

THE

ALUMNI MAGAZINE 2025-26

CONNECTION



SCOTTIE FLASHBACK: One year ago, the procession of the 45th Highland Community College Presidential Inauguration was held for Dr. Vincent Bowhay. To read more about the Inauguration, please see page 6.

H **HIGHLAND**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



SCOTTIE FLASHBACK: Since 1997, HCC has honored its Scottish roots with bagpipers leading graduates to the ceremony. This tradition blends heritage with celebration—and continues proudly today.



Roger Heard, the Buchanan Highlanders' bagpiper

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 Mike Todd '84
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* Some flashbacks throughout *The Connection* magazine are from the book "The History of Highland Community College" by Arlyn J. Parish and from student yearbooks.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I look back on the past academic year at Highland Community College, I'm filled with a deep sense of gratitude — and an even deeper sense of pride — in what we've accomplished together. In a time when higher education continues to evolve, when challenges seem to come faster than ever, our community stood firm. We stayed focused. We leaned on our values. And most importantly, we continued to open doors of opportunity for the students we serve.

One of the most meaningful examples of that work is the continued momentum of the Scottie Gold Initiative — a program that's doing more than just improving student retention. It's helping students feel seen, supported, and connected. It's showing us that when you invest in people — when you believe in their potential — the results speak for themselves.

This past year, Highland Community College was honored as an Opportunity College and University by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. That recognition — part of a new national effort to spotlight institutions that are leveling the playing field — affirms what we've long believed: that who you serve, and how you serve them, matters. Out of thousands of institutions across the country, only 16% were recognized with this distinction. And Highland was one of them.

We also welcomed new leaders who bring fresh energy and ideas. We renewed our commitment to thoughtful, student-centered growth. Our athletic teams brought home victories. Our clubs and student organizations earned regional honors. And across every campus and every classroom, our faculty continued to inspire through innovation and excellence.

Now, I've said before — and I'll say it again — Highland is more than a college. It's a community. A place where people come to learn, to grow, and to discover their purpose. I am proud of everyone featured in this edition of *The Connection*. And I'm just as proud of the many others who work each day, often behind the scenes, to make Highland a place where possibility lives.

As you read these pages, I hope you'll be reminded of what makes this place special. And I hope you'll be inspired to keep pushing forward — because our mission isn't done. Together, we can continue building a better future for the students and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vincent Bowhay". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

DR. VINCENT BOWHAY
President
Highland Community College





Lucas Hunziger, Lexi Clark, Dr. Jennifer Schiller, Dr. Vincent Bowhay, Andrew Gutschenritter, Eric Ketchum & Keith Jaloma

COLLEGE NEWS

NEW FACES IN LEADERSHIP

Dr. Jennifer Schiller, Executive Vice President Dr. Jennifer Schiller serves as executive vice president at Highland Community College, bringing over 15 years of experience as a faculty member and educational researcher focused on K-20 education and policy. She is dedicated to cultivating an environment where every student feels welcomed, valued and empowered to reach their full potential.

Dr. Schiller's leadership is marked by her ability to develop innovative, data-informed strategies that connect student success and retention initiatives with broader institutional goals. She places strong emphasis on aligning strategic planning and regulatory compliance with a deeply student-centered mission. Utilizing principles of change management, Dr. Schiller drives transformational efforts that are both impactful and sustainable. Her expertise in data governance ensures that key decisions are based on robust insights, advancing the holistic growth and academic excellence of Highland Community College.

Eric Ketchum, Vice President of Academic Affairs Eric Ketchum serves as vice president of academic affairs at Highland Community College, bringing more than 11 years of experience as a psychology instructor, complemented by seven years as a licensed school psychologist in Kansas K-12 schools. His extensive background enables him to address both the academic and emotional needs of students, fostering a well-rounded and supportive educational environment.

Ketchum holds dual bachelor's degrees in psychology and sociology from Kansas State University, along with a master's degree and an education specialist degree in school psychology from Emporia State University. His comprehensive understanding of psychology and education, paired with his leadership role, equips him to champion academic excellence while supporting student mental health and development. Eric's dedication enhances Highland's commitment to creating inclusive, student-focused learning experiences that prepare learners for success.

Lexy Clark, Dean of Students With a deep commitment to student success, Lexy Clark brings over a decade of experience in higher education, primarily at the community college level. Prior to this role, she has served in three other positions at Highland Community College. As the Human Resource Manager, she led strategic HR initiatives, oversaw compliance efforts, and played a key role in policy development and federal agreement implementation. As the Director of Advising and Student Success Center, she supported over 300 students annually and led innovative programs to enhance academic advising, disability services, and student engagement. Beginning her career in Student Support Services, she has consistently advocated for first-generation, low-income, and special needs students.

Ms. Clark holds a Master of Business Administration from West Texas A&M and is currently pursuing an Ed.D. in Leadership in Higher Education. She is HCC Alumni, class of 2012.

To read more about the rest of our leadership team visit highlandcc.edu/hcc-leadership



Dr. Vincent Bowhay speaking at Inauguration

DR. VINCENT BOWHAY, 45TH PRESIDENT OF HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The inauguration ceremony for Dr. Vincent Bowhay, Highland Community College's 45th president, was marked by tradition, music and a powerful call to leadership Friday, Sept. 27, 2024. Roger Heard, the Buchanan Highlanders bagpiper, opened the ceremony with a stirring performance of "Highland Cathedral" on the bagpipes. Leavenworth ROTC student color guard members led the way as Highland's leadership and special guests took the stage.

Key figures in the procession included Vice Presidents Andrew Gutschenritter (Vice President of Finance and Operations), Eric Ingmire (Vice President of Student Services), Eric Ketchum (Vice President of Academic Affairs), Lucas Hunziger (Vice President of Technical Education) and Keith Jaloma (Executive Director of the HCC Foundation). Also present were Carrie Miller and Shayna Leahy, officers of the HCC Faculty Association; Board of Trustees members, including Chairperson Thomas Smith, Vice Chairperson Jason Taylor and Trustees William N. Noll and Vernie Coy; special guests Dr. Seth Carter, President of Colby Community College, and Huascar Medina, Kansas Poet Laureate Emeritus; as well as HCC Foundation Board President Kim (Gormley) White '94 and Alumni Board President Jeni (Fee) Flach '06.

Keith Jaloma guided guests through the event as master of ceremonies. The HCC Lads & Lassies, directed by Shayna Leahy, performed a moving rendition of the "Star-Spangled Banner." Faculty members Carrie Miller and Shayna Leahy then reflected on HCC's proud legacy of excellence and the exciting journey ahead in shaping the institution's future.

