

# Alumni NEWS

April 2015

## Featured Alumni Years: 1965 & 1998

Stories, photos & more!

Check out our other issues  
you may have missed!

[https://www.southeast.edu/alumni\\_friends/](https://www.southeast.edu/alumni_friends/)



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Facebook

## Upcoming Events & Information

Trades & Industry Career Fair, Milford Campus ..... April 21  
Professional Truck Driver Training Fair,  
Lincoln Campus ..... May 13  
Human Services Career Fair, Lincoln Campus ..... May 5  
Early Childhood Education Career Fair,  
Lincoln Campus ..... May 8  
Memorial Day, College Closed ..... May 25  
Spring Quarter Ends ..... June 11

Automotive Summer Camp, Milford Campus ..... June 12-13  
Independence Day, College Closed ..... July 3  
Summer Quarter Begins ..... July 14  
Health Care Career Fair, Lincoln Campus ..... August 3  
Professional Truck Driver Training Fair,  
Lincoln Campus ..... August 26  
Labor Day, College Closed ..... September 7  
Summer Quarter Ends ..... September 23



# It's Your Time!

You hold membership in one of the largest organizations associated with Southeast Community College.

You are one of more than 44,000 people who chose to earn their degree from Southeast Community College or one of its predecessors.

### You are part of the SCC Alumni!

You make a difference every day. You can make a difference in the lives of current and future SCC students by taking an "Attitude of Gratitude."

How does it work?

You can demonstrate your "Attitude of Gratitude" in the form of Paying It Forward.

Think back to when you were a student at the College. It is very likely that you received help paying for college in the form of a scholarship or some other type of financial aid or assistance.

### That's why this is Your Time!

The SCC Educational Foundation appreciates the financial support SCC alumni have provided over the years. The Foundation is focused on raising more dollars so that more students can experience what SCC has to offer and, ultimately, what you are experiencing now: making a life with an education from SCC.

This is a great time to consider an "Attitude of Gratitude." Count your blessings realizing how much others have

done for you and how much you have accomplished as a result.

Please consider Paying It Forward as a way of expressing gratitude for the opportunities and support that you have received over the years by donating to the SCC Foundation. Your donation will result in your doing good – Paying It Forward – to help an SCC student, just as others have done for you.

### Consider these facts:

- Scholarship support has become an increasingly important source of tuition assistance for SCC students.
- Even though SCC is one of the most affordable higher education institutions in Nebraska, not everyone who wants to attend SCC has the financial ability to do so.
- More than 80% of SCC's enrolled students rely on some form of financial assistance.

There's another benefit to making a donation right now. Thank yourself with a charitable tax deduction before 2015 comes to an end.

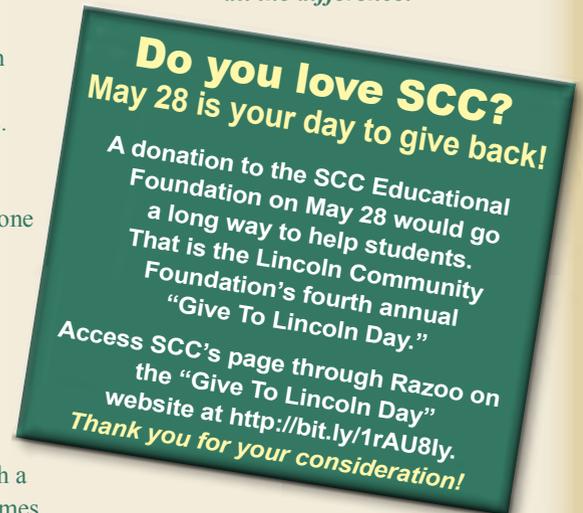
Not interested in contributing toward the scholarship fund? No problem! The Foundation has a variety of other ways you can invest, including endowments; a bequest by will or living trust distribution; retirement savings or insurance

beneficiary; real estate; stocks, bonds and securities; equipment and other property; matching gifts; charitable gift annuities; charitable remainder trusts; charitable lead trusts; and our commodities gift program.

On behalf of the entire Foundation Board, thank you for your support of SCC and our students.

### It's Your Time!

*Your donation can make all the difference.*



The SCC Educational Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation responsible for encouraging, receiving, investing, stewarding, and disbursing private support on behalf of the donors of Southeast Community College for the benefit of the College, its programs, facilities, students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The Foundation Board is comprised of community leaders representing a broad cross-section of businesses within the College's 15-county service area. Board members represent leadership and community service and share the Foundation's value of ensuring opportunities for success at SCC.

Please complete this form, cut it out and mail it to:

**SCC Educational Foundation**  
301 S. 68th St. Place  
Lincoln, NE 68510

Donate online at [www.southeast.edu/giving](http://www.southeast.edu/giving)

Contributions are tax deductible.



### 3. Please apply my gift to support:

Student Scholarships  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please apply my student scholarship donation to:

Annual Scholarship or  Endowed Scholarship

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beatrice Campus       | <input type="checkbox"/> Beatrice Campus       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln Campus        | <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln Campus        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milford Campus        | <input type="checkbox"/> Milford Campus        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area-wide Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> Area-wide Scholarship |

Specific Program of Study \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Scholarship Fund \_\_\_\_\_

1. Enclosed is my one-time gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_. (Make checks payable to SCC Educational Foundation.)

2. I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year for 1 2 3 years for a total gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

(please circle one)  My employer has a matching-gifts program.

4. Please contact me regarding:  Planned Giving/Estate Planning  Creating a Scholarship Fund

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of donor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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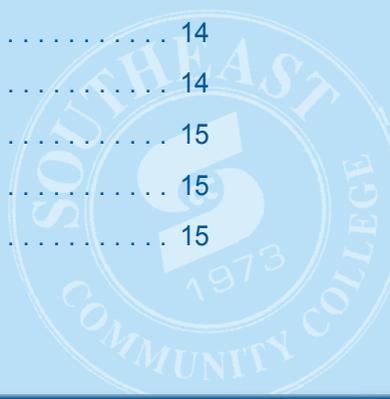
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#### Board of Governors

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# BEATRICE CAMPUS

## Professional Rodeo Announcer Got His Start at SCC



**Scott Grover** didn't know it at the time, but his experience at SCC's Beatrice Campus set him on a path to his current career as a professional rodeo announcer.

Grover, a native of Morrowville, KS, and a 1998 graduate from SCC, said the time he spent at the College proved to be beneficial in many ways. "SCC was a huge experience for me," Grover said. "I never had driven a piece of big equipment until I got to SCC, and I probably scared most of my instructors."

"The hands-on experience that I received at SCC was better than I could have gotten anywhere else. It was the perfect fit for me, and set me up to be a teacher and very much so for my announcing career."

Grover got his start in announcing as a 19-year-old attending SCC. "Shelley Schaefer at the S BAR S Arena outside of Beatrice gave me

my first opportunity to get on the microphone," he said. After graduating from SCC, Grover transferred to Kansas State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture education. He taught ag education at Council Grove, KS, for four years.

"I was drawn to education because of my involvement in ag education and FFA at North Central (KS) High School," Grover said. "I was very involved as an FFA officer and as a member of judging teams. I very much enjoyed teaching agriculture at Council Grove High School. Watching my students learn and grow was very fulfilling."

But Grover said after he attended his first rodeo he was hooked on the sport. "I team-roped a bit, and still do but not very well," he said. "I figured out I could talk about it better than I could actually do it."

Grover, 37, became a member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association in 2005 and has been a rising star in the business ever since. He's been the announcer for the Ram Prairie Circuit Finals six times, announced the 2014 Ram National Circuit Finals Rodeo, was named a Top Five Women's Professional Rodeo Association Announcer of the Year in 2014, has announced the Professional Bull Riders Canada National Finals, the PBR Built Ford Tough Series TV Tour, the American Bucking Bull Inc. World Finals, and twice announced the PBR Built Ford Tough World Finals Rodeo.



*Scott, with Clint Atkins, as one of the series lead announcers at the PBR Built Ford Tough Series TV tour in Chicago.*

It's a year-round job, and Grover loves it. "Announcing rodeos was my way to be involved," he said. "Now when I started, did I ever think it would be as big as it is now? No. I dreamed of it, but I didn't figure it would be a reality. I have the absolute greatest job in the world as far as I'm concerned. I am doing what God put me here to do."

