

Training the next
generation of
Manufacturers.

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Upcoming Events & Information

- Fall Break, No Classes Oct. 14-15
- Thanksgiving Break, College Closed Nov. 27-29
- Fall Semester Ends Dec. 13
- Winter Break, College Closed Dec. 23-Jan. 1
- Three-Week Mini Session Jan. 2-17
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, College Closed Jan. 20
- Spring Semester Begins Jan. 21

1972 & 1994
Featured Alumni Years
Stories, photos & more!

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Peter Paul brings home gold in Motorcycle Service Technology.



4-5 Dr. Illich Celebrates 10 Years at SCC

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SCC empowers area high school students by offering dual credit classes in their school.



10-11 The Evolution of Manufacturing

SCC has a strong history in the Nebraska manufacturing industry.



19 Support the Bobcats!

Show your Bobcat spirit if you are in the Lincoln or Beatrice areas this fall. Attend one of our home events.



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(Feb. 2024)

Message from the President

SCC Celebrates Transformational Accomplishments as It Completes Its 2020-24 Strategic Plan

SCC began its current transformational journey in 2015 upon launching its first five-year strategic plan in the College's history with the overall goal of expanding its capacity to produce a skilled workforce and to ensure everyone has access to the life-changing benefits of higher education.

In June 2024, SCC completed its second strategic plan and launched its new 2025-29 Strategic Plan in July 2024. The College's commitment to its mission and strategic direction has led to many transformative accomplishments, including:

- Addition of six learning centers throughout its 15-county service area
- Conversion from a quarter to semester calendar
- Successful accreditation review in 2023 leading to reaffirmation of accreditation through 2033
- Completion of more than \$200 million in renovation and new construction
- Addition of more than 50 new program credentials
- Transition to a new community college funding model
- More than 50% enrollment growth on the Milford Campus within the past five years and 12% overall growth in spring 2024
- Raising of more than \$20 million in private gifts, awards and other sources of revenue to support various facilities projects

The above accomplishments along with other initiatives are critical to the realization of the College's mission to "create destinations and the highest quality learning climate, and to strive to be a national leader in developing high-contact technical and academic experiences through personal and sincere relationships with engaged and invested faculty, staff and administrators." This issue of the Alumni News will highlight new initiatives, scholarship programs, as well as existing programs and services that together are ensuring SCC continues to proactively and effectively pursue its mission, vision and strategic goals.

I want to encourage you to visit one or all of our campus locations or attend an athletic or campus event so you can personally experience SCC's transformational journey.

As an alumnus, I thank you for choosing SCC and for your role in helping the College pursue its mission of empowering and transforming the diverse learners and communities of southeast Nebraska through accessible lifelong educational opportunities.



Follow me:

X @IllichPaul

Paul Illich
President

PAUL BRINGS HOME GOLD AT SKILLSUSA NATIONALS

Central City's **Peter Paul** graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Powersports Technology in May and won the gold at the SkillsUSA Championship in June. For the second consecutive year, a Southeast Community College student brought home the gold in the Motorcycle Service Technology category in Atlanta, Georgia, as part of the 2024 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference on June 26-27.

"Words cannot describe my joy in helping Peter Paul make his dream happen this week," said Trevor Nebesniak, instructor in Powersports

Technology. "We seriously did not know if we would even place let alone be first on the podium. It's been an amazing ride and he has worked so hard to make this happen. I'm beyond excited to bring this win home for all of my team at SCC."

There were more than 6,000 state champions participating in 115 skilled and leadership competitions over the two-day competition. The SCC team of Kolton Ginter, from Omaha, and Caleb Baustian, from Fremont, earned a silver in



Mobile Robotics Technology. Other SCC students competing included:

- 5th Place in Engineering Technology Design: Nicole Biehl (Lincoln), Zachary Keithley (Falls City) and Gracen Sommerer (Seward)
- 10th Place in Diesel Equipment Technology: Calvin Kruntorad (Elkhorn)

SkillsUSA was founded in 1965 and is the No. 1 workforce development organization for students. Representing nearly 400,000 career and technical education students and teachers, SkillsUSA empowers students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members. A vital solution to the on-going skills gap, SkillsUSA has served more than 14.6 million diverse, difference-making members since its creation. ❖

Peter Paul is pictured in the center.



SKILLSUSA GOLF CLASSIC HUGE SUCCESS

This tournament would not be possible without the generous support of the following sponsors:

- ▶ 402 Customs
- ▶ Woodhouse Ford Omaha
- ▶ Great Western Dining
- ▶ Olsson
- ▶ Lincoln Tool & Design
- ▶ R. O. Youker Structural Engineering
- ▶ Cheever Construction
- ▶ Frontier Bank
- ▶ John Henry's Plumbing, Heating, Air, and Electrical
- ▶ Sampson's Construction
- ▶ Cornerstone Bank
- ▶ UBT
- ▶ Nelnet
- ▶ Sandhills Global
- ▶ SCC Faculty Association
- ▶ Kidwell
- ▶ Home Builder's Association of Lincoln
- ▶ Farris Engineering
- ▶ Southeast Community College
- ▶ SCC Educational Foundation

Pioneers Park Golf Course was the perfect setting for the 3rd Annual SCC Educational Foundation SkillsUSA Charity Classic on Friday, June 7. Overall, 29 teams raised \$22,375 to assist Southeast Community College students with SkillsUSA scholarships and registration fees for state and national competitions.

"We are thrilled with the success of our SCC Educational Foundation SkillsUSA Charity Classic," said Michelle Birkel, SCC Educational Foundation director. "With a sold-out event, we enjoyed a beautiful day on the course and exceeded our goal. Thank you to all participants and sponsors for your incredible support."



The top three teams in this year's tournament were:

- 1st Place: UBT (Doris Robertson, Thomas Robertson, Kirnan Koenig, and TJ Hansen)
- 2nd Place: Party of Fore (Mason Miller, Hayden Pfeiffer, Ryan Pfeiffer, Michaela Pfeiffer)
- 3rd Place: Sampson Construction Co. (Scott Brunken, Tom Gress, Justin Hall, Neil Smith) ❖

Beatrice Campus Homecoming Royalty



From left: Cory Wiedel of Hebron, king; Rhonda Tennant of Lewiston, queen; Cheryl Wolken of Diller, princess; and Todd Leopold of Thornton, CO, prince.

Fairbury Junior College Chorus



Featured Year: 1972

- Front row, from left:** Marla Mack, Barb Rohr, Martha Perkins, Gretchen Christ, Nella Krumme, Liz Rutherford.
- Second row, from left:** Verona Kniep, Linda Hartman, Gary Kechely, Diann Snyder, Norma Theye, Rhonda Drake, Debbie White, Director Mrs. Wynn Nuckolls.

- Third row, from left:** Steven Siefford, Mary Koenig, Michael Baumfalk, Joyce Cecrle, Marcine Holz, Virginia Gergen, Bruce Rice, Paul Shepherd.
- Back row, from left:** Susie Van Syoc, Ken Hudson, Cheryl Yates, Andy Schultz, Karen Quam, Doug Krogman, Mike Hauser, David Endorf, Lindsay Husa.

Featured Year: 1994



DR. ILLICH CELEBRATES 10 YEARS AT SCC

Southeast Community College President Dr. Paul Illich commemorated 10 years at the College with a campus-wide celebration on Tuesday, Aug. 6 at the Lincoln Campus. He was named SCC president on July 1, 2014, after serving as vice president of research, planning and information at McLennan Community College in Waco, Texas.