Board of Trustees Chairperson Thomas Smith officially welcomed Dr. Bowhay, highlighting the significance of this new chapter in the College's rich history. He described Highland's legacy of academic excellence, innovation and service to the community. Smith, alongside Vice Chairperson Jason Taylor, presented Dr. Bowhay with the presidential medallion, symbolizing his new role.

Dr. Bowhay addressed the audience with an inspiring vision for HCC's future. His theme for the year—"Be a Light"—called on the community to shine in their purpose and to make a meaningful impact. "Highland Community College is a place where minds are molded and futures are forged, letting the light of knowledge illuminate the path ahead," he stated. Quoting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he reminded the audience, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that."

In his speech, President Bowhay elaborated on the importance of being a guiding light, saying, "In times of uncertainty, we do not waver. In moments of doubt, we do not falter. When others choose the easy path, we choose the path of purpose and principle." He emphasized that education is not just an end but a powerful force for good. "Each of us holds the capacity to shine, to inspire and to uplift," he added, urging the HCC community to embrace their role in shaping the future.

The ceremony also featured a poem titled "Emitting," written and performed by Huascar Medina in honor of Dr. Bowhay's inauguration. The event concluded with the HCC Lads & Lassies leading the audience in singing the HCC Alma Mater, with alumni proudly standing joining in.

Following the ceremony, President Bowhay led the recessional to the HCC Library, where a reception was held in his honor.

Highland Community College proudly welcomes and congratulates Dr. Vincent Bowhay as HCC's 45th president, whose leadership and vision will guide the institution into a bright and promising future.

CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATIONS DESIGNATES HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS OPPORTUNITY COLLEGE

Highland Community College has been nationally recognized as an "Opportunity College" by the Carnegie Classifications, highlighting its commitment to student success and long-term economic mobility.

This designation is part of the new Student Access and Earnings Classification from the Carnegie Foundation and the American Council on Education. It evaluates how well colleges serve their communities and improve students' earnings compared to local peers. HCC is

among 479 institutions—about 16% of U.S. colleges and universities—recognized in 2025.

“This designation reflects our mission to support students from all backgrounds in achieving real-world success,” said Dr. Vincent Bowhay, HCC President.

The full methodology and list of recognized institutions are available through the Carnegie Classifications of Higher Education.

BUILDING THE FUTURE: HCC INVESTS IN TECHNOLOGY TO EMPOWER LEARNERS AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY

Highland Community College is making transformative technology and data system investments to enhance efficiency, elevate the learning experience and strengthen our commitment to learner success and well-being:

New Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System – A secure, integrated platform with enhanced degree planning, analytics and communication tools to better serve learners, faculty and staff.

New Interactive Website – A central hub for events, resources and engagement, making it easier for learners and the community to connect.

Keyless Door Technology – Safer, more seamless campus access.

TimelyCare – 24/7 mental, physical and emotional health support for learners.

Element451 CRM – HCC’s first customer relationship management platform, strengthening communication and strategic enrollment planning.

“These projects represent a major step forward for HCC, and I’m grateful to Director of Information Technology, Marc Jean, and his outstanding IT team, as well as our dedicated faculty and staff, for their hard work to ensure successful outcomes for our learners,” said Dr. Jennifer Schiller, Executive Vice President of HCC. “Together, we’re building a stronger, more connected community—now and for the future.”

HCC CELEBRATES FIRST SCOTTIE GOLD INITIATIVE GRADUATES; SECOND COHORT ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN

Highland Community College is proud to celebrate a remarkable milestone—the graduation of the first Scottie Gold Initiative cohort. Seven determined Scotties crossed the finish line this spring, earning their Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degrees. Designed to help former students return, reconnect and achieve their academic dreams, the Scottie Gold Initiative is for students to return and enroll in up to 12 credit hours tuition-free, one-on-one advising and a streamlined re-enrollment process.

“These graduates embody the resilience, commitment and community spirit that define Highland,” said Dr. Jennifer Schiller, Executive Vice President. “Their accomplishments remind us that it is never too late to fin-

ish what you started.”

With this success as inspiration, HCC is excited to welcome the second Scottie Gold cohort, now open for enrollment. Former Scotties who meet the program’s eligibility requirements are encouraged to take this opportunity to complete their degree, strengthen their connection to the HCC family and join the growing network of alumni making a difference in their communities.



A FOND FAREWELL AFTER 29 YEARS

After 29 years of dedicated service to Highland Community College, Alice Hamilton retired from her role as HCC Registrar. Throughout her career, Alice guided generations of students and families with care and expertise. Her wisdom and wit will be deeply missed on campus. We wish Alice the very best as she begins this new chapter in retirement!

COLLEGE AWARDED FIVE-YEAR TRIO/LEARNER SUPPORT SERVICES GRANT

Highland Community College has been awarded a five-year TRIO/Student Support Services Grant—bringing expanded academic advising, one-on-one tutoring and career readiness programs to learners across all HCC locations.

“This grant is an investment in our learners’ futures,” said Dr. Jennifer Schiller, Executive Vice President of HCC. “By combining TRIO resources with the work of our Student Success Center, we can ensure every learner has the support to achieve their dreams.”

Under the leadership of Amber Hutfles, HCC Student Support Services director, and Lexy Clark, dean of students, TRIO will partner with HCC’s Student Success Center to deliver personalized success plans—helping Scotties persist, graduate and make a lasting impact in their communities. This award reflects HCC’s deep commitment to learner success—a value embraced by alumni and friends for generations.

SCOTTIE FLASHBACK: Maureen Glennon was hired as the first director of Highland Community College’s Student Support Services (SSS) around 1995, when the college was first awarded the grant. That means the SSS program is now approaching its 30-year anniversary!

TECHNICAL NEWS



HCC WESTERN CENTER LEADERSHIP SHARES STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGIES AT REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CONFERENCES

Cara Baker, former Director of the Highland Community College Western Center and Stacey Jones, current HCC Western Center Director, have taken their expertise on the road—presenting innovative strategies for student support at multiple regional and national conferences throughout the year.

Their presentation, which focuses on recognizing and supporting students with diverse learning needs, has been featured at several major education events, including the Kansas Annual CTE Conference in Manhattan, Kansas; the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Region IV Conference in Oklahoma City; the Kansas Higher Education Professionals (KHEP) Student Success Symposium at Bethany College; the Innovative School Summit National Conference in Las Vegas; the Kansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (KACRAO) Conference in September and the Kansas Associate of School Boards (KASB) Convention in November.

Designed for educators and administrators across K-12, higher education and career and technical education (CTE), the presentation explores how to better support students who may struggle with traditional academic approaches but thrive in hands-on, technical learning environments.

“Not all students learn the same way,” said Jones. “Recognizing those differences and using intentional strategies to support executive function and engagement can transform how students perform and persist.”

