

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PAW PRINTS

FALL 2022 | VOLUME 36 - ISSUE 2



Campus Improvements

- ▣ The machine tool lab on the Ridgeland Campus was converted into HVAC classrooms.
- ▣ Major painting and new signage was completed on the Ridgeland and Grenada Campuses.
- ▣ New bedding for dorms was ordered.
- ▣ Touchless faucets and toilets were installed throughout the Goodman Campus.
- ▣ Motel Dorm was renovated with new windows, doors, and air conditioners.
- ▣ Grenada Dorm is being remodeled with updated bathrooms and lobby fixtures.
- ▣ Two Freightliner athletic buses were delivered to the Goodman Campus.
- ▣ A New cedar pavilion was constructed on the Grenada Campus.
- ▣ A new softball press box was built by The Holmes Carpentry Department.
- ▣ The Math & Science Building in Goodman is being renovated
- ▣ Installation of turf for softball, baseball, and football fields has been completed.
- ▣ Transformation of the old maintenance building to an athletics facility is nearly completed on the Goodman Campus.
- ▣ Plans are underway for a soccer field house on the Ridgeland Campus.



Class Reunions

CLASS OF 1963 REUNION

The Holmes class of 1963 met in Kosciusko at Jason's Southern Table for lunch and fellowship. In attendance were: Bill & Janice Strawbridge, James & Guinevere Young, J.L. & Lynette Peebles, Kay Asken, Billy & Connie Rucker, Davis & Mary Ann Richards, Leonard & Vera Blanton, Paul & Patti Smith, John & Frankie Day, Linda & Ben Tharp, Johnny & Elizabeth Belk, Charlotte Taylor, Clinton & Judy Tompkins, Bobby & Phyllis Martin, and Jack Holmes.



CLASS OF 1975-1980 REUNION

The classes of 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980 gathered for their third annual meeting on July 16 in Goodman. Alumni met in the Lorraine Student Center for lunch while they visited and reminisced about the good ole days of Holmes Jr. Please consider joining if you graduated in these classes as they will be gathering again July 2023.



If you would like to have a class reunion, contact Katherine Ellard at (601) 472-9134.

Current Giving Opportunities



The STEM Major Project

Developed by Holmes to renovate STEM facilities with cutting-edge technology while incorporating activities and programs to promote STEM awareness, enrollment and degree completion.



Purchase a Chapel Courtyard Brick

We invite you to add your personal touch to the Chapel on the Hill on the Goodman Campus. You can purchase a customized paver to celebrate a graduation or milestone, honor a classmate, family member, or influential person in your life, while creating a meaningful reminder of your affection for Holmes.



NEH Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grant

The Foundation has a five-year plan to match the National Endowment for the Humanities grant with \$231,849, totaling \$463,698 over the life of the grant. These funds will provide the means for renovating the interior spaces of McMurrough Library in Goodman.



Kroger Community Rewards

If you have not already indicated an organization for Community Rewards through Kroger, we would love for you to choose Holmes. It is easy to enroll through your Kroger account. Once you sign into your account, all you need to do to enroll is enter our code: **MW962** for the Holmes Community College Development Foundation.



Holmes CC License Plate

Show your pride wherever you drive! The Holmes Community College Development Foundation has launched a new opportunity for Mississippi residents, especially alumni, employees and friends to show their support of Holmes through their daily travels.



AmazonSmile

It's the same Amazon online store you already know. All you need to do is indicate Holmes Community College Development Foundation as your charity through AmazonSmile, and Amazon donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to Holmes. It will not affect your Amazon Prime account, and you can purchase the same products at the same prices with the same service.

**Join the Alumni 360
Online Community!**
Scan here to activate your account.



Introducing Alumni 360, Holmes' new online alumni community. Scan the QR code to join. Through this software, you can find other alumni, stay in the know with Holmes events and campaigns, even promote your business! Spread the word to your fellow alumni!

