

## AREAS OF STUDY

### Agriculture

Agri-Business Option  
 Agri-Production Option  
 Commodity Merchandising Option  
 Dairy Option  
 Environmental Tech Option  
 Large Animal Technician Option  
 Precision Technology Option

### Automotive Technology

#### Aviation Maintenance Technology\*

#### Building Trades Technology

#### Business Associate

Fashion/Retail Option  
 Hospitality & Tourism Option  
 Human Resource Associate Option  
 Interior Business Design Option  
 Marketing & Management Option\*\*  
 Photography/Media Option

#### Computer Information Systems\*\*

Programming Specialist Option  
 Network Specialist Option  
 CISCO Specialist Option  
 Web Specialist Option  
 Security Specialist Option

#### Cosmetology\*

#### Custom Paint and Fabrication NEW

#### Dental Assisting\*/\*\*

#### Diesel Technology

Truck/and Ag/Industrial Option  
 CAT ThinkBIG Option  
 CNH Forging the Future Option

#### Drafting Technology

Civil Drafting Technician Option  
 Civil/Mechanical Drafting Technician Option

#### Electronic Systems Technology

#### Energy Operations\*

#### Energy Technology\*

#### Entrepreneurship NEW

#### Environmental Option\*

#### Financial Services\*\*

Agri-Financial Services Option  
 Business Accounting Option  
 Consumer Financial Services Option

#### Human Services Technician

Activity Technicians/Mental Health Option  
 Child Development Option  
 Developmental Disabilities Option  
 Youth Offender Option

#### Med/Fire Rescue\*

#### Medical Assisting

#### Medical Lab Technician\*\*

#### Nursing\*\*

#### Occupational Therapy Assistant\*

#### Physical Therapist Assistant\*

#### Precision Machining

#### Robotics\*\*

#### Welding Technology

Programs denoted with an \* are unique to South Dakota. Programs denoted with an \*\* are online hybrid programs with E-Degrees.



**LAKE AREA**  
 TECHNICAL INSTITUTE  
 It's your world.

Alumni Association  
 230 11th Street NE  
 P.O. Box 730  
 Watertown, SD 57201-0730

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help save costs,  
 help save trees...

receive your newsletter electronically  
 and be entered to win LATI Gear!

The first 50 to "go green"

also will receive a LATI Alumni Key chain. Please email  
[Janelle.Wishard@lakeareatech.edu](mailto:Janelle.Wishard@lakeareatech.edu).

Summer 2011  
[www.lakeareatech.edu](http://www.lakeareatech.edu)



**LAKE AREA**  
 TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

# Alumni & Friends Newsletter

## LATI Opens Its Doors In 1965

After officially starting in 1965, Lake Area Vocational Technical School graduated its very first class the following May. The class of 1966 totaled 15 graduates from the Business Machine Repair program. Since that time, Lake Area Tech has undergone many changes.



1966 Business Machine Repair Graduating Class

Over the years, the name of the institute has changed three times. When it was established, the school was known as Lake Area Vocational Technical School. In 1983, the name became Lake Area Vocational Technical Institute, substituting the word "institute" in place of "school" to more fully describe the higher education

emphasis on technology. In 1993, the name changed to the name it holds today: Lake Area Technical Institute. The term "vocational" was eliminated from the name to better describe the evolution of the institute from basic vocational programs to technically advanced career paths.

Along the way, the institute's logo has changed several times to remain contemporary and to attract and retain prospective students. These changes took place in 1967, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 2000 and most recently, in 2009. Some changes were subtle; while others were more dramatic

(for logo changes see photo ribbon on pages 3 and 4).

Lake Area Tech has grown far beyond anyone's imagination; programs have been added, enrollment has increased and buildings have been built... pretty much every aspect of the institute, at one time or another, has changed. However, while making changes, the leadership of Lake Area Tech has remained relatively constant over the past 46 years. Don Lindahl, was the founding Director of Lake Area Vocational Technical School.

