



Donors and MCC leaders break ground on the ballfield improvements: K. Paul Holt, Rick Brophy, Mitch Thompson, Mike Reitmeier, J. Clay Sawyer, M.D., Ted Teague, William Palasota, Jared Poteet, Andrea Barefield, Deidra Emerson, MCC President Dr. Johnette McKown, and Shawn Trochim.



Mickey and Bob Park and Dr. Fred Hills at the 14th Annual MCC Highlander Alumni & Friends Reunion Picnic. Sadly, Bob passed away in August and his family named the MCC Foundation for memorials.

## WORK BEGINS ON BOSQUE RIVER BALLPARK IMPROVEMENTS

MCC hosted a groundbreaking ceremony on May 19 to celebrate the completion of the “Home Field Advantage” fundraising campaign and the beginning of work to improve the McLennan baseball and softball fields at the Bosque River Ballpark. The event included presentations from MCC Foundation Executive Director Kim Patterson, Athletic Director Shawn Trochim, and former Baseball Coach Mitch Thompson.

“Big dreams require great friends, and our community showed up in a big way to support McLennan’s dream of having upgraded baseball and softball fields on par with other colleges in the state,” Patterson said. The ceremony also recognized major donors, the City of Waco, the Cooper Foundation, the Paul McClinton Family, and Friends of MCC for their generous donations toward this project (see pg. 3 for the full list of donors.) Additionally, Patterson recognized Rick Brophy, who along with longtime MCC friend Bill Goss chaired the fundraising committee for this project. At the end of the presentation, it was announced that the McLennan baseball field will be named “McClinton Field” in recognition of the generous donation that was made by the Paul McClinton Family.

A “Light the Night” grand opening ceremony is planned when construction concludes. We hope to see you there!

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Follow us on social media!



[www.mclennan.edu/foundation](http://www.mclennan.edu/foundation)

Please remember the MCC Foundation in your annual giving, estate planning, and memorials.

1400 College Drive • Waco, TX 76708 • Phone: 254.299.8604 • Editor: Neyra Bazaldua

# Work Begins on Bosque River Ballpark Improvements

continued

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CLIF-ANN PARIS & SARAH CHAVEZ





*With thanks to our All-Star Donors who have helped give McLennan a Home Field Advantage!*

**MVPs**

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FRIEND OF MCC | PAUL McCLINTON FAMILY**

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NORTHWEST WACO OPTIMIST CLUB | SHEEHY, LOVELACE & MAYFIELD**

*These generous community partners will enable McLennan Athletics to fund ground improvements, artificial turf, and lights at our fields, making Waco and MCC a statewide hub for high school, select, and collegiate tournaments and playoff games.*

***We thank you!***

# PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS ATTEND WACO SYMPHONY



Dr. McKown and the MCC Leadership Team joined MCC Presidential Scholars for dinner at the Baylor Club and the “Sounds of the Cinema” concert by the Waco Symphony Orchestra on April 28. Students enjoyed hearing musical scores from many of their favorite films, including *Rudy*, *Star Wars*, and *The Lord of the Rings*. Longtime WFAA-TV film critic Gary Cogill narrated the event along with actor Sean Astin, who appeared in two of the films. The group was also delighted to hear former MCC music professor Dr. Sharon Lavery perform two pieces from *Titanic* and *The Fellowship of the Ring*. Attending cultural events is just one way the McLennan Presidential Scholars program helps develop students personally as well as academically.

MCC’s Presidential Scholars meet regularly with the college president and community leaders, experience study tours to New York and Washington, DC, serve as college ambassadors, and help host global figures like Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and Churchill Biographer Andrew Roberts. This year’s cohort is working toward a new scholars’ study trip to the Czech Republic in 2023. Extraordinary experiences like these are bringing the world to our students, before they go out and change it.

Funding the Presidential Scholars program is just one of the ways the MCC Foundation is making a difference in local lives every day. Your support brings excellence within reach. If you would like to learn more about how you can help students thrive at McLennan with a charitable gift, contact the MCC Foundation at 254-299-8604.