“The transformation of Southeast Community College since 2014 is simply amazing,” said Arlyn Uhrmacher, chairman of the SCC Board of Governors. “SCC has experienced tremendous enrollment growth, expansion of state-of-the-art facilities and unprecedented donor support. I cannot think of a person better than Dr. Illich to lead the College at this important time.”

Illich is a visionary leader who believes in data-driven decision making and the value of creating a culture of opportunity, creativity and intellectual, and personal respect. SCC has seen record growth in enrollment during the last two semesters. This growth is due to Illich’s guidance in increasing the capacity of the College to meet employer, community and student needs in its 15-county service area. Most recently under Illich’s leadership, the Higher Learning Commission granted reaffirmation of accreditation to SCC for a 10-year period expiring in July 2033.

“I am not a big fan of recognition, but I am a big fan of why we are recognizing today and it has nothing to do with me personally,” said Illich. “When you step onto one of our campuses in Lincoln, Milford or Beatrice, or one of the learning centers, it is a completely different experience for the students than it was 10 years ago. It is a destination for our students now. That’s why we are all here.” ❖



Arlyn Uhrmacher, Board Member Chairman with Dr. Illich.

A few of his achievements at SCC include:

- ▶ Opening six learning centers throughout the 15-county service area.
- ▶ Successful conversion from a Quarter to Semester Calendar system in the Fall of 2019.
- ▶ Complementation and successful implementation of the College’s 2015-2019 Strategic Plan, which represented SCC’s first institutional level strategic plan.
- ▶ Successful institutional accreditation review in 2017.
- ▶ Implementation of an enrollment management model that involves the building of course schedules based on course demand.
- ▶ Opening of The Career Academy on the Lincoln Campus that enrolls approximately 600 high school students in dual credit courses.
- ▶ Increased staffing levels in key areas of the College.
- ▶ Launched a college-wide branding and marketing campaign in 2019.
- ▶ Added 26 academic programs and awards from 2015 to 2021.

In addition, Illich added a capital advancement function to the College. This includes the following capital projects:

- ▶ Sandhills Global Technology Center – Lincoln, expected to open Spring 2025
- ▶ Welding Technology Center – Lincoln, expected to open Fall 2025
- ▶ Nebraska Hall Renovation – Milford, expected to open Spring 2025
- ▶ Welding Center – Beatrice, new building
- ▶ Residence halls on all three campuses including Woodhaven Hall, the first residence hall on the Lincoln Campus
- ▶ Health Sciences Building – Lincoln, new building
- ▶ Student and Academic Support Renovation – Lincoln
- ▶ Great Plains Culinary Institute – Lincoln
- ▶ The Career Academy – Lincoln
- ▶ Academic Excellence Center – Beatrice, new building
- ▶ Kennedy Center renovation – Beatrice
- ▶ Crete Carrier Diesel Technology & Welding Center – Milford, new building
- ▶ Professional Truck Driver Training Concourse – Milford
- ▶ Welsh Center remodel – Milford

We Love to Hear from Our Graduates!

“So excited that my grandson will be attending SCC Milford in the fall.”

Doris (Kresak) Galbraith, Academic Transfer, 1959

“My SCC Milford education served me well for my 45 years of employment in the automotive repair industry.”

John Gengel, Automotive Technology, 1978

“During my time as a student I really enjoyed Dr. Evans, Henney, Johnson, Barret and many more teachers.”

Charles Fangmeier, Business Administration, 1962

“Finally in 2024, I will ‘Reignite’ (retire) from health care after 45 years. I will GET to volunteer my skills in ultrasound at the social services locations to show the vital heartbeats to young ladies.”

Theresa Johnson, Radiologic Technology, 1981

“I graduated in March 1972 and worked for a Dodge dealer in Nebraska City for 2½ years. Went to work for another auto repair shop for 4½ years. I then started my own auto repair shop in 1979 and still working after 45 years. I grew up on a farm northwest of Nebraska City. My parents owned and farmed 320 acres. Along with the shop, I started farming in 1993 and still working both. I want to thank Milford’s Nebraska Technical College for the great education!”

Dan Smallfoot, Automotive Technology, 1972

“After graduating from SCC, I went to UNL and obtained bachelor’s and master’s degrees in electrical engineering. However, SCC was the most enjoyable. I learned a lot in just two years. SCC’s practical learning helped me make sense out of UNL’s more theoretical based education. Theory is great if you’re going to be a scientist. Understand the how and why something works allows you to make a product for real world applications. So glad I started at SCC.”

Steve Hardt, Electronic Systems Technology, 1987

“I am enjoying my first year of retirement.”

Tom Robertson, Business Administration, 1974

“I am enjoying my grandchildren and all their activities! Thank you, SCC!”

Ruth (Erdkamp) Becker, Nursing, 1977

THE DUAL CREDIT ADVANTAGE FOR AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

64

High Schools

16

Certificate Options

18

Transfer Pathways

95

Dual Credit College Courses



Southeast Community College is on a mission to empower and transform diverse learners and communities of southeast Nebraska through accessible lifelong educational opportunities. Many learners in the area have their first experience at SCC in high school by taking dual credit classes through the Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership or Lincoln Public School's The Career Academy.

"The role of SENCAP and TCA is to allow students to explore career paths they may want to explore further after high school," said Brian Stark, associate dean of extended learning. "Once they are in the program, our goal is for them to continue their education at SCC to finish their degree. Many of the pathways give students a jumpstart at SCC allowing them to save time and money by taking dual credit classes in high school."

SENCAP began in 2008 with 16 participating high schools, approximately 45 students and two career pathways (Education and Health). Today, there are 64 high

schools with over 1,900 students in 18 transfer pathways and 95 dual credit classes. In addition to earning college credit, dual credit students saved over \$1.1 million because of the 65% tuition discount applied to their bill during the 2023-2024 academic year.

"SCC started the dual credit program with a few partnering schools and now has 100% participation in the 15-county service area," Stark said. "This includes all public and private high schools as well as homeschool students and a virtual program. We have also greatly expanded the number of programs with many of our pathways now including certificates. In the 2025-2026 academic year, students will be able to graduate with a diploma from SCC which will be a first for students in our area."

The most popular career path options are welding, academic transfer and healthcare. Welding is a field where employers are looking to replace a retiring workforce with young welders. Students in the welding pathway can earn a certificate by taking four selected classes. Last

year, 51 students earned the welding certificate. The academic transfer pathway allows students to take their general education classes before they enroll in a four-year college or university.

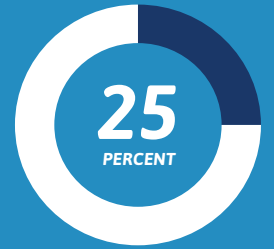
"Many students know SCC may not be their final destination so they start taking classes which will transfer to their degree program," Stark explained. "SCC has articulation agreements with local colleges which makes transferring your credit easy. We also have several students finish an associate degree in academic transfer at a lower rate before they transfer to a four-year institution."

There are many benefits to taking dual credit classes. Stark believes taking college classes in high school prepares a high school student for the academic rigor of college. It also helps them figure out what they want to be when they grow up.

