When it comes to community stewardship, nurses are naturals.

And why wouldn’t they be? Nursing is a profession where helping others is part of the job description and one that attracts folks who are already passionate about doing just that. Community service, in fact, is such an important part of the profession that it is typically woven directly into nursing education.

Ellen Hennessy-Harstad, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, clinical professor of nursing at Indiana University Northwest, recently earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. As part of her studies, she developed a community outreach project with the aim of taking clinical research directly to the front lines of care.

She hopes that what began as a pilot project at two local schools, involving a staff of school nurses and 15 adolescents, and with a mission to help those students better control their asthma, will set a precedent for future outreach practices in the profession of nursing.

Hennessy-Harstad’s special interest in asthma began early in her career, when she worked as a pediatric nurse.

“(At that time), we didn’t know exactly what was triggering asthma,” she explained. “Was it emotional? Was it physiological? There were a lot of misconceptions about asthma. As I went through my career, working with children with respiratory conditions became my primary focus.”

National guidelines about managing asthma were developed in 1997 and are updated about every five years by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. Unfortunately, Hennessy-Harstad said, the guidelines have been slow to hit the mainstream.

“As (the national guidelines) became more available to people, I began to realize that health providers were not putting them into practice. Why do we have this great set of national guidelines that are not trickling down to the practice level?” she said.

Hennessy-Harstad decided to use those guidelines as the foundation for her DNP project. She set out to bring the research and evidence-based best practices into clearer focus at the community healthcare level.

She sat down with a group of school nurses to identify the roadblocks they were seeing among their adolescent students. She reasoned that, if school nurses could be called in to help empower students to learn how to control their asthma, it would result in fewer asthma episodes and fewer ER visits and hospitalizations.

The school nurses met with the students twice during school hours to monitor the students and to provide asthma education according to the national asthma guidelines.

The nurses gave the students tools to use, including an Asthma Control Test and a fact sheet about controlling factors that worsen asthma. They also referred the students and families to their primary healthcare providers to compose an asthma action plan. The nurses made sure the students knew the names and purposes of their medications and how to use them. They also helped the students to identify their asthma triggers.

see Asthma on page 2
"We gave them (the students) information to take home and really empowered the adolescents to discuss with their family the things they could change at home to help them control their asthma," Hennessy-Harstad said.

The schools Hennessy-Harstad worked with cannot be identified because of confidentiality conditions set forth by the school boards and university governing boards. However, Hennessy-Harstad said that nurses at both schools stated that they found significant value in the project and have continued to implement it across their entire school populations of students with asthma.

Moving forward

Linda Delunas, PhD, RN, CNE, Director of the School of Nursing and Associate Dean of the College of Health and Human Services, praised the project and its implications for the future of nursing education and care at the community level.

“This was an important project because it showed how collaboration between the School of Nursing and our community partners can really impact the health of the community,” she said. “Asthma rates in Northwest Indiana are high and while we know a lot about evidence-based standards of care for asthma, those standards are not always used. Professor Hennessy-Harstad was able to demonstrate that by implementing those evidence-based standards according to national guidelines, it can make a difference in asthma control.”

Hennessy-Harstad welcomed the prospect of working with other school nurses and administrators who want to implement similar programs at their schools.

“The more we can do to support and empower the school nurse to function at the level of their education and experience,” she said, “the more healthcare providers we have in the community.”

Hennessy-Harstad said she plans to involve her IU Northwest nursing students in her future projects at the community level.

“It’s fundamental,” the professor said. “Nurses are healthcare providers and educators and we coordinate care across settings. For the students to be actively involved in seeing how those roles come together when you do a community project is an essential part of their learning.”

Hennessy-Harstad holds an undergraduate degree in philosophy from Loyola University and an undergraduate nursing degree from St. Xavier University in Chicago. She earned her master’s degree in nursing with a parent-child focus from Valparaiso University and did her post-master’s work as a family nurse practitioner. Her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree is also from Valparaiso University.

In addition to her duties at IU Northwest, Hennessy-Harstad works in a pediatrics and family practice office in Munster and Merrillville.

School nurses and administrators who are interested in implementing a similar asthma project at their schools may contact Hennessy-Harstad at (219) 980-6883 or ebhennes@iun.edu.
The fourth floor of Hawthorn Hall features a learning resource where students can immerse themselves in foreign languages and cultures to enhance their international studies. Instructors view the Languages, Cultures and Listening Lab as a critical component of the modern languages curriculum and an essential resource for students’ global educations.