Baker and Jones delve into brain development, executive function deficiencies and practical tools to build

student capacity in these areas. The session equips participants to identify challenges students may face, apply supportive accommodations and leverage students’ strengths to promote long-term academic and personal success.

Attendees gain hands-on strategies to create inclusive and empowering learning environments that help all students, especially those in technical education, reach their full potential.

Their work continues to receive strong interest across multiple educational sectors, reinforcing Highland Community College’s commitment to innovation, student-centered learning and educator development.

HCC AUTO TECH GRADUATE RETURNS AS INSTRUCTOR AT LEAVENWORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Highland Community College welcomed Braden Grossman as the new Automotive Technology instructor at Leavenworth High School in October 2024. Braden is a proud graduate of HCC’s Auto Tech program and went on to earn his bachelor’s degree from Pittsburg State University. Coming to us from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), Braden is returning to HCC—this time as an instructor—after gaining valuable industry experience. He brings a wealth of real-world knowledge and a passion for automotive education to his new role.

TIM HOUSH CELEBRATES 45 YEARS OF SERVICE TO EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

Highland Community College celebrates Tim Housh’s 45 years of dedicated service to the community and education. Tim began his career with Atchison USD 409 in 1979 before moving to the Northeast Kansas Technical Center in July 2003 as maintenance supervisor. He continued in this role through the merger with HCC in 2008 and has since remained a vital part of the team, contributing to the college’s ongoing growth and success.





HCC Western Center instructor demonstrates welding on the newly donated equipment.

LANDOLL'S INCREDIBLE GIFT TO HCC WELDING

Don Landoll has grown his company to be a leader in innovative design, world-class manufacturing and marketing of quality products and services for agriculture, transportation, material handling, original equipment manufacturing (OEM) and government industries around the world. Since 1963, the Landoll entrepreneurial spirit and business principles including diversification, vertical integration and customer satisfaction have led to substantial growth.

In the past 18 months, Landoll Company has hired seven certificate welding graduates from the HCC Western Center in Baileyville. Scott Kneifl, Western Center welding instructor, suggested a visit to Don Landoll to thank him for his continued support of the program. The visit included a video of the history of Landoll Company then a personal tour of a few of Don Landoll's most high-tech facilities in Maryville, Kansas. Don knew each employee by name as he walked from building to building as well as where each part was in its process and where the product was being shipped. Landoll Company had the largest automated laser tube cutter in North America and is quickly migrating to robotics.

With Landoll Company growing and hiring additional welders from Highland's Industrial Welding Program, Don Landoll was willing to invest in HCCs quality program and excellent instructors. Highland looks forward to a robust partnership with this great company.



Keith Jaloma, Mike Womochil, Scott Kneifl & Joe O'Rielly

Keith Jaloma joins Mike Womochil from Matheson Gas, Scott Kneifl and Joe O'Rielly, HCC Western Center welding instructors, to receive two new Miller welders generously donated by Don Landoll and the Landoll Company.

SCOTTIE ATHLETICS



LETTER FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Hello Scottie Family!

The 2024-25 school year was bittersweet for Scottie Athletics. While we mourned the passing of former student-athlete, coach, Athletic Director and friend Greg Delzeit, we also witnessed a memorable year of excitement, energy and significant accomplishments for some of our athletic programs.

The Scottie football team spent six straight weeks in the NJCAA National Rankings, with the highest ranking in school history at #8. It was great to see Scottie volleyball return to National and Regional prominence. The Lady Scotties finished with a 26-11 overall record and berth in the Region VI Tournament. We also saw the return of Scottie women's soccer after a three-year hiatus. The Scottie women's basketball team, ranked in every National poll during the season, finished with a 28-6 overall record and 10-4 in conference play. They captured their fourth Region VI championship in school history and advanced to the NJCAA Division II National Championship for the fourth time. The Scottie track and field teams produced one relay and three individual All-Americans in both the indoor and outdoor seasons and set an outstanding 12 new school records.

In the classroom, HCC Athletics produced 23 First-Team, 10 Second-Team, and 25 Third-Team NJCAA Academic All-Americans last year. We also had 59 student-athletes named to the KJCCC Academic All-Conference Team in 2024-25.

The 2025-26 school year looks as promising as ever for Scottie Athletics. We are hoping to bring Power Lifting to HCC as a club level program for the 2026-27 school year. I would like to invite all Scottie alumni and friends to attend an HCC athletic event.

All of our Scottie athletic schedules may be found at scottieathletics.com. If you are unable to attend a game in-person, you can stream it live at scottieathletics.com/watchlive.

Go Scotties!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerre Cole".

JERRE COLE '91
Athletic Director
Highland Community College





Scottie Head Coaching Staff

MEET OUR SCOTTIE HEAD COACHES

With a new athletic season on the horizon, Highland is proud to spotlight the dedicated leaders guiding our student-athletes — the Scottie head coaches. Their passion, experience and commitment to excellence are the foundation of our athletic programs, and we're excited for what lies ahead under their leadership.

In the front row of the photo, from left to right, are Jeremy Winzer (Cross Country), Andrea Keller (Volleyball), Samantha Moran (Softball) and Tana Coleman (Women's Basketball). Standing behind them, also from left to right, are Tyler Delong (Baseball), Derrick Young (Track & Field), Thomas Minnick (Football), Jon Oler (Men's Basketball) and Jordan Maska (Women's Soccer).

Together, these coaches form the backbone of Scottie athletics. Their impact goes far beyond game days — they are mentors, motivators and role models. As the year begins, we look forward to seeing our teams grow and compete under their guidance. From early morning practices to the final whistle of championship games, there's no doubt: great things are ahead.

We're proud of our coaches, proud of our student-athletes and proud to be Scotties. Let the season begin!

IMPROVEMENTS AT WALTERS WELLNESS CENTER

The Walters Wellness Center saw some much-needed upgrades this year, made possible by the generosity of Bill '57 and Barbara Walters. In 2010, the couple established an endowed maintenance fund dedicated to the center's ongoing care—an investment that continues to benefit the campus and community.

In the gym, the 20-year-old volleyball system had seen better days. With parts breaking down and the structure becoming unstable, it was literally falling apart. Thanks to the maintenance fund, a brand-new system has now taken its place, ensuring both performance and safety for student-athletes.

The batting cage nets had seen their fair share of swings over the years. With constant use, they had worn down once again and were ready for replacement. Like the volleyball system, they had simply reached the end of their run and needed an upgrade.

Because of the Walters' foresight and commitment, these crucial upgrades were made without delay—helping ensure that student-athletes can train and compete in safe, reliable facilities.

