The children of Bill and Justine Shaw recognized the couple’s 60th wedding anniversary by placing a wrought iron bench on the campus of Northwestern State University in their honor.

“Because of their strong commitment to both education and family and because this commitment has been expressed so often in connection with Northwestern, we thought it appropriate to recognize their 60th year of marriage, to be celebrated on April 15 with a memorial to that event placed permanently on the campus grounds,” said their son, Billy Shaw.

The couple’s connection to the university extends for multiple generations. Bill Shaw met Justine McMurry on the NSU campus as she was leaving freshman registration in the fall of 1952. It was not the first time they had met. Bill had been in the McMurry home in Winnfield as a guest of Justine’s older brother, James, who...
Volunteers needed for Folk Festival

The Louisiana Folklife Center needs many volunteers to help with the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival being held in Prather Coliseum on Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19. Hours are 4 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday. In return for 5 or more hours of volunteer work, volunteers will receive a festival t-shirt and free admission to all events.

For more information, visit louisianafolklife.nsula.edu or the Festival Facebook page at facebook.com/NSUFOLKLIFECENTER.

People … Continued from Page 1

Dr. Holly Stave, associate professor of English, presented a paper, “TRUE BLOOD and the Myth of the South” at the conference of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature in Arlington, Va., in late March. She also presented an extended version of that paper as a lecture in Scholars’ College April 17.

Volunteers can also contact Shelia Thompston at lockwoods@nsula.edu or Dr. Shane Rasmussen, director of the Louisiana Folklife Center, at 357-4332, rasmussens@nsula.edu or visit Kyser Hall Room 213.

People … Continued from Page 1

Dr. Gerra Perkins, associate professor in the Gallaspy College of Education, attended and presented at the 25th International Conference on College Teaching and Learning held March 24-28 in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. Perkins’ presentation, Service Learning: Incorporating Innovative Learning Strategies and Enhancing Communities, focused on the benefits of service learning for students, the university, and the community.

The bench honoring the Shaws is located next to Williamson Hall where Bill finished his career as head of the Department of Industrial Education. On the bench are their names and the dates of their wedding and 60th anniversary. “It is hoped that it will be, not only a commemoration of their lives and dedication to both the institutions of family and learning, but a reminder to all of their descendants who will, undoubtedly, populate this campus as students and employees of Northwestern State University,” Billy Shaw said.

“It is with their love, gratitude, and honor that all of the children and grandchildren of Bill and Justine offer to them this token of commemoration of their lives together.”

Northwestern State University students from the school’s Cenla campus in Alexandria participated in the Cenla Heart Walk March 8 where they volunteered at a health screening booth and took blood pressure measurements. Participants were Joe Hendrickson, Feleisha Wilson, Carltonette Griffin, Fatisha Oke, Angie Thomas, Tori Doyle, Katie Medica and Lisa Lee. NSU students, friends and family participated in the walk, which raised more than $130,000 for the American Heart Association, about 85 percent of which will stay in the local community.

Volunteers needed for Folk Festival

were both Northwestern students and members of ROTC who liked to hunt and fish together. Bill remembers that when he was first introduced to James’ kid sister, she seemed “like a nice high school girl” that he paid little attention. According to Justine, however, there was more to it on her part. She told her mother after one of Bill’s visits she had met the man she was going to marry.

On the day the two reconnected at Northwestern, the situation changed in Bill’s mind, too. Over the next two years of academics and college life, Bill and Justine were “an item” and on April 15, 1954, Justine’s prediction was proven correct. The two were married as Bill was about to graduate.

Since then, Northwestern has continued to play an important part in Bill and Justine’s life. Not only have multiple members of the McMurry and Shaw families attended and graduated from NSU, but both Bill and his older sister, Marie Shaw-Dunn, were members of the NSU faculty, each eventually serving as department heads until their retirements. Bill and Justine’s children, Billy and Bobby Shaw are both graduates of NSU, as is their daughter-in-law, Jennifer Shaw. Additionally, Billy and Jennifer, following in Bill Sr.’s footsteps, are both presently members of the Northwestern faculty. Bill and Justine’s grandchildren, Billy and Jennifer’s son, James, and daughter, Ava, currently attend Northwestern Elementary Lab School and the Marie Shaw-Dunn Child Development Center, respectively. In May of this year, their granddaughter, Grace Shaw, will graduate from NSU. Their granddaughter, Jeanette Shaw, is currently enrolled.