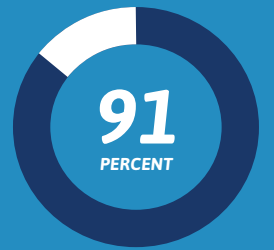
"Dual credit allows students to explore careers at a discounted rate to determine their major in college," he said. "They tend to have a deeper understanding of the career path which helps them determine if they want to pursue it. If they want to change their path, they can do it without a significant financial burden."

The SENCAP program has coordinators that visit all high schools on a regular basis. They help students with the application and registration process, connect them with resources if needed and collaborate with the high school staff to match students with the right pathway. ❖

Learn more about the Dual Credit advantage.



Juniors & Seniors in SCC's 15 counties enrolled in Dual Credit Classes



Course Pass Rate



4.0 Scale

\$1,027,982 MILLION

Estimated Tuition Savings

Data from Nov. 7, 2023 SENCAP Report, produced by SCC Office of Institutional Research.

Milford Campus



Students walking to class on the Milford campus. Nebraska and Cornhusker Halls shown in the background.

Featured Year: 1972



SCC PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM AWARDED LOWE'S GABLE GRANT

The Lowe's Foundation awarded \$470,000 to Southeast Community College as part of the 2024 cohort receiving Gable Grants. Overall, nearly \$8 million was awarded on July 23. The grant will enable SCC to enhance its Prison Education Program.

"We are honored and greatly appreciative to have been awarded the Lowe's Foundation Gable Grant to expand SCC's Prison Education Program," said Dr. Paul Illich, SCC president. "I believe this new grant program will serve as a catalyst for changing lives positively and enhancing our communities for generations."

The grant will expand the UPWARD prison education program at SCC to include construction, electrical/electromechanical, HVAC and plumbing at the Nebraska State Penitentiary location. Participants will have the chance to earn credentials in multiple career programs and return

to their communities empowered to join the workforce with the skills necessary to succeed.

"This tremendous grant opportunity is in direct alignment with the College's vision to work collaboratively and courageously with our partners to address Nebraska's skilled worker shortage and to ensure everyone within our communities has affordable access to the life-changing benefits of higher education," said Illich.

Since awarding its first grants one year ago, the foundation has assisted in expanding skilled trades career pathways through its growing network of 35 community colleges and nonprofits in rural and urban communities across 27 states. The nearly \$8 million investment is part of the Lowe's Foundation's five-year, \$50 million commitment to support the training of 50,000 people for skilled trades careers.

"With enrollments rising at vocationally focused schools, these community colleges are blossoming arenas for entrepreneurship and economic mobility," said Janice Dupré, Lowe's executive vice president of human resources and chair of the Lowe's Foundation. "Each college has a clear, inspired vision for closing the trades gap in its community, and we're pleased to welcome them to our larger movement."

SCC is joined by Baton Rouge Community College, Central Maine Community College, Central Piedmont Community College, Community College of Baltimore County, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation and Maricopa County Community College District, Midlands Technical College, Mountwest Community and Technical College, Valencia College, Wilkes Community College, and Wiregrass Georgia Technical College as the 2024 Gable Grant recipients. ❖

VOLK MANUFACTURED SUCCESSFUL CAREER

A manufacturer had a hand in creating everything you touch. **Scott Volk** has witnessed the impact manufacturing has on everyday life since graduating from the Southeast Community College Manufacturing Engineering program in 1995.

"Manufacturing is one of the core industries that every other industry relies on," Volk said. "Very few people realize the complexity of the network of manufacturers it takes to make the simplest things. Manufacturing was technology before technology was a thing, and it is a primary driving force of development and innovation."

After graduating from SCC, Volk entered the manufacturing industry as a drafter and programmer for Wagner Tool and Engineering. While at Wagner he did everything from CNC programming to tool crib management to shipping and receiving to sales to systems development before moving into the manufacturing manager role.

In 2002 he went to MetalQuest Unlimited in Hebron, Nebraska, as a manufacturing engineer. By 2003 he was named vice president of the company.

"SCC gave me a hands-on education and exposure to real-world situations, allowing me to enter the workforce with skills I could use immediately," he said. "I currently oversee the management and operations at MetalQuest which includes two locations and a remote



workforce, lead process and systems development. I also manage customer and supplier relationships, and have a key role in defining business strategy."

When searching for employees at MetalQuest, Volk prefers someone who is curious and has a strong desire to learn. He also looks for an employee who chips in where ever they are needed to help the team succeed. It is why he is supportive of SCC and the education students receive in the manufacturing programs. It will also close the tech skills gap.

"Tech careers keep everything in the world moving," Volk explained. "Tech education is as important as any college degree." ❖

Fairbury Junior College Health Class



Mr. Elliott shows a beef leg bone to his health class: Bob Hickey, Mike Struss, Pat Theobald, James Coran, LaJeanne Kugel, Ardy Bangert, Karin Rasser, Cheryl Huber, Howard Peacham; (kneeling) Charley Endorf and Tim Hedges.

Featured Year: 1972



Zachary Kisby, Program Director,
Nondestructive Testing



THE EVOLUTION OF MANUFACTURING AT SCC

Look around. Nearly everything you use on a daily basis was created by somebody in the manufacturing industry. Manufacturing is the core industry every other industry relies on to be successful.

“The manufacturing industry makes a huge impact on a daily basis,” said Eric Stieb, co-founder of Zermatt Tool, Inc. “Virtually everything that is either consumed or used is manufactured.”

According to the National Association of Manufacturers, Nebraska ranked No. 14 in the nation in 2023 with 103,508 people employed in the manufacturing industry. Overall, Nebraska had 1,759 manufacturers in operation. The manufacturing industry added \$19 billion to Nebraska’s economy comprising 11.5% of its gross domestic product. The agriculture industry makes up 50% of Nebraska’s manufacturing sector while the machinery and fabricated metal product makes up 18%.

Southeast Community College has a long history with the manufacturing industry in Nebraska which began on May 1, 1941. On that date the Nebraska Trade School opened on the Soldiers and Sailors Home campus in Milford when five instructors taught five students in the instructional areas of Auto Mechanics, Auto Electricity, Machine Shop, General Welding and Foundry Pattern Making. When Japan bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, the focus of the school shifted immediately to aid in the national defense by adding the programs of Aircraft Sheet Metal, Industrial Electricity, Radio Operating and Mechanical Drafting. During the war, close to 2,000 war production workers and specialized technicians were trained around the clock in Milford under special arrangement with war plants.

On July 1, 1972, the Nebraska Legislature created the technical

community college system and SCC opened its doors in 1973. SCC currently teaches the next generation of manufacturers in Electrical & Electromechanical Technology; Electrician Construction, IBEW; Electronic Systems Technology; Energy Generation Operations; Manufacturing Engineering Technology; Nondestructive Testing Technology; Precision Machining & Automation Technology – Advanced CNC & Automation; Precision Machining & Automation Technology – Tool Maker Mold & Die; and Welding Technology.

“Tech education is as important as any college degree,” said Scott Volk, vice president at MetalQuest Unlimited. “Once the general public understands this, the sooner we start to fix our skills gap.”

Zachary Kisby, program director of Nondestructive Testing Technology, sees the industry from a unique standpoint. A graduate of the NDT

program at SCC, Kisby worked for four years in the petrochemical industry doing ultrasonics, magnetic particle and penetrant testing. In October 2021 he joined SCC as an instructor before moving into the role as program chair in May of 2023.