SCOTTIE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL MAKES HISTORIC RUN TO NATIONALS

In the history of Highland Community College women's basketball, there are few players who have delivered a level of dominance as consistently as Cameron McNamara. She earned six KJCCC Player of the Week honors and added a nod at the national level after picking up HCC's first triple-double (26 pts, 11 reb., 10 stl v. Neosho County) against varsity competition. McNamara was the second Scottie to break the 1,000 career-point plateau and graduated with the single-season record for free-throw percentage.

McNamara also delivered a return trip to the NJCAA Division II National Championship for the Scotties, as the Jayhawk Conference Player of the Year, alongside Lucky Hull and Madison Brittle, helped HCC earn back-to-back upset wins over Johnson County and Allen County to capture the NJCAA Plains District Tournament title. The Scotties shook off a tough first-round loss against Mesa Community College to defeat Rock Valley College 68-55, finishing with a 1-2 record in Joplin.

Highland will open the 2025-26 season with the HCC Scottie Classic on Oct. 31, hosting Central Community College.

POWERLIFTING POWERS UP AT HCC

Powerlifting is coming to Highland Community College! The new offering, scheduled to begin in fall 2026, will be a club sport under the HCC athletic department. The Highland Community College powerlifting program allows male and female student-athletes to grow stronger, both physically and mentally. Coaches teach student-athletes how to properly lift weights for various exercises that benefit the squat, bench and deadlift. Powerlifting at HCC is a great way to continue an athletic career at the college level.

HCC WELCOMES NEW HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

On Friday, Nov. 15, 2024, Tom Bond and Francis Flax were officially inducted into the Highland Community College Athletic Hall of Fame during a special ceremony at the Klinefelter Barn. Guests enjoyed Highland wine and hors d'oeuvres before the program, while old friends and former student-athletes reconnected, sharing stories and memories from their time at HCC. *To view the full list of Hall of Fame members or to submit a nomination, visit scottieathletics.com/halloffame.*

SCOTTIE FLASHBACK: Beginning in 1997, the HCC Athletic Hall of Fame was established for the purpose of recognizing and honoring former student athletes, coaches, faculty, staff, athletic teams and special contributors whose accomplishments have brought prestige, honor and/or support to Highland Community College's athletics.

FOUNDATION NEWS



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alumni and Friends,

Leadership from the new administration has created a resurgence of energy and positivity. This will be the best year of fundraising since 2019-20 with over \$1 million raised in cash, pledges and gifts-in-kind. This year also marked a milestone for the HCC Foundation reaching an all-time high of \$7,534,610 total net assets as of July 30, 2025.

The inaugural Beulah Gilmore Memorial Hall opens this fall, featuring vintage cars, tractors, pedal toys, artwork, woodwork and memorabilia. Thanks to Larry Gilmore '57, the College and community will have access to this treasure.

Seven new endowed scholarships were started this year including a full-ride welding scholarship by Lynn Johnson. An endowed scholarship may be created with a minimum gift of \$10,000 in memory of family members or to support a favorite program.

The next steps for HCC have been put on paper and have already begun with the renovation of the Irvin Hall bell tower. This Facility Master Plan has taken shape after 200+ faculty, staff, alumni and community members came together to provide input.

For the next two years your gifts to Highland will garner you a 60% Kansas Tax Credit Certificate on your gift amount. Instead of sending your state income tax, corporate tax or other state taxes to Topeka, make a gift to the HCC Foundation and you will be directing your Kansas tax dollars where you know it is making a positive impact in our community.

HCC continues to honor the lasting contributions of alumni, faculty, coaches, friends and partners whose dedication and support have shaped Scottie Nation. We invite you to continue to be a part of our story.

Your gifts made using the tax credits can be used by the College to fund much-needed maintenance, renovations and technology. You will also be keeping your HCC legacy alive and enable future students to follow in your footsteps.

Gratefully,

KEITH JALOMA
Executive Director
Highland Community College Foundation





Vintage cars, tractors and pedal toys in Beulah Gilmore Hall.

A NEW TREASURE IN HIGHLAND: BEULAH GILMORE MEMORIAL HALL

Just north of town, near the Clifford Hawk Agricultural Facility, something special is taking shape—a place where history, craftsmanship and community come together.

Opening this fall, the inaugural Beulah Gilmore Hall will feature an impressive collection of vintage cars, classic tractors and charming toy pedal cars. Inside, visitors will also discover artwork, handcrafted woodwork, collectibles, keepsakes and memorabilia—each piece telling a story, each display a window into the past.

This unique museum is a gift from Larry Gilmore '57, whose generosity has made it possible for both the College and the wider community to enjoy this remarkable space. His vision honors tradition, celebrates curiosity and invites visitors of all ages to step back in time.

NEW ESPORTS SCHOLARSHIP POWERED BY RAINBOW COMMUNICATIONS

With the help of Angie Crider and Julie Bergman from Rainbow Communications, Highland Community College's esports program now has an endowed scholarship to support local students who compete on the team. This scholarship will help provide financial assistance to students passionate about esports as they pursue their education.

Rainbow Communications has been a key sponsor since 2020, demonstrating a strong commitment to the growth and success of HCC's esports community. Their ongoing support helps ensure students have opportunities both on the screen and in the classroom.

GERALD MICHAEL WEIDLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Gerald Michael Weidler Memorial Scholarship was established through the HCC Foundation because of the generosity shown by Lynnea Johnson, PhD to support students enrolled in the welding technology program at HCC's Technical Center in Atchison. Gerald loved nature, podcasts and gaming—especially Magic.

Gerald left this earth June 10, 2024.

Johnson reflected, "I remember one day he called me to say that he had been accepted into HCCTC's welding program. This was the happiest I had known Gerry to be in many years. Throughout his welding program he would talk about what he was learning and how proud he was of his developing skills. Other family members and I commented on how dramatic a change Gerry had made. He was happy with his life and the direction he was headed due to his new welding skills. The Tech Center's welding program accepted Gerry for who he was. This helped him to thrive as a person and a welder. It is also why it was so obvious to me that Gerry's legacy should be to allow others to benefit from the same program that he enjoyed and benefitted from."

HERITAGE SOCIETY INDUCTS ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

The Heritage Society recognizes the generosity of alumni and friends who have made provision in their estate plans to support the ongoing and future needs of the College. Laura (Corder) Bond '71, Jeff and Kathi (Robertson) Vandel '85, Dr. Robert and Karen Corder, Gene and Judy Bauer and John '61 and Ruth Atwater were inducted into this prestigious society Saturday, April 26, 2025 with a ceremony and reception in the Walter Yost Gallery in Highland.

A LEGACY OF GUIDANCE AND GIVING: LORENZ HALL

Rex '58 and Wanda '58 Lorenz left a lasting mark on both Highland and the College—not only through their time as students, but through decades of quiet leadership and service.

