

# TODAY

Hesston  
College

Summer 2012

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**START**  
*with sustainability*

**START HERE, GO EVERYWHERE**

Hesston College Today is the official publication of Hesston College, published three times yearly at Hesston, Kan., for alumni and friends of Hesston College. Address correspondence to Hesston College Today, Box 3000, Hesston, KS 67062, or email [rachels@hesston.edu](mailto:rachels@hesston.edu).

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Visit [www.hesston.edu](http://www.hesston.edu) for news and upcoming events.

## ALUMNI NEWS

*Summer at Hesston College is a time for planning the events that happen during the academic year. I am pleased with how things are shaping up for next year.*

*Come back to campus for A Hesston College Homecoming Sept. 28 to 30 for class reunions and special events focused on Performing Arts. Enjoy and participate in our outstanding lineup of events and presentations (see enclosed brochure for more information).*

*The European Alpine Tour for alumni and friends scheduled for May 2012 was postponed to May 2013. Join the group for two weeks of exploring European and early Anabaptist history. See page 18 for more information.*

*Another item of note is our new Alumni Association vice president, Gil Oliva '91, for the next two years. Gil remembers coming to Hesston from Guatemala in 1989 as part of the first Peace Scholars class with some trepidation and no ability to speak English. It didn't take long for the caring community to help him feel welcome and start him on a path of accomplishment and direction. He credits AlYoder (see page 14) as instrumental in learning English and encouraging him to "never give up." Gil, his wife, Cecilia, and son, Gilberto Jr., live in Wichita, Kan., where Gil works in enterprise data storage and IT virtualization. He is excited to share his technology expertise to help alumni connect to each other and the college in better ways.*



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# A commitment to change



This issue highlights ways Hesston College and our alumni are working to build more sustainable patterns of using the natural resources entrusted to us. Sustainability, buying local and renewable energy are hot topics as businesses, nonprofits and households seek to live in more economical and healthy ways.

For Christians, these topics should not be new, or hot or current. We are created in God's image and charged with caring for the earth that God created. Caring for our health and the natural world is a part of our commitment to Christ.

There are many ways the college has embraced these concepts in the past few years.

- Our First-Year Experience seminar emphasized sustainability this past year with a common read, special projects and speakers including Wilbur Bontrager '73, CEO of Jayco Inc. (Middlebury, Ind.), a recreational vehicle manufacturer with a sustainability goal to be landfill-free by 2015, and Jon Helmuth '91, president of Genesis Products, Inc. (Elkhart, Ind.), a leading wood component supplier to recreational vehicle, housing and industrial markets that employs various methods for recycling unused material.
- The "10-Day Give" project at the end of the 2011 and 2012 academic years cut in half the amount of trash taken to the landfill as students moved out of the dorms.
- At the 2011-12 faculty-staff retreat, we ate food grown locally, encouraged people to walk, used reusable items and learned about energy use and conservation. At the end of the day, we had accumulated less than one kitchen-size bag of trash.
- Our Board meetings are now paperless, resulting in savings equivalent to about a three-foot high stack of paper each year. Many classes and other groups on campus have dramatically cut paper use as well.
- Thanks to the lead of the Campus Facilities department over the past two years, we have doubled our recycling and cut our landfill use in half.
- Lighting retrofits over the last five years have cut electricity consumption while keeping lighting output constant.
- The renovation work in Erb Hall has improved the living experience for students and has made it a much more energy efficient building.
- Changes in the kitchen, such as going trayless for meals and adding a relay on the steam boiler, have resulted in decreased demand for water and natural gas.
- The Advanced Physics class, taught by Nelson Kilmer, does energy management projects each year. Projects have included a solar-powered golf cart, solar-powered lighting in Charles Hall, solar cookers and an electric bicycle with a solar charging station.

And we have a long way to go. It seems that each project leads to another idea, and there are many more ways we hope to reuse, recycle, save energy and live more sustainably. I am encouraged to see our faculty, staff and students all engaged with this initiative. We are stewards of God's creation, and we treat that responsibility as a sacred trust. **HCT**

Howard Keim, President

# Kings of organic farming

by Rachel Schlegel

Any good farm kid can identify livestock just by the smell. But at JaKo, Inc., you'll need to use more than just your nose to discover there are cows, chickens, pigs and sheep all within a few hundred yards. Poke around a little longer and you'll discover that the absence of eau de livestock is only the beginning of the differences between JaKo and an average farm.

*“The goal is to work with nature rather than trying to manipulate it.”*

JaKo, a small organic farm near Hutchinson, Kan., is owned and operated with sustainable farming practices by the King Family – Ken '74 and Judy (Weaver) '73 King, Kendra (King) '01 and Mark '07 Horst, Daniel '04 and Robyn (Mast) '05 King, and David '05 and Haly King.

The Kings raise, process and sell all-natural food including dairy products, eggs, chicken, pork, beef and lamb, strawberries, apples, garden produce and baked goods. Their animals graze on acres of pasture – keeping the manure in the pasture and the farm odor free.

Most of the work – from milking to making butter, yogurt and cheese, to butchering and baking – is done right on the farm. Only the beef cattle and wheat for baking is raised off-site, but the beef is raised by a local farmer – Torrey Ball '92 – who follows the same farming practices, and the wheat is purchased from an organic farm

in nearby Sedgwick and ground into flour at JaKo.

“This is not a revolutionary idea,” said Kendra. “This is how everyone farmed 100 years ago.”

For the Kings, it's been the normal, though constantly evolving way of things for more than 30 years.

When Ken and Judy moved onto the family farm in 1978, Ken had just graduated from Kansas State University (Manhattan) and quickly realized that conventional farming wasn't for him.

“I was frustrated with all of the chemicals, so I started searching for alternative ways of doing things,” said Ken. “I experimented with a lot of different ways before finding a system that worked for us. The goal is to work with nature rather than trying to manipulate it.”

The livestock are raised on an intensive rotational grazing cycle, which maximizes nutrients as they move from one pasture to the next. Sheep and cows graze together in the same pasture because predators that would be a threat to sheep are afraid of cows. The chickens follow behind to spread the manure and nutrients around.

Seasons are also taken into consideration. Calves, lambs and pigs are bred to be born in the spring when they have nutrient-rich grass for grazing. Respecting the seasons is good for the animals and the highest quality seasonal products.

The end result is happy, healthy animals that produce chemical- and hormone-free products and, ultimately, happy, healthy consumers.



## Cover story

“We’re part of the movement of knowing your farmer,” said Judy. “Our customers are local. We know them, and they know us and trust us.”

As a family, the Kings have tweaked and fine-tuned the farm’s operations over the years. Though the King children grew up raising calves and running a summer chicken business, which helped them come out of college debt free, they didn’t necessarily expect their “everywhere” to be the family farm. But common traits are passed through the generations, and for the Kings it starts with a love for the land and its resources.