History Cover story... continued to page 3



**Enrollment at LATI**  
 continues to grow, more than doubling over the last 20 years.

1969 – 415 enrolled  
 1990 – 790 enrolled  
 2006 – 1251 enrolled  
 2010 – 1636 enrolled

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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LAKE AREA  
TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

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## Building Project UPDATE

The Phase III Student Services Center building has really taken shape over the past months. The entrance featuring arches of brick and stone will serve as a focal point for visitors, clearly marking it as Lake Area Tech's new front door!



Prior to the summer break, Lake Area Tech Drafting Technology students created an initial design for Phase IV of the project, which will be the Agriculture Center. That process provided the students with real-life, hands-on experience designing a \$10 million building. Estimated ground breaking for Phase IV is Summer of 2012.

## Diesel Equipment is Up-in-the-Air



The Diesel Technology Department recently purchased and installed a \$36,000 truck lift. Because of the expensive price tag, the department

began budgeting for the equipment more than two years ago in order to make it a reality. The day finally arrived and the wait was worth it!

The lift is capable of raising a 72,000 pound semi-truck six feet above the floor. The lift consists of four completely portable, individual lifting columns which allow it to be used anywhere in the shop and adjusts to fit the length of the truck. This enables students and instructors to perform inspections and repairs underneath the truck as a group.

These types of lifts also keep the shop safer by eliminating the need for pits.

"These lifts are becoming very common in the truck service industry, which makes it a great training aid in our shop. Our students will have had hands-on experience working with the latest technology, before being hired by a truck service center." said Carl Tesch, Diesel Technology Department Supervisor.

## Congratulations Class of 2011

The Lake Area Technical Institute's 44th Annual Graduation was held Friday, May 13th, 2011. **This year was the largest class of graduates yet! Five hundred and fifty-eight students participated in the graduation ceremony;** 69 of those graduates were from 14 different states and the remaining 489 grads lived in 147 different South Dakota communities. To date 17,149 graduates have crossed the stage at Lake Area Technical Institute since the first class in 1966.

Pam Roberts, SD Secretary of the Department of Labor and Regulation, and keynote speaker said, *"I have been asked to share with you some advice which I will do from the perspective of being your Secretary of Department of Labor and Regulation, but also as someone who was born and raised in South Dakota. I have three key items, simply put they are; to think, to work hard (but don't always play it safe) and to take pride in what you do. My overreaching advice to you is like what you do and the rest will fall into place. Congratulations*

*to the largest class to ever graduate from Lake Area Technical Institute...Congratulations class of 2011."*

The future looks bright for these graduates as the latest placement figures show 98% of LATI grads are employed or are continuing their education! It doesn't end there. 90% of the graduates who responded to the recent survey report that they are employed in South Dakota, and at competitive wages. Now that's something to talk about!



*"At Lake Area Technical Institute, the programs are focused, the skills learned are fantastic and the knowledge is relevant and state of the art! More than any other type of educational institution, technical schools provide students with the skills to make them job ready."*

Governor Dennis Daugaard  
9th Annual Governor's Luncheon, April 26th, 2011

## NEW Student Services Center Nears HALF WAY POINT



*"The new center will be a perfect place to kick back, relax, study and meet other students. It's a great addition and asset to LATI."*

Shawn Lenning

Alumni Board Past President  
1986 - Electronic Systems Technology



*"After touring the construction of new Student Services Center, I was surprised to see how much space there will be for the students. I think the students will find that it will benefit them in many ways. Having the administrative offices, bookstore and the cafeteria all in one location will make it so much easier for the students to take care of business. It will be a great addition for the school and students."*

Tammy Hunter

Alumni Board President-Elect  
1985 - Modern Office Occupations



## Campaign At A Glance

\$28 million	Cost of Project
-\$18 million	Bonding Assistance
\$10 million	Campaign Goal

**\$7 million** has been raised so far, with gifts from corporations, foundations and individuals.  
**\$3 million** remains to be raised!

