

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LCC Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients Announced

Parsons, KS- Labette Community College announces that the 6th Annual Distinguished Alumni Award recipients for 2014 are: Bill Divine and Jim Orr. The Distinguished Alumni Award was developed by the Foundation and Alumni Association Board of Labette Community College to honor alumni of LCC that have proved to be successful individuals within their communities, careers, and families. The recipients for 2014 will be honored at a luncheon on May 9th, 2014, and at commencement that evening.

These two individuals are all alumni of LCC and have accomplished many great things in the years following their time at the college. The following biographies give insight to how they have made an impact on whom and whatever they are involved in and why they are deserving of this award.

William "Bill" Devine, a Ellicott City, Maryland resident, attended Labette Community College (formerly Parsons Junior College) in 1953. After LCC, Bill attended Pittsburg State University graduating in 1955 with a degree in political science.



After graduating Bill served in the United States Navy for nine years from 1955-64. In 1964 he resigned as Lieutenant Commander. Devine met and married his wife, Nancy Faidley, in 1958. Nancy's grandfather opened John W. Faidley Seafood Market in 1886. Faidley Seafood is one of the oldest and best-known seafood markets in the Chesapeake region. Bill began working at Faidley's in 1965 and has worked as a fish monger. Today, it is owned and operated by Bill and Nancy. In his words, Bill "does everything from sweeping floors to signing checks."

Community involvement and service has always been important to Bill. He held many offices including being the President of the Baltimore Navy League. He was also a Board Member to many organizations including the National Aquarium of Baltimore, Center Stage Baltimore, the Exchange Club in Baltimore, the National US Navy League, and the Maryland Waterman's Association.

Bill and Nancy have three daughters: Eva Devine, Danye Hahn, and Patricia Doetzer.

Jim Orr, Monett, MO, graduated from Parsons High School in 1961 and from Labette Community College with an Associate of Arts Degree in 1963. Transferring to Pittsburg State University, Orr received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education in 1965 and a Master of Science Degree in 1971. Orr married Vicki Riggs, also of Parsons and a graduate of Labette Community College (class of 1965) in June of 1966.

Orr began his career in education teaching one year in Wellington, KS. In 1966 he moved to Monett, MO, where he first served as an instructor, then became the assistant principal, and ultimately was hired as the Director of Monett Area Vocational School, which provided training for juniors and seniors from fourteen area high schools. From 1991 to 2001, he was employed by a new community college in Springfield, MO, Ozark Technical Community College, serving in several administrative positions. While there, he saw the enrollment of the new college grow from less than a thousand to almost 15,000 students.



During his career, Orr was appointed by Governor John Ashcroft to serve on the State Council of Vocational Education. Later, he was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Missouri Training and Employment Council. In addition, he was president of the National Council of Local Administrators, as well as the Missouri Council of Local Administrators, and served on the national board of directors for American Career and Technical Education. In April of 2004, Orr was elected mayor of the city of Monett. He is currently serving his third term as mayor.

In other community service, Orr is currently serving on the Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation Board, and the local Workforce Investment Board. In addition, he has served two terms as Elder of the First Presbyterian Church, and is presently serving as the disbursing treasurer. He served nine years on the Monett R-1 School Board, was president of the Monett Lions Club, was on the Board of Directors of the Monett Chamber of Commerce, and served as president of the Monett Community Teachers Association.

Orr has two daughters and four grandchildren.

For more information about the Distinguished Alumni Award or to nominate someone for next year, please contact, Lindi Forbes, Executive Director of Alumni and Foundation at LCC, at (620) 820-1212 or by e-mail at lindif@labette.edu.