

# Joy reaches out to those in Third World

By KEVIN ABOUREZK  
Lincoln Journal Star

In a place without clean drinking water, Stacey Renae Joy found her mission.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln sophomore had been working toward a degree in optometry but decided to change her major to engineering after seeing how few people had adequate drinking water in Guatemala.

"I wanted to be able to make a difference in situations like that," she said. "It just kind of broke my heart that people didn't have

clean water."

On Saturday, Dec. 17, the 22-year-old from Vermillion graduated from UNL with a Bachelor of Science in biological systems engineering.

Inspired by her visit to Guatemala in summer 2008, Joy plans to continue working in Third World-type communities at home and abroad.

She was in Guatemala as part of Sharing the Dream, a Vermillion-based nonprofit that promotes fair trade with cooperatives and small businesses in

Guatemala. The 10-day trip gave her a chance to visit Mayan artisans, as well as an orphanage and an elders' center, and exposed her to the extreme living conditions of people in the Third World.

"I just felt really called to do something about it," she said.

In summer 2010, she continued her tour of Third World communities. This time, however, she never left her home state. She worked for Indian Health Services, a federal agency that provides health care to Native people, in Pine Ridge. She surveyed land and helped decide whether homes or businesses on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation needed new septic tanks or wells.

She said nearly half of the Native people she encountered didn't have running water, and most lived in extreme poverty.

Dennis Schulte, a biological systems engineering professor at UNL, said Joy was one of a growing number of university students who travel abroad while studying.

"A lot of students today have a pretty deep desire to help other people, especially disadvantaged people from other countries," he said. I just think there's a tremendous amount of exposure



Stacey Joy demonstrates a bio sand filter in an environmental engineering laboratory at the Scott Engineering Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on Thursday, Dec. 15, 2011. Joy was a member of UNL's chapter of Engineers Without Borders, which taught people without access to clean water in Madagascar how to make, install and use the filters.

(Photo by Eric Gregory / Lincoln Journal Star)

(that students get) to the disadvantaged and the needs and the poverty that exist in other countries."

In late May and early June, Joy joined the UNL chapter of Engineers Without Borders for a three-week trip to Madagascar, where the group installed seven bio sand filters at five schools in Kianjavato, a town and commune on the country's east coast.

Bio sand filters are 3-foot-tall concrete pillars filled with sand and gravel and can filter as much as 100

liters of water every eight hours, Joy said.

She plans to return this spring with a UNL Engineers Without Borders team to install filters at two more schools, she said. Another UNL team will install solar-powered lights and ceiling fans at a school.

Libby Jones, a UNL civil engineering professor, traveled to Madagascar this summer with Joy.

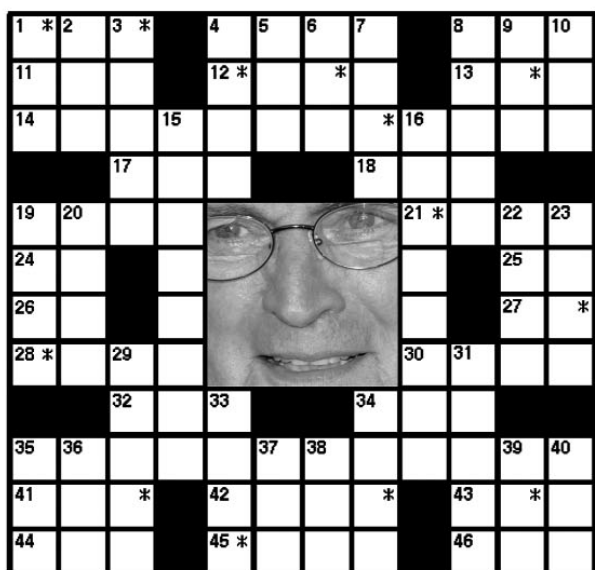
"She steps in whenever there's something that needs to be done," Jones said of Joy. "It doesn't matter how difficult it

is, how small it seems to be."

Joy has begun working on a master's degree at UNL in environmental engineering and expects to graduate in May 2013. After that, her future is uncertain, but she hopes to continue helping others through engineering.

"I want to go spend time in a developing nation," she said.

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The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

**ACROSS**

1. Role on "CSI: NY"
4. Actor George
8. \_\_\_ Wheaton
11. Courtney Cox's state of birth: abbr.
12. \_\_\_ of Fury"; Humphrey Bogart movie
13. "Ocean \_\_\_"; short-lived 2002-03 drama series
14. Role on "NCIS" (2)
17. Actress La Rue
18. "Semi-\_\_\_"; 2008 film for Will Ferrell
19. Scottish hillside
21. Mayberry resident
24. Prefix for vision or pay
25. Initials for Popeye's love
26. "\_\_\_ Education"; 2009 Carey Mulligan movie
27. Ms. Uggams' initials
28. \_\_\_ Moore
30. "Unhappily \_\_\_ After"
32. "One Day \_\_\_ Time"
34. Yogi's little pal, for short
35. "Friends \_\_\_"
41. "Joan of \_\_\_"; movie for Ingrid Bergman
42. "Resident \_\_\_: Extinction"; 2007 film
43. Felix, for one
44. Cheerleader's cry
45. Start of the title of a Howie Mandel show
46. Flightless bird

**DOWN**

1. Floor pad
2. Actress Larter
3. "Along \_\_\_ Spider"; Morgan Freeman film
4. Moreno, for one
5. Bit of sooty residue

6. "I'll \_\_\_ Away" (1991-93)
7. Fill-in employee, for short
8. "\_\_\_ Train" (1957-65)
9. "\_\_\_ Got a Secret"
10. Actor Marvin
15. "Crossing \_\_\_ John Edward"
16. "Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The \_\_\_ Life"; Angelina Jolie film
19. Actor Garrett
20. Actress Russo
22. Robert or Elizabeth
23. Word in the title of Josh Radnor's series
29. "\_\_\_ Game PM" (1975-81)
31. "Raise Your \_\_\_"; 2004 movie for Hilary Duff
33. Not up yet
34. "JAG" actress
35. "\_\_\_ of the Worlds"; 2005 Tom Cruise film
36. "Mad About You" role
37. Actress Plumb
38. Long or Peeples
39. Bagpiper's accessory
40. VW forerunners



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