



astern Arizona College hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 23, 2024, to celebrate the 60-year rededication of Mark Allen Hall and the grand reopening of the Gherald L. Hoopes Jr. Activities Center.

EA President Todd Haynie opened the ceremony, reflecting on the College's heritage. "Sixty years ago, on this very day, Mark Allen Hall was first dedicated. Today, we stand on the shoulders of visionaries who laid the foundation for a College that has grown stronger each year," he said.

The highlight of the event was a ribbon-cutting ceremony, led by President Haynie, along with students, alumni, members of the Governing Board, and the executive team. The event also featured remarks from alumni Mr. Virgil Alexander, who attended the first dedication ceremony for Mark Allen Hall 60 years ago, and Mr. George Lord, both of whom resided in the facility when it first opened.

Reflecting on his educational experience at EA, Alexander shared, "I really enjoyed my time at EAC. All the teachers were excellent, but there were some who changed my life

and prepared me for the future. I think my favorite teacher was Lorenzo Flake... His patience, kindness, and love of knowledge were instrumental in my success."

Alexander also acknowledged other influential figures at EA, such as Mr. Russell Lundell and Mr. Clarence McBride.

Lord, who also lived in Mark Allen Hall upon its inauguration and was a member of the basketball team, shared memorable anecdotes that underscored his deep ties to the institution.

"Today we celebrate the introduction of another chapter to this esteemed building, named for Mr. Mark Allen, a cornerstone and giant of an individual who helped build and sustain our faithful and noble institution," said Lord. "It is my special privilege to share this historical day with you."

The renovation projects have transformed Mark Allen Hall into a state-of-the-art residence facility, featuring expanded common areas, updated living spaces, and new amenities designed to enhance student life. Similarly, the Activities Center has been revitalized to include modern recreational and social spaces, such as a

food court, eSports team facilities, and a new bookstore.

The ceremony included performances by EA's Vocal Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Patti Raines, with renditions of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and "Light in the Hallway."

Highlighting the historical significance of the facilities, President Haynie remarked, "For sixty years, Mark Allen Hall has been a starting point for lifelong friendships, and a place where thousands of students have begun their journeys to achieve their dreams."

In a poignant moment of the ceremony, President Haynie was joined at the podium by three current students living in Mark Allen Hall: Ricky Quinlan from Eagar, Ariz., Chevy In-the-woods from Holbrook, and Dalee Wallace from St. Johns, Ariz.

"For these students and thousands more, Eastern Arizona College is an engine of opportunity," said Haynie. "It is a safe place for Monsters from all walks of life to come and stay, and a foundation from which to launch their dreams and aspirations."



For these students and thousands more, Eastern Arizona College is an engine of opportunity.

Top of opposite page (left to right):

EA student Ricky Quinlin, District Governing Board Member Lois Ann Moody, President Todd Haynie, District Governing Board Member Tina McMaster, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs Susan Wood, and Vice President of Administration Heston Welker cut the ceremonial ribbon during the rededication ceremony.

Above: Mark Allen holding a framed photo of the residence hall, at the original dedication ceremony, 60 years to the day.



ver 140 alumni from across the country returned to campus to see what's new and create memories during EA's 2024 Homecoming Weekend.

Alumnigathered from three different groups: the Class of '64, the Class of '74, and ASEAC student councils from the last 30 years

They enjoyed a range of Homecoming festivities, including evening receptions, dinner, a parade, and various sporting events. They cheered as EA Volleyball triumphed over Arizona Western College and Pima Community College (CC), Mens and Womens Soccer beat Mohave CC, and while the softball team won a doubleheader against Park University.



Class of '74: Walter and Jenene Mayburry, Evelyn Morris, Debra Morris, Kathy Scott, Randa McKinney, and Ron Curtis.



Class of '64: Otto and Sally Gal, Kurt and Molly Steffens, Harvey Polk, Gail Cully, Charlotee Farr, Dee Dennett, Jerry Farr, Randy Roberts, Harriet Roberts, and Dennis Roberts

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Anna Deanne Millett Don & Carlotta Pace Scholarship |

Savanna Wahl

Annabell Weech Rufener Scholarship | Abigail Hallford

Ashley Marie Beals Scholarship Jaime Villegas

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Charles Raymond Rhodes Memorial Geology Scholarship | Josh Simmons

Charlotte Phillips Memorial Scholarship | Cadence Green

Scholarship | Anisa Hanson

Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center

D. Myrtice Wyland

Memorial Scholarship | Caysie Reed

Dallace Butler Memorial Scholarship | Alaya Joe

Debra Mullenaux Memorial Scholarship | Gavin Crandall

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Dr. Dorine Chancellor Athletic Scholarships | Kevin Mata. Paityn Mattice, & Illeana Cosillos