Shaw Bench … Continued from Page 1

People … Continued from Page 1

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Northwestern composer/musician presents original works

Dr. Samuel Stokes, instructor of music composition, is amid a series of premieres of original works. On March 30, Stokes’ setting of the poem “Whales Weep Not!” was performed by soprano Shannon Roberts with piano accompaniment by Yumi Suehiro at the Jan Hus Church in New York City. On April 13, clarinetist Thomas Piercy and guitarist Vilian Ivantchev premiered Stokes’ piece “Edo” on the Japan Perspective concert, which took place at the same venue. Stokes just finished directing his original children’s musical Beau the Amazing Blue Mouse on April 24 at the NSU Middle Lab School, which was played four times to a total of approximately 400 school children. Concurrently, three of Stokes’ works, “Gauntlet Down” (a fixed media work), “The Relentless Stowaway” (a piece for violin, cello, and drumset), and a jazz ensemble arrangement of Yoko Kanno’s “Tank!” were featured on the dance concert Still/Moving at the University of Central Missouri, April 24-26.

Upcoming premieres of Stokes’ work include the solo cello piece “Scion of Eisenach” to be premiered by Maksim Velichkin at The Brand Library & Art Center in Glendale, CA on May 4, and the spoken work piece “The Gospel According to Mammon” to be premiered by Viola Yip at the Jan Hus Church in New York City on May 11.

Northeastern State University freshmen Ashleigh Daniels of Marthaville and Benjamin Wright of Converse took a moment from studies in the Fleming and Jean D’Amato Thomas Reading Room at Watson Library to look over the “Wartime in Natchitoches Exhibit.” The panels explain the region’s role during the War Between the States as part of the city of Natchitoches’ year-long tricentennial celebration. The exhibit runs through July. Library hours are 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-noon Friday. The Reading Room is on the second floor.

Wartime Exhibition

NSU will participate in BPCC Spring Fling

In addition to food, balloons and giveaways, NSU faculty and administrators will be available to talk about programs offered at the university for students interested in completing degrees. The two schools have agreements in place that align NSU’s bachelor programs with associate degree programs at BPCC. These include programs in music, theatre, health and physical education, health and exercise science, computer information systems, radiologic sciences, general studies, nursing and allied health and other programs. Many BPCC graduates can transfer to NSU and take advantage of the university’s online degree programs.

For information on BPCC @ NSU, visit bpcc.nsula.edu.

Applications available for ADVANCE program

Northeastern State University will host the 26th summer session of the ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars June 8-28. ADVANCE is the only residential program for gifted youth in the state of Louisiana that is affiliated with Duke University’s Talent Identification Program (TIP).

ADVANCE is a three-week residential program that offers a challenging and rewarding curriculum for gifted and talented students entering grades eight through 12 next fall. ADVANCE provides a unique learning environment designed to motivate academically gifted students and set them on a path toward a lifetime of high academic achievement.

Minimum ACT or SAT scores must be met for admission or the student may enter through the Alternate Admissions Policy.

During the three-week program, students enroll in one intensive fast-paced course that normally covers an entire year’s worth of material in a semester of college level material. ADVANCE is offering 14 courses in computer sciences, humanities, mathematics, and the natural sciences.

The residential life portion of ADVANCE is an equally important aspect of the program, offering balanced leisure and cultural activities to complement the intensive academic curriculum. ADVANCE has built up a host of traditions and a strong community of staff and students that keep students returning year after year. The truly motivated student will enjoy a stimulating environment and a community of peers unlike any she or he has ever experienced, according to Dr. David Wood, director of ADVANCE.

“The ADVANCE Program offers a challenging and rewarding curriculum designed to broaden the horizons of the best students in the state and region,” said Wood. “We combine the desire to expand one’s intellect with the desire to spend summer break in the traditional way—having fun. Our high rate of returning students each summer reflects their success in both learning and having fun.”

Applications are now being accepted for qualified students. For further information visit advance.nsula.edu or call (318) 357-4500.

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Northwestern campus going all-tobacco-free Aug. 1

Northwestern State University will become a tobacco free campus effective August 1. The new policy will prohibit tobacco use on all Northwestern State campuses.

According to Vice President for University Affairs Marcus Jones, the policy will cover all interior spaces on Northwestern State’s Natchitoches campus and branch campuses, properties leased or operated by the university, all campus housing, indoor and outdoor athletic facilities, vehicles owned or leased by the university and personal vehicles on the Northwestern State campus whether they are moving or parked. The policy will apply to Northwestern State faculty, staff, students and visitors to campus including contracted personnel, contractors and vendors. The policy applies to all university events and events held in university facilities.

Northwestern State has had a smoke-free campus policy, which prohibits smoking within 25 feet of campus buildings and at outdoor athletic facilities.

Under Act 211 of the 2013 session of the Louisiana Legislature, all public post-secondary institutions in Louisiana are required to be smoke free. Each institution has the option to become tobacco free. The policy covers all tobacco derived or containing products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars and cigarillos, pipes, hookah-smoked products, oral tobacco and e-cigarettes.
International Chorale

The Northwestern State International Chorale will be traveling to Europe to present concerts in a variety of venues in Central Europe. The Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Burt Allen, Director of Choral Activities and assisted by Dr. Patrick Dill, Associate Director of Choral Activities will perform in Prague, Czech Republic, at St. Nicholas Church, Old Town, Bratislava, Slovakia, at the Bratislava State Conservatory, and Vienna at the Schönbrunn Palace Chapel, St. Stephen’s Cathedral, and St. Peter’s Church. These performances will take place the week of May 10-17. The Choir is made up of NSU students enrolled in the choral music program at Northwestern.