Wanda served as an HCC women's residence hall director for five years, guiding young women through their college years with care and steady wisdom, all while maintaining a respectful and supportive community. At the same time, Rex was shaping lives in town—teaching at Highland High School, leading Boy Scouts and mentoring countless young men who looked up to him.

Their lives were a testament to the power of being present and providing purposeful guidance in the lives of others.

Now, through a generous gift from Rex and Wanda, that legacy continues. Sunflower residence hall has been beautifully renovated and renamed Lorenz Hall in their honor—a fitting tribute to two individuals who helped shape Highland's past and are now helping shape its future.

SCOTTIE FLASHBACK: In 1869, the first girls' dormitory was built with the generosity of a young Native American girl, Sophie Rubeti, who grew up at Father Irvin's mission after both her parents died. Before her death, Sophie gave half of her money, \$100, to Highland University and the remaining "to teaching children about Jesus." The dormitory was named Rubeti Hall. It was originally located where the Culbertson Auditorium is now.

VISION OF THE FUTURE

ABOUT THE VISION OF THE FUTURE

The Vision for The Future Campaign began in 2016, and with the help of these donors has raised over \$9 million in cash, pledges, estate gifts and gifts-in-kind. These donors have created an immediate impact on student lives, increased community development, improved educational facilities at regional sites and provided additional scholarships for students in need.

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Tim, Casey and Jessie Coder

ALUMNI NEWS

THE CODER FAMILY'S DIESEL JOURNEY FROM CLASSROOM TO SHOP FLOOR

Growing up, Casey Coder worked for his father's harvest company, where he saw firsthand the constant need for a reliable diesel mechanic. Recognizing the opportunity to fill that need, Casey enrolled in the Diesel Technology program at the Technical Center in Atchison as a junior in high school. He used state funding, which covers the cost of technical education for high school juniors and seniors in Kansas. After high school, he continued his training and earned his diesel certificate, graduating in 2019.

Following graduation, Casey spent a year working at a local diesel shop to gain more hands-on experience. In 2021, he and his father, Tim Coder, decided to take a leap and open their own business. They purchased an empty grocery store building in Atchison, and transformed it into a full-service diesel parts and repair center. That shop became Redline Parts & Service.

The business quickly grew, and in 2025, Casey's younger brother, Jessie, graduated from the HCC Diesel Technology program and joined the team. Now a true family

business, Redline is continuing to expand and is even looking at HCC diesel program students for potential hires. Redline Parts & Service serves a wide region, reaching customers as far as Texas, Minnesota and Colorado.

Casey is now exploring new areas for growth, including custom chrome work and old-school diesel restoration projects. Tim says he's "pretty happy with the business" and proudly notes that "the boys are hard workers." Casey, in turn, values his dad's quiet partnership and steady support as the business continues to grow.

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE: HCC ALUMNI AWARDS

The Highland Community College Alumni Association proudly recognizes alumni and friends who have contributed their time, talent, service and volunteerism to support the College and its community. Each year, the Association invites nominations for awards that honor these exceptional efforts.

The Distinguished Service Award celebrates alumni who have made significant contributions through service and volunteerism. The Distinguished Alumni Award

honors those who have demonstrated outstanding personal and professional achievements, supported the College and community, and brought honor to HCC.

The Employee Appreciation Award recognizes faculty and staff for exceptional service to the College.

The Young Alum Award highlights one male and one female graduate who completed their studies at least ten years ago, selected for their professional success, community involvement, and notable achievements.

The Honorary Scottie Award honors a Friend of the College who has generously given their time and talents to HCC.

2026 nominations are open now, and the Alumni Association encourages everyone to recognize those who have made a meaningful impact at Highland Community College. To submit a nomination, please visit highlandcc.edu/alumniawards



Thelma (Schmitz) Strathman '83, Brenda (Aue) Shroyer '80, Gwen (Pederson) Denton '81, Sharon (Engler) Mulder '81, Marla (Jones) Olson '75, Eileen (Hutfles) Gronniger '79, Andrea (Collins) Keller '01

SERVING UP MEMORIES: 50 YEARS OF SCOTTIE VOLLEYBALL

Highland Community College celebrated 50-years of Scottie Volleyball Aug. 9! Former players and coaches returned to Ben Allen Field House to reminisce, cheer on this year's team during an inter-squad scrimmage and even hit the court themselves in an alumni match. The celebration continued with lunch at Kirkwood & Co. Table & Tap, where old friends caught up and shared memories. We're grateful to our volleyball alumni for coming back to celebrate this milestone—once a Scottie, always a Scottie!

Following the directive of Title IX, intercollegiate volleyball was added at the College in 1974 and began competition in the fall of 1975. College President Dr. Jack Nutt asked physical education instructor Glenna Batchelder to assume the duties of coaching HCC's volleyball team. Glenna's teams received many NJCAA awards, including advancements to the NJCAA National Tournament and the Number One Academic Team of the Year. Her influence marked the beginning of a HCC volleyball tradition that continues today.

HCC WELCOMES CLASS OF 1974 FOR 50-YEAR REUNION

On Oct. 12, 2024, HCC proudly welcomed back the Class of 1974 for their 50-year reunion celebration.

The day began with classmates gathering in the HCC Library, where they shared stories, rekindled friendships and reflected on their time at Highland. Former HCC President David Reist then guided the group on a special campus tour, pointing out the many new buildings and campus updates that have transformed Highland since their student days.

The celebration continued at Kirkwood & Co. Table & Tap in Highland, where alumni enjoyed lunch accompanied by a performance from the HCC Lads & Lassies. During the luncheon, current HCC President Dr. Vincent Bowhay shared updates on exciting new initiatives and upcoming campus projects, while Keith Jaloma, Executive Director of the HCC Foundation, provided information about the Heritage Society and ways alumni can remain connected to the College's mission.

To conclude the day, the "Golden Grads" were honored with a special reception in the Barber Room at Porter Family Stadium. There, they cheered on the Scottie football team as Highland took on Butler Community College, capping off a day filled with memories, fellowship and Scottie pride.

A FRESH START FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OFFICE

Neither rain, mold nor falling plaster could stop the Advancement Office from performing their required tasks.

For years, the Advancement Office made the most of a space that had clearly seen better days. While the work never stopped, the environment left much to be desired—with signs of wear and occasional leaks.

Thanks to the generous support of Roger '70 and Joyce Rush, Nancy and Charlie '68 Batchelder and Mike '74 and Debbie Hundley, the office has been fully renovated and reimaged. The result is a brighter, more welcoming space that better reflects the energy and purpose of the work done each day.

In recognition of their generosity, each donor family now has their name on one of the renovated offices—a lasting thank you for their belief in our mission.

We hope you'll stop by soon to see the transformation and say hello to the Alumni and Foundation staff. We're proud of our new space on the second floor of the David Reist Admin Building and are excited to share it with you.