They are also a family of innovators and entrepreneurs. Ken custom-built or adapted much of the equipment to fit the farm’s needs. Ideas – good, bad and laughable – are often discussed around the table at meal times.

“When we think of something new to provide, we ask ourselves, ‘Can it be produced here, or can it be produced by someone who does things the same way we do?’” said Kendra.

Hesston College was also the natural and comfortable starting place that set them on track to developing the business and entrepreneurial skills they use every day. They foster a love for their alma mater and give back as Partners and through gifts of ground beef and eggs to Food Service.

“My parents stressed generosity, and that is something I tried to pass on,” said Ken.

Every person has their jobs around the farm to keep it running smoothly. Even David and Haly, who live in Goshen, Ind., contribute by maintaining the website

and developing new software.

“We try to work smarter instead of harder,” added Daniel.

Their efforts are not in vain. The 250 acres of pastureland support four full-time positions and,



essentially, three families, whereas a commercial farm would need considerably more acres to support one full-time position.

“Our enterprises are driven by our passions,” said Judy. “We do this because we believe we were meant to be good stewards of the land and our resources.” **HCT**

*Editor’s note: Learn more about JaKo, Inc. and the Kings at [jakoinc.com](http://jakoinc.com). To see more photos from the King farm, go to [www.hesston.edu/hesstoncollegetoday](http://www.hesston.edu/hesstoncollegetoday).*

**Cover photo:** The King family table is laid with breakfast prepared with products from the farm - cinnamon rolls with whole wheat flour, milk, apple cider, yogurt and strawberries.



**Above – The King family of JaKo, Inc. from left:** Robyn (Mast) '05 and Daniel '04 King, Judy (Weaver) '73 and Ken '74 King, and Mark '07 and Kendra (King) '01 Horst. David '05 and Haly King live in Goshen, Ind., and maintain the website.

**Photos from left:**

Judy carries full trays of strawberries to be taken to the farm’s store for sorting, washing and selling.

Ken prepares cows for milking. The milk is sold by the gallon and made into cheese, butter and yogurt.

Robyn and Daniel feed free-range chickens.

Mark collects eggs from layer hens.

Kendra picks strawberries on Ken’s strawberry picker made from pieces of a treadmill, golf cart and irrigation system.

## Tara Hershberger '06

*Acting teacher, theater usher, non-profit fundraiser, environmental steward, Portland, Ore.  
Education after Hesston: B.A. in English and theatre from Goshen (Ind.) College*

### Where has life taken you since leaving Hesston?

After I finished my degree at Goshen College, I participated in Mennonite Voluntary Service in San Antonio, Texas, where I worked at the Magik Children's Theatre as an actor and teacher for three years. Now I live in Portland, Ore., where I teach acting classes at the Northwest Children's Theatre and School, raise funds for grassroots campaigns on behalf of various non-profit organizations and usher at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. I am also passionate about raising awareness of the threat of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. I try to let my life show that by living sustainably.



*Tara Hershberger's life serves as proof that anyone – regardless of vocation – can be a part of environmental change and stewardship. Courtesy photo.*

### You're a theatre educator, why do you choose to live a more sustainable life?

I think sustainability is an obvious and logical way to live. The very term "sustainable" means that it is able to survive and adapt. Our natural and social systems are broken, and the only way we can move forward is by living simply. Protecting our planet is an issue of social justice, and to achieve that means transitioning to local, sustainable lifestyles and communities.

### How did Hesston College help determine the path your life and career would take?

At Hesston I was able to participate in a lot of theatre, and I took classes that helped shape my worldview and ethic. Hesston was also a place that instilled a sense of social responsibility to care for all creation. My early seeds of desire to fight environmental degradation and cycles of violence and poverty were sown there.

### What are your biggest career accomplishments?

At Magik Theatre I was director of the local touring company. I wrote, directed and performed in the one-act play *Texas Tall Tales*, which ran for five months.

### Which Hesston College instructors had an influence on you?

My mother, Michele (Schrock) '81 Hershberger, has had the biggest impact on my life, of course. But relatives notwithstanding, Tony Brown '69 had a big influence on my turn to vegetarianism, and my conservation ethic is, in part, inspired by Lorna Harder.

### What ideas do you have for helping Hesston College become more sustainable?

Install solar panels and windmills, offer more vegetarian food options and encourage water conservation.

### What can any individual do to be more sustainable in their day-to-day living?

Reduce waste, simplify your life, eat less meat, spend less time in the shower, unplug your life, enjoy nature, enrich your community and support local business! **HCT**

## Jacob Landis '13

**Hometown:** Sterling, Ill.

**Parents:** Keith '83 and Lois (Kaufman) '83 Landis

**Majors:** Agriculture science and Bible

### How did you choose Hesston?

Both of my parents came to Hesston, and I was brought up hearing their stories. My parents are always running into Hesston friends, and I knew that by starting here I would make great connections.

### What kinds of sustainability efforts did you make before coming to Hesston?

A few years ago my family transitioned our grain and dairy farm from conventional farming practices to organic farming. We noticed the impact fewer chemicals had on what we produced and that our impact as farmers affected the earth.

### How have you been involved with sustainability on campus?

I helped plan the community garden event during No Impact Week in September. We prepared the garden for spring planting by creating raised beds, something I learned by helping in the garden at home. This led to my becoming head of the campus gardening club, and I am working with the group on long-term planning so in the future we have something to build off of. I am also a part of the Campus Stewardship Group.\*

### Why is it important for Hesston to work toward sustainability?

Hesston College has the responsibility of being a role model for those who interact with it. As students come here they can learn from the example the college sets. It can also spill over into the community and benefit more people.


### What would you like to see Hesston do to become more “green”?

It's a big dream, but it would be really cool if the college could be completely self-sufficient – grow and raise our own food and go completely off-grid and generate our own electricity through solar panels.

### What are your career goals?

I would like to go back to the family farm and serve there in some way. I would also like to get involved with ministry. I have taken a lot of Bible classes here and could someday see myself serving the church – maybe even combining agriculture and ministry and teaching better agricultural practices overseas.

### What are you most looking forward to for your sophomore year?

I am going to be a resident assistant next year, and I am looking forward to “bringing up” next year's freshmen and helping them experience Hesston College to the fullest. 



*Jacob Landis works in the campus community garden. He brought methods and techniques he learned on the family farm for improved sustainability to campus.*

\*The Campus Stewardship Group is a sustainability initiative made up of students, faculty and staff that serves as a way to continue conversations about campus sustainability practices and to explore ways to decrease the college's carbon footprint.

# More than trash

by Rachel Schlegel

Doug Eichelberger '76 of Larkspur, Colo., views his time at Hesston College primarily as one of self-discovery. Those who know him might also see it as one of bending the rules.