Dr. Pam Rule Scholarship | Kayden

Dr. Ron Keith Memorial Scholarship Bailee Rhodes

Dudley S. Welker Scholarship Lexi Nabor & Ashly Castillo

E. James Lee & Jacqueline McFadden Lee Scholarship | Mark

Huish & Maycee Passey

EAC Foundation Scholarship | Dallin Preston, Nancy Alvaredo-Curtis, Kaylee Essary, Sydney Davis, Sadie Titus, Kaylie Gardner, Alyssa Maloy, Rachael Burns, Cambrie Harper, & Zoe Crawford

EAC Foundation Automotive Scholarship | Manuel Alonso, Brett Sanders, Jakob Handy & Krystal Rivera

EAC Foundation Nursing Scholarship

Jennifer Reed, Ximena Leon, Gabriella Palomino, Cassandra Arreola. Nicole Evans, & Chelsea Yeomans

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Right: Brent and Raydene Cluff Scholarship presenters with recipeint, Brigham Muro.

Left: Bruce and Roberta Bishop scholarship presenters with recipient, Zaylie Windsor.



Jeffrey R. Vaughn Memorial Scholarship | Emmarald Sweetser

Jerry & Verlene Anderson

Scholarship | Ernesto Esparza

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#saveaskyler Scholarship | Hayden Tucker •

50 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

50 years of dedicated service on said EAC President Todd Haynie. the Graham County Community College District Governing the fabric of our College, and we Board. Appointed in 1974 by then-County School Superintendent Dan Hinton, Mattice's tenure is believed to be the longest of any community college board member in Arizona's history.

Mattice has been a guiding force at EA, supporting four College presidents and helping the institution navigate financial challenges, infrastructural growth, and changing educational needs. Under his leadership, EA has become a vital contributor to the local economy, generating nearly \$250 million annually and expanding access to higher education for thousands of students across rural Arizona.

Mattice's strategic vision has left a profound impact, particularly in his role appointing Gherald L. Hoopes Jr., a seasoned executive from Southern Pacific Railroad, as College president during a pivotal financial period. This decision was instrumental in securing state equalization funding, a move that solidified EA's long-term financial stability and enabled its continued growth.

astern Arizona College is "Ric's unparalleled tenure on the proud to honor Richard Governing Board epitomizes a W. "Ric" Mattice, '64, for legacy of service and foresight," "His contributions are woven into are deeply grateful for the wisdom and stability he has provided over five decades."

Throughout his tenure, Mattice has overseen the enhancement of EA's academic programs and Over the past five decades, facilities, including the expansion of the Nursing Program, the Student Services building, and the Gherald L. Hoopes Jr. Activities Center. His commitment to growth and excellence has helped EA remain a center of opportunity for students, faculty, and residents alike.

> Mattice and his wife, Valerie, live in Pima, Ariz., where they raised six children.

> Reflecting on his half-century of service, Mattice remarked, "It has been a privilege to serve EA and our community for 50 years. We live in an area that understands the importance of higher education. and it means a lot to know EA will be here for generations to come."

> Eastern Arizona College extends its deepest gratitude to Ric Mattice and his family for his unmatched service, vision, and dedication.



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MONSTER ALUMNOTES MONSTER ALUMNOTES MONSTE

1950s

DWAIN GALE, '58, served a mission for his church after graduating from Eastern Arizona Junior College

Mr. Gale earned a master's degree at the University of Arizona in agricultural education. He worked for Phelps Dodge Mining and came back to teach agriculture courses at EA. He completed his career at Fort Thomas High School as vocational director.

Dwain dated **SHARON OWENS GALE, '63,** while at EAJC. They married when he returned from missionary service. She completed a bachelor's in education at UofA.

RICHIE ALBRIGHT, '59, was introduced to country singer Waylon Jennings while living in Bagdad, Ariz. Waylon invited him to be his drummer at the legendary JD's nightclub in Tempe. As they grew in popularity, they moved to Nashville, Tenn. Richie played in Waylon Jenning's band for nearly 50 years. The pair were known for creating the Outlaw country style during the 1970s.

1960s

ROBERT HINES, '64, grew up on the Pima Indian Reservation. Hecame to EA for an education

in business and met **VONDA CUMMINGS, '64,** at a dance. That meeting led to a marriage of 60 years.

