

THE ADVISOR

News from the Hagerstown Community College Advancement Office

Winter 2023

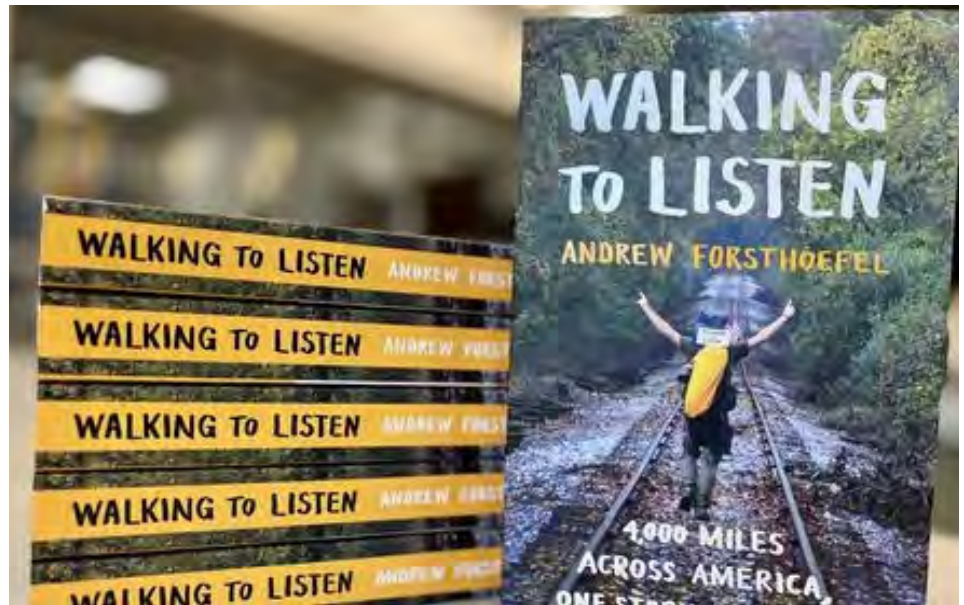
PRESIDENT'S REFLECTION

Greetings!

2023 has gotten off to a busy start at Hagerstown Community College! In this edition of the Advisor, you will see that our college advancement team is really on the go. The alumni have returned from their winter cruise, are developing a strategic plan, and planning concerts for the summer in the amphitheater.

Our business and culinary incubators are full and we have waiting lists of new entrepreneurs seeking entrance. Time flies as we just passed the half-way point in tenancy for our inaugural class of incubator tenants. By December, many will have moved into the local community and we will have new entrepreneurs seeking to incubate their business ideas.

This semester, we will engage our community with our Big Read program and our campus book, *Walking to Listen*, by Andrew Forsthoefer. Andrew will be coming to campus in March, and we will have community gatherings to meet him and learn about his experiences walking across the United States. We hope to grow our Big Read program over the years to really provide our community and students an



Walking to Listen Author Andrew Forsthoefer Comes to Campus in March

opportunity to engage in reading and discussion of timely topics.

Once again, thank you for your support to HCC and our college advancement efforts. We appreciate your help to make HCC a great place for our students to learn and succeed!

Yours truly,

President

IN THIS ISSUE:

Artists bloom at HCC; Cupid visits campus; 1946 Society happenings; HCC recognized by the Chamber of Commerce; and much more!

“Hagerstown is a hub city. You can get anywhere within an hour or hour and a half; it’s a good central point for where I need to go. I want to help the community grow more and make Washington County bigger and greater every year.”
–Wornden Ly



Your gift can make a difference for a student! Scan now to see the ways you can support HCC.

A Night of Arts for HCC's Planned Giving Society



The 1946 Society, HCC's planned giving society, joined students for a night of arts at HCC on Saturday, December 10. The 1946 Society members met several students in the HCC Student Art League who discussed the motivations behind their artwork, as well as how HCC has influenced their future careers as artists.



The 1946 Society then had V.I.P. seating in the Kepler Theater to watch HCC students and guest performers in the HCC Winter Student Dance Concert.

Did you know that becoming a 1946 Society member is as easy as filling out a Letter of Intent form? Call the College Advancement office at 240-500-2348 to learn more!

HCC ATHLETIC ALUMNI GATHER TO EXPRESS THEIR GRATITUDE FOR THE LATE COACH JIM BROWN

Former HCC Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Coach, Jim Brown, passed away in early 2022. Coach Brown had an outstanding impact on youth across the county. His philanthropic work and extraordinary coaching skills made a lasting impression on many, especially the men's basketball students that he coached and mentored.