"When you're young and finding your way, rules are something you fight against," said Doug.

Now an architect, Doug is in the business of designing and building, but he still stretches the traditionally accepted rules a little. Sure, he does a lot of his work the traditional way with things like wood frames, insulation materials, brick and stone. But sometimes, for something different and the good of the planet, he builds with trash.

The inspiration for Doug's alternative building methods was sparked about 20 years ago when his business, Eichelberger Architects, was in downtown Denver near a recycling yard.

"I saw these bales of paper and plastic stacked about 18 feet high and began wondering if they could be used as building materials," said Doug.

moisture and has a half-life of next to forever."

Even as recycling practices have improved to include more products, trash buildings have their place, he says.

"Right now, the obvious place for buildings like this is in developing countries," said Doug. "Plastic is everywhere, and many places don't have ways to dispose of it. We could clean up the planet and house people all at the same time."

*"For all the reasons you hate plastic on the side of the road, it's ideal for building."*

He has even thought through the problem of needing machinery to lift the heavy bales and has begun experimenting with gabion walls – wire baskets used for erosion control. The baskets can be wired together and filled with rock, masonry rubble or plastic.

It's now clear that his struggle with rules as a young man and the self-discovery that came from it would be essential for Doug's life work.



He tested his idea with a structure in the recycling company's yard. The test building's success led to three more – "The Trash Barn," which is a shop on his ranch, and two houses, similar in scale to the shop, for another environmental steward.

The buildings start with a foundation of large bales of plastic, each weighing about 900 pounds. Subsequent rows can be made from baled paper or plastic. The bales are then covered with stucco, and the building has what Doug calls "an organic feeling – there are no straight lines and it has movement similar to a rock."

"For all the reasons you hate plastic on the side of the road, it's ideal for building," said Doug. "It is impervious to

"Hesston was a place that allowed me to express myself and find myself without judgement," said Doug.

His innovative ideas could someday have a world-wide impact. He has been contacted by a group from Belgium to do work in the west African country of Guinea, and has sent his ideas to Mennonite Central Committee.

"We are here on earth and connected to everyone and everything, so we don't have the right to waste," he said. "It is up to us to minimize consumption and get out and help people who have less than us." **HCT**

*Above: Doug Eichelberger (right in far left photo) worked with George Nez, who developed reinforcement for hyperparabolic roofs, on a demonstration for building from trash in summer 2011. Courtesy photos.*



## It takes a village, or a campus

*Words like sustainability and green have become increasingly prominent as environmental issues become more of a societal priority. Fortunately at Hesston College, they are becoming almost as familiar as “heilsgeschichte,” “Larks Nest” and “Druber’s.”*

*The college has taken several steps toward becoming more environmentally conscious in recent years. Here are some of the ways sustainability practices are being implemented at Hesston College:*

**2002** The college begins making energy saving improvements including window and roof insulation, installing motion-sensor lights and converting light bulbs and fixtures to more efficient fluorescent applications.



**2007—July** The college sees a 23 percent decrease in natural gas use and a 20 percent decrease in electricity use from 2002 to 2007. An energy audit

shows the college’s combined energy cost is 97 cents per square foot as compared to \$1.30 to \$1.90 per square foot at most other Kansas colleges and universities.

**2007—September** Jim Mason, director of Campus Facilities, presents on the college’s energy saving efforts at the International Energy Council’s annual meeting by invitation from Kansas Sen. Carolyn McGinn (R-Sedgwick).

**2010—Spring** The Intergenerational Community Garden, led by faculty members Lorna Harder and Dwight Roth, is started as a joint effort between Schowalter Villa and Hesston College.



**2010—Fall** The First Year Experience seminar begins a campus-wide recycling initiative by placing reminder signs on trash cans and recycling bins around campus. Due to the class’ efforts and the college’s switch to single stream recycling service, trash production decreases by 40 percent, and recycling increases by 66 percent.



**2011—April** Faculty member Karen Sheriff LeVan presents a 10-Day Give challenge to students, encouraging them to donate any unwanted items instead of throwing them away.

The project’s success cuts in half end-of-the-year trash.

**Photos from top:** The lights in Yost Center, like those across campus, have been updated to be more energy efficient.

Mollie Nebel ’13 (Hesston, Kan.), Renita Miller ’13 (Kalona, Iowa) and Leah Rittenhouse ’11 (Mt. Pleasant, Pa.) lay a newspaper weed barrier in the community garden.

Leah Mueller ’12 (Halstead, Kan.) sorts recycling out of trash cans.

**2011—May** Furniture from Erb Hall central and west dorms is donated to 20 non-profit organizations in Waco, Texas.



**2011—August** The annual faculty staff retreat focuses on renewal and sustainability, including sessions on renewing relationships with God, self, others and the environment, a lunch of local food and use of reusable table service.

**2011—Fall** The First-Year Experience seminar spearheads sustainability efforts beginning with a common read, *No Impact Man* by Colin Beavan (Picador, 2010).

**2011—September** The First-Year Experience seminar organizes the college’s first No Impact Week. Each day has a different focus, including consumption, trash, transportation, food, energy, water and eco-Sabbath – a day for self-renewal.



**2012—February** Led by the Campus Stewardship Group formed during the fall 2011 semester, Hesston College becomes a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

**2012—April** David LeVan’s Entrepreneurship class creates and operates Menno Barrel. The student-run business manufactures and sells 55-gallon rain barrels from recycled food-grade drums. The class sells 58 barrels for a profit of about \$1,800, which is donated to Menonite Central Committee.

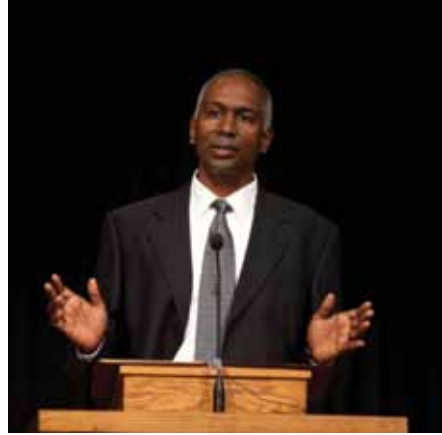


**2012—May** The second 10-Day Give collects more items for donation than the previous year. The dumpsters provided for trash are all less than half full.

**Photos from top:** Erb Hall central and west has undergone renovations to improve living conditions and energy efficiency.

A Transportation Expo featured methods of transportation including bicycles, a moped scooter, a Volkswagen Jetta that runs on biodiesel and a diesel Dodge Ram 2500.