Grover and wife Becky have one son, Statler. "Becky grew up in a rodeo family, and we are so blessed that we can all travel together during the summer months," Grover said. "Statler was born May 7, and we went on the road May 19, so you can say he's a cowboy because he doesn't know any better."

Grover said he keeps in contact with a few former SCC classmates and occasionally sees retired Ag Instructor Bill Slater when he visits Morrowville. He also was honored to be the keynote speaker at last year's SCC Ag Banquet.

## Remembering Wanda Hakes

"When I first came to the program, Wanda was an inspiration to me. She told me how important it was to make sure that students knew their 'stuff' before going out to clinical. In the pictures you will see that she also felt it very important to be dressed professionally like a nurse, all polished, and to stand up straight. She always had good posture. She frowned on unpolished shoes and wrinkled clothes. She kept a sewing box at school for students who had buttons missing from their uniforms and nail polish remover to remove colored polish before taking care of patients. She still had the students make a bed tightly so that a dime could bounce off the linen after it was made.



On a side note, she was the attending nurse when my first daughter was born in 1969. I had a long labor, and she was very encouraging to me. Obstetrics was her favorite clinical rotation when she guided students through labor, delivery and care of the newborn."

*~ Karen Stevens, MSN, RN  
SCC Practical Nursing Instructor*

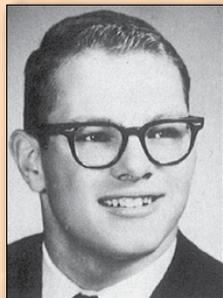
"I would not be here if it wasn't for Wanda Hakes, a nurse who decided to retire. She helped me learn the ropes of being an instructor. Being a nurse for several years helped, but the world of education was a whole other story.

When her teaching days ended, she presented me with a Holy Card, which she carried with her all the days she was on clinical. She felt that it protected her in some way. I have NEVER been on clinical without it, and I started in 1993. She was a role model to many and a great friend and teacher to me. I shall miss her!!"

*~ Patricia Lorenz, MSN, RN  
SCC Practical Nursing Instructor*



*Wanda Hakes on her favorite clinical rotation, obstetrics, with mother and newborn.*



From Hanover, KS, to Fairbury, NE, Vietnam, and the Big Sky Country of Montana, **Del Hiesterman** has experienced a lot during his lifetime.

Hiesterman, Fairbury Junior College Class of 1965,

played football for FJC, served his country and retired last May at age 68 after a career as a dentist.

He grew up on a farm near Hanover and was invited to play football at FJC by legendary coach Red Grovert. The old coach had a way of influencing people, and telling Hiesterman that many FJC graduates were recruited by four-year schools “tipped the scales,” he said.

Bob Feit, current member of SCC’s Board of Governors, was a sophomore on the FJC football team when Hiesterman arrived.

“He was just a skinny kid when he came to FJC, and he was my backup at center,” Feit said. “When I was injured halfway through the season, he took over and ended up being selected all-conference. Red Grovert called him the best center he’d ever had.

“Del and I took science courses together. He was very intelligent. We both ended up in the service and serving in Vietnam.”

Hiesterman’s time at FJC helped shape his life. “It did not take long to make new friends, and I soon felt at home in the big city of Fairbury,” he said. “The instructors were personable and willing to take the extra time to explain their subject, and they seemed to be interested in me as a person. They offered me the encouragement I needed to succeed.” Hiesterman excelled on the football field, and he received letters from numerous four-year schools. He was offered a scholarship to play for a school in New Mexico. “Alas, I was in love, and New Mexico was too far away for my love interest,” Hiesterman said. “I declined the offer, and the love interest didn’t last, so I was out of luck both ways.”

Eventually he continued his education at Kansas State Teachers College, now Emporia State University, in Emporia, KS, graduating

in 1967 with a degree in Secondary Education. After graduating, his student deferment for the Selective Service expired. Before being drafted, Hiesterman talked to an Army recruiter and eventually enlisted to attend Officers Candidate School in field artillery with the intent of making the military a career. He reported for duty in March 1968.

“After experiencing military life for a few months during basic and advanced training, I knew a career was not what I wanted, and I dropped out of the OCS program,” he said. After completing advanced training, Hiesterman “was sent to sunny south Vietnam for an all-expense-paid vacation.”

His first assignment was “safe, but boring,” he said. But in December 1968, he was sent to a forward position. His Fire Support Base would get enemy mortars and rockets almost daily. “On one occasion our position was assaulted by an estimated 1,000 enemy troops,” Hiesterman said. Thankfully, no one in his battery was killed.

Hiesterman returned home in October 1969 and began working for Ford Motor Credit Company in Kansas City repossessing cars. At first it was great. He was given a company car and an expense account and could set his own hours. But after just six months he was given a promotion, a raise and an 8-to-5 desk job.

“I soon began to make excuses to miss work and decided that was not the way I wanted to live,” he said. “My wife (Joyce Elaine) and I sat together and discussed what career options were open to me. After much thought and soul-searching we decided dentistry offered a career that fit what I wanted in life.”

After two years of completing prerequisites, Hiesterman applied and was accepted to the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry. He graduated in 1976.

A year earlier he and his wife began searching for a place to practice, eventually settling on a small town in western Montana. “It was the best business opportunity available to me at the time,” Hiesterman said. “It was almost like living in Mayberry. When we sold the house we couldn’t find the keys to our front door because we almost never locked it.” During 24 years there the Hiestermans raised a

daughter, Ann; twin boys, Matthew and Mark; and another son, Timothy. His wife taught kindergarten and second grade for 19 years. “Our lives centered on our children and their activities,” he said. “Dentistry allowed me the flexibility to never miss a school play, band concert, Christmas program, basketball game, football game, track meet, or baseball game. We were involved in our church and professional organizations and enjoyed outdoor activities like skiing, camping, fishing, hiking, and hunting.”

After the children graduated high school, Hiesterman took a job at the student health center at the University of Montana in Missoula. The facility has six physicians, six nurse practitioners, two dentists, two dental hygienists, as well as a mental health department staffed by psychologists and several licensed therapists.

After a 14-year career there, Hiesterman retired in May 2014. He continues to work two half-days a week and fills in as needed. He calls himself the “Dentist Emeritus.”

On Jan. 21, 2002, his “world was turned inside out and upside down” when his wife was killed in an automobile accident. She was 54. The couple was married on June 27, 1970. “The staff at the university was wonderful to me as I struggled to redefine my life,” Hiesterman said.

In 2010 Hiesterman married Shawn Rosscup. “I am truly blessed to have this woman in my life,” he said. “She has made living fun again.”

The Hiestermans’ eight grandchildren keep them traveling. And speaking of traveling, Del and Shawn traveled to Vietnam last November. “We were invited to join a small group of people conducting research and taking photos for a book about children who were living at an orphanage in 1969 and learning of their lives in the past 45 years,” Hiesterman said.

In retrospect, he feels that he’s been richly blessed. “Had I been told in ‘63 what I would experience in my lifetime, I would not have believed it,” he said. “FJC was the first step in a journey that has led me many places. I still think fondly of my time there. I am saddened that FJC is no more. I have not visited the campus at Beatrice and should do that. Perhaps I will see that the old tradition is in good hands. I expect that it is.”

## 40th Anniversary of the Agriculture Business & Management Technology Program coming Summer 2016 (more details to follow)



Questions? Please contact Annie Erichsen at [aerichsen@southeast.edu](mailto:aerichsen@southeast.edu)

# BEATRICE CAMPUS

## Happenings at FJC in 1964-65

### Increased Enrollment

- ▶ Enrollment again smashed the record highs of previous years with 324 students starting out the year.

### New Women's Dormitory

- ▶ The new dormitory, "Alpha Oikias," housed 44 women. First used in the fall, the building became an important part of the college campus.



### New Science-Library Building

- ▶ A development drive resulted in the acceptance of a proposed bond issue for a new building to house the latest most modern facilities and allow a greater number of students to enroll.