SCOTTIE FLASHBACK: In 1903, the Alumni Association purchased the J.F. Shield house for \$2250. The "Alumni Hall" was then given to the College as the president's home. President John Howe and his family were living in the home when it was destroyed by a fire on Jan. 1, 1928.

ALUMNI NOTES

1960s



Cindy Tilson Rogers '66 photo from her reign as Miss Miracle City was recently featured on the Atchison Historical Society website. Cindy is a member of the Highland Community College Foundation Heritage Society and is sponsoring a family scholarship.

1970s



Steve Reichle '70 and his wife, Donna, traveled to Dublin, Ireland, to watch Kansas State play Iowa State. Steve was glad to wear HCC gear to show his Scottie pride. Steve is the Vice President of the HCC Foundation.

Dwight Neibling '77 was inducted into the Kansas Collegiate Officials Hall of Fame in March 2025.



Mark Rounds '78 was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Award that celebrates those who lead with humility and heart. Mr. Rounds is a member of the HCC Board of Trustees.

1980s



Brenda (Dickinson) McNary '82 and **Mike McNary '83**. Brenda was honored for her 40-years as an FBLA Sponsor. Brenda is a teacher at Hayden High School in Topeka and serves as secretary on the HCC Alumni Board.



Kevin Lunsford '84 is principal of St. Benedict School in Atchison,

KS, which was named the Catholic Education Foundation Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann School of Excellence in September 2024.



Rod Stottlemire '85 was named the Kansas State Granger Teacher of the Year for 2024. Rod has been a teacher at Oskaloosa High School for 25-years.

Marla (Rockhold) Taylor '89 retired from USD 111 Doniphan West after 31-years of teaching.

1990s

Michel (Kasl) Scott '91 began a new job as HCC Registrar in July 2025.

Sergeant Brett Kelley '98 retired from the St. Joseph Police Department in April 2025 after a 24-year career.

Kristi (Kelley) Blevins '99 graduated from FHSU in December 2024 with a Bachelor of General Studies with an emphasis in Communication Studies and Psychological Studies. Kristi is the Director of Financial Aid on the HCC campus.

2000s

Sarah (Gilfillan) Windmeyer '01 began a new job in March 2025 as the CFO of Nemaha Valley Community Hospital in Seneca, KS.

Julianne (Blevins) Wilson '02 began working as a Financial Aid Specialist at HCC in April of 2025.



Lacy Bergman '03 was featured in the KSNT “Everything Woman” segment in January 2025 for her philanthropic work as the vice-chair of the Baileyville Benefit Board in Baileyville, KS as well as her work with Seneca’s Mainstreet Activities in Seneca, KS.



Shannon (Davis) Wiedmer '04 was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Award by Highland Community College. Shannon is the Bookstore Manager on the HCC campus.

Morgan (Twombly) Johnson '08 and **Jay Johnson '07** welcomed Lainey Mae on December 20, 2024.

Lynnette Fischer '09 married Preston Callow on October 12, 2024.

2010s

Brittany (Schmitz) Umana '10 and Cyril Umana welcomed Elsie Lorraine Ime on January 4, 2025.

Nicole Diveley '10 and Brandon Keller welcomed Wrenley Loagan on February 26, 2025.

Mackenzie (Clary) Rosa '13 and Eric Rosa welcomed Audrey Michelle on January 18, 2025.

Mackenzie Cunningham '13 and Michael Muraski welcomed Colson

Brant on February 6, 2025.



Thaina Dos Santos Jensen '15 was named TK Business Magazine “20 Under 40” in November 2024. Dos Santos Jensen is an acute care registered nurse at Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka, KS.

Maddi (Libel) Wilkison '15 and Reese Wilkeson welcomed Emmett Kay on February 7, 2025.

Katylin (Blevins) Lee '15 and **Zach Lee '11** welcomed Anastyn Michelle on October 21, 2024.

Kassiday (Blevins) Stanton '15 and Zach Stanton welcomed Jordyn Joan on December 10, 2024.

McKayla (Brezina) Cluck '15 and Bryson Cluck welcomed Rallee Kay on April 10, 2025.

Emily Franken '15 married Ben Teter on November 23, 2024.

Krista Wilgers '15 began a new job in October 2024 teaching English in South Korea.

Mackenzie Brewer '17 married **Brandon Leach '12** on October 26, 2024.

Kayla Cook '17 began a new job at the Chicago Public Library in December 2024.

Macee (Scott) Winkel '16 and **Caleb Winkel '16** welcomed Whitt Hays on November 25, 2024.

Michaela Serrioz '16 and Austin Valcoure welcomed Baron Edward on April 2, 2025.

Elizabeth (Belter) Cluck '17 and Brandon Cluck welcomed Holden Jace on August 19, 2024.

Brianna Cluck '18 welcomed Wailyn Jo on October 30, 2024.

Austin Taylor '18 married Laura

Robertson on February 1, 2025.

Jaime Albers '19 married Andrew Sweeney on May 10, 2025.

2020s

Houston Idol '20 married **Bailey Jeschke '22** on August 3, 2024.

Shayna Wilson '20 married Daniel Karns on August 17, 2024.

Heather (Turco) Mejia '21 graduated from FHSU in May 2024 with a Bachelor of General Studies with concentration in Psychological Studies and Human Services. Heather works as a Student Support Services Retention and Tutoring Coordinator on the HCC campus.

Creed Parsons '21 married Kaitlyn Geeting on November 11, 2024.

Christian Shaffer '22 released a debut single, “Footsteps”, with his band Southwind.



Emma Joyce '22 married Cody Kramer on May 24, 2025. She was named Nemaha Valley Community Hospital & Seneca Family Practice Rookie of the Year in March 2025

Zoe Edie '23 and Hunter Artman welcomed Hayz Thomas on April 9, 2025.

Fawnla Fletchall '24 received an In-the-Spotlight Outstanding Performance Award from Mosaic Life Care in February 2025.

Ali Foster '25 began a new job in April 2025 as the Accounts Payable Clerk in the HCC Business Office.

IN MEMORY

FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

Julie Clem of Atchison, KS, passed away September 4, 2024 at the age of 86. She was a former instructor at HCC Technical Center in Atchison.

Kenneth “Duane” Bissett of Holton, KS, passed away September 10, 2024 at the age of 82. He was a former biology instructor for Highland Community College and high school.

Dr. Harvey Ludwick of Ottawa, KS passed away October 5, 2024 at the age of 83.

Harold Neher of Hiawatha, KS passed away November 13, 2024, at the age of 97.

Charles “Bill” Libel, Sr. of Highland, KS passed away November 21, 2024, at the age of 85.

Charles “Chuck” Carrender of Fayette, AR passed away March 6, 2025, at the age of 78. Mr. Carrender was athletic director, football coach, and PE teacher at HCC from 1976-1980.