The late Frank Caucci, Ph.D., a professor who served the Department of Modern Languages from 1986 to 2005 before moving to the Division of Social Work, where he worked until his death last year, is credited with establishing the lab on campus. His colleagues recall that the lab’s creation was an arduous, decades-long process, and one that Caucci led with fervent determination.

So it is fitting, they say, that the lab – described by colleagues as a rare gem among liberal arts programs worldwide – has been named in his memory.

At a Sept. 26 ceremony, IU Northwest formally dedicated the soon-to-be-renovated lab as Caucci’s namesake and also announced the creation of a study-abroad scholarship. The lab renovations and scholarship were made possible through a generous gift to the university by his daughter, Emmanuelle Caucci, his son, Matthew Caucci, the Caucci family, and his life partner, Brian A. Bates. Bates and Caucci’s son, Matthew, were honored guests at the private event, which was attended by Caucci’s closest friends and colleagues. Caucci’s daughter, Emmanuelle, is currently working in Africa and could not attend.

“What I most appreciate about today, is that it gives us - his family - a lasting legacy that we think Frank will very much appreciate.”

- Brian A. Bates

During the construction, tentatively planned for winter break, the lab’s walls will be soundproofed and the room will receive needed improvements to its lighting and ceiling. When the ribbon is cut for the renovated lab, a handsome, gold-trimmed plaque bearing the name, “Frank Caucci Languages, Cultures, and Listening Lab,” will be permanently installed in the hallway of Hawthorn Hall.

Also, thanks to his family’s gift, the Frank Caucci Scholarship has been established to support study abroad of the

French or Italian languages in Italy, Belgium, France or Quebec, Canada. The scholarship will be awarded in amounts of $500 and higher to students who have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in their respective area of language studies (French or Italian) based on academic achievement and financial need. In addition, the scholarship requires applicants to submit for review a personal essay describing how one values diversity and inclusiveness, especially with regard to gender rights and the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgendered people, principles that Caucci valued greatly.

Those who spoke at the dedication painted a vivid picture of Caucci’s uncompromisingly high expectations and his linguistic brilliance; the sparkle in his expressive eyes and the way he connected with people; the way he walked his life’s journey with integrity and humility; his tendency to dream ideas that others saw as impossible and bring them to reality.

Professor Emerita of Spanish Angeline Prado Komenich, Ph.D., talked about how Caucci made an indelible mark on Indiana University with his efforts to bring a language lab to his students.

“Frank Caucci was true to his quest and IU Northwest is better for this,” Komenich said. “That one man worked with tireless determination to make this sorely needed improvement for our students, and because Frank dreamed that impossible dream, and because he reached that unreachable star, we honor him today.”

see Dedication on page 8
G.I. Jobs has named Indiana University Northwest a 2013 Military Friendly School®, according to the magazine’s most recent ranking of colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide.

The list honors the top 15 percent of higher education institutions that have committed to embracing the needs of active-duty and veteran students.

“We are proud to be listed as a Military Friendly School, as we work diligently to best serve the educational needs of our veteran and active-duty students, and of those students who have made a future commitment to the U.S. Armed Forces through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program on our campus,” Chancellor William J. Lowe said.

Veterans’ learning experiences
Adaptability, accessibility and support are all hallmarks of the IU Northwest learning experience and are among the reasons often cited by veteran students for why they choose to pursue their IU degrees at the Northwest campus.

“Making higher education work for students like Sgt. VanDyke and Sgt. Wakefield is central to the IU Northwest mission.”
- Chancellor William J. Lowe

U.S. Army Sergeant Craig VanDyke, of Schererville, for example, said that he took advantage of services at IU Northwest that helped him ease back into college life after his military service.

Sgt. VanDyke took an academic hiatus from the School of Business and Economics when he deployed to Iraq in 2009 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His subsequent reentry into civilian life was not easy, but he credited IU Northwest, and specifically the Office of Veterans Affairs Services, for facilitating his transition back into his degree program.

He graduated in May 2012 with his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

U.S. Army Sgt. Shawna Wakefield, of Valparaiso, is another success story. Sgt. Wakefield is a single mother of four who graduated in May 2012 with her Bachelor of Arts degree in History, after 15 years of diligent work and perseverance.

IU Northwest is proud to be the university-of-choice to more than 130 veteran, active-duty and reservist students.

She achieved her dream of a college degree despite balancing her parental and academic commitments with mandatory drills and annual two-week training obligations, as a proud member of the Indiana Army National Guard’s 113th Engineer Battalion.

“Making higher education work for students like Sgt. VanDyke and Sgt. Wakefield is central to the IU Northwest mission,” Lowe said. “Their personal and intellectual commitment to achieving a degree made their success possible, while the campus’s collective efforts and involvement - defined in flexibility, patience and guidance – furnished a workable foundation for their degree objectives.”