Not only does he bring the perspective as an employer working in the field to the classroom, but he also has a different outlook of the manufacturing industry. His industry tests the materials being

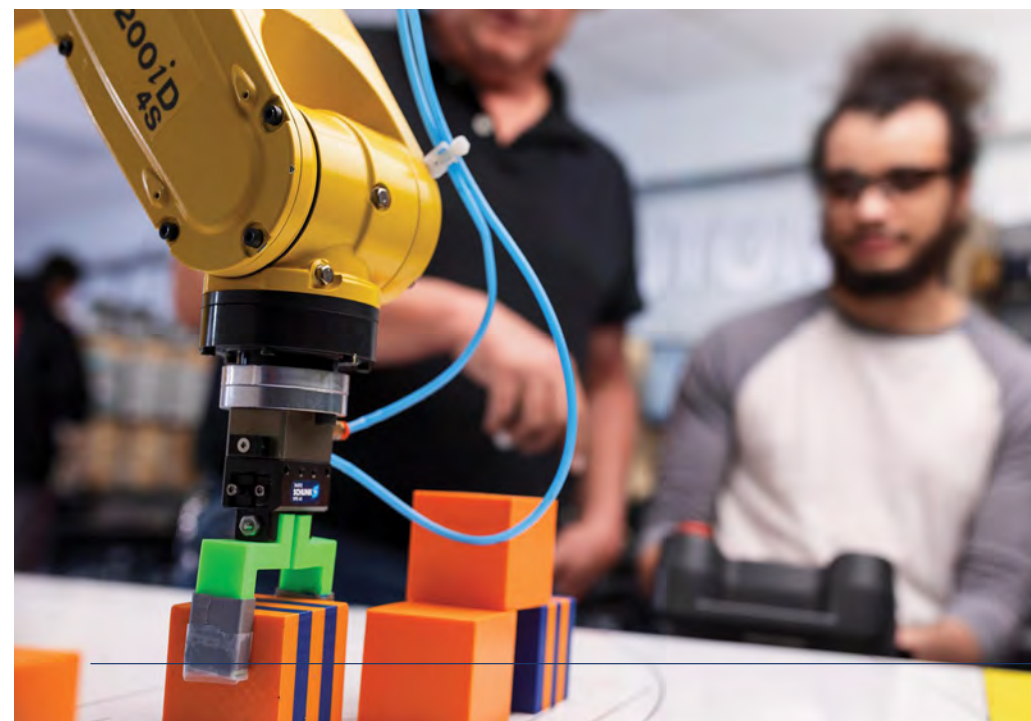
manufactured and focuses on personal and public safety as well as financial loss. Kisby advises his students to continue learning after they graduate in order to keep on top of industry changes. If you stay stagnant, you will not grow with the industry.

“A student in our program at SCC follows a pathway in order to gain a better understanding of the industry,” Kisby said. “From day one, they are introduced to a new world of

terminology and theory of our field of work. While we are not physically manufacturing a product or material, we are seeing that those parts and components are fit for or fit to remain in service.”

Jared Switzer graduated in May of 2024 from the Manufacturing Engineering Technology program ready to start his career as Lead Technical Drafter at Kawasaki. His path after graduating from Sutton High School took him to the Computer Science program at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. After a year at UNL, he enrolled at SCC on the production side of manufacturing before realizing he wanted to work on the design side. All of these experiences prepared him for his career in manufacturing.

“I really liked the smaller classes at SCC because I got to know my instructors and my peers,” Switzer explained. “They had us working on massive group projects like making an air cannon from start to finish. We did such a diverse set of projects for all of the different classes that we really had a wide range of experiences. I feel I am ready for my career.” ❖





STIEB PASSIONATE ABOUT MANUFACTURING

Engineering & Technology degree in 1992 as well as a Machine Tool & Die degree in 1993. After graduation, he made career stops at Lincoln Tool & Design and a startup company, MetalQuest Unlimited. Along the way he learned a thing or two to help him advance his career.

“At Lincoln Tool & Design I became proficient in toolmaking, CNC programming and operation, mold design, machine design and implementation, and execution of a new Cam software system,” he said. “While at MetalQuest, I was responsible for creating a CNC milling department and implementing machines, processes, and software as well as procurement of new customers.”

Ready for a new challenge, Stieb created a business plan for a startup company of his own. In 1999 he co-founded Zermatt Tool, Inc., which focused on CNC manufacturing and prototyping. In 2015, the company purchased

Bighorn Arms and rebranded it as Zermatt Arms, a precision firearm component manufacturer.

“Through sheer grit, determination and relentlessness, I was able to procure and cultivate valuable customer relationships providing diversification within the industries that include aerospace, bioscience, food processing and firearms,” Stieb explained. “In 2015 I was responsible for the purchase of a small firearms company with average sales of \$250,000 per year. Within five years, sales improved eight fold.”

Since the manufacturing industry impacts virtually everything we use on a day-to-day basis, Stieb looks for hardworking employees passionate about the trades. It is part of what makes his company and its employees successful.

“When you go to work, do it and do it well,” said Stieb. “To quote Ashton Kutcher, ‘Success looks a lot like hard work.’ Perhaps a bit corny, but still very true.” ❖

One thing **Eric Stieb** learned when he was a student at Southeast Community College was to seize his opportunities. Through curiosity and asking several questions, he also learned the skills necessary to do the job.

“SCC gave me the basic tools and instruction needed to enter the workforce,” Stieb said. “I was able to seize opportunities in order to contribute right away. My advice to those entering the manufacturing field is to be patient and do your best. Be curious and ask a lot of questions. Success will come.”

Stieb earned a Manufacturing

KURTENBACH FINDS SUCCESS IN MANUFACTURING

Sometimes a mistake and a little luck can change your life for the better.

Joseph Kurtenbach graduated from Lindsay Holy Family in 1951 and volunteered for the draft for the Korean War two years later. After 19 months of service, he returned to the family farm in Spalding, Nebraska to farm with his Dad. Then his fortunes changed.