Aquatics will hold summer swim classes

Northwestern State University Aquatics will offer several swim classes this summer at the NSU Recreation Complex.

A lifeguard course will be offered May 6-16 that is open to the community for new certification and renewals. Individuals interested can e-mail Cindy Davis at nsureccomplex@gmail.com for an application and pertinent information.

The pool will open May 20. Hours of operation are 1-7 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Call (318) 357-6301 or e-mail nsureccomplex@gmail.com for membership information.

A parent/child swim program will be offered June 3-6 and June 10-13 from 11-11:45 a.m. and 6-6:45 p.m. for $40 per week. A two-week Junior Lifeguard Course will be June 17-20 and June 24-27 from 10 a.m.-noon for $100.

Learn to swim classes are $50 per week and will be offered at 9 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. June 3-6, June 20-13, June 17-20 and June 24-27. Classes are 50 minutes long. During the month of July, private lessons can be scheduled with an instructor for $75 per week.

Water exercise or fitness swim classes are Tuesday-Friday beginning June 3 and are $50 per month. Water exercise meets from 5:30-6:30 p.m. with an instructor. Fitness swim (lifeguard on duty, no instruction) is from 7-9 a.m. Tuesday-Friday.

For more information or to set up an appointment with the aquatics director, e-mail nsureccomplex@gmail.com.

Fishing Team luring in new members

A Northwestern State University club hopes to lure in prospective students interested in one of the fastest-growing collegiate team club sports. The NSU Fishing Team is open to all students and taps into the growing popularity of organized competitive bass fishing. The team will compete in FLW, B.A.S.S. and Collegiate Bass circuits.

“Fishing is becoming a huge sport for high school students and Northwestern State has an 11-member fishing team and tons of bass fishing around the area,” said Jana Lucky, director of University Recruiting.

“We want to be the choice for fisherman across Louisiana and out of state.”

The club is an opportunity for a student to get involved on a competitive level in a healthy and enjoyable lifetime sport. Juddy Hamous who works in Facility Services at NSU, is the club’s advisor. He got involved because his son Cain was part of a team at Natchitoches Central High School before enrolling at Northwestern. He said the waterways in and around Natchitoches make it a popular sportsman’s destination.

“Bass fishing has always been here and it’s being promoted heavily now by professional fisherman, by boat manufacturers and circuits. It used to be more for professionals but since it’s been targeted to youth, it has just exploded,” Hamous said. The NSU Fishing Team has 11 current members and although having a boat is not an absolute necessity, it is helpful. “We want NSU to be the place fishermen want to go after high school. We have good organization with lots of local kids from Natchitoches, Sabine and Grant parishes, who are familiar with local lakes and rivers.”

Johnny Ledet of Raceland is a business management major who has been fishing all his life and took up bass fishing at 14. He found out about the NSU Fishing Team through a Northwestern student and tested the waters.

“We want to be the choice for fisherman across Louisiana and out of state,” said Jana Lucky, director of University Recruiting.

With fishing growing like it is, we think it can really catch fire,” he said.

Hamous, who is also president of the Provencal Bass Club, the largest fishing club in Louisiana, said the sport is appealing because “you are competing against yourself and you are competing against the fish. It’s good clean fun.”

For more information on the NSU Fishing Team, email Hamous at juddyh@nsula.edu or call (318) 332-0565. Information is also available at recruiting.nsula.edu/fish.
The NSU Floral Fund sent a plant to the funeral service for Randle Fred Gandy, retired painter from the Physical Plant.

Children’s Theatre Camp will return this summer

Northwestern State University’s Department of Theatre and Dance will host it’s annual Summer theatre Camp July 30-Aug. 6 for youth ages 8-14. Classes will be from noon-5 p.m. daily, except for Sunday.

The cost is $180 per student or $150 for students with two or more siblings. Snacks will be provided. A $25 deposit is due July 9 with full payment due by the first day of camp.

Children’s show performances will be at 1 p.m. Aug. 7-9 in Theatre West. Admission to performances is $3.

For more information or to sign up, contact Jane Norman at 9318) 357-4483 or e-mail normanj@nsula.edu.

Summer Dinner Theatre dates announced

Northwestern State University’s Department of Theatre and Dance will present “Nunsense: A Musical Comedy” dinner theatre productions June 11-14 and June 18-21.

Northwestern State University’s Department of Theatre and Dance will also present “A Prom to Die For,” a comedy murder myster July 30-Aug. 2 and Aug. 6-9. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. Price and menu will be announced.

Sympathy

The NSU Floral Fund sent a plant to the funeral service for Randle Fred Gandy, retired painter from the Physical Plant.