About the Military Friendly School® Designation
Now in its fourth year, the 2013 Military Friendly School® list was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 12,000 VA-approved schools nationwide.

A Military Friendly Schools Academic Advisory Board helped to determine survey questions and weightings.

The survey tabulation process, methodology and weightings that comprise the 2013 list was independently verified by Ernst & Young LLP.

The board reviewed the schools in the following categories: military support on campus (non-financial); academic credibility; percentage of military students; academic credit for military service; flexibility for military students; veteran graduation rates; government approvals; student tuition assistance; and military spouse policies.
Movie buffs, take note: When scouring film credits, keep your eyes peeled for Mark Pavuk. You never know when you might see the name, or face, of this IU Northwest alumnus on television or on the big screen. Since graduating in 2009 with a B.A. in Fine Arts, Pavuk has been busy working to make a name for himself in the film business.

While the Lake Station resident earns his living doing home improvement jobs, he also spends a good amount of time working towards his filmmaking aspirations. Most recently, Pavuk is working on bringing a film that he has written to the screen – it’s a comedy titled “A Dog’s Day Out.”

Born in East Chicago, Pavuk graduated from Griffith High School. After working as a sheet metal worker for 15 years, he decided he liked, “art, not skyscrapers,” as he put it.

So Pavuk enrolled at IU Northwest to pursue the arts. While a student, he worked as a night monitor in the art labs and fell in love with acting.

“That was great because I got to work with people,” Pavuk said. “I have always been people-oriented. I enjoy people and laughing and smiling.”

Pavuk does seem to wear a perpetual smile. Even as he is deep in thought, describing his vision for a scene he is directing, his smile never leaves.

“There are obstacles in your life, and what you do to get around those obstacles is who you are,” Pavuk said, expressing a “roll with the punches” kind of attitude.

His rosy outlook has certainly been helpful in pulling together resources for his film, which has no budget allocated to it. Pavuk has been fortunate in securing locations, talent and technology, all donated thus far. This summer, he filmed portions of the movie in a Marram Hall classroom and in the campus courtyard.

Pavuk is hopeful that the trailer for the film, which is expected to be circulated this winter, will secure funding and a commitment from a production company. “A Dog’s Day Out” is Pavuk’s writing and directing debut.

Until lately, his niche had been primarily acting. A biography and samples of his work can be found at The Internet Movie Database. Pavuk’s credits include a role in “InSpectres,” a “Ghostbuster”-esque comedy, as well as an appearance in an episode of the series, “The Chicago Code.”

While attending IU Northwest, Pavuk also received professional acting instruction in Chicago.

Pavuk emphasized the importance of higher education in pursuing one’s goals. As with any field, he said, success comes with the precision and skills that can only be gleaned from specific instruction.

Equating filmmaking with baseball, for instance, Pavuk explained that, “Anyone can swing a baseball bat, but not everyone can hit the ball.” That is something that comes with learning specific skills for playing the game, he said.

From acting to directing to set production, Pavuk said, his education has created many opportunities, most notably the ability to step out of his acting shoes and into the director’s role.

Pavuk also has some credits of a different flavor on his resume; his name appears twice on the Office of Diversity and Equity’s Wall of Fame, located in the Savannah Center.

His winning submissions, he said, very much reflect his personal sentiments. One is, “It is beautiful to imagine a perfect world, but it is awesome to create one.”

The other: “Diversity is not only someone to knit a sail, but a captain to sail the ship.”

Another wall on which Pavuk’s name is engraved is that of the Griffith Town Hall and Police Station. While a student at IU Northwest, he painted some art that included the buildings, a piece of which the Town of Griffith bought to hang in its town hall.

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Louise Phillips (B.S., Education, 1990), a Hobart native, recently took a position at the A.K. Smith Career Center in Michigan City, Ind. She will teach facilities maintenance and serve as the transition specialist. Phillips also holds a master’s degree in special education from Ball State University. She has taught at the elementary school level, and at Ivy Tech Community College, and has served as a consultant with La Porte Community Schools.

Christopher Harmon (B.S., Secondary Education, 2010), a Hammond native and Lake Station resident, recently joined the teaching staff of Michigan City High School. Harmon will co-teach geography, U.S. government, health, and earth space science. Harmon is currently pursuing a master’s degree in special education at IU Northwest and is a member of the university’s Urban Teacher Education Program.

Marilynn Pester (B.A., Visual Arts, 2009), a resident of Hobart, is currently teaching art to kindergarten through fifth-grade students at Niemann and Edgewood Elementary Schools in Michigan City, Ind.