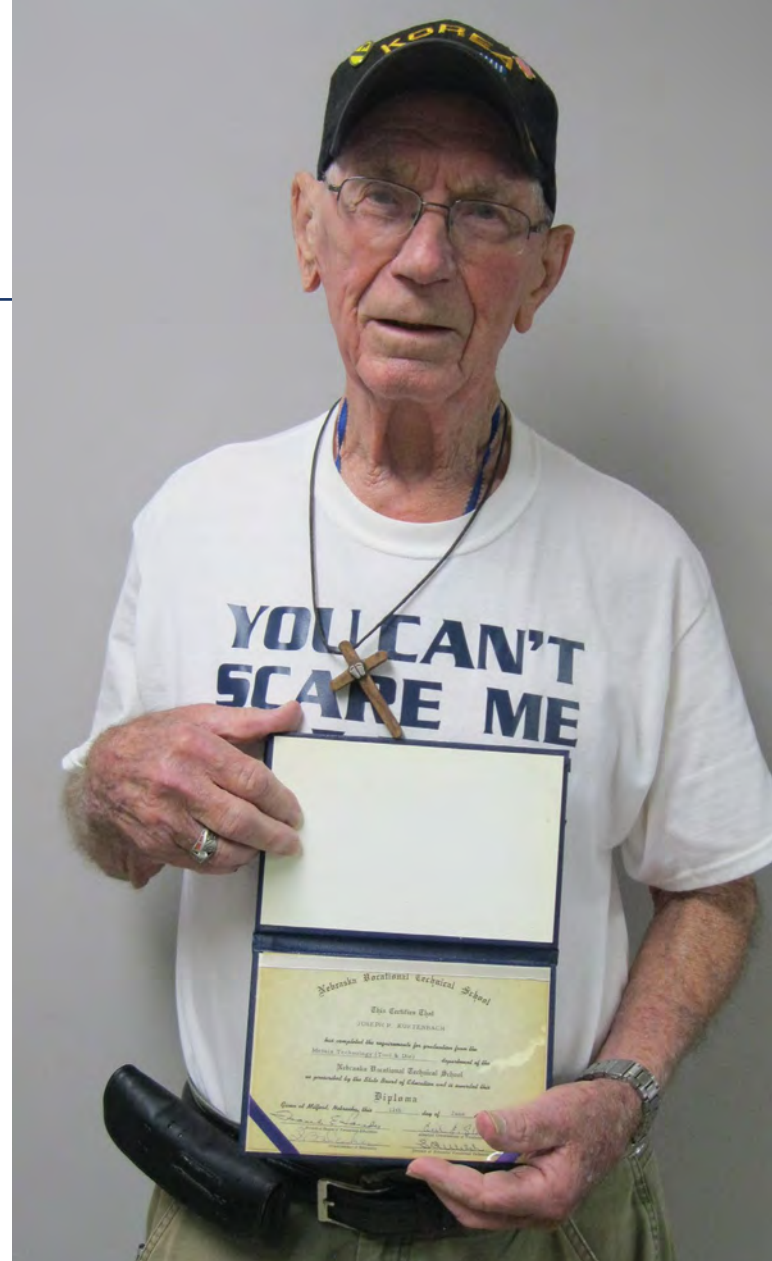
“The following year I went out on my own and went broke from grasshoppers, hail and drought,” Kurtenbach said. “It turned out to be a blessing because I decided to continue my education at the Milford Trade School (now Southeast Community College).”

He liked working with his hands so he enrolled in the Tool and Die program. Kurtenbach was also able to take advantage of the GI Bill which gave him a monthly stipend of \$72 a month. To supplement his stipend, he washed dishes and cleaned the cafeteria during the week and worked

at Henke Machine in Columbus, Nebraska, on Saturdays. He also had other experiences on campus.

“I was here when the tornado went through campus on April 24, 1957,” he said. “We would also shoot squirrels and cook them in a popcorn popper in the dorm to eat.”

Kurtenbach graduated in 1959 from the Machine Tool program and worked for a short time at Behlen Manufacturing in Columbus. He then went to Stanley Aviation in Aurora, Colorado, making



Do you know a prospective student?

Start them on their path to possible and tell them to register for one of our Fall Discovery Days!

Beatrice Campus

Friday, Oct. 11 or Nov. 15

Lincoln Campus

Friday, Oct. 18 or Nov. 22

Milford Campus

Friday, Oct. 4 or Nov. 1

southeast.edu/visitscc

Beatrice Campus Future SCC Broadcaster

Featured Year: 1994



A SCC open house drew many visitors to the Beatrice campus. From left, Lana Hemphill of Diller and her daughter Crystal Hemphill, look on as broadcasting instructor Jerry Fritz explains the use of the College's new video studio in Adams Hall.

low-altitude ejection seats for aircrafts. After 12 years, he and his wife Marge moved to California where Kurtenbach spent the next 30 years in nuclear weaponry and geothermal energy. All of this success wouldn't have been possible without SCC.

“I had wonderful instructors, Jim Powers and Ed Garner, to whom I owe much of my success,” Kurtenbach said. “The confidence and teaching I received at Milford guided me every day. I was given the ability to lead with a sound basis.” ❖

SCC ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Southeast Community College announced a partnership with the Lincoln Police Department to provide college credits for commissioned officers who complete LPD's Training Academy. LPD is the first law enforcement agency in Nebraska to partner with SCC on this type of program.

"One of the College's key strategic goals is to strengthen community partnerships to promote access to higher education, and economic and workforce development," said Dr. Paul Illich, SCC president. "We believe this is just the beginning of many collaborative partnerships with other organizations and agencies. I am very appreciative of the willingness of LPD to be the first to partner with SCC to establish a pathway for future partnerships."

Through the Training Academy Partnership, LPD Training Academy

graduates can apply for up to 30 credit hours toward an Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice.

This program is available to LPD Training Academy graduates from the past 10 years and nearly 250 graduates are eligible. Graduates from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center can also apply for the program.

"We are thrilled that TAP will be the



From left, SCC President Dr. Paul Illich, Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird and Lincoln Police Chief Michon Morrow.

first-of-its-kind at SCC as the college works to model this program with other law enforcement agencies," said Lincoln Police Chief Michon Morrow. "We believe higher education expands our officers' knowledge and enhances their leadership abilities, paving the way for future promotional opportunities."

Credit for Prior Learning is the evaluation of life and work experiences gained outside of an academic environment for college credit. CPL is used to grant college credit, certification or advanced standing toward further education or training. LPD Training Academy graduates will be eligible to apply CPL to satisfy curriculum requirements toward an associate degree at SCC.

"The TAP partnership gives our officers a meaningful opportunity to invest in their career success and earn credit toward a criminal justice degree," said Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird. "This is another tool in our toolbox to recruit and retain officers and support public safety in Lincoln."

LPD incentivizes higher education for its officers by providing \$300 in additional pay annually for those with an associate degree and \$750 for those with a bachelor's degree. In addition, the program requires no funding from the City of Lincoln or LPD and officers are eligible for full tuition reimbursement through the First Responder Recruitment and Retention Act.

"To be truly open-access to the life changing benefits of higher education requires innovation, collaboration and an openness to discovery," Illich explained. "I believe the SCC/LPD Training Academy Partnership is an excellent example of what it means to be an open-access institution of higher education. I look forward to continuing to expand this partnership and to launch similar collaborative opportunities throughout southeast Nebraska." ❖

We Love to Hear from Our Graduates!

"I am very grateful for the education I received at SCC Milford which put me on the path to a long and fulfilling career."
Dan Meyer,
Electronic Engineering, 1985

"Traveling and enjoying life, thanks in large part to SCC and the opportunities they opened for me."
Dennis Hutsell,
Computer Programming, 1986

"I enjoy relaxing and reading lots of books, while drinking lots of tea."
Eudora (Krous) Arrants, Business Administration, 1994

"I get to be the voice for so many nurses, stand up for safety and solve lots of problems!"
Jennifer (Maryska) Hinze, LPN, 1995, ADN, 1998

"I opened Clean Vibe two years ago within the YMCA of Beatrice. That is my most recent business venture."
Bly (Barber) Rash, Nursing, 1997

"In 2021, when driving with Fremont Contract Carriers, I got my 1 Million Mile Safe Driving Award."
Joseph Johns, Professional Truck Driver Training, 2003

"I helped initiate a group called Shared Nursing Governance that in turn made the Daisy Award possible at Beatrice Community Hospital. It helped to improve the tuition reimbursement program and obtained a way that all nursing licenses are paid yearly by BCH."
Courtney Hasse, LPN, 2012, ADN, 2016

"After spending many years trying to find what my passion is, I lucked into working in law enforcement. I spent 2.5 years working as a dispatcher before becoming a police officer last year. I still make good use of my degree from SCC at home and for my coworkers and although I don't use it professionally anymore, I've never regretted my degree."
Ashley Mills, Food Service/Hospitality, 2014

"I am very happy to be in the law field now. It is the field I have always wanted to be in."
Sonia Arellano, Academic Transfer, 2017

"I recently became a Ford Senior Master Technician!"
Logan Callaway, Ford ASSET, 2019

A Ford Senior Master Technician is a highly skilled and certified technician who specializes in repairing and maintaining Ford vehicles. They have completed advanced training programs and have demonstrated their technical expertise through rigorous testing and certification processes.

