



## Important Dates...

### HCC Foundation sponsored events

#### Madrigal Dinner

Thursday, Dec. 10, 2015  
Chestnut Mountain  
Resort, Galena

Tickets available  
online at [highland.  
thankyou4caring.org](http://highland.thankyou4caring.org).



## Peace. Love. Music.

Over 400 gathered on a hot and sticky night in the middle of August to celebrate the spirit of the 1960s and Highland Community College. On August 15, 1969, the Woodstock Music Festival opened on a patch of farmland in White Lake, a hamlet in the upstate New York town of Bethel. Exactly 46 years later on Saturday, August 15, 2015, guests gathered at Woody Burt's South Park Farm to time travel back to Woodstock.

And, the spirit of the 1960s was strong. Upon arrival, guests walked over to a photo opportunity with a period-specific VW bug. Once checked in, there were many options for socializing on the way to the live and silent auction tents that were filled with music from the Woodstock concert thanks to Corey Engel. Speciality beverages were mixed, Generations Brewery beer was showcased, as well as hula-hooping to win wine for one's table. A photo booth by HCC alum, Matt Bordner, added to the fun and festivity. The Lemon Strawberry Drink (LSD, for short) was a big hit!

Jim Berberet, HCC Foundation's Executive Director, explained, "The Shindig is the Foundation's most encompassing activity during the year. Proceeds support HCC in the areas of nursing, allied health, wind turbine technology, scholarships, and other technical and training programs. We really appreciate and thank the more than 400 people who attended our event for their generous support."

Caterers Troy and Donna Lessman of Lake Carroll created some hip and heavy fare: BBQ ribs, bacon-wrapped shrooms, pork sliders, smashed potato bar,

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# Shindig V: Woodstock

Thank you to our  
sponsors!

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- Big Radio

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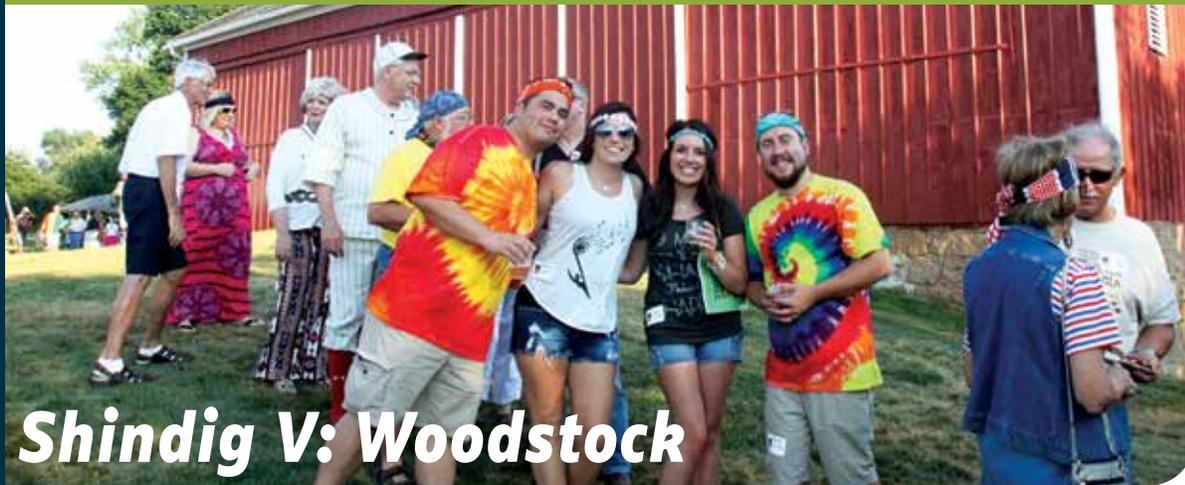
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# Shindig V: Woodstock

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crab cakes, and the favorite... drunken weenies. For dessert, the hippies had a wide variety to choose from, including mint brownies, Woodstock mud brownies, and salted caramel brownies, as well as cheesecake, mini-cupcakes, and lemon strawberry dessert (LSD).

After dining, many guests mingled among the silent auction items, got a beverage or two, and caught up with friends, both old and new. Matt Hart of Sycamore, the Shindig auctioneer, started warming guests up with a lively round of "Woodstick"... a heads/tails game where three lucky winners each received a specially created Woodstock-themed gift basket that contained Woodstock wine, books, candles, and other 60s-themed treats.

Throughout the property, wine barrels were set with hand-crafted luminaries to provide a warm glow and mason jars filled with daisies. Once inside the tent, the Italian cafe lighting and tent poles wrapped in twisted willow provided an evening under the stars feel. Daisies on the tables with vintage 45s stayed true to the Woodstock theme.