*Make a gift*

# HIGHLAND GAMES



One of McLennan Community College's traditions is to host Highland Games on campus. This year's celebration on April 20 featured a series of activities and carnival games hosted by McLennan Student Life. Activities included a hot dog cook out, axe throwing, bowling, badminton, cake walk, selfie booth, and even a movie night. Carnival games included cornhole, Plinko, Jenga, Yahtzee, and many more.

The MCC Foundation hosted Plinko game which gave us a wonderful opportunity to interact with students and encourage them to apply for Foundation scholarships.

# H-E-B IS PAULANNE'S HERO



H-E-B has been a longtime supporter of Paulanne's Pantry, having made several monetary donations to the pantry and to the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Most recently, the company donated three shopping carts to the MCC Foundation for the pantry to provide patrons a more personalized shopping experience. Special thanks to H-E-B Unit Director Michael Heins and H-E-B Waco Area Coordinator Rhonda Featherston for making this gift a reality! Pictured with two of the carts are Completion Center Associate Director Natalie James, left, and Basic Needs Grant Program Director Shanna Rogers.

This summer, MCC Basic Needs coaches launched Grab-N-Go snack stations around campus. The idea originated with a student who made a formal presentation that she accompanied with studies that indicate students learn more effectively when their stomachs are not growling. The snacks are open to all who attend MCC, including dual credit, adult education, and University Center students. The feedback has been quite positive; students are able to leave comments through a QR code where they have expressed their appreciation and given suggestions. The Grab-N-Go Snack stations are funded through donations to Paulanne's Pantry, and we hope to expand the program to all buildings in the future.

Supporting Paulanne's Pantry is just one way the MCC Foundation raises public and private support to ensure students can be successful in college and in life. To learn more, contact Executive Director Kim Patterson at 254-299-8606 or [kpatterson@mclennan.edu](mailto:kpatterson@mclennan.edu).



**Helping Here.**

# SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE



Most scholarships for 2022-2023 have been awarded, and so far this year 605 students have been awarded \$663,589 in MCC Foundation scholarships for the coming year! This amount marks a 34 percent increase from the 2021-2022 year—all due to the generosity of our donors! The students are excited to be on their educational journeys and are so grateful to the donors who are investing in them.

We are excited to be back in person for our Scholar, Donor, and Alumni Appreciation luncheon on Wednesday, September 14th from 12:30-2 p.m. at the MCC Conference Center. Donors, please be on the lookout for your mailed invitation coming soon. It will be important to RSVP as soon as possible to (1) ensure that your scholarship recipient(s) are in attendance; (2) and to guarantee a seat at this highly anticipated event. The Luncheon will also feature 2021 Distinguished Alumnus Clint Lewis and presentation of the 2022 Distinguished Leader and Distinguished Alumni awards.

The application for 2023-2024 academic year scholarships will open at <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/index.html> on October 1, 2022.

# Highlander

ALUMNI and FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

McLennan Community College • Waco, Texas



## 14TH ANNUAL MCC HIGHLANDER ALUMNI & FRIENDS REUNION



The MCC Foundation's Highlander Alumni & Friends Association hosted its 14th Annual Alumni & Friends Association Reunion Picnic on May 7 at the Bosque River Ballpark. About 70 guests enjoyed this location along with hamburger baskets from Dave's Burger Barn and music by "The Last Minute Band." Alumni and friends who attended received free Highlander Alumni Association baseball caps and koozies. Many thanks to everyone who came out for good food and fellowship, and to the talented guys in the Music Association of Central Texas for great entertainment.

This annual event is free to members of the Highlander Alumni Association and is a wonderful opportunity to rekindle friendships and to reminisce about experiences as students at MCC. Membership in the Highlander Alumni & Friends Association is free and open to all alumni and friends of McLennan Community College. Click [here](#) to learn more! If you have questions, contact [alumni@mclennan.edu](mailto:alumni@mclennan.edu) or (254) 299- 8481.