**Together, we can make a huge impact!**  
**If each alumnus gives:**

\$100 per year for 5 years, we will raise \$6.75 million  
\$50 per year for 5 years, we will raise \$3.38 million  
\$25 per year for 5 years, we will raise \$1.68 million

✂️ Clip & mail to: Lake Area Tech Alumni, PO Box 730, Watertown, SD 57201



## Get "Mugged"

Join the 119+ Alumni who have already made a gift or pledge and receive your commemorative coffee mug!

Option 1

I/we wish to make a 5 year pledge  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ each year for 5 years = total gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Invoice annually or  Invoice quarterly  
Bill my Credit Card (Visa or MasterCard)  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Program \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Option 2

I/we wish to make a one-time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Check is enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill my Credit Card (Visa or MasterCard)  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## LATI Opens Its Doors In 1965 continued from cover

In 1969, Leonard Timmerman and Dr. Max Johnson became Co-Directors when Lindahl relocated to Washington state. When Dr. Johnson retired in 1980, Leonard Timmerman was named the sole Director of the institute. Timmerman remained as the Director until his retirement in 1990, passing the reigns of the institute to Gary Williams. In 2005, the title of "Director" was changed to that of "President". When Williams retired, in 2006, Deb Shephard was named President of Lake Area Technical Institute and continues to serve in that capacity today.

Both Don Lindahl and Dr. Max Johnson have since passed away. At the recent Governor's Luncheon, we had the pleasure of having all three living Directors and Presidents available for a photo with the Governor.

While change in technology, change in education and change in campus life are inevitable, Lake Area Tech remains dedicated to its mission of "offering superior, comprehensive technical education, creating a foundation for success in an ever-changing world".



Governor Dennis Daugaard shown with LATI President, Deb Shephard, former LATI Director/President and Watertown Mayor Gary Williams (lower left) and former LATI Director, Leonard Timmerman.



3

**VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL**  
1967



1978



1983



1988



1993



2000



It's your world.  
2009

## 2011 DON LINDAHL OUTSTANDING STUDENT Announced

Don Lindahl was the founding Director of LATI and served in that capacity until 1969. Because of his affection for LATI, he and his wife, Faith, established the Don Lindahl Outstanding Student Scholarship in 1998.

Nine years later, on April 13th, 2006, at the age of 71, Don passed away from injuries sustained in a tractor accident at his family farm in Shoreview, Minnesota.

Students are nominated to apply for the scholarship by faculty members based on leadership and aptitude. Once nominated, students complete an application and submit a written essay. A scholarship review committee makes the selection in early April. Faith and



2011 Don Lindahl Outstanding Student  
From Left: Faith Lindahl, LaRon Johnson (recipient) and Max Lindahl

sons; Monte, Matt, Mark and Max, have kept the tradition going by attending the "Don Lindahl Luncheon" each year, meeting the Outstanding Student, in honor of Don.

The recipient receives a Certificate of Achievement as the Outstanding Student, a \$500 cash award and their name is added to the Outstanding Student plaque located in the Technical Education Center.

### Past Recipients Of Lindahl Award

- 1998 - Kelly Gillies, Diesel Technology
- 1999 - Sara Zuehlke, Cosmetology
- 2000 - Nicole Leonardo, Financial Services
- 2001 - Dustin Leiseth, Agri-Production
- 2002 - Peggy Jennings, Medical Lab Technician
- 2003 - Paula Erickson, Cosmetology
- 2004 - Melody Manning, Financial Services
- 2005 - Jenna Paye, Medical Lab Technician
- 2006 - Nicole Keller, Practical Nursing
- 2007 - Darby Nelson, Diesel Technology
- 2008 - Ryan Kremer, Robotics
- 2009 - Terry Peterson, Diesel Technology
- 2010 - Brenda Johnson, Financial Services

This year's recipient is LaRon Johnson, an Aviation Maintenance Technology graduate. Following graduation, LaRon accepted a position as an airframe and powerplant mechanic at Dynamic Aviation in Bridgewater, Virginia.

Since it's inception this endowed scholarship account has provided 14 outstanding students with scholarships.