Mallory (Schroeder) ’12 Vermillion (Newton, Kan.), David LeVan, Kyle Albrecht ’12 (Clarence, N.Y.), Hayden Goerzen ’12 (Newton, Kan.), Matt Weaver ’13 (Goshen, Ind.) and Brandon Sharkey ’13 (Goshen, Ind.) were part of LeVan’s class that built and sold rain barrels. Not pictured are Brenda Nieto-Montoya ’12 (Three Rivers, Mich.) and Miranda (Hilliard) ’12 Ainsworth (Newton, Kan.).



# HESSTON COLLEGE *Commencement*



*Top of page from left:* Graduates A.J. Jones (Kansas City, Mo.) and Saki Nozaki (Tokyo, Japan) pose for a post-commencement photo.

Joe Manickam '87 (Lancaster, Pa.) addresses the graduates during commencement.

Air traffic control graduate Heather Harkins '12 (Wichita, Kan.) is congratulated by aviation department faculty and staff at a reception honoring aviation graduates in both flight and air traffic control.

*Above:* Alanah Rempel '12 (Grand Lake, Colo.), Dawson Waltner '12 (Freeman, S.D.) and Junau Louis-Jean '13 (Les Cayes, Haiti) celebrate.

## Campus news

Hesston College celebrated 167 graduates of the 102<sup>nd</sup> graduating class during Commencement Weekend May 4 to 6. Joe Manickam '87 addressed the graduates during the commencement service May 6. His message, "Back to Basics," was based on Micah 6:8, the college's 2011-12 theme verse. Hannah Bachman of Tiskilwa, Ill., and Zach Baumgartner of Hesston, Kan., were the student speakers. Other weekend events included a pinning ceremony for 50 nursing graduates with speaker Kristina (McMillen) '85 Ibitayo, Ph.D., R.N., a commissioning for three Pastoral Ministries graduates and recognition ceremonies for 12 aviation and air traffic control graduates with speaker Travis Pollock '07, first officer with Cutter Aviation in Phoenix, and nine Disaster Management graduates. Several music department events were also featured during the weekend, including a Concert Band concert, sophomore recitals by Michael Darby (Iowa City, Iowa), Melody Marshall (Grottoes, Va.) and Libby Waltner (Hurley, S.D.). The European Chorale, under the direction of Bradley Kauffman and accompanied by Ken Rodgers '85, also presented a bon voyage concert as a precursor to their three-week tour through the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, France and Spain May 8 to 29. **HCT**



**Photos from top left:** Josh Musser (Newport News, Va.) receives recognition of completion from Disaster Management Program Director Russ Gaeddert.

The European Chorale presents a bon voyage concert.

Erica Fitzmorris (Littleton, Colo.) receives a blessing of the hands from faculty member Sondra (Wedel) '80 Leatherman during the 45th nursing pinning.

Pastoral Ministries graduates and their wives receive a prayer of blessing from Bible and Ministry faculty and staff. Pictured from left are Ude Chukwuyere Chukwukelu, Chijioko "C.J." Chukwukelu, Ronald Moyo, Sukuluble Moyo, Jolene Miller and Bryan Miller.

Josiah Bechler '13 (Golden, Colo.) performs as part of the Concert Band.

Kate Steury (New Paris, Ind.) receives her diploma from President Keim.

# START HERE, GO EVERYWHERE.



*Top: Vice President of Admissions, Rachel Swartzendruber '00 Miller congratulates Bill Mason on his retirement.*

*Middle: Andrew Penner '12 (Fresno, Calif.) gives a campus tour to a group of grandparents during Grandparent Days.*

*Bottom: From left: Redfa Titihalawa '13 (Papua, Indonesia), Junya Ueda '12 (Osaka, Japan), Luke Ropp '13 (Inman, Kan.) and Tatsuzo Baba '13 (Saitama-ken, Japan) perform a song at the International Festival.*

Longtime Hesston College employee **Bill Mason retired following the fall 2011 semester.** Mason served at Hesston for 28 of the last 41 years in roles including public relations, student services, admissions and as a business instructor. His background, professionalism and knowledge of the business world made him a valuable resource to the campus and his students. In 2010, the endowed Bill Mason Business Scholarship was established to award four selected business students each year with a \$2,500 scholarship for their sophomore year at Hesston College. Mason was honored with a retirement celebration on campus Feb. 16.

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The Aviation Department hosted the **ninth annual Aviation as Mission** event March 23 and 24. The weekend activities featured Hesston College Aviation graduates who shared their experiences in the aviation field and how they have incorporated faith into their occupation. Spouses of the alumni were on hand to offer a view from another perspective. The guest speakers for the weekend were Dave '71 and Sue (Eicher) '73 Roth (Milford, Neb.), Matt '06 and Chelsey Yoder (Bristol, Ind.), Roger '79 and Rhonda (Nussbaum) '79 Yoder (Goshen, Ind.) and Amy (Bachman) '99, aviation faculty member and Derrick Birdsell (Hesston, Kan.).

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Hesston College hosted more than 70 grandparents of 42 students during **Grandparent Days** March 29 to 30. Grandparents traveled from five states to spend time with their grandchildren and learn more about Hesston College. Sessions over the two days had the theme "The Many Faces of Diversity." Presenters ranged from students to faculty and staff to community members and explored the diversity of students' backgrounds, religious beliefs, learning styles, hometowns and countries.

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Hesston College **students partnered with Ethiopia Reads** to package and ship books to create libraries at schools in the African country. The college's African Student Union arranged for the campus community to package more than 20,000 books that had been collected by a Houston, Texas, Starbucks. Members of the African Student Union also helped serve at a baked potato bar fundraiser at the Hesston Area Senior Center where they raised about \$1,000 to help ship the packaged books to Ethiopia.

• • • • •

The **annual International Festival** was March 22 with the theme "A Parade of Nations," which focused on the flags of the students' countries and an Olympic athlete from each country in preparation for the summer 2012 Olympics in London. The Festival is an opportunity for international students to share their cultures with the rest of campus with food from the students' countries and a program of traditional songs and dances. Hesston College was home to 36 international students from 13 countries during the 2011-12 academic year.

• • • • •

Vice President of Advancement Yvonne Sieber announced the appointment of two **new development officers** to the campus community. Scott Sundberg will work from his home in Lancaster, Pa., with alumni and friends on the east coast and internationally. He began in his role April 9. Derek Yoder '96 will work with constituents on the west coast and in parts of Kansas beginning July 1.

## Student athletes honored with inaugural award

by Andrew Sharp

Three student athletes were named as the first Hesston College Athletes of the Year at the college's annual sports banquet April 24. The recipients were freshman Pierre Zook, McMinnville, Ore., a guard on the men's basketball team; sophomore Krista Rittenhouse, Mt. Pleasant, Pa., a women's cross country runner; and sophomore Emily Wagner-Davis, Roseville, Calif., an outfielder on the softball team.