During the annual HCC Jim Brown Classic Tournament for men's basketball, current and former HCC athletes, friends, and colleagues were on hand to reminisce about Coach Brown. Several HCC athletic alumni attended to share their stories about playing basketball with him, as well as his son, former Head Coach Barry Brown. Two current HCC athletes shared their experiences and the importance of the skills that they learned from their coach, Bernard Hopkins, as well as the bonds made with their teammates.

During the Jim Brown Classic Tournament, in which the Hawks played Monroe College,



Sharon Brown accepts a check for the Jim Brown Legacy Scholarship

the Athletic Boosters awarded the following raffle prizes: two flat-screen TVs, a 50/50 raffle, a free three-credit HCC course of choice, and a chance to win \$1,000 with a half-court shot.

Are you interested in attending HCC athletic socials? Contact the College Advancement Office at 240-500-2348 to discuss future alumni activities!

TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES HELPS STUDENT SUCCESS

HCC's TRIO Student Support Services program is a Department of Education funded-program, designed to help students succeed. Chrystelle Binga, who participated in the TRIO program, graduated from HCC in the fall of 2022. Her academic journey was long and turbulent, but with help from her TRIO advisors, she graduated with two degrees and earned Dean's list in her final year.

Chrystelle says "it has always been important to me to succeed and excel academically. However, from the minute I entered college, I have encountered a multitude of ups and downs. As a first-year student and the first member of my family to attend college, I was uncertain of my purpose and therefore had difficulty choosing a major that reflects my interests and challenges me. It was not until I found guidance within the TRIO, I was able to find my way. Through TRIO's consistent

meetings and follow-ups, I have developed a sense of self-improvement and growth. As a result, I became a dedicated woman who never backs down from challenges and makes the most of my abilities in order to succeed."

In addition to the TRIO Student Support Services Program, HCC has three other Department of Education funded programs designed to provide support services to students and to strengthen institutional practices: TRIO Upward Bound; Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS); and Title III Strengthening Institutions.

TRIO
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

THE ARTIST AS ENTREPRENEUR

SHALIN THOMAS

Originally in school for nursing, Shalin transferred to HCC and is double majoring in Biology and Visual Arts. What a combination! She says that Biology made sense for financial support, but Visual Arts makes sense for entrepreneurship.

Shalin is the president and one of the founders of the Student Art League, a club that is the product of a desire for an art community on campus. In the fall semester, the Student Art League assisted at HCC events, like volunteering at the STEAM Fest or running parts of the Student Art Show. In the spring semester, the Student Art League plans to host



Shalin Thomas, President, HCC Student Art League

an art seminar, an art show, and host figure drawing classes.

According to Shalin "I found that there are many paths for the artist. This little bit of clarity regarding my future plans is something I didn't have before. In this time period and in my generation, that's a pretty big accomplishment to me."

At HCC, Shalin is learning how to create and nurture community; how to take her time, instead of running full-steam ahead into burnout; and how to lay foundations from which future students and community members will surely benefit.

The Student Art League has been created to provide a platform for discussion and an outlet for creativity for student artists at HCC. HCC students and student artists come together to invest time and energy in advancing their skills and promoting their work in the community. The goals of the current semester include providing and learning about resources for new entrepreneurial artists, operating a show, and furthering the growth of the art community here on campus.

WORNDEN LY

Wornden Ly values his upbringing in Washington County and his education at HCC - so much that he is now a tenant in the David W. Fletcher Incubator + Labs.

Wornden attended Williamsport High School and got started at HCC with in the Early College Access Program (formerly ESSENCE). He attended HCC and graduated with an associate's degree in biology, with the vision that he would become a physical therapist or a chiropractor.

After his graduation, Wornden transferred to Stevenson, and after one semester (specifically while taking a chemistry class), he determined that science was not a passion of his. He then changed his major and graduated in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in business communications.

As a business communications major at Stevenson, he was required to work for the school newspaper and started taking and



Wornden Ly, Wornden Ly Photography

editing photos. Eager to improve his photography skills, he enrolled in a photography class. The class required students to go out into the community to find clients from small businesses, free of charge. As his skills improved, these businesses started reaching out to him take photos for their companies - as a paid job!

He discovered his enjoyment for both photography and entrepreneurship after this experience, ultimately finding his way to becoming a current business incubator tenant in the newly renovated Center for Business and Entrepreneurial Studies (CBES) building. Wornden enjoys the community atmosphere and the mentorship aspects that the incubator provides for him.

