

## “SCEND”ING MESSAGES THROUGH TIME



A 1937 Clark Junior College diploma signed by Dean Lewis Cannell. A complete newspaper section about Clark Junior College from the *Clark County Sun*, dated August 16, 1940, and including an article by Dr. Paul Gaiser. A copy of the first college yearbook. A program from the college’s first graduation dinner. Mementos from the college’s 25th and 50th anniversaries.

Those items were among the historic treasures discovered when the college’s 50th anniversary time capsule was opened on May 12, 2009, as part of the college’s yearlong 75th anniversary celebration.

Faculty, staff and students—some of whom were part of the college community during the college’s 50th anniversary—gathered in Gaiser Hall to watch Clark College President Robert Knight and past Interim President Ellis Dunn open the time capsule, which was created in 1984 by Clark welding professor Ryan Collins.

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Above: Past Interim President Ellis Dunn and Clark College President Bob Knight unveiled items from the 50th anniversary time capsule, including the Mid-Week section from *The Columbian* (May 2, 1984) that profiled Dean Lewis Cannell as the library was named in his honor during the college’s 50th anniversary celebration. Sidebar top: Fort Vancouver High School student Joseph Matter (right) comes forward to accept his 75th anniversary scholarship. Matter received congratulations from Kieran Stover (left), Director of Business Development for Arnerich Messina and Associates, which provided funding for the scholarships. Sidebar bottom: Clark President Bob Knight congratulates nursing student Kellie Rusk for receiving the college’s 75th anniversary scholarship for a continuing Clark student.



As President Bob Knight notes, “At Clark College, it’s all about the student.” In keeping with that commitment, two scholarships were awarded as part of the 75th anniversary celebration. Joseph Matter, who will graduate from Fort Vancouver High School this year, received the scholarship awarded to a new Clark College student. He hopes to pursue a paralegal career. Kellie Rusk, who is pursuing a nursing career, received the scholarship for a continuing Clark College student. Matter and Rusk will each receive a \$3,000 scholarship toward tuition for one year and \$750 in books and supplies at the Clark College Bookstore.



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Left: Left to right: Clark President Bob Knight (back to camera), Trustee John White and guests enjoy looking at items that have been submitted for the college's new time capsule. The publications and mementos celebrate the college and its 75th anniversary celebration as well as important regional and national issues and events from the past year. Right: Welding professor emeritus Ryan Collins, who created Clark College's 50th anniversary time capsule, joins metal arts instructor Beth Heron, past Interim President Ellis Dunn and Clark President Bob Knight in unveiling "Scend," the sculpture which will house the college's 75th anniversary time capsule.

Collins spoke about work done by various units at the college to create the time capsule. It was shaped like the nose of a rocket, reflecting interest in the space travel at that time. (The first space shuttle was launched in 1981.) Instructions were painted onto the time capsule, noting that it was to be opened "in May 2009."

Former Clark public relations director Bob Moser had been responsible for collecting items for the time capsule. Moser was unable to attend the ceremony but sent remarks in which he noted that the 50th anniversary celebration "was a major event in Clark's history. Connecting with the past was a major component." He added that the 50th anniversary planning committee worked hard to locate and invite alumni from the period before the college closed for a time during World War II. He said, "It was more successful that we could have hoped. And very inspirational."

The opening of the 50th anniversary time capsule was followed by the dedication of a sculpture, created by Clark metal arts instructor Beth Heron, to house a new time

capsule which will be opened during the college's 100th anniversary in 2034. With support from Plant Services, the sculpture had been installed at the college one day earlier by welding technology professor Patrick Gonzales and welding students Marvin Pape, Christopher Plamp and Sam Williamson.

The sculpture, which is located in the plaza north of Gaiser Hall, is called "Scend," which refers to the lift of a wave. Heron noted that scend could also refer to "the idea of a bottle with a message being cast out on the ocean." She added, "It's the actual push of the wave that is the scend. It also means send. I thought it was appropriate and fit the idea of Clark sending a message to the future."

The new time capsule will include items reflecting the college and community today, Clark's 75th anniversary celebration and some of the items from the 50th anniversary time capsule. It will also include messages from Clark President Bob Knight, Vancouver Mayor Royce Pollard and Washington Governor Chris Gregoire.

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Prior to being placed in the new time capsule, a number of items from the 50th anniversary time capsule will be on display in 75th anniversary display case in the Cannell Library from June 1 through June 19.

In summarizing the spirit of college’s diamond anniversary, President Knight said, “Our college was founded during the Great Depression. It’s ironic that our 75th anniversary has found us once again facing tough economic times.”

He added, “It also reminds us that our founders believed in a bright future for our college. Today’s college is the legacy of their belief. Tomorrow’s college will be the legacy of our belief in a bright future—for the next 75 years and beyond.”



Top sidebar: Clark’s penguin mascot Oswald thanks the 75th anniversary planning committee for their tireless efforts throughout the yearlong diamond anniversary celebration. Front row (left to right): Patti Serrano, Linda Tuve, May Jolly, Michelle Golder, Vanessa Watkins and Kathy Chatfield. Back row (left to right): Oswald, Barbara Kerr, Nancy Abel, Tracy Reilly Kelly, Barbara Miller, Cindi Olson, Ara Serjoie, Clark President Bob Knight, Nancy Johnson and Carrie Weikel-Delaplane. Not pictured: Committee members Kay Cooke, Narek Daniyelyan, John Marshall and Julian Nelson.

THE COLLEGE’S 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS.

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