JoLene Bloom of Seneca, KS, passed away June 14, 2025 at the age of 74. JoLene was an off-campus instructor for HCC in Nemaha and Marshall county schools.

Jack Shaefer, Jr. of Hiawatha, KS, passed away November 14, 2024 at the age of 72.

William “Bill” Strathman, 91 of Sabetha, KS, passed away January 11, 2025, at the age of 68.

1940s

Joan (Lydick) Obley McDaniel ’48 of Topeka, KS, passed away January 10, 2025 at the age of 95.

Mary Ruth (Herring) Ruddy ’49 of Troy, KS, passed away January 16, 2025, at the age of 94.

Mary Ann Eisenbise ’49 of Sa-

betha, KS, passed away June 16, 2025, at the age of 96.

1950s

Colonel (Ret) Paul Idol ’55 of Topeka, KS, passed away August 8, 2024, at the age of 92.

Betty (Lewis) Sharp ’53 of Wathena, KS, passed away January 11, 2025, at the age of 91.

Ernie Lovelady ’58 of Flagstaff, AZ, passed away February 22, 2025, at the age of 86.

Marietta Holden ’52 of Hiawatha, KS, passed away May 27, 2025, at the age of 94.

James Hosier ’59 of Atchison, KS, passed August 7, 2025. Jim spent nine years on the Highland Community College Foundation Board from 2009 to 2018 where he was very active, leading several initiatives to help grow the assets to record highs at the time. Jim and Mary Ann Hosier were inducted into the HCC Foundation Heritage Society in July 2018.

1960s

James Babcock ’64 of South Fork, CO, passed away June 21, 2024, at the age of 79.

Robert “Wayne” Sutherland ’69 of Hiawatha, KS, passed away July 2, 2024, at the age of 73.

Marilyn (Hoar) Vickery ’63 of Hiawatha, KS passed away September 11, 2024 at the age of 78.

James “Jim” Ryser II ’69 of Effingham, KS, passed away on October 2, 2024, at the age of 75.

Justina (Ritter) Sparks ’67 of Wathena, KS, passed away October 20, 2024, at the age of 77.

Paul Tubach ’60 of Hiawatha, KS, passed away October 20, 2024, at the age of 83.

George Kelley, Sr. ’62 of Atchison, KS, passed away February 18, 2025, at the age of 82.

Richard Hewins ’67 of Des Moines, IA, passed away February 20, 2025, at the age of 78.

John Tinsley ’61 of Topeka, KS, passed away April 3, 2025, at the age of 83.

James “JW” Twombly ’69 of Highland, KS, passed away May 10, 2025, at the age of 75.

Richard Anderson ’64 of Elmwood, IL, passed away June 24, 2025, at the age of 81.

1970s

Doris Ahrens ’75 of Ottawa, KS, passed away September 27, 2024, at the age of 70.

Wanda Barrett ’71 of Topeka, KS, passed away November 29, 2024, at the age of 74.

Kenneth Winder ’71 of Troy, KS, passed away December 15, 2024, at the age of 73.

Randy Wittwer ’72 of Falls City, NE, passed away January 11, 2025, at the age of 72.

Dennis Thummel ’77 of Topeka, KS, passed away January 27, 2025, at the age of 85.

Greg Delzeit ’72 of Highland, KS, passed away April 23, 2025, at the age of 73. Greg was a former student-athlete, coach, Athletic Director, Hall of Fame member, Alumni Association board member and friend to many.

Doug Spellmeier ’72 of Powhattan, KS, passed away May 14, 2025, at the age of 70.

Arthur Yaussi ’76 of Hiawatha, KS, passed away October 10, 2024, at the age of 67. He attended NEK Technical School in Atchison, KS.

George Trompeter ’70 of Cumings, KS, passed away April 21, 2025, at the age of 74.

Sharon (Shields) Winkelbauer ’74 of Leavenworth, KS, passed away February 17, 2025, at the age of 70.

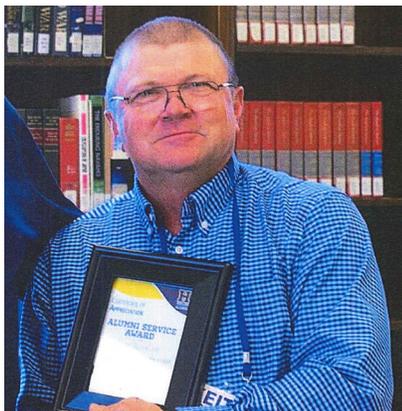
1980s

Howard Frey ’83 of DuBois, NE, passed away July 3, 2024, at the age of 61.

Marvin Deters '86 of Axtell, KS, passed away July 18, 2024, at the age of 58.

Troy Raine '82 of Topeka, KS, passed away November 7, 2024, at the age of 61.

Alan Ellerman '80 of Old Huron, KS, passed away February 16, 2025, at the age of 62.



Keith Olsen '86 of Horton, KS, passed away December 8, 2024, at the age of 60. Keith served as HCC Alumni Board president and member for many years.

Beatrice (Bennett) Brady '88 of Atchison, KS, passed away February 27, 2025, at the age of 80.

Darin Radcliffe '89 of Wenatchee, WA, passed away April 13, 2025, at the age of 57.

Marje Cochren '84 of Whiting, KS, passed away June 3, 2025, at the age of 87.

Bernadette (Masqua) Thomas '86 of Horton, KS, passed away June 27, 2025, at the age of 82.

Kathryn Boyle-Griffin '89 of Troy, KS, passed away November 12, 2024, at the age of 54.

1990s

Cindy (Weaver) Reynolds '94 of Hiawatha, KS, passed away August 8, 2024, at the age of 76.

Quentin Green '99 of Holton, KS, passed away May 18, 2025, at the age of 56.

Laralee (Neeland) Miller '90 of Wathena, KS, passed away June 9, 2025, at the age of 79.

2000s

Carl Heugel '07 of Atchison, KS, passed away July 22, 2024, at the age of 41.

Carla Clark '08 of Mayetta, KS, passed away June 27, 2025, at the age of 58.

2010s

Brian Stevens '13 of Columbia, IL, passed away July 28, 2024, at the age of 49.

Bret Spilman '18 of Atchison, KS, passed away October 22, 2024, at the age of 26.

2020s

Taylor Hughes '21 of Hiawatha, KS, passed away August 12, 2024, at the age of 22.

Katlyn Folsom '22 of Troy, KS, passed away December 25, 2024, at the age of 22.

STAY CONNECTED

WHERE HAS HCC TAKEN YOU?

Share your updates, news, accomplishments and celebrations for inclusion in the next issue of "The Connection" Alumni Magazine. Submit your notes to: highlandcc.edu/alumni-update-form. We look forward to hearing from you!