Berberet added, "We were amazed again this year at the quantity and quality of the over 250 live and silent auction items donated by people and businesses throughout the district as well as from the faculty and staff of Highland Community College. They truly outdid themselves."

Guests bid on such items as a secret jet plane trip, major league sports tickets, cooking classes, parties, BBQs, speciality dinners, racing schools, and true one-of-a-kind experiences, plus creative and fun baskets built around the Woodstock theme.

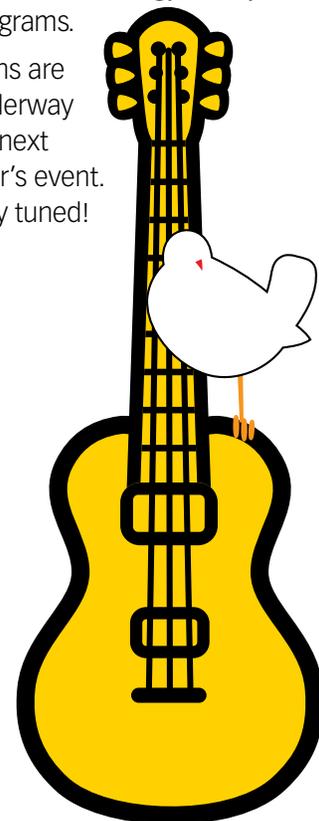
When planning and organizing the Shindig, the Foundation made conscious decisions to seek local vendors and suppliers from within Highland's four-county district. Items from food/beverages to rentals to supplies were obtained from throughout the HCC District.

The first Shindig, "Shindig at the Stables," was held in August, 2011, hosted by Janey Morse and the late Don Morse at their Oak Ridge Arabian Stables. Dr. Keith and Diane Martin hosted Shindig II, "The Great Gatsby," in 2012 at their historic estate in Freeport. And, in 2013, Shindig III, "Celebrating the Oscars, A

Night of Stars," was hosted by Hank and Linda Fortney at their beautiful modern home near Red Oak. Last year's Shindig IV "Country Fair" was hosted by Rocky and Dawn Zuberbuhler in rural Freeport.

Proceeds from the event benefitted HCC Foundation's "Growing for tomorrow... Changing lives today" campaign that supports the Ray and Betty Stamm Health Science Nursing Wing and Nursing and Allied Health programs, as well as the Wind Turbine Technology facility and programs.

Plans are underway for next year's event. Stay tuned!



# Poised for Growth: Highland's Agriculture Program Partners with Foundation to Secure Local Support

In the summer of 2014, Highland Community College hired a new Agriculture instructor, Mr. Justin Ebert. He brought to HCC personal experience as a farmer and 14 years as an ag educator, mostly at Oregon High School. In addition, he brought something less tangible but even more crucial—a new vision of agriculture education at Highland. And if his first year-plus on the job is any indication, Justin is off to an excellent start at bringing this vision to fruition.

Early on in his first year at HCC, Justin met with the Foundation team to describe his vision for the program to them and to begin forging a collaboration. In addition, he traveled extensively throughout the district, talking to students at the 17 local high schools and forming relationships with farms and ag-related businesses that might have something to offer his program, such as site visits, guest speakers, internships, equipment and supplies, and of course, financial support.

At the same time, the Foundation used Justin's input and "wish lists" for his program to develop several written proposals and one special group appeal that went out to banks, ag-related businesses, farm owners, and farm bureaus in HCC's four-county district. Justin spoke to groups on his own or met with company leaders in tandem with former HCC President Joe Kanosky or Director of Fundraising Kim Rampenthal.

And the result so far has been.... success! It is clear that the HCC district (and beyond) has been eager to see a revitalized Ag program at Highland. Numerous organizations and individuals have stepped up to offer their financial support for HCC Ag. First in line was

State Bank (Freeport), who pledged to sponsor the Ag Club for three years, for its participation in competitions with the Post-secondary Ag Students organization. Soon thereafter, Forreston State Bank established a special scholarship for non-transfer students in Applied Science (non-transfer) fields, including agriculture management and other career-direct fields.

One of Justin's main goals for the program is to incorporate technology into his students' studies, to better equip them for their futures as 21st century ag professionals. After an inspiring presentation by Justin and Joe, Citizens State Bank decided to "keep an eye on the sky" and fund the purchase of an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), more commonly known as a drone, and several iPads to help run it.