 **1949** – After graduating from FJC, Delmar Wittler, 1949, continued his education at UNL receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Ag Education and Economics in 1951. He served in the U.S. Army from 1951-53 and taught Vocational Agriculture at Lyons, NE, from 1953-1959. He retired as a sales manager for NC+ Hybrids (now Monsanto) and is “Happy to still be alive and walk nine holes of golf twice a week and care for rental apartments. (I) probably wouldn’t have made it to college if it weren’t for Fairbury Junior College and semester tuition of \$58 for 12-18 hours.”

~ Delmar Wittler, 1949

 **1997** – “The SCC general education program provided me with a well-rounded educational experience. That experience helps me in my job today working through complex immigration issues such as interpreting immigration laws, federal regulations and various USCIS programs and policies, ultimately rendering adjudicative decisions for benefits sought by our customers. I believe that the intimate atmosphere of the SCC classroom enabled me to learn better and participate more. This provided me with an interactive learning experience which in return has positively influenced the way I interact with my colleagues and our customers today.”

~ Patricia S. Lise, 1997

## Happenings at SCC-Beatrice in 1998

### Plans for Multi-purpose Building Approved

- ▶ “With the new building, the campus will be complete and able to cater for the increasing student enrollment.” Dennis Headrick as quoted in the SCC Challenge, Sept. 23, 1998

### Thank You From a Mom

When **Julian Herraghty** wasn't living at home, his birthday card was still filled out and returned. “This is his mom – Thank you for my son’s amazing education!” He is working in his field of study in Texas as a second assistant superintendent at The Woodlands – Carlton.

It’s great to hear when parents are happy with the outcome of their children’s education.

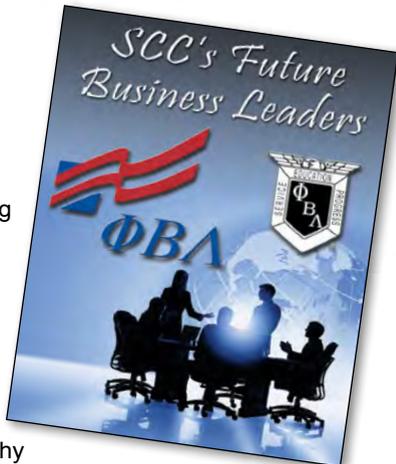


### Broadcasting Program has New Home

- ▶ The program moved from Adams Hall to the south portion of the NPPD building east of campus.

### PBL Wins 1998 Excellence Award

- ▶ Students attending the Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference were Stephanie Stoll, Sommer Baete, Stephanie Wallman, Deb Yoachim, and Kathy Younger.



## Homecoming • February 2015



### King and Queen

John Swift is from Omaha and is a guard on SCC’s Men’s Basketball Team.

Jamaica Wilson is from North Las Vegas, NV and a member of the SCC Women’s Basketball team.





**May 1998  
Practical Nursing Graduates**

*Front Row, from left:*  
Cassie Scheetz, Candy Boltz,  
Amy Fruehling, Kendra Cochran,  
Patricia Mercer, Amy Everett

*Middle Row, from left:*  
Rose Steer, Dayna Dittmer,  
Amanda Miley, Kathryn Ganger,  
Janell James

*Back Row, from left:*  
Traci Marquez, Cerice Cornelius,  
Rachel Wissink, Loretta Pursche,  
Jemma Crosier, Rebecca Norris



**December 1998  
Practical Nursing Graduates**

*Front Row left to right:*  
Susan Eickman, Micki Krieger, Teresa  
Otto, Lavon Singleton, Tina Wollenberg

*Middle Row left to right:*  
Rene Scheer, Heather Roberts,  
Jennifer Johnson, Crystal Knobbe,  
Alysia Rogers, Lisa Bittel

*Back Row left to right:*  
Tim Vater, Brenda Schmidt,  
Patrick Yacks, Sandy Barnts,  
Danielle Sand, Debra Folkerts



**1990** – “I plan to retire this year.

The past 25 years as a nurse has been the best decision of my life. I have seen so many changes, but have learned to change and grow in learning. Thank you so much.”

~ Nancy (Ehlert) Galladora, *Practical Nursing*, 1990

**In Memory of...**

**Fairbury**

- Leonard Holtmeier (Business Administration, 1961)
- Judith (Mickelsen) Arntt (Secretarial Education, 1961)
- Ronald Schardt (Business Administration, 1966)
- David Weyer (General Education, 1971)

**Beatrice**

- Wanda Hakes (Practical Nursing Instructor, 1972-1992, Beatrice and Fairbury)
- Jason Meisenhelder (Broadcasting, 2005)
- Elizabeth “Annie” Pangborn (Practical Nursing, 1992)

**Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1965 Graduates?**

*We want to stay in touch with our grads!*

Email information to [alumni@southeast.edu](mailto:alumni@southeast.edu) or call 800-233-5027 ext. 1216.



Mary Bachle	Darlene Kelch Culp	Helen Kuhlmann	Larry Scott
Nancy Bausch	Betty Damoude	Roger McKay	Joann Goodson Steinberg
Roger Bennett	Lola Nielsen Dean	Eleanor Meyer	Richard Steinberg
Richard Benson	Michael Dill	Thomas Morrison	Ronald Stuck
Jon Black	Patricia Quigley Elder	Carolyn Rakestraw	David Walker
James Brettmann	Joleen Fiala	Eileen Roode	Lorraine Hodge Wiler
Rhonda Chambers	Roger Hein	Keith Scheele	Gary Witkowski
LaMoyné Chancellor Cohn	Sharolyn Hopken	James Schoenrock	
Margaret Cording	Donnetta Kimball	Robert Schroer	
Ruth Cramer	Phil Kleppinger		

**Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1998 Graduates?**

Chemaco Brown	Scott Kosek	Tamara Redding	Ryan Strain
Dayna Dittmer	Emily Lane	Steven Roker	Jennifer Sugden
Jarod Epp	Patricia Strader Mercer	Danielle Sand	Jeffrey Swanson
Amy Wherry Everett	Tasheika Nelson	Amy Schulte	Christine Wardlaw
Dawn Fulton	Teresa Otto Swanson	Jeffery Skrdla	Shannon Weichel
Douglas Geisler	Laci Gronemeyer Paul	Brenda Smisek	Wanda Holthaus York
Eric Hawley	Michelle Pool	Kelly Weber Speakman	Katherine Lange Younger
Tysen Hissong	Jeffrey Porter	Erich Staben	
Crystal Miller Knobbe	Mark Rathe	Neil Stewart	

# LINCOLN CAMPUS

## Jablonski Achieves Success as Entrepreneur

Andy Jablonski is a patient man who oozes empathy when explaining Short Bowel Syndrome, “It’s defined by the loss of more than 50 percent of your small intestine, that important piece of piping that transports what you eat out of your body. Those many feet coiled up inside you that also allow the food to be absorbed by the body along the way, nourishing you.” Born with SBS, Andy encourages and supports others with this syndrome, and his success can be judged by his foundation’s Facebook page, which has approximately 7,500 visitors each week. Having dealt with SBS for 29 years, he can answer those hard questions and explains, “SBS can also develop because of a related disease like Crohn’s, or a trauma like a car accident, or even gastric bypass surgery gone badly.” He knows about the crippling pain, the fatigue, the malnutrition, the diarrhea, the hospital stays, and the parents who can’t work because of their children’s medical needs.

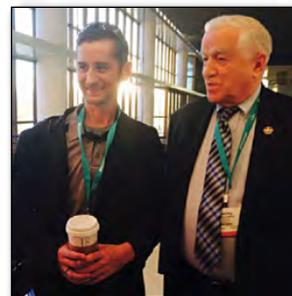
A 2011 graduate of SCC’s entrepreneurship program, Jablonski started a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation in 2010 for Short Bowel Syndrome patients and people battling other digestive diseases.