Navy Seaman Cedric Collins (A.S., Criminal Justice, 2009) recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill. The eight-week program included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. Collins graduated from Merrillville High School in 2004.

Will Fortenberry, Jr. (B.S., Secondary Education, 2011), of Portage, was recently featured in Portage Life. He currently teaches social studies and is an assistant coach for boys soccer at Portage High School, his alma mater, where he graduated with honors.

Alumni Association raises nearly $700 for Alzheimer’s research
Members of the Student Alumni Association gathered at Hidden Lake Park in Merrillville in September for the annual Walk to End Alzheimer’s, the nation’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support and research. All Walk to End Alzheimer’s donations benefit the Alzheimer’s Association, the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care, support and research.

Indiana University Northwest appears in the news on a daily basis. Below is a recap of some of those news stories featuring IU Northwest faculty, staff, students, and academic programs.

NWI campus enrollment on the rise
Post-Tribune
Friday, Sept. 21, 2012

Census shows unemployment down, income up in Northwest Indiana
Post-Tribune
Friday, Sept. 21, 2012

IUN puts some zip in students’ lives
Northwest Indiana Times
Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012

PEER Awareness, IUN work to put the brakes on texting while driving
Northwest Indiana Times
Monday, Sept. 17, 2012

Looking for the best school for you? It’s complicated
Northwest Indiana Times Business magazine
Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012

Choosing a college on the strength of its brand
Northwest Indiana Times Business magazine
Friday, Sept. 14, 2012

Top students look to IU Northwest for medical and health professions education
Northwest Indiana Times
Friday, Sept. 14, 2012

Indiana not ‘battleground’ state this year
Northwest Indiana Times
Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012

Too high readmission rates will cost local hospitals
Post-Tribune
Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012

NIRPC committee grills Enbridge on pipeline project
Northwest Indiana Times
Friday, Sept. 7, 2012

New labor law pinches unions
Post-Tribune
Saturday, Sept. 1, 2012
As a new semester begins and the campus is alight with activity, the Office of Diversity Programming (ODP) has planned a series of events and programs that will engage students, faculty, staff and the community.

**Wednesday, Oct. 17**
**The Annual Disability Employment Awareness One-Day Conference**
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Anderson Library Conference Center Lobby and Room 105ABC

This year’s theme is “A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce—What Can YOU Do?” The primary topic of discussion is accessible transportation and the impact it has on employment opportunities in Northwest Indiana. At the event, organizations and businesses will exhibit services and resources available for those with disabilities and their families. There will also be panel discussions as well as canine demonstrations and an adaptive technology presentation.

**Friday, Oct. 19**
**Healthy Relationship Forum**
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Bruce W. Bergland Auditorium, Savannah Center

The Gary Commission on the Status of Black Males and the ODP’s Brother-2-Brother mentoring group will conduct a forum for Gary students in grades 6-8. The students will attend workshops and discussions about interpersonal communication skills, reducing health risks, conflict management and building good moral character.

**Friday and Saturday, Oct. 26-27**
**Men and Women of Color Leadership Conference**
IU Bloomington campus
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sponsored by the IU Bloomington Office of Mentoring Services and Leadership Development, this annual conference provides an opportunity for the IU Northwest Brother-2-Brother group to experience the IU Bloomington campus and learn from a variety of speakers who will cover such topics as building cross-cultural partnerships, maintaining a moral compass, developing communication tools, branding oneself, and more.

**Diversity Advisory Council**

In an effort to re-evaluate the campus climate on diversity, the Diversity Advisory Council (DAC), formerly known as the Diversity Annual Report Committee, has been reorganized and revitalized.

Many of its functions have remained the same. However, the input, methodology and execution of these functions have been strengthened. The DAC will continue to serve as the primary author of the campus Diversity Annual Report, which is submitted to the IU Board of Trustees.

This document addresses concerns expressed by faculty, staff and students related to issues of diversity and inclusion, recruitment and retention of minority students, and the overall strategy for promoting cultural diversity campuswide.

New volunteers for DAC have been added and include faculty, staff and students in order to increase the breadth of input and the level of experience. Members of DAC serve for a two-year period.

The group meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month. If you would like to become an agent of change, working within a group that strives for campuswide inclusion, understanding and acceptance for all, please attend the next meeting, scheduled for 3 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 23 in the John W. Anderson Library Conference Center, Room 110.

For more information, contact the Office of Diversity Programming at (219) 980-6596.
Professor Charles Hobson develops parents’ guide to protect K-12 students from sexual predators

According to the U.S. Department of Education, more than 4.5 million students are subject to sexual misconduct by an employee of a school between kindergarten and 12th grade.

