public health) and Patrick McFarland '97 (journalism) are happy to announce the birth of Sean Patrick, born June 18. He joins big sister, Kaylee, 2.



Jennifer (Richards) Mitchell '02 (elementary education) and Timothy Mitchell are pleased to announce the birth of their first child Barry Michael, born on Feb. 22.



Mui (Ngu) Condon '02 (French) and Patrick Condon announce the birth of their son, Charles Say on March 21.



Lou Wright '03 (criminal justice) and Amy (Meek) Wright '03 (nursing) are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Avery Elizabeth on April 9.



Jason Jarrett '05 (computer science) and Carrie Thorpe are pleased to introduce Kalea JC born Aug. 2, 2007.