*“We’re proud of what our student athletes contribute to our college, both in the athletic venue and around our campus and community.”*

The new award, which recognizes excellence on the field, in the classroom, in the dorms and campus community, was created by a desire from the athletic department to acknowledge the outstanding men and women who represent Hesston College through athletics. Each year, an outstanding male and female student athlete will receive the award.

Hesston coaches nominate one of their players for the award, and votes from the entire department determine the winners. Rittenhouse and Wagner-Davis tied for Female Athlete of the Year.

“Athletics play a pivotal role at Hesston College,” said Athletic Director Joel Kauffman '80. “We’re proud of what our student athletes contribute to our college, both in the athletic venue and around our campus and community. Pierre, Krista and Emily are excellent examples of the type of athletes we look for at Hesston College.”

Each of the recipients excelled in their respective sport and was a leader on their team as well as an example of a successful student athlete.

Zook, a team captain, led the NJCAA nationally in

*Emily Wagner-Davis '12 (Roseville, Calif.), Pierre Zook '13 (McMinnville, Ore.) and Krista Rittenhouse '12 (Mt. Pleasant, Pa.) were the recipients of the inaugural Athletes of the Year award. Their names will be featured on a plaque in Yost Center. See a list of Larks named as 2011-12 Academic All-Americans by viewing this story at [www.hesston.edu/hesstoncollegetoday](http://www.hesston.edu/hesstoncollegetoday).*

three-pointers with 127, setting a career mark at Hesston after only one season. He averaged more than 20 points per game and will lead a strong returning class for the Larks in 2012-13.

“Pierre continues to grow and be challenged while challenging others,” said coach Dustin Galyon '04. “He pursues his life with integrity and is a terrific leader, and I’m excited to see what he can do next year.”

Rittenhouse capped off an outstanding career by representing the Larks at the NJCAA National Cross Country Championship Race in Hobbs, N.M., in November, finishing 47<sup>th</sup> out of 268 runners with a time of 20:53.57. A team captain, Rittenhouse was a 2011-12 Academic All-American.

“It has been a pleasure to coach Krista the last two years,” said coach Gerry Sieber '64. “She brought an infectious enthusiasm for running and training, which was a real gift for our team. Krista is a kind, caring, servant leader.”

Wagner-Davis, an Academic All-American, ranks second in all-time hits at Hesston College and sixth in career runs batted in. She started every game of her career with the Larks and served as team captain in 2011-12.

“Emily represents everything I look for in a Hesston College softball player,” said coach Andrew Sharp '99. “She’s a team leader, a tremendous competitor and has a heart for serving others.” **HCT**



## Lives of influence

*The Hesston College community lost two influential men in April. Alfred “Al” Yoder, 83, of Hesston passed away April 3 after a battle with esophageal cancer. Lyle Yost, 99, of Hesston passed away April 5. Both men displayed passion in their endeavors, inspiration through their successes and a love for their alma mater.*

### Alfred “Al” Yoder ’48



Al Yoder was more than an instructor – he was a mentor, father figure and friend.

Al served in various roles at Hesston College for 25 years including teacher education instructor, co-director of the Title IV program and English as a Second

Language instructor.

He attended Hesston College in 1947-48, and started his teaching career in one-room schools in Missouri alongside his wife, Irene (Hershberger) Ac50, ’52. He then taught in Glenwood Springs, Colo., before moving on to administration and serving as an assistant elementary principal in Denver. After returning to school, he worked at the University of Wyoming (Laramie) Laboratory School where he developed curriculum and innovative teaching techniques before returning to Hesston in 1974. He served as the principal at Hesston Elementary School and curriculum coordinator for USD 460 before transitioning back into teaching when he joined the Hesston College faculty in 1980.

Al began teaching ESL classes in 1990, just as the college became part of the Cooperative Association of States for Scholarship (CASS) program, which hosted economically disadvantaged Central American and Caribbean students to prepare them for successful careers in their home countries. For 15 years, Al was the primary instructor to teach English and American culture to hundreds of international students. He helped establish an atmosphere for international students to feel safe and encouraged as they integrated with a new culture and language.

“Al was not afraid to entertain new ideas or to have old ideas challenged,” said Gerry Selzer Ac63, ’65, Al’s colleague at both USD 460 and Hesston College. “He truly understood how learning happens.”

Al is survived by his wife, Irene, daughter Melody Meyer and husband John of Chicago, Ill., grandchildren Zachary Meyer ’11 and Sarah Meyer. **HCT**

### Lyle Yost Ac31, ’35



The city of Hesston and Hesston College benefitted greatly from the influence and investment of Lyle Yost over many decades. Lyle is best known in Hesston as the founder, chairman of the board and CEO of Hesston Manufacturing, which later

became Hesston Corporation, and is now AGCO, an internationally-recognized farm equipment manufacturing company.

Lyle’s influence and generosity reached beyond the city level to the college as well. Lyle and his wife, Erma (Martin) ’35 Yost, were strong supporters of the college, contributing ideas and finances over the years. They gave the lead gift for the main gymnasium, which was named Yost Center in their honor, and has been home to Lark basketball and volleyball since 1982.

He also served as chair of the college’s first Board of Overseers from 1961 to 1966. He worked with then President Tillman Smith ’23 in many important areas, including merging Hesston Academy with the public high school and preparing for the college’s initial accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

“Lyle was generous with his church, the college and many other community ventures,” said President Howard Keim ’72. “He took a personal interest in the organizations he supported and has been described by many as an encouraging friend. We have lost one who helped Hesston become a wonderful place to have a college, a generous supporter and a good friend.”

Lyle was preceded in death by his wife Erma, a daughter and a granddaughter. He is survived by sons Byron Ac62 and Beth Yost, Castle Rock, Colo.; Winston Ac64, ’66 and Cheryl Yost, Larkspur, Colo.; Cameron and Miriam Yost, Colorado Springs, Colo.; daughter Susan Yost Ac66 and C.W. Crumm, Hesston, Kan; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. **HCT**

## Partners ponder: Why I am a Hesston College Partner

*Hesston College Partners commit to an annual contribution level to help provide student financial aid.*

**by Beth Gerig '75 and Dean Bachman (as told to Rachel Schlegel)**

We give to Hesston College as Partners because we feel good about what Hesston does to support the church and prepare students for life and service to the church and world.

My (Beth) own experience at Hesston was very positive. I had opportunities for leadership and involvement that I wouldn't have had at many other places. My interterm experience with intentional community at Koinonia Farms and in Houston, Texas, was important to my spiritual development. I also received opportunities in theatre that helped me uncover and use my creativity because Hesston's theatre program was not one with a lot of bells and whistles. That creativity prepared me to teach at schools that may not have many amenities as well, and for my job teaching speech and theatre at Princeton (Ill.) High School.