Knowing that "judging teams" are an intrinsic part of ag students' co-curricular development, Justin also sought the Foundation's support in securing sponsors for the newly established Dairy Judging Team (new for the 2015-16 school year). Targeted appeal letters were sent out to a small group of likely supporters in the region, and enough funds were secured to launch the Dairy Team and get it moooving (!! ) toward regional and national competitions. Silver Sponsors for this academic year include 1st Farm Credit, Furst McNess, Hunter Haven Farms, and Stephenson Service Company. Bronze Level Sponsors include Country Financial, Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau, and Midwest Bank. Additional supporters include Vita-Plus and Scheidairy Farms.

Another aspect of a strong post-secondary ag program is the use of a "test plot" of land for hands-

on instructional use. After learning that the HCC Foundation owns 70 acres of farmland adjacent to campus (which is rented to a farmer eager to share his expertise with HCC students), the Ogle County Farm Bureau stepped up with a three-year pledge to be the lead sponsor of the test plot.

In addition, Stephenson County Farm Bureau (after one of Justin's inspiring presentations) announced recently its intention to make a donation to HCC Agriculture, with use of the funds to be directed to one or more need areas in Ag, to be determined.

All in all, Highland's Agriculture Program is in a period of revitalization, expansion, and forward momentum—and local ag professionals are getting behind HCC's efforts to make the program one that draws students to Highland, whether their goal is to head to work in an ag job in two years or less, or to transfer to a 4-year institution and pursue a bachelor's degree. The Foundation's work with Justin Ebert is just one example of how fundraisers and faculty can collaborate and use their complementary skill sets—to the benefit of HCC students and ultimately, the farms, businesses, and industries in which they will be employed.



# Are you a Highland alumnus?

Register online at [www.highland.edu/alumni/register.asp](http://www.highland.edu/alumni/register.asp)



## A Magical Night in Galena Territory

**M**any people might describe the rolling hills, fall foliage, and beautiful homes of Galena Territory as “magical.” And there was definitely some extra magic in the air on the evening of October 8, when Tom and Kathy Rivera hosted a special “Meet the New President of HCC” reception in their home.

In addition to having the opportunity to meet HCC President Tim Hood and his wife Valerie, and to hear from Tim about his plans and vision for Highland, the 28 attendees at the reception were also treated to a 35-minute performance by professional magician P.T. Murphy. Mr. Murphy impressed

them all with his card tricks, sleight of hand, and audience participation segments that left guests scratching their heads saying, “How’d he do that??” The magic show added an element of fun and whimsy to the evening, and was surpassed only by the lovely views of the natural surroundings from out the Riveras’ windows and the crackling fire in the outdoor fireplace.

Kim Rampenthal from the Foundation was also in attendance, and helped plan this event in cooperation with the President’s Office. Notes Kim, “We are delighted that Tim Hood is committed to working closely with the Foundation

to cultivate relationships on behalf of HCC and develop resources throughout the district.” The first part of this priority, the “cultivation” part, involves just getting the president out to meet people, singly or in groups, in the various communities that comprise Highland’s district.

Persons interested in hosting a small “Meet the New HCC President” luncheon or reception at their home, place of business, or a local restaurant or club, should contact Kim at the Foundation, 815-599-3724. The focus will be on building relationships and engaging new and existing partners on behalf of Highland Community College.



## **Now and Later:** **Alum Jim Frisbie supports HCC student scholarships, today and tomorrow**

**H**e's a "regular" at Dakota High School sporting events, honors nights, homecomings, and class reunions. He's also frequently seen at Highland Community College's Foundation board meetings, Alumni Association Steering Committee meetings, sporting events, and student-oriented events. It's just that Jim Frisbie loves education, loves Dakota HS, and loves Highland—and the opportunities that they provide to local individuals.

Back in 1962, young Jim was fresh out of a local high school, and not quite sure that he was "college material." How serendipitous that Freeport Community College (later to be renamed as Highland) was opening that fall of 1962, with most classes being held at Freeport High in the evenings. That way, Jim could give college a try, without moving away or incurring great expense. As he puts it, "When I entered FCC, I was only 15% sure I would be successful in my college education. By the end of my time at FCC, I was 85% sure I would complete my bachelor's degree." His transfer to NIU was successful; he knew after just one semester there that he was going to make it to the finish line.

After earning his bachelor's degree from NIU in 1966, he got a job right away as a teacher in the Dakota school district, first teaching at the 6th grade level, and later, for most of his career, at the junior high and high school level. During

that time, he also earned one master's degree and part of another. In 1985 the Dakota Opportunities in Education (DOE) fund was established by the administration and faculty, to provide scholarships and other opportunities for deserving students. Through this fund, Jim began giving yearly scholarships to Dakota HS graduates who was planning to attend Highland Community College.