Wornden realizes the potential and opportunities that the Washington County region provides to him as a young entrepreneur: "Hagerstown is a hub city. You can get anywhere within an hour or hour and a half; it's a

good central point for where I need to go. I want to help the community grow more and make Washington County bigger and greater every year"

If you're interested in checking Wornden Ly Photography out, you can visit his webpage: www.worndenlyphotography.com



LOVE BLOOMS AT HCC!



Cupid is not shy about visiting the HCC campus. The college has played a role in numerous matches over the years, and many alumni first met their spouses and partners on campus. Two couples – the Leathermans and the Sneckenbergers share their HCC love stories in this issue.



Priscilla and Ed

Ed was married to the former Scottie Hansbrough, also originally from Hagerstown, for 53 years until her death in October 2021. Priscilla was widowed after 23 years of marriage to Wally Matheny.

After Scottie died, Ed hoped to find Priscilla again. Ed, then living in Morgantown, WV, tracked down Priscilla

Ed and Priscilla Sneckenberger of Hagerstown became local celebrities after their wedding in December 2022. Their unique love story has been shared by the Herald Mail, Echo-Pilot, and People.com – making Ed and Priscilla local celebrities.

Ed was originally from Greencastle and Priscilla was from Hagerstown. They were supposed to be married after Ed graduated from HJC in 1962, but the engagement ended when he went off to WVU. He earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in mechanical engineering at WVU, where he taught for 36 years, while spending summers on "beautiful opportunities" at places like NASA, IBM, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ed tracked down Priscilla to apologize, with hopes of rekindling of the spark from six decades ago. Love won out and 60 years after they were first engaged, the two reconnected, the spark reignited and they were married December 7 in St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, by the Rev. Ron Schlak. Now that they have been reunited, the Sneckenbergers have been active in HCC alumni activities, most recently visiting the Washington County Playhouse with the HCC alumni.



Bonnie and Paul, circa 1970

Paul and Bonnie met in the spring of 1967 on the campus of HJC. Both were in Donald Kaylor's government class. They connected again in Dr. Elliot's science class. After a date where the two collected stream samples at Paul's home in Hancock, Paul's mom encouraged him to keep seeing Bonnie. The two married in 1970 and have three wonderful children (all of whom attended HCC) and have celebrated 53 years of wonderful life together.

**Do you have an alumni milestone or accomplishment you would like to share?
Email us at collegeadvancement@hagerstowncc.edu.**

Applications are now being accepted for the Hagerstown Community College 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame. Nomination forms are due by May 1.

Nominees will be considered upon five years of completion of their final semester or graduation year at HCC. They will remain on the ballot for three years after the initial nomination. Anyone may submit a nominee for consideration by the selection committee. The nomination form, along with the full list of nomination requirements, can be found by scanning the QR code to the right.

The 2023 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held on Saturday, October 7, as part of the second annual HCC Homecoming Weekend. Festivities will include the Hawktoberfest 5K, to be held at 9 a.m. on the HCC campus, as well as a special alumni athletic event. More details are forthcoming.

Contact Jess Miller at jsmiller@hagerstowncc.edu or 240-500-2518 for more information about the Hall of Fame nomination process.



We asked HCC students what they love about HCC. These are their top answers:

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT HCC IS...

The free tutoring

How everyone is friendly

How helpful the professors are



The long breaks between semesters

There is always an event to attend

The food

That I get to spend time with my friends

The community

The beautiful nature on campus

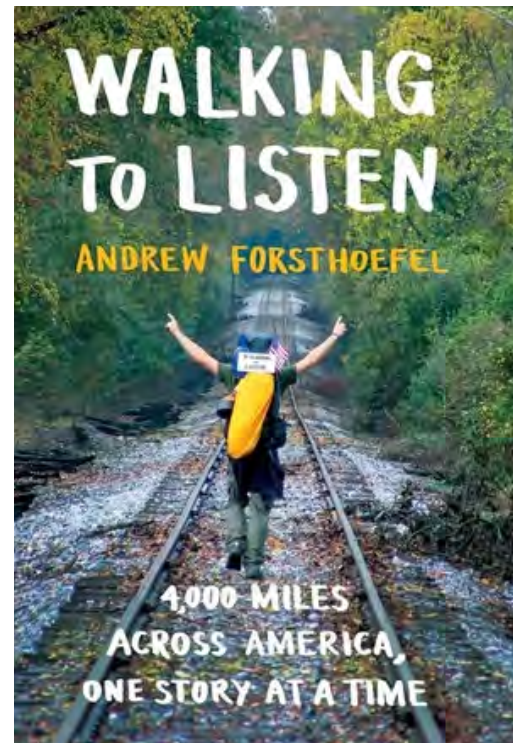
HCC'S BIG READ: Walking to Listen

Hagerstown Community College is happy to announce its second annual Big Read initiative, open to all students, faculty, staff, and the community. The 2023 Big Read is *Walking to Listen: 4,000 Miles Across America, One Story at a Time*. The book is a memoir by Andrew Forsthoefer of his cross-country trek-told through the stories of the people of all ages, races, and inclinations he meets along the highways of America.