Having a child at Hesston and seeing it have an effect on another generation has reinvigorated our commitment to the college. Hannah (Bachman '12) had a great two years. She had new experiences with traveling, leadership and in her Christian growth. Hesston has always been a positive, inviting environment that students deserve to experience. **HCT**



*Dean and Beth celebrate their daughter Hannah Bachman's '12 graduation. Both Beth and Hannah were student commencement speakers for their respective classes.*

## Partner Program

Hesston College depends on alumni, friends and the church to support the costs of educating students. The Hesston College Partner program is made up of individuals who make ongoing annual contributions to the Hesston College Annual Fund to provide institutional scholarships and grants as financial aid for students.

About 800 individuals from 40 states and three countries are Hesston College Partners. On average, a student receives more than \$8,000 in institutional aid from the Annual Fund each year. About 80 percent of the total Annual Fund amount comes from Partner contributions.

Partnership with Hesston College can happen at different giving levels.

- Associate Partner – \$41.67 to \$83.25 per month (\$500 to \$999 annually)
- Founding Partner – \$83.33 to \$166.58 per month (\$1,000 to \$1,999 annually)
- Sustaining Partner – \$166.67 to \$416.58 per month (\$2,000 to \$4,999 annually)
- President's Partner – \$833.33 and more per month (\$10,000 and more annually)

To find out more about the Partner Program, visit [www.hesston.edu](http://www.hesston.edu) or call the Development Office toll free at 866-437-7866.

## 1930-1939

## DEATHS

- Lyle Yost Ac31, '35**, Hesston, Kan., April 5, 2012
- Esther Schrag, wife of **John Schrag Ac32**, North Newton, Kan., March 20, 2012
- Elta (Selzer) Ac34, '44 Deits**, Hesston, Kan., Feb. 26, 2012
- Zella (Yost) Ac35, '37 King**, Hutchinson, Kan., Feb. 13, 2012
- Robert Reist '36**, Salina, Okla., July 2, 2011
- Alice Dye Ac38, '40**, Mesa, Ariz., Sept. 10, 2011
- Lois (Gingerich) Ac39, '41 Bender**, Kalona, Iowa, Feb. 6, 2012

## 1940-1949

## DEATHS

- Miriam (Derstine) Ac42 Gingerich**, Iowa City, Iowa, Sept. 29, 2011
- Eugene Schulz '42**, Walsenberg, Colo., Sept. 1, 2011
- Rebecca (Garber) Ac43 Hoffman**, Coatesville, Pa., Nov. 28, 2011
- Paul Rhodes Ac44**, husband of **Crystal (Hough) '43 Rhodes**, Colorado Springs, Colo., April 27, 2012
- Paul Yutzy**, husband of **Ruth (Roupp) Ac46, '48 Yutzy**, South Hutchinson, Kan., Dec. 29, 2011
- Helen (Hostetler) Ac47, '49 Miller**, Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 20, 2011
- Wilbur Young Ac47**, Hesston, Kan., March 17, 2012
- Joe Freyenberger '48**, Wayland, Iowa, Oct. 18, 2011
- Al Yoder '48, former faculty**, Hesston, Kan., April 3, 2012
- Barbara Reber, wife of **Don Reber '49**, Goshen, Ind., Jan. 31, 2012

## 1950-1959

## DEATHS

- Leta (Oyer) '50 Eichelberger**, Lakewood, Colo., May 9, 2012
- Walter Entz '50**, Whitewater, Kan., March 4, 2012
- Robert Alderfer Ac51**, Souderton, Pa., Aug. 19, 2011
- Ruth Slagell, wife of **Chester Slagell '51**, Weatherford, Okla., April 20, 2012
- Charles Meadows, husband of **Gladys (Yutzy) Ac52 Meadows**, South Hutchinson, Kan., Dec. 24, 2011

Jim Miller, husband of **Joyce (Burkhart) Ac53 Miller**, Lancaster, Pa., July 2, 2011

Carl Schmidt, husband of **Freda (Roth) '54 Schmidt**, Towner, Colo., Nov. 12, 2011

Clayton Shank, husband of **Arlene (Lapp) Ac57 Shank**, Grandview, Idaho, Oct. 27, 2011

## 1960-1969

**Dwight King Ac60, '62**, Dekalb, Ill., political science professor emeritus at University of Northern Illinois (DeKalb) and former Center for Southeast Asian Studies Director was honored Feb. 11 by the Indonesian Ambassador to the U.S. with an "Award of Distinction for Lifetime Contribution to the Understanding of Indonesia."

**Dan Heyerly '68**, Eugene, Ore., was selected as a hammer throw official for the June 2012 U.S. Track and Field Olympic Trials. The competition is the team selection trials for the Summer 2012 London Olympic Games.

## DEATHS

- Ruth Schweitzer '61, former staff**, Julesberg, Colo., March 1, 2012
- Carole Jefferson King '63**, Litchville, N.D., Dec. 22, 2011

## 1970-1979

**Kenneth Boehr '73**, Kansas City, Mo., co-authored a paper along with his fifth grade student about a new molecule discovery which was printed in the January 2012 edition of *Computational and Theoretical Chemistry*.

**Wes Hochstetler '76**, Shickley, Neb., ran the 116<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon April 16, 2012, finishing with a time of 4 hours, 19 minutes.

**David King '77**, Wichita, Kan., is employed as Mental Health Discharge Planner with Correct Care Solutions within the El Dorado (Kan.) Correctional Facility, assisting inmates to apply for disability and connect them to community resources for successful reintegration to the community.

## DEATHS

- Lucy (Gerber) '73 Bontrager**, wife of **Jerre Bontrager '70**, Hesston, Kan., May 1, 2012
- Jane Friesen, wife of **Kelvin Friesen '73**, Archbold, Ohio, April 22, 2012

## 1980-1989

**Curt '85 and Dawn (Wallerich) '86 Wyse**, Kalona, Iowa, own and operate JW Foods, a grocery store in Kalona.

**Myron Yoder '85**, Goshen, Ind., works at Solar Energy Systems, LLC in Nappanee, Ind., designing, installing and maintaining solar PV and wind energy systems. He says, "My experience and training at Hesston College shaped my views and dream of living and working toward a sustainable lifestyle for me and my world."

## DEATHS

- Dianne (Claassen) '80 Hills**, Halstead, Kan., March 12, 2012
- Susan (Betty) '87 Berry**, West Salem, Ohio, Feb. 27, 2012

## MARRIAGE

**Jennie Swartzendruber '81** and Jeff Shera, Glendale, Ariz., Oct. 21, 2011

## 1990-1999

**Victor Carrasco '92**, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, graduated with a degree in electronic and computer science and works in computer services.

**Mary James '95**, Wichita, Kan., was named Director of Clinical Services at Interim Hospice in Wichita.

**Brad Saens '95**, Kingman, Kan., competed in the 2012 National Duathlon Championship in Oro Valley, Ariz., in April 2012 and won an invitation to the World Duathlon Championship in Nancy, France in September 2012. Duathlons consist of a running leg, followed by a biking leg and then another running leg. Brad is a registered nurse.