He spent three years in the SCC Start-up Incubator to get his business off the ground. “I have a nice, close relationship with NPS, a pharmaceutical company in New Jersey; we are an asset to each other. In 2012, I was part of a team that presented to the FDA in support of GATTEX, a new orphan drug therapy for SBS patients that has now been approved, at an estimated cost of \$295,000 annually before insurance. My foundation provides social media space and an audience for NPS to promote this new drug.” Every year, through the foundation, he’s able to help a dozen or more people with \$500 scholarships to defray medical costs, or college tuition, or other needs of families who are often desperate for help. Jablonski will tell you that he is “proud that he was on the cover of the New York Times’ Business page, and that he was nominated for Best in Show on Facebook and Patient Advocacy for the WEGO Health Awards.”

He is working toward a bachelor’s degree in Human Relations at Doane College and intends to enroll in the graduate counseling program to start the path to becoming a LMHP and LDAC. Andy

also is working on a book, “The Gutsy Tales of Short Bowel Syndrome” and explains, “This is just another avenue to reach out and support SBS patients and their families.”

Having a lifetime exposure to hospitals, it is a natural step to pursue a career where he could give back. Owing the nonprofit has helped him do just that through support, education and scholarships. Extremely humble about how he handles this disease, Jablonski says, “I take 22 pills every morning, 19 at night. Some are anti-seizure medications, others are vitamins and antibiotics. Each night I have 12 hours of IV nutrition.”



President of the Short Bowel Foundation Andrew Jablonski, left, with Dr. Stanley Dudrick, MD, creator of TPN (IV Nutrition), an effective treatment for SBS for more than 40 years.

## Meet Our Faculty



This year the National Aeronautics and Space Administration will be celebrating 25 years of Hubble. Instructor **Kent Reinhard** will likely celebrate too. He worked for the Space Telescope Science Institute from 1989-1993 and was one of 16 astrophysicists building the command loads operating the Hubble Space Telescope. “Those were exciting times and fueled my love for physics and astronomy,” Reinhard said. Even after 20 years, he remains proud of the proposal to study a protoplanetary disk he wrote for NASA and eventually executed onboard Hubble. Quite an accomplishment, given that less than one percent of all submitted Hubble proposals are accepted.

Growing up in Nebraska, he recalls knowing as a young boy that astronomy was in his future as he lay in the grass fascinated by the sky and planets. Television coverage of the space launches in the 1960s affirmed his passion. He completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Physics and Astronomy option and received a Master of Science degree in Astrophysics from the University of New Hampshire. His graduate degree included work on the Compton

Gamma Ray Telescope, one of four NASA large observatories, a sistership to the Hubble. He is a member of the American Astronomical Society, a professional society for astronomy, and the American Association of Physics Teachers.

Even knowing that finding a job as an astrophysicist wasn’t going to be easy, the Nebraska lifestyle drew Reinhard back to Lincoln in 1993. After teaching at the high school level for eight years, he accepted a position to teach astronomy, physics, engineering, and mathematics at SCC in 2001. Southeast students were then given the opportunity to take these classes as a general elective. “Physics has been leading the forefront of changing the structure of the classroom,” he said. “My teaching style develops the student by engaging in different learning styles; labs are incorporated into lectures which is not typical. An actively engaged classroom with peer instruction just naturally lends itself well to these classes.” Admitting that physics can be a challenging subject for his students, Reinhard has devoted his teaching to minimizing lectures and moving to an engaged style learning approach.

He hosted the ATE Project for Physics Faculty at SCC, a workshop intended for instructors teaching students who are interested in becoming engineers. Instructors from across the nation attended to learn about the microcomputer-based laboratory tools which couple with an activity-based physics approach. This provides a better method of teaching physics by enabling the teaching/learning process to build on students’ direct experiences in the physics classroom or laboratory. He has implemented MBL and LabVIEW into his physics program at SCC.

Reinhard’s Development of LabVIEW Controllers for Physics Laboratory Exercises was presented

at the American Association of Physics Teachers meeting in Ann Harbor, MI. This involvement was in collaboration with the Physics Workshop Project, a project of Joliet Junior College, Lee College and the National Science Foundation. Reinforcing Kent’s teaching style, these workshops built on introducing physicists in two-year colleges to new instructional methods, developing new materials based on physics education research, and in fostering faculty networking. He is still actively involved at UNL in the Cosmic Ray Observatory Project, an innovative program underway to build high school teachers’ technical skills and knowledge base, as well as provide for student participation in a genuine long-term research experience. The UNL and SCC partnership allows him to set up cosmic ray detectors where students can do science research and work with equipment they normally don’t get their hands on. His genuine interest in physics and passion for helping students was recognized when students nominated him for the Wekesser Outstanding Teacher Award, which was presented to him in 2008-09. “It has been rewarding to have students change their career path and pursue a path in physics and astronomy,” he said.

Typical of Kent’s style, he continues to engage students and community members by sending weekly emails to keep readers informed of astronomy events. Kent knows the best time to view celestial highlights, including conjunctions, meteor showers and planets, and once a quarter sets up a telescope for viewing. To be included in his emails, send a request to kreinhard@southeast.edu.

In his spare time, you’ll find Kent behind the lens of a camera. His photography skills were recently included in the Channel 8 weather calendar. Summertime finds Kent gardening and fishing, although he still has one eye on the sky.

## Gene Busboom, Retired Automotive Technology Program Chair

A car pulls up, and out of the gas station appear uniformed attendants to help not only fill the tank, but check the tire pressure, oil level, and wash the car's windows. These perks were free, and it was the norm in 1964. Gene Busboom will tell you that life was, "just simpler in 1964." He graduated from Kearney State Teachers College in 1960 with a master's degree in Industrial Technology and two minors in school administration and counseling and guidance. In 1964, Gene was headed to the world of education. His first position was teaching industrial technology in Arlington, NE, and then quickly moved into the role of principal. Life was good. "A contact about the Manpower programs to teach small engines in Lincoln changed everything," he said. Busboom accepted the position, moved to Lincoln, and began working for Lincoln Public Schools through the grants with Manpower.

Building the program from scratch, Busboom initially began teaching small-engine repair and driveway service with classrooms at the 620 N. 48th St. location in 1964 and remained there until 1972. Unemployment was high with displaced farmers, and these students were paid a "salary" through the Manpower program. "My initial classes consisted of customer service; how to sell and provide services such as tune-ups, tire and oil changes; and the simple task of how to make change," he said. "I remember that we used play money to help students gain those skills."

When the program grew from mock-ups to individualized instruction and additional space was necessary, Busboom and his staff packed up and moved the program to downtown Lincoln at 14th and M streets, which offered space for multiple cars to drive in. At the same time, the Lincoln Technical Community College had a start-up program on 17th Street in the Watson building; he ran two programs at the same time, including an evening LP gas program. When the programs were combined, it included students from Lincoln Technical Community College,

CETA, and University of Nebraska industrial education. Funds for the programs were coming from the Labor Department and LPS. "I taught students in many different program areas, including foreign car repair, and continued to work with CETA students repairing the state of Nebraska cars," he said. "Many graduates went on to be very successful because of this training. Some of those students became advisory board members and provided excellent advice as the program grew and changed."

The oil crisis of the 1970s marked the beginning of the end for the full-service station. Oil companies figured that customers wanted to pump their own gas in exchange for saving a few pennies. Soon the attendants were no longer needed.

Around 1975, the program moved to 47th and Prescott. Busboom accepted the automotive program chair responsibility, and with a staff of five instructors and a parts person, the program continued to grow. "Our faculty did everything, including assisting with the move," Busboom said. "Southeast Community College had been established in 1973, and in 1979, the faculty and I made the final move to the 84th & O Street campus." Busboom admits that his counseling background helped with the decisions necessary to move the program forward to remain competitive and build a cohesive staff.

Along with the many hats Busboom was wearing in 1975, he also began working with a program for high school students in Lincoln and the surrounding counties interested in taking classes for credit.

He worked tirelessly to get the program National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation certified, and required all instructors to become Automotive Service Excellent certified. SCC was one of the first programs to gain that accreditation. Understanding the importance of certification, he also was one of the first faculty members to serve on the North Central Accreditation Team for SCC and remained on the team for several years,



tackling certification issues for the College.