## Student With "Drive"

Most likely there is a unique story behind every LATI student; after all, we are very interesting people. This year at the Governor's Luncheon, we discovered one of our student speakers had some extra special "drive".

Maria Konold, who will be a 2nd year Environmental Technology student this fall, brings a little something different to class... her racing background!

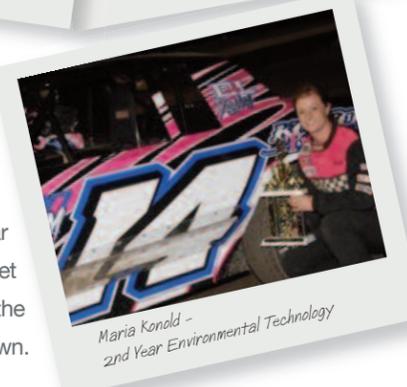
Konold has been racing stock cars since she was 15 years old. Her four-year career has included three years in the pure stock division and one year in the Wisconsin Street class.

Konold has racked up eighteen

feature stock division wins, three Sportsman Of The Year awards and was the 2010 Street Stock Rookie Of The Year at the Casino Speedway in Watertown.

Konold says, "Racing is definitely in my blood! I started racing because it seemed to be the thing to do in my family. My dad and uncle used to race and I wanted to be a part of that legacy!" Konold has two brothers who also race. Konold's 28 year old brother, Rob, races street stocks and her 22 year old brother, Tony, races midwest modified cars.

Konold can be found traveling eastern South Dakota in the summer, racing in Huron and

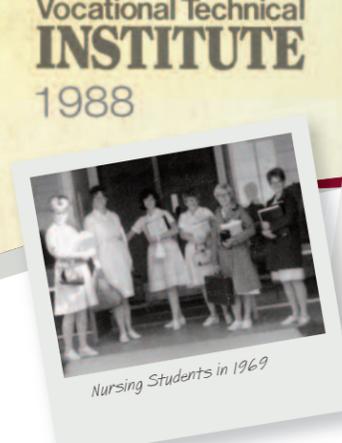


Maria Konold - 2nd Year Environmental Technology

Watertown weekly, as well as other tracks in the area.

Konold notes, "Racing is important to me because I can show racing isn't just a male sport. If you are determined to do something, anything is possible; no matter what gender you are".

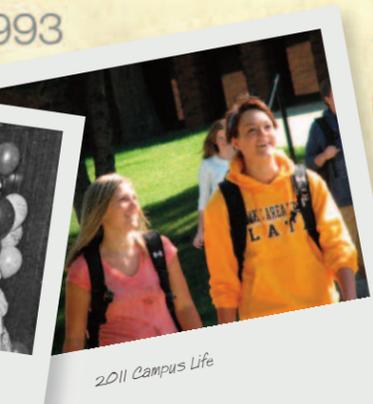
**“Going everywhere as a family and being able to share the fun times together... that's what racing is to me... a family!” Maria Konold**



Nursing Students in 1969



1988 Formal Dance



2011 Campus Life



2010 New Student Orientation Day

## CALENDAR

**New Student Orientation**  
August 23rd

**Fall Classes Begin**  
August 24th

**Labor Day Holiday**  
LATI Closed September 5th

**Senior Tech Day**  
November 3rd

**Veterans Day Holiday**  
LATI Closed November 11th

**Holiday Festival Of Trees**  
November 18th

**Thanksgiving Break**  
LATI Closed November 24th - 25th

# GOODBYE 2011 RETIREES



**Rich Hetland**  
Agri-Production Instructor  
1972-2011  
39 Years of Service

I began my career at Lake Area Tech in the fall of 1972, beginning what was then the Agri-Maintenance and Management program. At that time, it was a 9 month program. This became what is now the Agri-Production program (18 months) in the fall of 1978. The program has moved numerous times in the past years.

**Message to Alumni:** I would urge all alumni to never forget where they were educated and hopefully the education they received at Lake Area gave them the starting point for what is now a successful and rewarding career.