"I'm very grateful for my online education at SCC. It greatly enriched my skillset and made me a much more qualified candidate (along with my bachelor's and master's degrees) for my current position."
Lindsey LaBrie, Geospatial Information Systems Technician, 2021

"I am enjoying my job, traveling, and learning French at SCC as well."
Isai Gonzalez Garcia, Computer Information Technology, 2023

March Building Construction Graduates



Front row, from left: Jason Slama, Nate Ruffcorn, David Masur, Andy Dahlke, Mike Lamprecht.

Second row, from left: Aaron Deitchler, Craig Czarnick, Adam Langley, Chad Ruzicka, Jamey Crockett.

Back row, from left: Conrad Lawrence, Kirk Walz, Scott Kudron, Christopher Smith, Kenneth Bean, Dane Christensen.

Not pictured: Darin Rasplicka and Aaron LeMere.

Retirements

Mark Billesbach
Maintenance Worker II, Beatrice

Courtney Buchkoski
History Instructor, Lincoln

Kevin Christiansen
Agribusiness Instructor, Beatrice

Tanya Hare
Account Clerk III,
Business Office, Lincoln

Terry Kuebler
Powersports Instructor, Milford

Eric Sack
English Instructor, Lincoln

Tom Wheeldon
Ag Bioscience Instructor,
TCA/Beatrice

We want to stay in touch with our grads!

Email information to alumni@southeast.edu or
call **Beatrice, 800-233-5027, ext. 1216; Lincoln, 800-642-4075, ext. 2622; or Milford, 800-933-7223, ext. 8242.**

Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1994 Graduates?

Lincoln Campus

Christine R. Abbink	Terisha R. Coover	Ronnie L. Hamouz	Jeffrey J. Lindsey	Donald Parks	Ginny L. Settrini
Sandra K. Agin	Nancy J. Coulter	Mark E. Hansen	James E. Lockard	Tanya J. Parmele	Bruce A. Shafer
Christina L. Aldag	Michael S. Cronk	Mary L. Harms-Daley	Debbie J. Lorenz	Shad L. Peniska	John E. Sherman
Christopher Alexander	Louis A. Damian	Jason A. Hedges	Dixie K. Lottman	Paul W. Peterson	Bonnie E. Simonson
Vicki S. Allen	Kimberly A. Davis	James D. Hein	Sherri Lovelace	Dinh Pham	David L. Slama
Jacqueline D. Andersen	Sandra Davis-Mueller	Robert W. Heiser	Kristina G. Luellen	Nancy Phillips	Natalie C. Sluka
Michele C. Anderson	Catrina M. Dean	Jeffrey J. Hellman	Lynda L. Marshall-Siffring	Jeff Pickerel	Cheri R. Smetter
Rex Anderson	Tenant S. Deberg	Scott J. Helmstadter	Albert Marsh-Brown	Susan Plessman	Janet L. Snider
Ann J. Anthony	Randy L. Dickhaut	Robert L. Hendrick	Chad A. Martens	Cheryl B. Poole	Shannon Snyder
Barbara E. Asmussen	Harold Dilley	Meredith L. Henry	Linda S. Martin	Veronica A. Preddie	Amos B. Solomon
Julie D. Augustine	Sri W. Djaja	Nicole Heying	Eric C. Mason	Brenda S. Preister	John L. Speckmann
Christine E. Beacom	Christina M. Dompier	Vernon G. Hildebrandt	Sheila J. Mauldin	Bonnie J. Price	Keith R. Speers
Robert Benson	Karen T. Dorn	Sarah L. Hilliard	Mary F. McCain	Karla A. Prokupek	Christie S. Spier
Timothy B. Boetger	Tammy M. Duffy	Dean L. Holley	Chris McCarty	Julie A. Pulec	Carol Starner
Amy L. Bohac	Brenda Dunker	Jose A. Isaza	Jennifer S. McCollough	Israel Ramirez	Darla L. Stearns
Jeff L. Bowen	Scott A. Dunkin	Gabriel James	Kevin M. McGee	Edward Reed	Michelle L. Stump
Kelli N. Brand	Virgene A. Dunklau	Wendy Jensen	Cynthia L. McLean	Kimberly D. Reynolds	John C. Sullivan
Jim E. Bray	Michael J. Durham	Jill J. Jewell	Andrea M. Meier	Linda S. Rezac	Karen L. Thompson
Randall E. Brinkman	Sandra L. Edwards	Helen L. Johnson	Pamela S. Meredith	Kathye E. Richardson	Leon H. Thompson
Craig D. Brown	Gerald W. Etherton	Scott R. Jones	Patti A. Milbourn-Baker	Michele L. Robb	Joy D. Thomsen
William J. Brown	Glenn J. Evans	Mike Kantanavicius	Christina Misfeldt	Matt R. Rosenboom	Beverly M. Throener
Michelle L. Bruce	Marla Evert	Nicole M. Keller	Tammy M. Mitchell	Raymond E. Roth	Donna M. Underdal
Rita L. Brummond	Julie A. Farber	Sandra Kempkes	Linda A. Morrow	Mark A. Rotherham	Margie S. Venson
Todd J. Brummond	Sue A. Fix	Julie M. King	Amy J. Mueller	Shaun P. Ryan	Marianne Watts
Corie J. Bruns	Stacy A. Foltz	Teresa S. Klahr	Theo J. Muff	Matt Sandoz	Jennifer L. Weber
Charles L. Burk	Sheri Frahm	Angi D. Klein	Jennifer E. Murphy	Ronald F. Scanlon	Jennifer L. Weiner
Shaunda K. Burns	Julie A. Frazer	Betty L. Kne	Kathleen S. Myers	Heather Schmidt	Tarma J. West
Shannon L. Candler	Diane M. Frohn	Kaye E. Koci	Stephanie Myrberg	Roni L. Schmidt	Anthony D. Wester
Mary B. Carlson	Jordana L. Gartner	Melisa K. Kocian	Victor A. Nettleton	Amy D. Schneider	Decabooter M. Williams
Valenteana J. Chilsted	Andrea L. Gatzemeyer	Craig D. Kohler	Melissa L. Nichols	Mia L. Schrieber	Jennifer G. Williams
Daniel M. Clark	Glenn R. Gilliam	Mindi S. Krueger	Robyn L. Nickles	Debra A. Schultz	Regina S. Williams
Veryl G. Cohen	Byron W. Gorton	Penny Krzycki	Tod Nyhoff	Stephanie Schultz	Christine C. Wollam
	Celia L. Goss	Kelli Lamprecht	Billy J. Osborne	Siouzy A. Schwichtenberg	David W. Wright
	Sonja S. Graham	Jaci L. Larkowski	Jeffrey Parker	Chad A. Sears	Richard A. Wyatt
	Adam R. Grell	Tamara S. Laue			Sarah Y. Young