# WHERE SHE GOT HER START: DR. LINDA SEWARD



Highlander  
ALUMNI and FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

McLennan Alumna Dr. Linda Seward recently stopped by campus for a visit. Linda attended MCC from 1970-1972 when the campus was brand new. She said that at the time, MCC was the only college she and her family could afford, but that once here she had an amazing experience with excellent teachers, rich traditions, and a beautiful campus. Linda went on to earn her bachelor's degree from North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas), her master's degree from San Diego State University, and her doctorate from Purdue University.

Dr. Seward recently retired from Middle Tennessee State University after a long career teaching Intercultural Communications and Persuasion. She now lives in Ft. Worth and has decided to include her alma mater in her philanthropy by creating the "Highlander Community Endowed Scholarship" fund at the MCC Foundation. This generous scholarship will award one lucky student a \$2,000 scholarship each year. We are so grateful to Linda for her investment in future students! If you would like to learn more about how you can help students thrive at McLennan with a charitable gift, contact Kim Patterson at [kpatterson@mclennan.edu](mailto:kpatterson@mclennan.edu).

# Hearts™ *in the arts*

## SUMMER MEMBERSHIP DINNER



Arts lovers from around the community gathered July 14 for the MCC Foundation's Hearts in the Arts Summer Membership Dinner at the Ball Performing Arts Center. This event is held each summer to thank our Hearts in the Arts patrons and recap the past year in events and support. During this event, we were able to extend our gratitude to our arts supporters, approve arts grants for the coming year, and thank our 2021-2022 Honorary Chairs Dr. Donald and Virginia Lewis for their amazing leadership that enabled us to have another strong fundraising year!

We are honored to announce that the 2022-2023 Hearts in the Arts Honorary Chair will be Nell Hawkins! She will be leading the fun for our Hearts in the Arts Gala production of *The Addams Family* on Thursday, February 23, 2023—mark your calendars!

Hearts in the Arts began in 1997 when several arts supporters in our community learned that MCC theatre students were struggling to make ends meet. Today, Hearts in the Arts funds scholarships, emergency grants, professional accompanists, guest lecturers, equipment, and more. Please watch for your Hearts in the Arts season membership mailer in September, and learn more at <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/hearts/index.html>.

## A NEW LIFE ON STAGE



[PHOTO COURTESY OF  
WACO TRIBUNE-HERALD](#)

In March of 2021, Erin and Bob Davis donated beautiful drapes to the MCC Foundation for the benefit of the MCC Visual & Performing Arts Division. In a remarkable feat of “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle,” the McLennan Theatre costume shop repurposed the lovely fabric to create costumes for the play *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. This show is a riff on Shakespeare’s Hamlet, and the drapes perfectly complemented the period costumes. **We are incredibly grateful to Erin and Bob Davis for their generous and creative donation and for their ongoing support of MCC and our students!**



# Hearts™ *in the arts*

## *Dates to Remember*

Please mark your calendars now for the following 2021-2022 arts events!

McLennan Theatre & Opera Season:

September 29 - October 2, 2022

**Steel Magnolias**

November 17 - 20, 2022

**The Gods of Comedy**

February 23 - 25, 2023

**The Addams Family - A New Musical**

February 23, 2023

**MCC Foundation Hearts in the Arts Gala**

March 30- April 1, 2023

**Die Fledermaus or “The Bat”**

April 27 - 30, 2023

**Love/Sick**

Watch your mail in mid-September for your 2022-2023 Hearts in the Arts membership packet!

# WELCOME TO THE TEAM: JUDY FLEMING



In May, longtime MCC Foundation Executive Secretary Rose DeLeon retired, taking with her 28 years of knowledge and memories made at the Foundation. She and her husband Andrew are now enjoying a well-deserved retirement that includes travel to New Mexico to visit their new great-granddaughter Ayla Rose (named after her great-grandma, of course!) We miss Rose and wish her well!

Replacing Rose was difficult, but we are fortunate to welcome Judy Fleming as our new Foundation Records Management Specialist! For the past six years, Judy has worked for Lone Star College in The Woodlands. She started with Lone Star as an Administrative Assistant in the University Center and earned her Associate degree there. She also served as Coordinator III for the Bachelor's degree programs, which included processing student admissions. Some of her other duties as Coordinator included managing the Executive Dean's calendar, student events, general advising and outreach, processing department and travel expenses, and supervising student workers. Prior to LSC, Judy held administrative roles in different industries, including Oil & Gas, Fire Service, Contractors, and Real Estate Development. Judy has one daughter, Olivia, who attends Texas A&M University studying Biomedical Science to enter Veterinary Medicine.