## DEATHS

- Robert Durst, husband of **Pam Durst '91**, Moundridge, Kan., Feb. 29, 2012
- Karla (Ratzlaff) '92 Guardiola**, Hesston, Kan., Jan. 21, 2012
- Val Krehbiel '94**, Moundridge, Kan., March 31, 2012

## MARRIAGE

**Isaac Hooley '99, former staff** and **Emily Her-shberger '05**, Filer, Idaho, Aug. 20, 2011



## Alumni news

### BIRTHS

- Jeremy '92** and **Jyl (Boettger) '98 Ewy**, Newton, Kan.: Levi James, Dec. 21, 2011
- Travis '93** and **Tonya (Litwiller) '93 Unruh**, Washington, Ill.: Taycie Kathleene, Sept. 1, 2011
- Sharla (Saltzman) '94** and Anthony **Marriott**, Indianapolis, Ind.: Cayden Anthony, Dec. 4, 2011
- Ryan '94** and Kelly **Osborne**, Enfield, Great Britain: Ebyn Ethan, Dec. 30, 2011
- Randy '94** and **Kristen (Litwiller) '94 Rempel**, Iowa City, Iowa: Ellen Grace, Sept. 8, 2011
- Nathan Boschmann '95** and Katrina Frey, Ault, Colo.: Annika Frey, March 12, 2012
- Paula (Hochstedler) '95** and John **Stoltzfus**, Lansdale, Pa.: Isaac Michael, Dec. 23, 2011
- Richie '97** and Amy **Schlabach**, Hartville, Ohio: Levi Cruz, Nov. 29, 2011
- Kim (Venhuizen) '98** and Sean **McConaghay**, Westbrookville, N.Y.: Elias John, June 11, 2011
- Rachel (Stuckey) '99** and Hollins **Showalter**, Indianapolis, Ind.: Reid Matthew, Jan. 7, 2012
- Clay '99, staff** and **Mariah (Stutzman) '99 Stauffer**, Hesston, Kan.: Holden Clay, April 10, 2012
- Andre '99** and **Kate (Branam) '99 Swartley**, Bluffton, Ohio: Oswald Orion, Feb. 25, 2012

### 2000-2009

**Joseph Shetler '04**, Phoenix, received a two-month internship with Torpedo Art Center in Alexandria, Va., during summer 2012, in which he will attend events, give artist lectures and prepare his work for fall art shows in Washington, D.C., and Richmond, Va. He is also building a 40-foot sailboat for Montauk Catamaran Company. Joe will begin work on his master of fine arts at Arizona State University (Tempe) fall 2012.

**Andrea (Slater) '06 Weaver**, Lancaster, Pa., is a registered nurse at Lancaster Regional Medical Center.

**Daniel Penner '09**, Goshen, Ind., won a video contest sponsored by Mennonite Economic Development Associates to help bring awareness to the issue of food security. To watch his winning video, *Milk From Cow to Consumer*, go to meda.tv.

**Veronica Vermillion '09**, El Dorado, Kan., works as a regional nurse manager and

manages medical contracts and about 60 nurses in 25 correctional sites throughout Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

### DEATHS

Rhonda Doehrmann, wife of **Tony Doehrmann '08**, Bellefontaine, Ohio, May 11, 2012

### MARRIAGES

- Carissa Sweigart '01** and Tim Gredler, Harrisonburg, Va., Oct. 15, 2011
- Galen Nofziger '02** and Erika Ressler, West Unity, Ohio, July 16, 2011
- Chad Unrein '06** and Jenna Crockett, Larkspur, Colo., Sept. 3, 2011
- Keri Boshart '07** and Drew Hochstetler, Wellman, Iowa, July 16, 2011
- Brittany King '07** and **Andrew Spotts '08**, Wauseon, Ohio, May 12, 2012
- Nolan Miller '07** and Kylee Aeschliman, West Unity, Ohio, Jan. 7, 2012
- Jackie Shaw '07** and Lee O'Brien, Lowville, N.Y., July 30, 2011
- Joel Herschberger '07** and **Irina Skvortsova '07**, Canby, Ore., July 16, 2011

### BIRTHS

- Jina (Knepp) '00** and Wally **Almquist**, Des Moines, Iowa: Brynn Naomi, Aug. 30, 2011
- Kris '00, staff** and Megan **White**, Newton, Kan.: Bo Frederick, Feb. 20, 2012
- Sara (Unruh) '01** and Brad **Hiebert**, Hutchinson, Kan.: Mia Marie, Oct. 27, 2011
- Chris '01** and **Rebeca (Amstutz) '01 Strong**, Hubbard, Ore.: Camilo, Sept. 3, 2011
- Vince '01** and Gretchen **Yoder**, Kalona, Iowa: Troy Anthony, Dec. 9, 2011
- Isaac '02** and **Melissa (Hochstetler) '02 Landis**, Hesston, Kan.: Max Daniel, Feb. 1, 2012
- Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg '02** and Shem Ringenberg, Bryan, Ohio: Samuel Albert, Jan. 22, 2012
- Danae (Unruh) '04** and James **Kaufman**, Hesston, Kan.: Sadie Joan, Sept. 27, 2011
- Andy '04** and Keli **Wray**, Hesston, Kan.: Tate Andrew, June 22, 2011
- David '05** and Jenna **Boring**, Phoenix, Ariz.: Finnegan Danger Boettger, Sept. 20, 2011
- Deann (Friedli) '06** and Doug **Herr**, Milford, Neb.: Adyline Rae, Jan. 16, 2012
- Sabrina '06** and Jerry **Mininger**, Hesston, Kan.: Erika Jane, June 16, 2011
- Erin (Stauffer) '06** and Garrett **Pennington**, Hesston, Kan.: Ethan Gray, July 22, 2011

- Justin '06** and **Andrea (Slater) '06 Weaver**, Lancaster, Pa.: Willow Hope, Sept. 7, 2011
- Drew '07** and **Jessica (Couch) '07 Cole**, Mulvane, Kan.: Isabella Marie, March 22, 2012
- Stephanie (Klassen) '09** and Matt **Wray**, Newton, Kan.: Logan, March 11, 2011

### 2010-2012

**Julie (Weaver) '10 Landis**, Greenwood, Del., graduated with a bachelor's in social work from Eastern Mennonite University (Harrisonburg, Va.) in December 2011.

**Dani Klotz '12**, Hesston, Kan., and her husband, Nata Fontan, will spend seven weeks assisting with ministries of three churches – Fountain of Living Waters, Rey De Gloria, and Good News – in south Texas. Dani and Nata began their service May 2012.