To help protect the millions of students who may be at risk, Charles Hobson, Ph.D., Professor of Management, recently developed a resource for parents.

Hobson has significant expertise in: organizational behavior; sexual harassment and health in the workplace; supervisory and human resources management; and team development and leadership.

The free resource for parents is available now.

English Version: Protecting your Children from K-12 Sexual Predators Masquerading as Teachers/Educators: Action Steps for Parents©

Spanish Version: Protegiendo a su Hijo de K-12 de Depredadores Sexuales que se Hacen Pasar Como Maestros o Educadores: Medidas de Acción para los Padres©

In the business of grilling

The School of Business and Economics held another successful annual BBQ in September to welcome the campus for the Fall 2012 semester. Folks lined up across the courtyard ready to enjoy the free lunch cooked up by SOBE faculty and staffers. Assistant Professor of Economics Micah Pollak, left, and Senior Lecturer James Thomas, run the grill. Main Office Secretary Eufemia “Femi” Carbajal, center, serves up the beverages.

Dedication, continued from page 3

Noticeably moved by the words of those who took the podium before him, Bates took his turn before the group with quiet admiration and gratitude.

“What I most appreciate about today,” Bates said, “is that it gives us -- his family -- a lasting legacy that we think Frank will very much appreciate.

“As those of you know who have lost someone close,” Bates said, “you actually spend every day thinking that this really didn’t happen, but when you see something like this, you actually know that it did and you have to deal with that reality. But I can also deal with the reality that he now has a classroom on this campus named for him, and I know that would thrill Frank. It is something that he fought for . . . and I just think it is an appropriate living memorial for his service.”

Caucci, who was a French-Canadian, is best described as a brilliant linguist who could speak, write and publish in four languages. He advocated for women’s rights as well as for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered individuals. He also played significant roles in faculty governance over the years, serving on the Executive Committee and Campus Promotion and Tenure Committee, where he played a large role in revising the promotion and tenure guidelines.

Other guests who expressed their respect and admiration for Caucci at the dedication included: Adrian Garcia, Ph.D., Chair and Associate Professor of Spanish, Department of Modern Languages; Ana Osan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Spanish; Caucci’s former student, Cara Logan, MSW; Mark Hoyert, Ph.D., Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Chancellor William J. Lowe; and Caucci’s son, Matthew Caucci.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 1-26
Morton C. Bradley, Jr. Art Exhibit

Oct. 11, 16, 22:
Screening of Presidential Debates

Oct. 5, 6, 7:
Gary International Black Film Festival

Oct. 12:
Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences

Oct. 15, 16, 23:
Blood Drives

Oct. 16:
Fall Preview Night

Oct. 17:
Disability Employment Awareness Conference

Oct. 22-25:
Big One-Dollar Book Sale

Oct. 24:
Admissions and Financial Aid Night at University Center in Portage

Oct. 25-26:
Fall 2012 Convocation

Nov. 1:
Lifelong Learning Seminar: Retirement Planning

Nov. 1-4 & 8-11:
Theatre Northwest’s Fall Production, “Eurydice”

Campus invited to picnic on Oct. 9 to plan future of Tamarack green space

In the spring of 2012, the campus community commemorated IU Northwest’s first building, Tamarack Hall, with the opening of a time capsule set into its cornerstone in 1958. This fall, we all have witnessed the final stages of restoration of the site left vacant by the storied building’s demolition.

Indiana University has determined that the former Tamarack site must be used as “green space” because it is a natural wetland and prone to flooding.

The Chancellor’s Office and an IU Northwest Council working group invite faculty, staff and students to participate in the planning for the future of this corner of the campus at a picnic from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 9 in the Moraine Student Center.

During the picnic, Melissa Grish and Kelly Clemens, two students from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), have been invited to present the green space proposal they developed as part of a class project. You can read more about their work in a feature story, and view their PowerPoint presentation, both on the IU Northwest website.

The schedule for the picnic follows:

11:30 a.m. – Welcome
Presentation by SPEA students
Q&A

Noon – Lunch begins. Voting on campus suggestions opens.

1 p.m – Additional welcome remarks
Presentation by SPEA students
Q&A

2:30 p.m. – Voting ends.

IU NORTHWEST COUNCIL WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

An Electronic Suggestion Box has been developed to encourage an open dialogue between the campus community and the IU Northwest Council, a group that meets regularly to discuss significant issues facing the Northwest campus.

You can access the Electronic Suggestion Box by:

• CLICKING HERE
• Under the ‘About IUN’ tab located on the IU Northwest homepage

Your ideas will be forwarded to the appropriate campus personnel for consideration.