They transferred to Northern Arizona University and completed their bachelor's degrees.

Robert served for six years in the United States Air Force, ending with the rank of captain. While stationed in the Middle East, he received the Air Force Commendation Medal.

During this time, Vonda began her teaching career. After Robert's return from the military, they both completed their master's degrees. Robert became a public school principal, and Vonda became a counselor.

They retired to Florida and are enjoying the tropical scenery.

HERMAN "HERM" J. SPENCER,

'64, earned his degree from EAJC in 1964. He joined the US Army and was assigned to the First Armored Division. Following his honorable military service, he earned his Master of Business Administration degree at ASU.

In 1970, Herm married Kay Garrotto.

Herm held management and leadership positions at Cochise

County Hospital in Douglas, Ariz. He served as Hospital Administrator of Northern Inyo Hospital in Bishop, Calif. from 1977 until his retirement in 2003.

Herm always stayed active and healthy. He competed in 200 + races, including 23 marathons and 40 half-marathons.

1980s

SKYLEREVANS'83, and **WANDA WEBB EVANS'83**, met at EA.
Wanda came to EA on a music scholarship, and performed in the choir.

As a work study, Skyler videotaped the EA Volleyball games for Jerry Hekakia. Skyler has been a Monster Volleyball fan ever since and rarely misses a game.

After getting married and raising a family, both earned their respective masters' degrees through NAU.

They both taught in the Safford School District for 25 years.



Pictured: Skyler Evans '83, and Wanda Webb Evans '83

"We raised our family in the Gila Valley. It's a great place to live. [EA] has been a big part of our lives. We've [taken] classes... attended fine arts programs, ...and ...watched the school grow through the years."

2010s

DR. KALEB VALDEZ, 10, says his experience at EA aligned with his bachelor's at BYU-Hawaii, including studying abroad with the Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies.

His emphasis in Middle Eastern Culture, alongside studying five languages allowed him to work internationally for Enactus. He served as a regional program manager, overseeing chapters on 120 university campuses, He helped fund and build four children's homes in Cambodia, freed 900 child laborers from cacao plantations in Ivory Coast, and constructed a preschool in Tuvalu.

He moved to Dallas, Texas, to complete his chiropractic doctorate before running a private practice.

He opened a practice in Utah, with Dr. Bridger Cutler where they began purchasing and acquiring practices of retiring doctors, failing offices, and distressed ownership clinics





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that they turn around and revitalize.

He performs with the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square and is preparing for a South American tour.

He authored an international best-seller called "Starving Babies", that focuses on prenatal, pregnancy, and post-partum health.

He is grateful for his experiences at EA. His love for choir came from Dr. Bruce Bishop and Patti Raines, and hisactivismandacademia from Dr. Gary Sorenson and Patti Wren. He presents his family's memorial scholarship at the EA scholarship banquet, and loves seeing how the school is growing and changing to serve more students.

DESERAI WEBB ROWLEY, '11 AND '15, daughter of DARRIN AND MICHELLE WEBB, '90 and granddaughter of EDWIN AND ZELLA WEBB, '59, attended the EA Gila Institute For Technology program during high school. She graduated from EA in 2011.

After losing her first husband to cancer, **CARSON HATCH'11**, she

went back to EA and graduated from the nursing program in 2015.

Later, she met Kyle Rowley and married him. Kyle was in the Army and stationed in El Paso, Texas, where Deserai started her nursing career. In 2017, she earned her bachelor's degree. After the military, they moved back to Arizona.

She continued to work and loved being an advocate for patients.

She earned her master's degree in nursing education in 2024.

Since 2018, Deserai has been a clinical instructor for FA.

Never forgetting her roots and wanting to give back to the College, the students and those around her, she applied for and accepted a job at EA in 2023 as a Nursing Education Coordinator. In 2024, she accepted the position as the associate professor of nursing, always giving back and helping future nursing students succeed at EA.