"We were on the cutting edge of incoming and outgoing assessments for the Automotive Technology program, which helped us remain competitive," Busboom said. And he will tell you that, "one of the best accomplishments was working as a team member with all SCC campuses, Lincoln Public Schools, the University of Nebraska, Nebraska Wesleyan University, and the general public to create the academic transfer program." The college reorganization team was a long, hard process to align programs across the campuses, but Busboom also found it rewarding. And, in his "spare" time, he hosted Chrysler troubleshooting contests, which eventually brought new cars to the program. "I also was a co-op director from 1964-1972, working with Business Occupations, Culinary Arts and health facilities to place students of all cultures and disabilities," he said. But wait, there's one more first. Busboom led the team which created the faculty association for SCC that negotiated salaries and benefits.

During those busy years of work, Gene also dealt with Non-Hodgkin lymphoma and fondly remembers the genuine support and concern of SCC staff, which helped him recover. When the decision was made to retire in 2000, Busboom was very clear, "retirement meant retirement." He has continued to stay in touch with colleagues and former students, but when he passed the baton, he was confident that the program he built would remain strong and viable for the community. And, of course, it has.

## Hello from Automotive Technology Faculty

Technology advancement is progressing in the automotive industry at an astonishing rate!

Barry Smith began teaching at SCC in 2002 and is responsible for first-quarter (shop technology, engine theory and electrical theory) and sixth-quarter (manual and automatic transmission theory and repair). Tony Humlicek was hired in 2001 and covers second and third quarters (electrical circuits, starting, charging, ignition and fuel systems along with steering, suspension and brake systems). In 1991, Mark Jacobsen began teaching fourth-quarter classes in automotive heating and air conditioning, drivability and now the newest core class, introduction to hybrid vehicles. Fifth quarter also is taught by Mark and includes final drives and major engine repair. Program Chair Ken Jefferson has taught an introductory class for local high school students and several online classes since 2000.

The program has purchased service equipment designed to work with the modern vehicle, which now includes extensive electronics and controls. Generous industry donations support the programs, such as an alignment system from Firestone Complete Auto Care of Omaha, hoists from DuTeau Chevrolet/Subaru and hybrid vehicle components from Performance Toyota in Lincoln.

One of the biggest changes to the automotive industry is the incorporation of electronics into every area of the vehicles, monitoring systems, drivability, body controls, entertainment, and mobile hot-spots. Scan tools used today are more powerful and can access the on-board diagnostic information using blue-tooth interface and other means. Many of these devices are laptops, tablets or hand-held devices that can access the data stream of the multiple on-board computers. With approximately one million pages of service information available, the industry has moved from service manuals to online, making this information current and more detailed.



Left to right: Mark Jacobsen, Tony Humlicek, Ken Jefferson, Barry Smith.

# LINCOLN CAMPUS

## Who's Cooking in Lincoln?



**Executive Chef Keenan Cain** (1988 graduate) with Legacy Retirement Communities is responsible for leading, motivating and directing a staff of more than 50 servers. His restaurant-style, five-star dining features a new menu every day offering 12 entrée choices with several complimenting side-dish options. Accountable for a fiscal budget of food, labor and general dining services expenses, he also “Embraces the chaos during serving time.” In the bigger picture, Keenan knows the skills and patience his staff learns will provide a good base for their futures; and that is extremely rewarding. **Chef Cain's favorite food:** *“There is room for all of God's creatures, right next to the potatoes and gravy. I do like flavors of the southwest . . . buttery avocados, salsas, chips, beans and rice, enchiladas, burritos. Hard to go wrong.”*



**Sous Chef Ben Keeler's** (2010 graduate) day consists of menu development, managing the kitchen staff, production, prep, service, and general day-to-day operations exclusively for members and their guests at Firethorn Golf Club. “My career has provided an opportunity to work with a broad range of cultures and people plus teach in a creative environment. It's really exciting to

watch a cook learn a new technique and see their sense of pride and accomplishment.” **Sous Chef Keeler's favorite food:** *“Definitely Sushi. It's something close to my heart!”*

Ensuring that products are cooked, cooled and packaged perfectly for Source. Eat Fit, **Sous Chef Elyssa Loseke** (2014 graduate) also schedules and manages the kitchen staff and places the food orders. Relatively new to Lincoln, Source. Eat Fit provides healthy, chef-prepared meals that can be taken out or eaten on site. “I do what I love and help people eat healthier and achieve their health goals. This busy work environment is exactly

what I wanted to help express my creative side and have fun at work.” **Sous Chef Loseke's favorite food:** *“I truly enjoy all food; but if I could, I would probably eat pulled pork from the Single Barrel or ice cream all the time.”*



Purchasing, scheduling, cooking, prepping, packaging, and managing the kitchen employees at Source. Eat Fit fills **Sous Chef Emma Loos'** (2014 graduate) day. “From the time I was very young, I knew I wanted a career in food service. Being in a setting where I help people reach their health food goals is the perfect match for me.” **Sous Chef Loos's favorite food:** *“My all-time favorite food is Bernaise sauce over mashed potatoes.”*



The Venue Restaurant & Lounge's fast-paced environment and the ability to connect with people are the exact reasons that **Executive Sous Chef Andy Spilker** (2008 graduate) chose a food service/hospitality career. “The ability to be creative and learn new ways to prepare food” is a high point in each day; but he also tends to the ordering, training, inventory, and feature and dinner menu input. **Executive Chef Spilker's favorite food:** *“Fresh sea scallops basted in foamy brown butter.”*

**Sous Chef Vaughn Falos** (2006 graduate) spends his days managing and supervising the kitchen personnel, cost control and menu planning for the Nebraska Club. He thoroughly enjoys his “positive and creative work environment.” **Sous Chef Falos's favorite food:** *“I was always fascinated by flavors as a child and the wonders of the natural world. I chose culinary arts because*

*I believe it is a fantastic way to combine art and nature. There are many elements that go into creating a great dish. To decide on a favorite food is quite challenging. I really enjoy the simplicity of cauliflower pan seared in olive oil with a splash of fresh lemon juice, and I also love the complexity of a well-crafted sauce. So, in essence, my favorite food is the food itself and the joy it can create.”*





“The times that are the most stressful also are the most rewarding moments” for **Chef de Cuisine Stuart Piper** (2014 graduate) at The Single Barrel. He manages the day-to-day operations, production, butchery, and delegating tasks to his staff, but says, “The climactic build to the staff and cranking out alluring and delicious food is what I truly enjoy.” He admits that hospitality, service and, most importantly, food are the things that have kept him humble. “I appreciate the craftsmen of the world because their work modestly speaks for itself.” **Chef de Cuisine Piper’s favorite food: “Braised pork butt.”**

**Sous Chef Mike Vandenberg** (2008 graduate) actually began cooking when he was 16 and knew the task-oriented, fast-paced food service industry would be his career. The atmosphere at Henry’s on South has been a good fit professionally. Assisting the executive chef in ordering, recipes, specials, menu development, management, and execution of the dinner service fills his plate. **Sous Chef Vandenberg’s favorite food: “Smoked meat and a side of hashbrowns.”**



The only limits Morning **Sous Chef Trevor Vogel** (2014 graduate) has is his own creativity. He enjoys working together with the executive chefs at the Venue Restaurant & Lounge to prepare lunch and dinner menu changes. “I open the restaurant every morning, prepare our two house soups, a soup of the day from scratch, prep for lunch, create a lunch feature, and make the quiche of the day.” **Morning Sous Chef Vogel’s favorite food: “I don’t necessarily have a favorite food. I love trying new foods.”**

### Medical Assisting – Spring 1998 Graduates



**Back row, from left:**  
Kara Buettgenback,  
Jami Thompson,  
Oksana Kovaliv,  
Marie Saldivar,  
Kimberly Carlson,  
and Cindy Rinkol.

**Front row, from left:**  
Beth Hladky,  
Melissa McLachlan,  
Michelle Vanek,  
Sara Semrad,  
Melisa Zeiger,  
and Amy Porter.

### Christina Saum, Distinguished Alumna



Christina Saum graduated from Southeast Community College’s Medical Laboratory Technology program in 1995, but she’s never stopped learning.

Saum, laboratory specialist for microbiology at Bryan Medical Center, is being presented with SCC’s

Distinguished Alumni Award.