Beatrice Campus

Deanna L. Bence	Patty S. Pytlik
Ryan G. Birkett	Nancy K. Rasmussen
Sandra J. Blumer	Brian M. Schmidt
Igor Cikiriz	Lisa R. Schroeder
Brett E. Duerfeldt	Joseph D. Sexton
Tammy L. Dush	Ayyaz H. Siddiqui
Amy S. Gyhra	Angelika L. Sipe
Vaughn L. Hinrichsen	Todd C. Slama
Chad E. Hirschfeld	Sheila M. Stern
Shelly L. James	Julie A. Stevens
Kelly M. Jay	Lori L. Swanigan
Scott J. Jones	Rodney R. Tisdale
Julie A. Just	Justin A. Troudt
Todd M. Leopold	Aaron D. Uhrmacher
David A. Lubben	Olga Usov
Michael R. Luedders	Darren W. Warner
Trina B. Nutz	Kirt D. Watson

Milford Campus

Kyle L. Bartruff	Stanley M. Preslicka
Christopher J. Betz	Eric C. Ruhr
Dane A. Christensen	Lynette M. Sandtorf
Richard E. Cool	Robert J. Schroeder
Rodney S. Creamer	Robert C. Shipps
Jeremy D. Davis	Douglas W. Smith
Wayne M. Drake	Brian R. Stewart
Jeffrey G. Grimes	Joel C. Swartsley
Benjamin D. Harsh	Jamie R. Thompson
Ted D. Hilderhoff	Thomas B. Turner
Jason C. Koelzer	Stephen E. Vaught
Michael Longoria	Aaron D. White
Steven M. Martinez	David S. Wood
Donald E. McCulley	Edward D. Woodward
Richard K. Meyer	Scot M. Zimmerman
Edward E. Olson	

Beatrice Campus Lady Demon Volleyball



Featured Year: 1994

Front row, from left: Jody Seitz, Stephanie Noerrlinger and Amy Bachle.

Back row, from left: Sue Ann Saathoff, Sarah Heller, Kristie Wieters, Carmen Luthy, Justine Sich, Cindy Hestermann, and Coach Bill Campbell.

All SCC Lincoln Campus Retirees Invited

**Thursday, Oct. 10
10:30 a.m.**

Harbor Coffeehouse in Piedmont

1265 S. Cotner Blvd., Lincoln

This is an opportunity for retirees to visit and catch up with friends.

Committee members are Alicia Baillie, Karen Bonczynski, Pat Frakes, Jerry Gruber, Nancy Krumland, Charlotte Pasco, Ron Snyder, Jo Taylor, Carol Wells, and Lynn Willey.



Dan Morrow, center, with his family and staff at Morrow Collision Center.

MORROW BUILDS COMMUNITY IN HIS BUSINESSES

Being part of a community is important to **Dan Morrow**. As the owner/president of Morrow Collision Center, Beeman Auto Body and Galaxy Towing/Galaxy Mechanical, his goal has always been to be an active and vital member in Lincoln. It is one of the reasons he was named the 2024 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year for the Southeast Community College Milford Campus.

“Community impact has been extremely important to me since first starting my business,” said Morrow. “My goal has always been to be an active member, not just run a successful business. I want to give back to those who have helped me get where I am.”

Morrow graduated from the SCC Auto Collision Repair Technology program in 1997. After graduation he worked for a Lincoln body shop and quickly realized he was meant to run his own business and build a work community of his own. In 2001 he renovated his first location at 22nd

and Cornhusker Highway and opened the Morrow Collision Center in January of 2002. His first group of employees were classmates from his program at SCC. In 2003, his brother joined the business as general manager and things really took off.

“We spent the next 18 years growing our business, establishing our name and building a process unlike any other,” he said. “Eight of those years were spent planning our first expansion, a second location built from the ground up, in northeast Lincoln. That location at 84th and Adams is the largest in Lincoln (square footage wise) and was designed to eliminate all traditional body shop waste.”

Since opening that location before COVID-19 hit in 2020, they spent two years surviving the pandemic before expanding their business. In late 2021, they acquired Beeman Automotive (renamed Beeman Auto Body) and took a leap with a new business venture.

“In 2023, we started a separate business called Galaxy Towing/Galaxy Mechanical,” Morrow explained. “A veteran tow specialist approached us about starting this business and we knew it was the perfect time to take that next leap. We now tow for individuals, mechanical shops and competing body shops in Lincoln and the surrounding areas.”

Morrow continues to give back to SCC as a member of the workforce leadership team for the Auto Collision Repair Technology program. He also works closely with local high school auto body classes to allow job shadow opportunities as well as giving tours of his facilities to their classes.

“We have created an amazing work culture and provide a place for our talented techs and employees to hone their craft and continuously learn about industry changes,” he said. “I will continue to always be an advocate of SCC’s Milford Campus and credit much of my success to my education there.” ❖



SUPPORT THE BOBCATS!

If you are in the Lincoln or Beatrice areas, show your support for the Bobcats this fall. All events are subject to change; stay up-to-date at sccbobcats.com.

Beatrice Campus

Men’s & Women’s Soccer

- 9/11 **Hesston College** at 2:30 p.m. (M) and 5 p.m. (W)
- 9/18 **Pratt Community College** at 2 p.m. (W) and 4 p.m. (M)
- 9/28 **Allen County Community College** at 1 p.m. (W) and 3:30 p.m. (M)
- 10/2 **Highland Community College** – TBD
- 10/9 **Central Community College** at 1 p.m. (W) and 3:30 p.m. (M)
- 10/16 **Neosho County Community College** at 1 p.m. (W) and 3:30 p.m. (M)
- 10/19 **Johnson County Community College** – TBD

Shooting Sports – Coed

- 10/26 **SCC Bobcat Invitational** – TBD

Lincoln Campus

Volleyball (SCC Gym)

- 9/13 **McCook Community College** at 6 p.m.
- 9/23 **Nebraska Wesleyan JV** at 6:30 p.m.
- 9/27 **Highland Community College** at 5 p.m.
- 9/30 **North Platte Community College** at 6 p.m.
- 10/2 **Central Community College** at 6 p.m.
- 10/10 **Peru State College JV** at 6 p.m.
- 10/11 **Western Iowa Tech** at 6 p.m.
- 10/12 **York University** at 12 p.m.
- 10/25 **Kansas Wesleyan University JV** at TBA

Men’s & Women’s Cross Country

- 9/21 **Greeno/Dirksen Invite** – TBD



We want to stay in touch with our grads!

Email information to alumni@southeast.edu or call Beatrice, 800-233-5027, ext. 1216; Lincoln, 800-642-4075, ext. 2622; or Milford, 800-933-7223, ext. 8242.

Can You Help Us Locate the Following 1972 Graduates?

Beatrice Campus

David G. Griffith
Daryl D. Hansen
Steven L. Henry
Lindsay L. Husa

Ali-Reza Massoudi
Sohrab Pourtahmassebi
George E. Williams

Thomas A. Ball
John C. Bass
Lyle K. Bell
Randall B. Brown
Robert L. Burns
Conrad O. Fix
Robert P. Freer
Timothy W. Gibbs
Bhaskar H. Gupta

Milford Campus

Richard L. Halverson
Richard L. Harriger
Richard L. Hoover
Chris A. Jensen
Randy M. Johnson
Richard J. Julifs
Kathryn Kelly
Criss L. King
Ivan L. Kingham

Thomas A. Kraus
Martin G. Kuehler
John A. Leitner
Kenneth E. Marks
Daniel L. Mensinger
Wayne L. Miller
James S. Mobley
Bradley J. Peterson
Dennis D. Roehrs

Richard J. Ruskamp
William L. Schaefer
Joel F. Sindelar
James C. Stofer
Dennis H. VonRentzell
William D. Warren
John J. Wenzl
Ewert H. Wilford
Robert B. Wilhelms

In Memory of...