**Connect with former classmates, follow events,
discover featured alumni businesses & jobs!**



**PAW PRINTS IS
GOING DIGITAL!**

**BEGINNING 2024, PAW PRINTS WILL
BE PROVIDED IN A DIGITAL FORMAT.**

**Make sure you are active in the Alumni 360 community
so you stay up-to-date with Alumni happenings!**

ON THE COVER:

Holmes Alumni live across the nation! Each state on the cover is home to at least one HCC alumni. Find the number in each state to discover how many bulldogs live there. See someone in your area? Get in touch with them through Alumni 360!



locations: Carroll Cafeteria, Lorange Student Center and Food Trucks), as well as fun and games in the Grove with live music by the Holmes Jazz Band. The Holmes Concert Chorale will perform a variety of their music in the Chapel on the Hill. Also, at noon the Holmes Men's Basketball team will host an Alumni Basketball game in Frank Branch Coliseum.

The Holmes tailgating experience will kick off at 1 p.m. on the practice field adjacent to Ras Branch Field.

The annual Holmes Alumni Association meeting will be held at 1:45 p.m. under the alumni tent in the Homecoming tailgating area. The pep rally will be held at the tailgate area at 2 p.m. followed by the Holmes Community College Marching Band entering the stadium and the honorees will be recognized at 2:55 p.m. prior to the kickoff with Southwest Mississippi at 3 p.m. The Holmes Concert Chorale will perform the national anthem prior to kickoff and the presentation of the Homecoming Court is set for halftime.

Live music performances by Lauren Lindsey, East of West and Mustache The Band will follow the pep-rally. Watch for details on the Homecoming events page closer to the date:

[EVENTS.HOLMESCC.EDU/HOMECOMING-2022](https://events.holmescc.edu/homecoming-2022)

Homecoming festivities kick off with a Visual Arts Display in the Library at 8:30 a.m. There will be an open practice for the softball and baseball teams at 9 a.m. which alumni and friends are welcome to enjoy. Academic Programs and Career Technical Education will host a Career/Transfer Fair at 10 a.m. At the same time, Workforce Development will host "Major's Truck Expo" with all of the big industry vehicles on display.

Honorees will be recognized in McDaniel Auditorium at 10 a.m. followed by the debut performance from the Holmes Connection! and Coachmen at 10:20 a.m.

Bow Wow Trail will host a disc golf tournament starting at 10 a.m.

Mid-day activities include: (lunch available in several

2022 Honorees



**DEREK
STARLING, SR. '86**
ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

HOMETOWN: Canton, MS
RESIDES NOW: Madison, MS
OTHER EDUCATION: B.S. in Industrial Systems Engineering, minor in Math, Mississippi State University
OCCUPATION: Owner/Principal of SOL Engineering Services, LLC
FUN FACTS: Played basketball under Bennie Kimble, NJCAA All-State 1986, Honor Student, served as HCC Alumni Association President from 2020-2022



**KAY GOWAN
ASKEN '63**
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

HOMETOWN: McAdams, MS
RESIDES NOW: Sallis, MS
OTHER EDUCATION: Mississippi State and Mississippi College
OCCUPATION: Administrative secretary for 25 years, now retired
FUN FACTS: First job was the receptionist for The University of Mississippi Athletic Association under John Vaught and Tad Smith. Holmes Alumni Association Secretary from 2016-2022



**TAYLOR CAIN
BISHOP '14**
YOUNG ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

HOMETOWN: Sallis, MS
RESIDES NOW: Sallis, MS
OTHER EDUCATION: B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, The University of Mississippi
OCCUPATION: Plant Engineer at Entergy Attala Power Generation Plant
FUN FACTS: Holmes Hall of Fame, Valedictorian 2014, Ambassador and has taught physics for Holmes



**MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM J.
LUTZ, USAF (RETIRED)**
VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HOMETOWN: Canton, MS
RESIDES NOW: Ridgeland, MS
MILITARY BRANCH: Air Force
FUN FACTS: Served in Vietnam, Air Ground Operation School Instructor, Mississippi Air National Guard, retired as Assistant Adjutant General and Commander, Mississippi Air National Guard

FOR FULL BIOS SCAN THE QR TO THE RIGHT OR VISIT:
events.holmescc.edu/homecoming-2022/honorees

FEATURING



mustache the band

Homecoming 2022's headlining act is Mustache The Band! They will take you on a journey back to the '90s: a time when sleeveless tanks, mullets, and mustaches ruled Country Music.