In her role at Bryan, Saum is responsible for the quality and type of testing performed in the microbiology department, as well as serving as a specialist representative for the Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection Prevention Team, the Infection Prevention Committee, the Pulmonary Division Meeting, and Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Team. She also serves as a

member of the Leadership Development Institute Social Logistics Team at Bryan. She loves to teach and has continued to teach MLT students at SCC.

Last fall she received an American Society for Clinical Pathology Regional Member Award. As an ASCP Local Representative for the North Central Region, she has been involved in recruitment presentations at local schools in her area since 2006. She has also shared her knowledge with her colleagues as an ASCP Annual Meeting presenter since 2012. At the 2013 ASCP Annual Meeting, Saum presented a session titled, “Laboratory Professionals Review: Microbiology 101: Review of the Basics,” which was received with high praise. Her motivation and energy make her an excellent teacher, leader, and mentor within the laboratory profession.

Saum received her Bachelor of Arts degree in allied health from Doane College in 1999.

### In Memory of...



Delores Arp (Retired Adult Guided Studies Secretary)  
Jammie-Lee George Colburn (Motorcycle, ATV & Personal Watercraft Technology, 2003)  
Lisa Deuel (Associate Degree Nursing, 2003; Practical Nursing, 1996)  
Lynette (Davis) Earnest (Business Admin. 1990)  
Kelly Jo (Haselhorst) Swanson (Associate Degree Nursing, 2003)  
Sarah M. Linsenmeyer (Associate Degree Nursing, 2005)  
Christie Lee (Buel) Taylor (Child Care Occupations, 1979)  
Sharon Waldo (Retired Continuing Education Assistant Director)

### LINCOLN CAMPUS CAREER FAIRS — Join us!

Professional Truck Driver Training Fair • May 13  
Human Services Career Fair • May 5  
Early Childhood Education Career Fair • May 8

### We would appreciate your help locating 1998 Lincoln Graduates!



**We want to stay in touch with our grads!**  
Email information to [alumni@southeast.edu](mailto:alumni@southeast.edu) or call 800-642-4075, ext. 2622.

Please check the Alumni website for a listing of the missing 1998 alumni.

[https://www.southeast.edu/alumni\\_friends/](https://www.southeast.edu/alumni_friends/)

# MILFORD CAMPUS

## In Their Own Words...

**I** was born in a family with seven siblings to a renowned humble poet and writer in Malaysia. As the third member of six boys and one girl, I was the unlucky one chosen by my parents to assist in the family financial affairs while my older brothers were studying abroad and the younger ones were still in grade school.

In the late 1970s, after completing my higher national diploma in building construction engineering studies at a local engineering college, I set off to work as a junior-level instructor in a civil and architectural department in the same institution. I enjoyed eight years teaching college students and watching them pursue advanced degrees and careers in foreign countries as engineers and architects. That experience led me to pursue more education in the United States.

I had no financial support to study abroad at a university. But in March 1985, I was admitted to SCC's Milford Campus. It was early spring in Milford. There was snow on the ground, and the cold Nebraska weather chilled me to the bone. It was devastating to a tropical dude from the Sunshine State surrounded by white sand beaches.

My first day of class was memorable. My classmates, instructors and the Milford community were lovely passionate people who provided me true love, guidance and friendship. The Milford Campus was very caring toward international students, particularly in career guidance and its community support group.

When I graduated in spring 1987, I was admitted to Colorado State University in Fort Collins to pursue an undergraduate degree, followed by a graduate degree in construction management with a concentration in airport project management. Upon graduation in 1989 I started working as a trainee planner and estimator with Aspen Construction Company in Fort Collins. Later in 1991 I pursued a graduate degree at CSU. During my study I worked with a consultant as a project engineer at the new Denver International Airport. My career in construction engineering and management peaked as I managed a billion-dollar DIA project. This was the pinnacle in my career advancement. Coming to the U.S. in search of academic excellence and working in the land of opportunity made my dreams come true.

In 1994 the airport authority in the Malaysian government hired me as a senior engineering planning manager on the new Greenfield Kuala Lumpur International Airport. During my 12 years there I received achievement awards and other accolades for my skills and experiences in international airports and light rails project management.

On Dec. 26, 2004, a 9.3 earthquake and subsequent tsunami devastated the lives, property and economic sustainability of many countries in Asia Pacific. The Aceh province in Indonesia was devastated beyond imagination. More than 230,000 people in 14 countries died, and the tsunami caused an estimated \$10 billion damage. This traumatic event was a crossroads toward hanging the boots in my corporate high-flying lifestyle.

The disaster led me to follow the Lord's calling to serve the helpless and the local government in rebuilding lives and infrastructure. Thus, in 2006, I was appointed as a consultant and



*Refugee camp in Iraq*

technical advisor for the construction of seismic sustainability shelter homes in Indonesia. Through the years I contributed to rebuilding regions in Aceh and Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Three years later I was called to serve on a humanitarian mission in Afghanistan as technical advisor in emergency infrastructure engineering, developing projects in the ongoing disaster regions throughout the country. My duties were to help build major hospitals, schools, clinics, and infrastructure, specifically in Taliban-infested regions of Afghanistan. This was a very challenging humanitarian relief mission. I thank God, my family and friends that I was able to stay alive and achieve my mission while working with good local Afghan engineers and international consultants.

Last November I was reappointed for mission support in Iraq. My duties were to rebuild an emergency response shelter and water and sanitation systems for settlement camps in northern Iraq. My humanitarian relief mission is in a very challenging environment with ongoing conflicts. But I have the same level of faith and confidence that I had during my Afghanistan mission. I hope I can have my wife and children with me during the next mission.

Eventually I want to serve the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, as a technical support specialist in disaster management, thereby utilizing my expertise to the international humanitarian community's mission worldwide.

*~ Raja Segaran Kuppuswamy, 1986 Building Construction Technology Graduate*



*IDP emergency shelter construction management in Iraq*

## Featured Year – June 1998 Auto Collision Repair Technology Graduates

### *Front row, from left:*

**Ryan Jensen, Cy Bailey, Jeremy Schulzkump, Rocky Hansen, Trent Proskocil.**

### *Middle row, from left:*

**Jason Fischer, Chad Ruda, Joel Schaaf, Travis Peterson, Tony Dimauro, Rob Cann, instructor Bill Vocasek.**

### *Back row, from left:*

**Dan Conway, Chad Lechtenberg, Joe Kallhoff, Troy Filipi, Brad Johnson, Scott Johnson, Shawn Bohlken.**



## Featured Year – 1965 Building Construction Graduate, David Kinsey

“I grew up on a small farm in eastern Iowa with an interest in home building and cabinet making. My pastor was from O’Neill, NE, and shared with me about a school in Milford, NE, called the Nebraska Vocational Technical School. This was the beginning of a very interesting journey for me.

Some of my first acquaintances were Pete Peterson, department head of Building Trades; John Treu, instructor; and Lowell Welsh, director of the school. The Building Trades program was a grassroots program with all the training to make you a top-notch builder.

After graduating I was employed by a lumber company in Iowa as a carpenter foreman with a crew of six men. We specialized in building homes, farm buildings and remodeling. Six years in the field, Milford called to invite

me to teach in the Building Trades program. I had four years of service in when I took a similar position in Des Moines, IA, with the Des Moines Area Community College. I later started a residential home building and remodeling business which I stayed with until I retired at age 70.

Each day I am thankful for having my education from this school with great people and a great program. Thanks to SCC and the state of Nebraska.”

*David Kinsey*

*Proud Graduate, Class of 1965*



Congratulations to **Dan Holtmeyer** for being presented the Outstanding Alumni Award at the December 2014 SCC graduation ceremony. Holtmeyer is a 1975 graduate of the Air Conditioning program and is president of Verne Simmonds Co. in Omaha, NE.

## Student Project Becomes Piece of Training Equipment for SCC Program



When **Zach Murphy** had some free time as a student at Southeast Community College’s Milford Campus, he often thought about projects that would use the education he’d received.

So the Energy Generation Operations program student, with help from several others, made a 100,000-BTU natural gas boiler/steam turbine that has become a training tool in the program.