**Linda Dylla**  
Dental Assisting Instructor  
1977-2011  
34 Years of Service

**Back Then:** we didn't have the technology we do today and I remember especially the mimeograph for copying worksheets, tests, etc. The most significant change over the years has definitely been the advent of technology that we use in education. Another big change is the growth of not only the DA program, but Lake Area as a whole.

**Message to Alumni:** I would encourage all alumni to stay in touch with Lake Area and if you haven't visited the campus recently, please do so. I think you will be amazed.



**Tom Wolf**  
Drafting Technology Instructor  
1979-2011  
33 Years of Service

## 2011 GREAT COLLEGES TO WORK FOR

For the third consecutive year, Lake Area Tech is rated as one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to a survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education. The results are based on a survey of nearly 44,000 employees at 310 colleges and universities across the country.



**Joanne Andersen**  
General Education Instructor  
(Computer, Accounting & Keyboarding) 1981-2011  
30 Years of Service

**Significant Changes:** Technology has changed tremendously. Keyboarding in the early years was taught on an electric typewriter, erasing was done using correct-o-type and a typewriter eraser; then came the wonderful new correction tape and correction fluid. Typing dictation from a cassette was an "art", and yes, you did have to know grammar and punctuation rules without thinking the "computer" would catch all your errors. Knowing these rules and remembering them was important back then in order to be "competent" and employable in the job market.

**Message to Alumni:** CARPE DIEM—(seize the day) "Let us realize that the privilege to work is a gift, that power to work is a blessing, and that love of work is success." - David O. McKay



**Dave TerEick**  
General Education Instructor  
1987-2011  
24 years at LATI

**Most Memorable Moments:** Appreciative replies from students who thought the coursework made a difference in their lives.

**Message to Alumni:** Best wishes to Alumni. I wish you success in all you hope to accomplish.

**First Official Act Of Retirement:** Fishing as often as possible and enjoying life to the fullest.



**Bud Webb**  
Admissions Representative  
1997-2011  
14 Years of Service

**Message to Alumni:** LATI has been a stepping stone for you... I'm eager to see what you have done with your education. A piece of advice would be to embrace the concept of networking, building relationships and knowledge, as it will lead to advancement. Also, you are never too old to learn more.



**Bob Larson**  
General Education Instructor  
(MATH) 1997-2011  
14 Years of Service

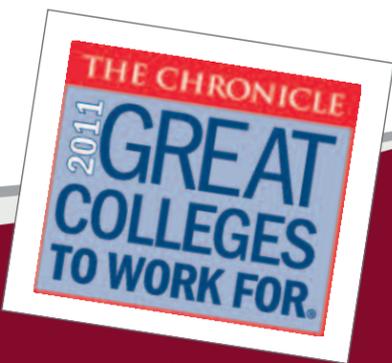
**Significant Changes:** Lake Area Tech's continued growth in enrollment and the campus over my 14 year career.



**Laurie Larson**  
Practical Nursing Instructor  
1999-2011  
12 Years of Service

**Significant Changes:** There has been much growth and moving... the location of our department has had several homes over the years. LATI has been a wonderful place to work!

During my retirement I plan to enjoy traveling, camping and being with family... most of all grandchildren!!



Environment; Facilities, Workspaces & Security; Confidence in Senior Leadership; Respect and Appreciation. Great Colleges to Work For is one of the largest and most respected workplace-recognition programs in the country

## We want to hear from U

Did you meet your spouse at LATI?  
Does your family have a long line of LATI graduates?  
Did you get your start here? Tell us your story...  
or share a funny memory... We want to hear from u  
Email feedback and photos, to [Janelle.Wishard@lakeareatech.edu](mailto:Janelle.Wishard@lakeareatech.edu).