At 23, Andrew Forsthoefer walked out the back door of his home in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, with a backpack, an audio recorder, his copies of Whitman and Rilke, and a sign that read walking to listen. He had just graduated from Middlebury College and was ready to begin his adult life, but he didn't know how. So he decided he'd walk. And listen. It would be a cross-country quest for guidance, and everyone he met would be his guide.

Walking toward the Pacific, he faced an Appalachian winter and a Mojave summer. He met beasts inside: fear, loneliness, doubt. But he also encountered incredible kindness from strangers. Thousands shared their stories with him, sometimes confiding their prejudices, too. Often he didn't know how to respond. How to find unity in diversity? How to stay connected, even as fear works to tear us apart? He listened for answers to these questions, and to the existential questions every human must face, and began to find that the answer might be in listening itself.

Ultimately, it's the stories of others living all along the roads of America that carry this journey and sing out in a hopeful, heartfelt book about how a life is made, and how our nation defines itself at the most human level.



HCC will host a Big Read event with author Andrew Forsthoefer, on Thursday, March 23 at 10 a.m., in the Kepler Theater. Guests will get a closer look into Andrew's quest for guidance and the stories of others living along the roads of America. Bring your book to ask questions and get a free book signing.

To learn more about HCC's Big Read initiative, contact Alicia Drumgoole amdumgoole@hagerstowncc.edu

BEATING THE WINTER BLUES

SPRING MUSICAL

APRIL 28 - 30 KEPLER THEATER

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



Are you looking for something to do close to home this winter? HCC is pleased to offer opportunities for all tastes. Join us for Earth Day on April 21, 2023 or check out the musical with "All that Jazz" in April. Don't forget to check out the calendar of events on the back page of the newsletter or the college webpage for more offerings.

ALUMNI CRUISE THE CARIBBEAN



HCC WINS CHAMBER AWARD

For the second year in a row, the college won big at the Washington County Chamber of Commerce's Annual Business Awards. Last year, college president Dr. James S. Klauber was named Business Person of the Year. This year, Hagerstown Community College was named Washington County Large Business of the Year, edging out Fiserv and Federal Express. The Large Business of the Year award is awarded to a business doing work in Washington County that has demonstrated the following: product or service quality, job creation, innovation, strong community involvement, high standard in business practice, commitment to Washington County and the community.

Attendees and local business leaders gathered at the historic Maryland Theater to honor the award winners and nominees in six categories: At Your Service; Large Business of the Year; Nonprofit of the Year; Small Business of the Year; Young Professional of the Year; and Business Person of the Year. In addition to honoring the college as Large Business of the Year, 75th Anniversary Campaign co-chair James Holzapfel was awarded Business Person of the Year. HCC Board President Dave Abeles was also nominated in this category.



HCC STAFF AND FACULTY JOIN DR. KLAUBER AT THE MARYLAND THEATER FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS AWARDS CEREMONY



Hagerstown Community College
Office of College Advancement
11400 Robinwood Drive
Hagerstown, MD 21742

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A Tribute to HCC & Student Success, hosted by BJ Goetz and Jim Holzapfel

Friday, March 31, at 6 p.m. in HCC's Athletic, Recreation & Community Center. \$150 per person, cocktail attire. Live music by the Holders. Contact Rachel Griffin at 240-500-2348 or email rgriffin@hagerstowncc.edu for information.

Earth Day at HCC

Friday, April 21, 2023.

To learn about volunteer opportunities for Earth Day at HCC, contact Lisa Stewart at lsstewart@hagerstowncc.edu.

Check out the spring musical that is guaranteed to bring “All That Jazz” and promises to “Razzle Dazzle”

April 28-30, presented at HCC's Kepler Theater! Tickets are free for HCC Students, Faculty, and Staff. All others: \$15.50 for adults and \$12.50 for Seniors. This production features HCC theater students as well as members of the local theater community.

Alumni Volleyball Tournament

May 13, in the ARCC. Contact Jess Miller at jsmiller@hagerstowncc.edu for more information or to register.

Hawktoberfest Homecoming Weekend

Saturday, October 7, 2023. Hawktoberfest 5k to be held at 9:00 am on the HCC Campus. 2023 Hall of Fame Induction in the evening. Call Jess Miller at 240-500-2518 for more information.