Murphy, who graduated June 2014 and is now an operator at a Flint Hills Resources ethanol plant in Menlo, Iowa, said the education he received from SCC’s program enabled him to build his invention.

“Without the education it would have been really difficult to build the boiler,” said Murphy,

who was in the program’s Nuclear Focus. “I used many of my classes to build this project, including low-pressure boilers, steam turbines and physics.”

John Pierce, Energy Generation Operations program chair, said Murphy intended to create a steam-powered cell phone charger. “I know this isn’t in any way practical, but it’s a pet project he took on by himself, with a little help from his instructors and some other students,” Pierce said.

A student in SCC’s Electronic Systems Technology program helped build a voltage regulator that turned the raw voltage generated by the turbine on the machine into a USB-compatible output so that any USB device could be powered by it.

Murphy credited several people with assisting him on the project, including classmates Grant Jackson, Rich Borgenson and Jonny Clark. “They were alongside me when I went to the different programs and helped with bouncing ideas off each other,” Murphy said.

When the device was started for the first time, the turbine produced usable steam and working voltage. Murphy said it is considered a fire tube boiler because there are tubes that hold hot exhaust gas that run in the middle of the boiler.

“The reason for this is to increase the surface area of hot gasses on the water instead of just heating the bottom of the boiler,” he said. “We were able to heat throughout the center also. John would not let us build it without a pressure safety relief valve, and we bought one for 15 PSI. Anything below 15 PSI is considered a low-pressure boiler.”

The turbine has a squirrel cage fan, and the

HVAC program put a casing around the outside. The generator has a 12-volt DC motor that Pierce found at a surplus store. Murphy donated the boiler to Pierce and the Energy Generation Operations program.

“I told him that he had to show each new class how to charge a cell phone,” Murphy said.

Murphy said he also enjoyed collecting input from various Milford Campus programs.

“I used as many resources as I could,” he said. “I really enjoyed going to different programs to ask to use their resources, including the diesel program for tools and workbench. I got help from the precision machining program to help drill precise holes. The HVAC program helped a lot with piping and enclosing my turbine. The electrical program built a voltage regulator for us. Every program loved what we were doing and helped out tremendously.”

Murphy also enlisted the help of J.R. Welding, a shop in Milford.

“I had no previous relationship with him (Jason Roth), and we described what we were doing, and he wanted to help,” Murphy said. “He is an SCC graduate and donated his time and materials for our project. Jason said he would do it for free, only if we showed him when we were done. He was super-excited to see it and enjoyed our project just as much as we did. Without everyone’s help, we would not have been able to do this project.”

Murphy, whose goal is to work in the nuclear power industry, possibly near his hometown of Rock Port, Mo., said his project serves as a model for how large power plants produce electricity.

# MILFORD CAMPUS

## HVAC Graduates Working, Living the Dream in Seattle



**Jordan Reeker** (on left) and **Bob Gall** (on right) are doing something they never thought possible when they first stepped on SCC's Milford Campus.

Both men graduated from the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology program in June 2012. They are now working "awesome jobs" in Seattle, WA, according to HVAC-R Program Chair Jeff Boaz. "I wouldn't be in this exciting and successful career if it weren't for SCC, and that's a fact," said Reeker, 30. "There are so many options in

the HVAC field, and I would recommend it to anyone." Gall, 25, said, "The HVAC/R program has changed our lives. The opportunities in this field are endless."

Both graduates are facilities mechanical engineers for Hines for Amazon Global Real Estate & Facilities. They assist with new start-up buildings, check blueprints and examine the physical installations for design flaws.

"When we find flaws we create a new way for the system to work properly," said Gall, a native of the Seward area. "After the building goes online, we maintain the mechanical side of the buildings. We also work on commercial refrigeration and cooking equipment such as ice machines, walk-in freezers and coolers, supermarket-style rack systems, all types of commercial cooking equipment."

Reeker's cousin urged him to go back to school, specifically SCC-Milford.

"I have him to thank for that," he said.

Reeker and Gall are "problem-solvers" who make sure the Amazon facilities run smoothly.

"We take care of tenant comfort issues (HVAC/R related) and offer engineering services, as well as help with new building start-ups," Reeker said. "And of course we get to work with state-of-the-art equipment, as well as troubleshoot and fix that equipment. Every day is something different and new, and I love it."

As of summer 2014, downtown Seattle saw at least 100 active construction projects worth more than \$2.8 billion, a level not seen since 2008. According to Todd Bishop, co-founder and

editor of GeekWire, Amazon is constructing three additional buildings north of downtown Seattle, on a plot of land acquired by the company in 2014 for \$52 million, adjacent to the three-block Amazon development project already in the works.

"The amount of construction going on downtown is mind-blowing," said Reeker, a native of Norfolk. "Everywhere you look cranes are constructing high-rise towers. Most of these buildings are Amazon-related. The exciting part is that my team and I have our hands in all of it one way or another."

Reeker encouraged current SCC students who may want to venture outside Nebraska for work to check out the Pacific Northwest. "With our impending growth, we will need 'super techs' in the immediate future," he said. "If students are interested in commercial building operations and have a yearning to move out of Nebraska, there are opportunities. It is a great field and a great company."

Both Reeker and Gall praised SCC for providing the foundational education and skill set they use every day. "I would not be where I am today without SCC," Gall said. "I was inspired to go to the HVAC/R program by my dad. He was a smart man and said to do something in which there would be jobs available. This was something I was interested in, and the jobs are endless. I pursued it, and I couldn't be happier with the outcome. I greatly appreciate everything the HVAC/R instructors have done for us, both while we were in college and now. I can call for advice anytime if I need any."

## Koch Fertilizer, LLC Awarded Six \$2,500 Scholarships

to students from the Electronic Systems Technology & Energy Generation Operations programs.



*Scholarship recipients pictured with Koch representatives are, from left:*

- Justin Klooz**, Recruiter, Koch
- Eric Kimlinger**, Human Resource Manager, Koch
- Tyler Snow**, Electronic Systems Technology
- Mike Chapman**, Energy Generation Operations
- Matt Meyer**, Energy Generation Operations
- Will Jones**, Energy Generation Operations
- Haydn Rugg**, Energy Generation Operations
- Cody Hergenrader**, Energy Generation Operations
- Steve Juhl**, Senior Recruiter, Koch
- Ian Gutzman**, Recruiting Manager, Koch

## Graduates in the News!

**Mark Kolterman** was recently elected as a Nebraska state legislator to represent District 24, which is comprised of Seward, York and Polk counties. Sen. Kolterman is a 1974 graduate from the Building Construction Technology program.

Congratulations to **Jeff Ludeke**, 1996 John Deere Tech graduate. Ludeke was promoted to service manager at Landmark Implement in Holdrege, NE.

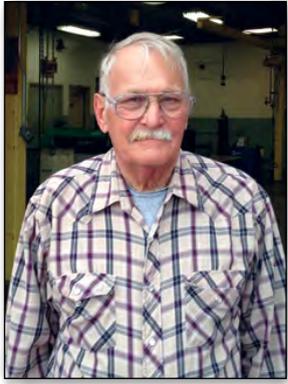
**Jacob Mehl**, 2012 Manufacturing Engineering Technology graduate, to aftermarket project coordinator. Congratulations Jacob!

"Started my business in 2004. Couldn't have done it without my training from SCC Milford!" **Brent Langemeier**, 1995 HVAC graduate, is the owner of Langemeier Heating and Cooling in North Platte, NE.

"I just received a promotion into management. Thanks SCC for kick-starting a pretty sweet career so far!" **James Weeda**, 1996 Architectural-Engineering Technology graduate.

**April (Carter) Hock**, 1996 Architectural-Engineering Technology graduate, received her professional engineer license in Architectural Engineering in the state of Nebraska. Congrats April!

## Longtime Welding Technology Instructor Howard Bay Dies After Short Retirement



Howard Bay, a Welding Technology instructor at SCC who retired Jan. 30 after a 37-year career, lost his battle with cancer on March 7. Bay was a 1968 Welding Technology

graduate from the Milford Campus.