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP

Whether you're joining the HCC Alumni Association for the first time, simply renewing your membership or gifting a membership to a loved one, staying connected to HCC is quick and easy!

Lifetime Membership is \$150 or Joint Membership is \$275. To become a member, visit highlandcc.edu/alumni-membership.

GET YOUR LEGACY IN THE COURTYARD

A brick courtyard was placed at the main entrance of the Porter Family Stadium as a celebration honoring alumni and friends of the College. Purchase a brick to personalize with your name, sport, activity, year, or as a memorial or gift. Proceeds support HCC Alumni Association Scholarships.

A 4x8" brick is \$75 with up to three lines of 14 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation. An 8x8" brick is \$125 with up to six lines of 14 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.

To purchase your brick, visit highlandcc.edu/courtyard-bricks.

BECOME A SCOTTIE

Do you know someone who would make a great Scottie?

Our multiple locations allow your loved one to stay close to home and far from debt. At Highland Community College, you're an integral part of an ever-expanding group who believes anything is possible. It's our goal to help get you there, and it's up to you to begin the journey.

Join the almost 19,000 alumni and friends of the college. For more information contact admissions: Email admissions@highlandcc.edu or call 785-442-6020. To apply visit highlandcc.edu/apply.

We are Scottie Nation!

1975 SCOTTIE FLASHBACKS



THE BEGINING OF WEIGHT LIFTING

In 1975, Highland Community College offered weight lifting for the first time as a class worth no credit, with the hopes that credit would be given in the future. Under the leadership of Coach Ron Dupree, 34 men signed up to be part of something new.

Richard "Pitt" Pittman, shown here, was one of the first 34 men who signed up for weight lifting 50-years ago.



INSIDE THE SCOTTIE'S PAUSE

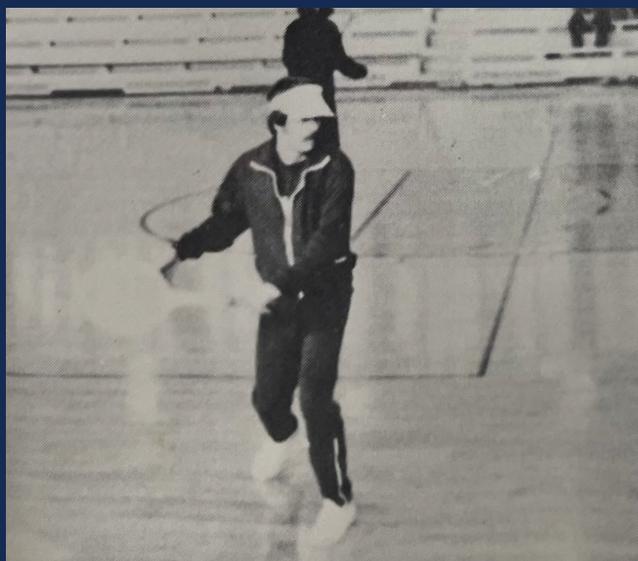
The Scottie's Pause was a lively hub at Highland Community College—more than just a spot to grab a bite, it was where student life unfolded. Between classes, it offered a space to eat, play cards, catch up with friends or simply unwind. Whether for a few minutes or an entire afternoon, The Pause was the go-to place to relax and recharge.

The jukebox in the corner added to the atmosphere, its music floating through the room as laughter and conversation filled the space. It was casual, familiar and al-

ways full of life—a place where friendships were built and everyday moments became lasting memories.

In the bottom left photo, you can see a snapshot of that energy. Students gather around tables, mid-conversation or mid-laugh, while a few staff members—familiar faces like "Mom" Johnson, Walter Yost, Esther Gormley, Bill Buffington and Mr. McPheeters—join in the background. Their presence was part of the rhythm of the place, but it was the students who gave The Pause its heart.

For many, the Scottie's Pause remains one of the most memorable parts of their time at Highland—a place that captured the spirit of campus life in its simplest, most meaningful form.



TENNIS AT HIGHLAND

Frank Davis was the coach in 1975 as Highland Community College launched its first intercollegiate tennis team, marking an exciting new chapter in the school's athletic history. The program also became HCC's first co-ed varsity squad, bringing both men and women together in competition on the court. The team quickly became a standout addition to campus life, offering student-athletes a chance to represent Highland in a new arena.

Among those early players was Lyle Alley, a member of the Class of 1975. In his Golden Reunion biography, Alley reflected on his time at Highland and noted that being part of the tennis team was one of the highlights of his college experience. His memories serve as a reminder of the team's impact and its place in the College's growing athletic tradition.

ELITE SPONSORS

FROM THE MARTY ALLEN GOLF CLASSIC

HCC ALUMNI HOST SUCCESSFUL MARTY ALLEN GOLF CLASSIC

The Highland Community College Alumni Association held its annual Marty Allen Golf Classic Friday, July 18. The event was a huge success because of the strong participation and generous community support from HCC alumni and friends of the College.

This year's event welcomed 30 teams to the Atchison Golf Club at Bellevue, with 39-hole sponsors and more than 50 items donated for the silent auction. Nearly 20 alumni volunteers helped the day run smoothly, from organizing the tournament to assisting with auction activities. Great Western Dining generously provided food for participants, sponsors and volunteers throughout the day.

"This event is always such a special day for our alumni and friends of the College," said Kelly Twombly, HCC Alumni Director. "We are incredibly grateful for the teams, sponsors, donors and volunteers who make it possible. Their generosity helps us provide scholarships, host alumni events and enhance athletics for current and future Scotties."

The Marty Allen Golf Classic has become a highly anticipated tradition for Scottie alumni, bringing together friends, former classmates and community members. The HCC Alumni Association would like to say a big thank you to those who attended the event to support HCC. It was a great day of golf, camaraderie and fund-raising in honor of Coach Marty Allen's legacy.

Mark your calendars to attend next year's event Friday, July 17, 2026. We hope to see you there!



Melissa Streeeter, Kim Knudson, Pat Streeeter, & Stephanie Knudson



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2026 ALUMNI AWARDS!

IT'S TIME TO

NOMINATE!

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT HIGHLANDCC.EDU/ALUMNI AWARDS



UPCOMING EVENTS

FOLLOW US FOR
MORE UPDATES!

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 @highlandscotties



OCT
8
SOPHOMORE
SPOTLIGHT
SOCCER
@ 4PM



OCT
18
FALL VOCAL
MUSIC
CONCERT
@ 7:30PM



NOV
8
ALUMNI
AWARDS
FOOTBALL
GAME @ 1PM



NOV
8
MILITARY
APPRECIATION
FOOTBALL
@ 1PM



NOV
16
VOLLEYBALL
ALL-STAR
GAMES
@ TBD

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