### MARRIAGES

- Jason Kuhns '10** and **Sarah Jantzi '10**, Goshen, Ind., May 28, 2011
- Meg Laskie '11** and Sean McLemore, Newton, Kan., Sept. 10, 2011
- Dani Klotz '12** and Nata Fontan, Wakarusa, Ind., Aug. 13, 2011

### BIRTH

**Kari Benard '12** and John White, Sedgwick, Kan.: Brixley Ann, March 7, 2012

### Faculty/Staff

**Rebecca Barrett-Fox, faculty**, was featured in an interview for the cover story in the June 2012 issue of *Sojourners* magazine with her research on the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan. The article, "The Face of Hate," by Joanie Eppinga, focused on the relationships that develop between researchers and their subjects, especially when they come from different theological places. Rebecca has taught sociology classes at Hesston since fall 2011.

Faculty members **Lorna Harder, Ken Rodgers '85** and **Jim Yoder '62** will teach summer courses with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute through the University of Kansas (Lawrence), of which Hesston is a member. Osher focuses on learners over the age of 50. Lorna will teach "Flint to Sand: Prairies of Harvey County," Ken will teach "Survey of Hymnology: Two Millennia of Song" and Jim will teach "Stars in Our Eyes," which focuses on new information about our solar system.

**DEATHS**

**Paul Renich, former staff**, Hesston, Kan.,  
Feb. 16, 2012  
Charley Voth, husband of **Lil Voth, former  
staff**, Hesston, Kan., March 12, 2012

**BIRTHS**

**Becky, faculty** and **Nate Bartell**, Hesston,  
Kan.: Connor David, Jan. 26, 2012

*Editor's note: We unintentionally omitted a name from the  
"Thanks for sending us your very best" list in the Winter 2012 issue.  
Jonathon Steele – **Jennifer Compton '00**, Wichita, Kan.*

## Sustaining education

When Sheila (Yoder) '84 Baer, Villa Ridge, Mo., heard about the Glee Give a Note project sponsored by the National Association for Music Education, the Fox television network and Ryan Murphy, creator of Fox's hit show, *Glee*, she wanted to participate. The project supports music education throughout the United States and awarded \$1 million to music programs in jeopardy. Sheila teaches K-6 music at Beaufort (Mo.) Elementary School, a well-equipped music program, but she knew other music programs in the state weren't as fortunate, especially in Joplin, which had been ravaged by a May 2011 tornado.

Sheila decided to submit a video for the project and donate the prize money if her submission won. With the help of one of her fifth grade classes, Sheila created a video with a song and poem explaining why the students at Emerson and Irving Elementary Schools in Joplin needed the money more than the Beaufort students.

The video was one of 60 chosen as a \$10,000 second place winner, and is now helping students in Joplin benefit from quality music education.

"I wanted to do this because I have great tools in my classroom and others don't," said Sheila. "I know they are just things, but they are tools that help children succeed. Even beyond the material, it was a lesson to teach – even though we are given something, we can give to others who need it more."

To see the Beaufort Elementary School winning video, go to [gleegiveanote.com](http://gleegiveanote.com).

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For more information, including a complete itinerary, or to indicate your interest and reserve your spot, visit [www.hesston.edu/europetour2013](http://www.hesston.edu/europetour2013) or call the Alumni Office toll-free at 866-437-7866.

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## My Hesston Experience



My freshman year at Hesston College in 2010 was a little different than most students'. I'd lived my whole life in Hesston and already knew many of the faculty, staff and even a few students.

I started off slow, not getting too involved until I figured out how things worked around

campus. I took a job cleaning some of the buildings and taking care of trash and recycling. I noticed that even on a small campus, there's a lot of waste. Not trash, but *waste*. The campus had just started single stream recycling, which helped lower the amount of trash going to the landfill, and put more of the waste back to good use, but there was still a lot. I think that's when my eyes started to open. And after the beginning of my sophomore year, I realized just how closed they'd been.

The First Year Experience class was reading *No Impact Man* by Colin Beavan (Picador, 2010), so I thought I'd read it, too. It made me think about ways we could improve our lives just by making a few simple adjustments and *not wasting so much*. I was also learning about solar power, wind power, composting, recycling, piezoelectricity... wait, those have been around for how long?! Why weren't we using this knowledge more? Why do we waste

so much energy and natural resources? Why do we buy so much and throw out even more? What can we – no wait – what can *I* do to live more sustainably?

Money seemed to be the common denominator answer to most of my questions. Sure it might cost a little more at first, but it saves money in the long run. Believe me, I get the money thing. In the last 20 years, my wife and I ran two restaurants and a small catering business and I managed the local food market. With those experiences and three children added to the equation, I understand that money is a big decision maker.

So now you know the biggest difference between me and most second year students – I'm not a traditional student. I'm not even enrolled in any classes. I'm 43-year-old Randy Toews, Environmental Services Manager at Hesston College.

While my story may have started off a little misdirected, it's all true. And I do truly consider myself a student here. I can say that in the last two years, I've learned more about the way I want to live, the person I want to become and that one person can make a difference just by trying to live as a better environmental steward.

That's my Hesston College (Sustainable Stewardship) Experience...so far...

— **Randy Toews**, *Environmental Services Manager*

## Start with awareness



Awareness creates possibility for intentional care. Lack of awareness creates potential disregard. One of my educational goals is to increase my own and others' awareness of where materials we use come from and where they go when we don't use them anymore. I hope to become more aware

of how material and natural worlds relate. As part of the ecosystem, we live in partnership whether we like it or know it. The lives and resources involved before, during and after production, as well as use and "disposal" matter, literally. Through small and big efforts, I am committed to exposing how individual actions, both fleeting and habitual, accumulate and change the world.

My campus efforts include 1) the stickers on campus

trashcans and paper dispensers that say "Going to the Landfill. Can you recycle instead?" or "These Come From Trees," and 2) the 10-Day Give at year's end that lessens the amount of usable goods Hesston College sends to the landfill by collecting items students wish to abandon and distributing them to local nonprofit agencies. The fall 2010 First-Year Seminar class distributed the stickers as part of the sustainability unit, and a number of people help coordinate the 10-Day Give, in particular Kendra Burkey '00, Randy Toews, Jim Mason '75, and the Journalism and First-Year Experience seminar. I am thankful to work in a community committed to becoming more aware of the relationships, behaviors and conditions—human, social, environmental and financial—that have the potential to sustain or devastate life.

— **Karen Sheriff LeVan**, *English instructor and First-Year Experience seminar coordinator*

# Hesston College

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## Hesston College

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# START *by saving the date:*

**September 28 to 30, 2012**

*Take a look: Is it your reunion year?* ►►



# A HESSTON COLLEGE HOMECOMING:

*A view from everywhere*

*Special emphasis in Performing Arts*

1947

1952

1957

1962

1972

1982

1987

1992

2002

2007