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In Memoriam

Delford R. Bolinger, '68 – January 1, 2024 Robert M. Kane, '69 – January 1, 2024 Thomas D. Wogaman, '50 – January 6, 2024 Dale G. Clonts, '50 - January 8, 2024 James L. Kirby, '57 – January 10, 2024 Joseph A. Fout, '86 – January 10, 2024 William H. Prestridge, '91 – January 10, 2024 Richard A. Hartner, '63 – January 14, 2024 DeVar J. Brown, '59 - January 15, 2024 Raymond D. Earven, '78 - January 20, 2024 Marjorie L. Hunt Talley, '54 – January 25, 2024 Jonda L. Johnson Gardner, '53 – February 2, 2024 Archie Bingham Garrard, '47 – February 2, 204 Elbert J. Layton, '66 – February 6, 2024 Markus Romero, '13 – February 7, 2024 Brian K. Estavillo, '89 – February 9, 2024 Michael W. Hawkins, '63 – February 12, 2024 Janell Kempton Palmer, '50 – February 13, 2024 Michael A. Roth '73 – February 13, 2024 Walter "Gene" Eugene Seale, '78 – February 14, 2024 Kit D. Judd, '74 – February 16, 2024 Joyce L. Henwood Burkett, '93 – February 20, 2024 Jeffrey K. Estes, '90 – February 28, 2024 Albert W. McLemore, '90 – February 28, 2024 Esther Nunez Gonzales, '93 – March 3, 2024 Linda E. Kay Bingham, '69 – March 7, 2024 Marie Maloy Busby, '52 – March 9, 2024 Chad R. Dupont, '13 - March 9, 2024 Lynne Whipple, '67 – March 9,2024 Thomas E. Smith, '65 – March 18, 2024 Cecilia Sonive Alvarado, '88 – March 22, 2024

Rodney B. Platt, '57 – March 22, 2024 Barbara Jordan Clifford, '52 – March 25, 2024 Carol Ellsworth, '48 – March 26, 2024 Diana J. Bright Hughes, '63 – March 26, 2024 Arlene A. Maner, '96 - March 29, 2024 John S. Crosby, '61 – March 30, 2024 RuthAnn Woods Crandall Hoopes, '54 – April 5, 2024 Lyle D. Thompson, '54 – April 8, 2024 Mary E. Morris Flunder, '67 – April 14, 2024 Trevor L. Sumner, '22 - April 21, 2024 Demetrio R. Jaquez, '65 – April 23, 2024 Gerald L. Jones, '65 - April 23, 2024 Carmen Slough, '06 - April 27, 2024 Cristi M. Vargas, '02 – April 28, 2024 William S. Baca, Jr., '78 – May 1, 2024 Lanny J. Crockett, '58 – May 1, 2024 Allwin "AJ" J. Clark, '63 - May 2, 2024 Irene Estes Delich, '65 – May 4, 2024 LaVada Allred Layton, '80 – May 11, 2024 Ernest R. Renteria, '70 – May 11, 2024 Betty Angle Larson, '62 - May 28, 2024 Russellene "Rustie" Murdock Clifford, '95 – May 29, 2024 Jeanette McBride Mullenaux, '52 – June 2, 2024 Williamena "Billie" McBride, '75 – June 3, 2024 Gene R. Larson, '50 – June 7, 2024 Charles "Charlie" A. Hatch, '84 – June 9, 2024 Tammie L. Swann, '92 – June 13, 2024 Wilma J. Sandoval, '71 – June 15, 2024 Francisco R. Alcocer, '61 – June 29, 2024

Obituaries Jan. 1, 2024 - Jun. 30, 2024

Wedding Bells

1	Jan. 6, 2024	Hana Estrada '23 & Jared Ritman '23
	Jan. 8, 2024	Rachel Waite '22 & Logan McMartin
	Jan. 13, 2024	Brindy Blake '23 & Judd Neil '23
2	Feb. 16, 2024	Alissa Hall & Hunter Woods '20
	Feb. 17, 2024	Tarah L. Barney '23 & Cole P. Knudsen '23
	Mar. 15, 2024	Kaylie Gardner '23 & Wyatt Cox '23
	Mar. 23, 2024	Polly Evans '17 & James Self, '16
	Apr. 20, 2024	McKenzie Mowers & Grant Richardson '20
	Apr. 20, 2024	Kylee Wood '23 & Michael Guy '21
	Apr. 23, 2024	Elizabeth Echols '23 & Stewart West '23
3	Apr. 26, 2024	Olivia Mullenaux '19 & Seth Ellison '17
	May 11, 2024	Madisen Farris, '23 & Tate Skousen, '25
	May 11, 2024	Alyssa McRae '24 & McKay Griffin '23
	May 18, 2024	Maya Mattice, '24 & Brady Overson, '24
	Jun. 1, 2024	Kelcie Carroll & Darius Martindell '24
4	Jun. 8, 2024	Emma Orton, '24 & Jake Platt
	Jun. 8, 2024	Grace Haller'20 & Given Chatelain
5	Jun. 12, 2024	Anna Bingham, '24 & Jacob Beals, '24
6	Jun. 22, 2024	Amanda Johnston, '14 & David Collins















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