Bay began employment at SCC on Jan. 1, 1978. His first assignment was to teach welding classes for the Nebraska Department of Corrections, including the Nebraska State Penitentiary. He then taught welding on SCC's Lincoln Campus in 1991 before transferring to the Milford Campus in November 1996. There he served as co-chair of the program for many years.

Bay also was very willing, when asked, to teach continuing education welding classes in surrounding communities such as Crete and Beatrice, which he did for more than 10 years.

He served on the Milford Campus Safety Team for many years. In 2003 he was honored for his 25 years of service to the College. Ten years later he received the "Al" Havener Award for his 35 years of service.

He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, having served from 1969-1971.

Colleagues say Bay was very dedicated to teaching, and that he loved working with his students.

### In Memory of...



Carrol Adams (Diesel, 1952)  
 Jack Armstrong, (Retired Instructor, Automotive)  
 Leonard Bartek (Air Conditioning, 1971)  
 Howard D. Bay  
 (Welding, 1968; Retired Instructor, Welding)  
 Mary E. Bort (Retired Asst. Dorm Manager)  
 Timothy Corey (Welding, 1988)  
 Shane Costello (Machine Tool, 1992)  
 Lyle B. Cox (HVAC, 1956)  
 Micky Edmunds (ASEP, 1994)  
 David Gomez (Machine Tool, 1984)  
 John McClarnen (Auto Body, 1969)  
 Patricia K. Meyer (Machine Tool, 1979)  
 Stanley R. Musil (Automotive, 1959)  
 Raymond L. Norris (Drafting, 1960)  
 Richard Poeschl (Auto Body, 1970)  
 Howard Pracht (Electronics, 1962)  
 Lloyd Rathke (Diesel, 1961)  
 Clifton Robertson (Building Construction, 1954)  
 Warren L. Snider (Welding, 1967)  
 Seth K. Thompson (Building Construction, 1998-Milford and CADD, 1999-Lincoln)

## Ron Petsch Receives Patriot Award

Ron Petsch, chair of the Building Construction Technology program on the Milford Campus, was presented the Patriot Award on Jan. 6 by Col. Keith Schell, chief of staff for the Nebraska Air National Guard. Loran Stara, Building Construction Technology instructor and Nebraska National Guard staff sergeant, nominated



From left, Bill Nelson, Program Support Tech., Keith Schell, Ron Petsch, and Loran Stara

Petsch for the award. The Patriot Award is awarded by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve to supervisors of guard and reserve members of the military who are being deployed or who have shown support in other ways to military members. The award demonstrates the exceptional support a supervisor has given to his employee. Congratulations Ron!

 **1985** – “It feels so good to still receive a ‘Happy Birthday’ card every January from SCC. I want to take this opportunity to express how glad I am of having received the NDT Technology A.A.S. degree in 1985 when I graduated from SCC-Milford. The training and education I received has proven to be so valuable. Not necessarily the NDT portion, but what came with it.

After graduating I worked as an NDT technician in Oklahoma and then in California. Since 1988 I worked for two companies in their NDT departments in the aerospace/defense areas. After I decided to pursue my bachelor's degree in engineering, I stopped working completely using my NDT skills directly.

I graduated in 1993 from California State University-Long Beach with a B.S. in Engineering Technology in Quality Assurance. I continued working in the aerospace/defense industries, and in 1999 moved to Fresno, CA, where I worked in consumer products/construction and medical device industries using my quality engineering skills. In 2005, I obtained an MBA from California State University-Fresno. I have not had the need to earn a living using my NDT skills. However, the basis of education, troubleshooting and problem-solving abilities that Milford gave me has stayed with me.

Thanks once again Milford and SCC for putting forth such a high level of effort in making sure all students get the most they need that will last them for a lifetime.”

*Rangel Melendez, Quality and Safety Director, Jain Irrigation, Inc., Fresno, CA;  
 1985 SCC NDT Graduate*

## Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1965 Graduates?

**We want to stay in touch with our grads!**

Email information to [alumni@southeast.edu](mailto:alumni@southeast.edu) or call **800-933-7223, ext. 8242.**

Allen Andersen	Raymond Davidson	Leo Hanus	Roger Lord	Jerry Rohde
Gary Atkins	Mahlon Dickey	John Harrison	Rodney Lorenzen	David Sawyer
Don Baker	Allen Doremus	Thomas Hazelwood	Mack McConnell	Robert Schulz
Richard Baker	Kenneth Duval	Vernon Huck	Dean Meyer	Dennis Schwiager
Patrick Baroch	John Earlywine	Charles Hulse	Richard Mousel	David Shorney
John Bejot	Larry Elfring	Daryl Janssen	Gary Nelson	Christapor Simonian
Lynn Beyer	Delvin Engel	Richard January	Roger Neumeister	Vance Smith
James Briggs	William Filter	John Jessen, Jr.	Hubert Olsen	Charles Thesenvitz
Keith Buffington	David Fisher	Johnny Johnston	David Peterson	Patric Vendetti
John Bumbaugh	Larry Fisher	Neil Keasling	Daniel Pigeon	Jim Winter
Ed Christoffersen	Victor Frana	Robert Kleiber	Gary Rauert	Bill Wondra
Jack Couch	R.S. Gray	William Koch	Timothy Reikofski	

## Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1998 Graduates?

Kevin Anderson	Jim Fahr	Douglas Jacobson	Michael Paulsen	KC Sohl
Richard Bannister	Andrew Fahrenbruch	Christian Janousek	Phillip Pinkelman	Joseph Sykora
Angela Blacketer	Jason Forstrom	Benjamin Johnson	Dennis Remmenga	Jonnie Tenhulzen
Zachary Brackett	Joel Gertsch	Bradley Johnson	Thomas Remp	Bounsavanh Thao
Michael Brackhan	Jason Johnsen	Jason Johnson	Kyle Repass	Travis Thompson
Leo Braun	Daniel Harms	Sheri Kearney	Scott Rogers	Russ Thurman
Stephen Buttercase	Jeremy Hasenkamp	James Knight	Dennis Rose	Bryan Wadas
James Carman	Vicki Hayes	Donald Kopiasz	Raymond Ross	Jefferey Walla
Jennifer Carpenter	Michael Haynie	Jason Kremer	Joel Schaaf	Christopher Watson
Logan Cautrell	James Henderson	Matt Lockard	Jerod Schlake	Michele Weiss
Michael Coufal	Heath Herbert	Douglas Lundvall	Michael Schmit	Wallace White
Justin Dillon	Matthew Hock	Darwin Miller	Justin Schneiderhein	Robert Woita
Richard Elliott	Dana Hoefener	Jeremiah Moore	Andrew Schoenbeck	Greg Zahourek
Jennifer Essman	Samuel Holley	Jeremy Moss	Nathan Scholz	Nicholas Ziemba
Robert Evans	Jeffrey Huetson	Jacob Murphey	Jason Smith	

# Alumni NEWS

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## SCC Basketball Teams Qualify for National Tournament

*The Storm men's and women's basketball teams both qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II tournaments in March.*



**Vicki Wooton's women's team** lost 71-64 to Johnson County Community College and 73-67 to Schoolcraft College of Michigan at the national tourney in Overland Park, KS. SCC ended its season with a 22-8 record.

**Joel Wooton's men's team** lost 81-51 to defending national champion Phoenix College and 78-73 to Community College of Baltimore County (Dundalk, MD) in Danville, IL. SCC ended its season with a 13-20 record.



For updates on all Storm athletics, go to: [www.southeast.edu/Athletics](http://www.southeast.edu/Athletics)

Searching for employment? Register for the SCC Employment Website at <https://placement.southeast.edu>

It is the policy of Southeast Community College to provide equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in all admission, attendance, and employment matters to all persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, veteran status, sexual orientation, disability, or other factors prohibited by law or College policy. Inquiries concerning the application of Southeast Community College's policies on equal opportunity and nondiscrimination should be directed to the Vice President for Access/Equity/Diversity, SCC Area Office, 301 South 68th St. Place, Lincoln, NE 68510, 402-323-3412, FAX 402-323-3420, or [jsoto@southeast.edu](mailto:jsoto@southeast.edu).