Mustache delivers a powerful performance of country hits from the 90s. With over 140 songs under their buckles, you are guaranteed a non-stop party.

If you're ready to get down on the farm - grab a 'stache (band-provided) - and let Mustache The Band take you there!



ORDER YOUR HOMECOMING SHIRT

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO THE
RIGHT TO ORDER YOURS!**

This year's t-shirt features the homecoming slogan, "Holmes is where the heart is" with our mascot, Major, on the back. All proceeds benefit Holmes. Wear your homecoming shirt with pride! You can also order by contacting Heather Jones at 662-472-9099 or hjones@holmescc.edu.



1972 & 2002 FOOTBALL REUNION

**OCTOBER 27 AT 9:00 A.M.
MCMORROUGH LIBRARY**

Come mingle with your old teammates from Holmes! Join us for coffee and snacks the morning of Homecoming on the Goodman Campus. We will also recognize members of the 1972 & 2002 football teams at the football game.

HOT LINKS



**FULL SCHEDULE
OF EVENTS**



**RESERVE YOUR
TAILGATE SPOT**



**SIGN UP FOR DISC
GOLF TOURNAMENT**



**SEE THE HOCO
CAMPUS MAP**



**READ HONOREES
FULL BIOS**



**PRE-ORDER
YOUR TSHIRT**

Holmes is where the **heart** is. HOMECOMING 2022



HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Goodman / Ridgeland / Grenada

P.O. BOX 527, Goodman, MS 39079

Stay in touch! Helping you stay connected to Holmes Community College and to each other is the mission of the HCC Alumni Association. To update your information, contact Katherine Ellard at kellard@holmescc.edu or 662-472-9134.

Share your photos on social media with the hashtag:

#NoPlaceLikeHolmes 🐾 📷 📘

Connect with HCC Alumni on social media

@HolmesCCAlumni

Join the Holmes online Community!

holmesccalumni.360alumni.com



DEREK STARLING SR. '86
President, Holmes
Community College
Alumni Association

A lot has changed at Holmes during this time—new and renovated buildings/sports facilities, development of new programs on our Goodman, Ridgeland and Grenada campuses, and continued success of our existing programs. Our students have made us proud with honors in the classroom and on the field.

We have also persevered through the most challenging times in the history of our college. Our challenges at Holmes are not unique, nor were they insurmountable. These include the Covid Pandemic which

It has been an honor to serve the Holmes Community College Alumni Association and our Alma Mater for 4+ years, including the past two as President.

has affected all of us in some way. During my time serving the Alumni Association, I also lost a mother and a sister (both Holmes Alumni) to Covid.

Also, the Goodman Campus was hit by a tornado that caused massive damage. Because of our faith and perseverance, the Holmes family moved forward together.

Like most institutions of higher education, the environment has changed dramatically and fast. It is in difficult times that Bulldogs thrive.

Holmes has dealt with incredible challenges in recruitment with a smaller and shifting pool of potential students, competition from web-based providers, in-state and out-of-state institutions, staffing shortages, and of course, the incredible economic impact of the Covid Pandemic.

In my previous letters to you, I spoke of four of our goals we set for the Alumni association. The goals discussed were:

- Increasing attendance at alumni events
- Supporting the Alumni Affairs office to

increase alumni participation.

- Cultivating continued interest in Holmes CC among young alumni.
- Acknowledging and celebrating the accomplishments of our alumni.

I am proud to report that we have made substantial progress on these goals with the help of Bulldog Alumni, Faculty and Staff, and community supporters.

Finally, much thanks to Mrs. Katherine Ellard, Coordinator of Alumni Affairs/Public Relations Specialist, who has done an outstanding job of providing day-to-day focus on Alumni Affairs. Her efforts are the backbone of reaching the goals mentioned above.

As my time as President comes to an end, I thank you all again for your support in this role. As alumni, we truly make up a remarkable group of individuals. We look forward to hearing from you with ideas on how to further collaborate and grow. We know now and in the challenging and exciting days ahead, we will continue to say with pride, "It truly is a great day to be a Bulldog!"