Beatrice / Fairbury

Carol E. Burdick (Academic Transfer, 1955)
Dorothy Collins (Practical Nursing, 1974)
Lisa L. Goos (Practical Nursing, 1984)
Jacalyn M. Hamm-Siple (Practical Nursing, 1983)
June E. James (Practical Nursing, 1978)
Barbara (DeFrain) Jantzen (Academic Transfer, 1964)
Sharon S. Mulligan (Practical Nursing, 1992)
Pamela J. Oltman (Academic Transfer, 1989)
Jerry R. Schmidt (Ag Business & Management, 1955)
Darlene C. Timmons (Practical Nursing, 1977)
Patricia J. Wathor (Office Technology, 1992)
Judy M. Weers (Academic Transfer, 1967)
Theo Kathman (Ag Business & Management, 2024)

Lincoln

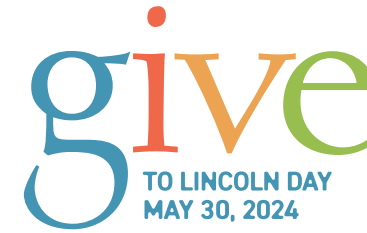
Gayle L. Angus (Respiratory Care, 1989)
Douglas R. Bristol
(Professional Truck Driver Training, 2009)
Rebecca M. Brown-Schmeichel (Business, 1991)
M.C. Feit (Visual Publications, 1991)
Kimberly S. Gardner (Business, 1991)
Gilbert Nicholson (Business, 1990)
Verlene M. Owens (Computer Information Tech, 2005)
Dwayne Snyder (Laboratory Science, 1986)
Bradley J. Stetson (Early Childhood, 2004)
Michael H. West (Fire Protection, 1976)

Milford

Seth L. Amundson (Diesel Truck, 1988)
Merritt Andreasen (Diesel, 1955)
Richard N. Athen (Welding, 1961)
Don L. Betten (Parts Distribution, 1975)
Rick L. Buchanan (Electromechanical, 2001)
Michael D. Cook (Architectural, 1978)
Scott M. Doty (Electrical & Electromechanical, 1982)
Richard D. Edelmaier (Machine Tool, 1975)
Paul R. Ernst (Diesel, 1976)
Mickey G. Eschenbrenner (Air Conditioning, 1964)
Charles M. Estes (HVAC, 1997; Retired HVAC Instructor)
Laurence E. Evans (Automotive, 1959)
Ray L. Fauver (Drafting, 1968)
Larry D. Fisher (Automotive, 1965)
Donald T. Fults (Electronics, 1971)
Cheryl R. Gatliff (Commercial Art, 1982)
James R. Getzfred (HVAC, 1973)
Gordon G. Goldsmith (Electronic Data Processing, 1967)
Joe A. Graham (Automotive, 1988)
Dean R. Hatcliff (Building Construction, 1981)
James L. Holtzen (Electronics, 1978)
Duane R. Ihrie (Automotive, 1971)
James E. Iverson (Auto Body, 1970)
Ronald J. Jindra (Machine Tool, 1968)
Larry C. Kaspar (Electronics, 1963)
David L. Krenk (Electronics, 1986)
Jere R. Lewis (Electronic Data Processing, 1968)
Vern L. Olson (Electronics, 1984)
William D. Owens (Welding, 1974)
Curtis A. Pearson (Automotive, 1978)
Jerry M. Radcliff (Diesel, 1963)
Eugene E. Ripa (Drafting, 1964)
William Scheideler (Electronics, 1971)
Curtis D. Schuerman (Diesel Farm, 1987)
Herbert A. Spitzer (Building Construction, 1972)
Nathan A. Talbert (Welding, 1984)
Eddy L. Tinnean (Drafting, 1963)
Norman F. Trosper (Auto Body, 1966)
Bruce A. Tucker (Automotive, 1968)
William C. Veal (Auto Body, 1961)
Larry R. Welander (Nondestructive Testing, 1992)
David R. Znamenacek (Computer Programming, 2000)

The Foundation Office has moved!

New location is 8800 O St., Suite 227. Please stop by to visit us and tour any of the SCC campuses.



GIVE TO LINCOLN DAY UPDATE

Thank you! Those two simple words do not feel big enough for the impact our donors made on the 13th annual Give to Lincoln Day on Thursday, May 30. Thanks to the support of 74 donors, we raised \$144,280, including \$44,280 to support student scholarships and an additional \$100,000 was given for the new Welding Technology Center on the Lincoln Campus. When it opens in the fall of 2025, it will be one of the largest welding centers in the nation.

“More than 80% of SCC students accept some form of financial aid and many rely on scholarships to help pay for college,” said Michelle Birkel, SCC Educational Foundation executive director. “The need for financial assistance is real for our students and your support gives them access to the life-changing benefits of an advanced degree. As we work to address the skilled workforce shortage in Nebraska, your gift ensures we can continue to serve students for years to come.”

The 13th annual Give to Lincoln Day was the biggest event to date. Please save the date for the 14th annual Give to Lincoln Day on Thursday, May 29, 2025. There is a special excitement that comes when we all come together as a community to support our favorite causes and see the tremendous impact of our collective generosity. ❖



Annual Report

The SCC Educational Foundation's Annual Report is available online. If you would like a copy mailed to you, contact the SCC Educational Foundation office at 402-323-3411 or mbirkel@southeast.edu.

COURTNEY PARRY NURSING SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

On Dec. 15, 2022, **Courtney Parry** and two crew members died in the line of duty in a tragic air medical crash off the coast of Hana, Hawaii. The flight departed the Kahului airport to pick up a patient at Waimea. The aircraft lost



radar contact and crashed 15 miles off the coast of Maui around 9:27 p.m. Her colleagues remembered her as an extraordinary nurse with a vibrant spirit who was passionate about helping others and died doing a job she loved.

Parry graduated from SCC in 2001 from the Practical Nursing program. Thanks to her parents, Kyle and Duane Pavel, her memory will live on in the form of the Courtney Parry Nursing Scholarship. The recipient of the scholarship must be enrolled in their second semester or beyond in the Practical Nursing or Associate Degree Nursing programs. The scholarship can be used for tuition and fees and/or toward housing or other educational expenses.

If you are interested in establishing a scholarship or contributing to an existing fund, please contact the SCC Educational Foundation at 402-323-3411 or email at foundation@southeast.edu. We will work with you to tailor your scholarship to your individual needs. ❖



1

Donate online at:
southeast.edu/sccd donate



Under “I Want to Support,” select your designation

2

Mail check to:
Southeast Community College
Educational Foundation
8800 O St., Suite 227
Lincoln, NE 68520

Two Easy Ways to Give

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check out our other issues
you may have missed!
southeast.edu/alumni



Honoring Our Veterans

We thank you!

SHARE YOUR SCC STORY

Southeast Community College loves to hear from our alumni. If you would like to share your SCC story, scan the QR code to submit your story.