Jim figured this would be a unique way to honor his community college alma mater that had given him such a great start, and to show his support for graduates of the school district where he'd spend his entire career. For several years, Jim supported these scholarships with annual donations. Then a few years back, he made a much larger donation to DOE that could serve as an endowment, the interest earnings of which would be used to fund four scholarships each year, for two boys and two girls. This guarantees that the scholarships will carry forward indefinitely, regardless of Jim's presence.

In addition, Jim got to thinking a few years back about a way to leave even more of a legacy for Dakota Schools and also Highland Community College. It was time to update his estate plans, and he consulted with his attorney, so that the language in his will could be changed to ensure that a portion of his estate would go to Dakota Opportunities for Education and another portion



to Highland Community College—enough to create endowed scholarships funded by interest earnings, "in perpetuity." Jim definitely wanted to have a say in what happened to his assets after his passing, and to make sure that they went in support of persons and causes that he valued highly.

As a Highland alumnus, Jim is a wonderful ambassador for the College and the quality of education it has provided for over 53 years to the local community. In his case, Freeport Community College took a young man who was unsure of his potential but inspired by a wonderful teacher he'd had, and started him down an educational path that led to his becoming a teacher, mentor, and friend to many young people over his 33-year teaching career – and beyond.

In summary, Jim notes, "Freeport Community College changed my life. Everything that I've professionally accomplished in life goes back to Freeport Community College."

**For more information about becoming a member of the Heritage Society by including HCC in your estate plans through a bequest gift via the HCC Foundation, please consult with your attorney and call Kim or Pat at the Foundation office, 815-599-3413.**

## **There's still time to be part of Double Play 2015!**

2015 is the third year of the Foundation's exciting "Double Play" matching appeal, which provides an incentive to donors by matching their gifts to HCC, up to \$50,000, the amount that has been pledged by a generous anonymous donor. Because of this match, the potential net to HCC is \$100,000!

Donors to Double Play can designate their gifts to "Major Gifts Campaign" or "Greatest Needs of HCC."

For 2013 and 2014, the Foundation met or surpassed its Double Play goals. As we go to press, we are at the 64% mark – so there's still time to donate to Double Play 2015 and "double your money," to benefit students of Highland Community College.

To donate to Double Play, mail your check to HCC Foundation, 2998 W. Pearl City Rd., Freeport, IL 61032. (Be sure to write "Double Play" in the memo section.) Or, donate using a credit card via our secure online donation site at [highland.thankyou4caring.org](http://highland.thankyou4caring.org).

Please join us in reaching our Double Play 2015 goal!!



2998 West Pearl City Road  
Freeport, IL 61032

highland.edu/foundation  
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THE BUCKET

### HCC Foundation

R. Todd Weegens, President  
Jim Berberet, Executive Director  
Pat Dunn, Director of Operations  
Kim Rampenthal, Director of Fundraising  
Joanne Kasprzak, Secretary



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## Madrigal Dinner at Chestnut Set for December 10

**T**he Highland Community College Foundation will host its third annual Madrigal Dinner at Chestnut Mountain Resort near Galena on Thursday, December 10.

HCC music and theatre students from throughout the college's district will be featured. Proceeds from this special holiday music and dining festival will provide support to the HCC Fine Arts Department and the Highland Chorale for their vocal music tour to Germany and Austria in May 2016.

According to Allen Redford, HCC music instructor and director of the HCC Chorale, "We are most appreciative of the support we've gotten from throughout HCC's district. These funds will make it possible for more students to

experience this tour, regardless of their financial situation. International travel and performing in historic venues is such a broadening experience."

Madrigal tickets cost \$75 per person and include a three course yuletide banquet of fine food, along with much good cheer and hearty merriment. The festive evening begins with a cash bar and appetizers at 6:00 p.m., with the call to the grand hall at 6:40 p.m., and the Madrigal dinner and performance starting at 7:00 p.m. The show lasts approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Tickets are available online at [highland.thankyou4caring.org](http://highland.thankyou4caring.org);



in person at Chestnut Mountain Resort (1-800-397-1320); or at the HCC Foundation Office (1-815-599-3413). Overnight accommodations for Madrigal attendees are available at a special rate. Inquire at Chestnut Mountain Resort for reservations. The Foundation wishes to thank Chestnut Mountain Resort staff, as well as owners Sig and Sharon Paul, for again hosting this traditional holiday event.