*Lost Alumni*  
Help LATI reconnect  
with over 2,400 lost  
alumni by going to  
[lakeareatech.edu/alumni/lostalumni.asp](http://lakeareatech.edu/alumni/lostalumni.asp)



*Spencer Tisher-1993 Aviation Maintenance Technology  
Stacy (Dage) Tisher-1992 Nursing  
They met at Lake Area Tech!*

### Hello To:

- Jacob Beutler** -Diesel Lab Aide
- Kathy Brink** -Foodservice Staff
- Terry Brekke** -Custodial Staff
- Todd Bretscheider** -Custom Paint & Fab Instructor
- Casey Feininger** - Computer Technology/Media Instructor
- Pearl Geffre** - Financial Aid Staff

### Goodbye To:

- Heidi Boomsma** - Financial Aid Staff
- Carlos Cardenas** - Custodial Staff
- David Dahl** - CDL Instructor

- Yolanda Goodman** -Ag Instructor
- Jesse Hauck** - Financial Aid Staff
- Brad Heesch** - Curriculum & Gen Ed Instructor
- Laurie Johnson** - Ag Instructor
- Jason Karels** - Ag Instructor
- Kathie Manzey** -Foodservice Staff
- Nicole Misner** - Dental Assisting
- Mallory Olson** - Admissions Representative
- Anthony Peterson** - Custodial Staff

- Greg DuBois** - Custodial Staff
- Jason Frerichs** - Ag Instructor
- Sheila Gainor** - Financial Aid Staff
- Janet Gerth** - Foodservice Staff

- Lisa Ronke** - Entrepreneur Instructor
- Earl Rider** - Custodial Staff
- Amber Schleusner** - Practical Nursing
- Darrel Woolery** - Ag Instructor

- Michael Gross** - Custodial Staff
- John Harper** - Energy Technology Instructor
- Terry Peterson** - Diesel Technology Instructor
- John Rider** - Precision Machining Instructor
- April Ritzschke** - Educare Staff

## ALUMNI UPDATE

### Find out what the LATI alumni have been doing.

**1977 Jerry Corey** (Engineering/ Architectural Drafting) and wife, Leona, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 12, 2011. The couple has three children, six grandchildren and reside in Watertown, SD.

**1988 Tye Lane McClanahan** (Diesel Technology) and Jessica Kay Jackson were married on May 21, 2011 at Joy Ranch, Watertown, SD. Tye is employed as an Electrician/Trencher at Engelsted Electric in Watertown and his wife is an Assistant Manager at Wal-Mart.

**1989 Terrill (Guthmiller) Ackerman (Human Service Technician)** recently moved to Huron, SD and is employed at American

Trust Insurance. She is a single mom to her children and loves every bit of it!

**1995 Travis Johnson** (Ag Production) and wife, Sara, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary on July 6, 2011. Travis ranches with his dad and his wife is a registered nurse. They reside west of Sisseton, SD and have 3 children--Tate 8, Tyan 6, and Sidney 5.

**2007 Adam Pauli** (Agri-Production) and Brittney DeFea were married September 4, 2010 in Milbank, SD. Adam farms with his father on the family farm. The couple resides in rural Milbank.

**2007 Zachary Waba** (Engineering/Architectural Drafting) and Justine Wold were married March 26, 2011 in Watertown, SD. Zachary is a draftsman at Redlinger Bros. Plumbing & Heating in Watertown. The couple resides in Watertown.

**2008 Kathy Nuhsbaumer** (Physical Therapist Assistant) is currently employed as a traveling PTA serving the Midwest states. Kathy resides in Sioux Falls, SD.

### In Memory Of:

**Kendall Rossow** (1989 Diesel Mechanics) passed away May 1, 2011 in Reliance, SD.

**Charles Schoepp** (1981 Building Trades) passed away May 9, 2011 at his residence in Watertown, SD.

**Brenda (Wiekamp) Muston** (1989 Home Health Technician) passed away May 28, 2011 in a care center at Clear Lake, SD.

## The "Bubbling Boulder"

The LATI Alumni Association wanted to add a signature piece to the new Student Center atrium and chose this unique fountain to do so. Because of its size, the bubbling boulder had to be installed prior to the installation of the doors and flooring. The largest rock weighs 18,000 pounds. The fountain will provide a relaxing welcome to all who enter through our new front door!