Judy will be working on recording donations and managing the Foundation database, office management, and supporting the team for fundraising events and donor outreach. She can be reached at [jfleming@mclennan.edu](mailto:jfleming@mclennan.edu) or 254.299.8604.

# A RECIPE FOR SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

## BRENDA BRADLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP MAKES FIRST AWARD



Brenda Bradley was a longtime, beloved English teacher at MCC. In mid-2019, this vibrant woman was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and she passed away on January 1, 2020, leaving behind so many friends, colleagues, students, her husband Randall, and their two teenaged children to grieve.



Soon after, Brenda's colleagues established an endowed scholarship fund at the MCC Foundation for students who want to major in English. To help with healing, and to help fund the scholarship endowment, Randall and close friends assembled a cookbook of Brenda's recipes; they distributed hundreds of copies for donations to the fund. Brenda was a wonderful cook who showed love through food, so the cookbook, titled *Bread for the Journey*, was perfect.

This fall, the MCC Foundation is proud to award the first scholarship from Brenda's completed endowed fund to MCC sophomore English major Haden Rhodes. Haden and Randall met at the MCC Foundation on August 11, and it was a special time for both men, especially due to numerous similarities for the families. Haden shared that he is adopted, as are Randall and Brenda's two children. Both Randall and Brenda grew up on farms, and Haden and his siblings all work on the family farm near Bosqueville. The Bradley family also travelled extensively and enjoyed food and music from many cultures. That Haden was born in Korea made for another wonderful connection. When he completes his studies at MCC, Haden plans to transfer to Texas Tech.



"Brenda would be especially pleased that Haden is adopted and he lives on a working farm. I was quite taken by the many similarities with Haden's background and ours," Randall said in a Facebook post that garnered almost 700 "likes" and 98 warm and loving comments.



Copies of *Bread for the Journey* are still available for a \$20 donation to the MCC Foundation. Donations may be made to the MCC Foundation at 1400 College Drive, Waco, TX 76708 or online at <http://bit.ly/MCCFND21>. Be sure to put "Brenda Bradley Scholarship" in the memo.

# Save <sup>the</sup> Date

Friday, October 7, 2022  
Cottonwood Creek Golf Course



Proceeds benefit athletic student scholarships at McLennan!

Contact the Foundation at **299-8604** or [reservations@mclennan.edu](mailto:reservations@mclennan.edu).

**Accepting sponsorships & team registration through Aug. 31, 2022**

# Gifts to the Foundation

April 1 - June 30, 2022

## *In Honor & In Memory*

### **In Honor of Rose DeLeon's 28 Years of Service with MCC**

Mary Perez and Mark Halamik

### **In Honor of Dr. Elaine Fagner**

Shountel Cotton

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Simitrio Ledesma

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Sidney Wilson

### **In Honor of Dr. Elizabeth Palacios**

Dr. Robin and J. Douglas McDurham

### **In Honor of Betsy Reeder's Birthday**

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Barbara and Dr. Fred Hills

### **In Memory of Hollis Comer**

Barbara and Dr. Fred Hills

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Annette and David Scott

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Alexandra and Chilan Shiu and Family

### **In Memory of Fred I. Hills**

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Bob Ford

### **In Memory of Providence Lombardo**

Alexandra and Chilan Shiu and Family

### **In Memory of Billie Martin**

Alexandra and Chilan Shiu and Family

### **In Memory of Jeannette McGinnes**

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TFNB Your Bank for Life

### **In Memory of Nancy Mills**

Jaen Lawrence

Mary Roberts

### **In Memory of Charles Redrick**

Kathryn and Tom Proctor

### **In Memory of Charles Roden**

Barbara and Dr. Fred Hills

### **In Memory of Thomas Edward Stott IV**

Michelle and The Honorable Vik

Deivanayagam

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