Hocking College Press

BANKING LEGEND REFLECTS ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Steve Cox, a lifelong Nelsonville resident, has spent nearly 50 years working in the banking industry right on Nelsonville's historic square. He is currently President Emeritus at The Nelsonville Banking Center, a Division of Farmers Bank of Pomeroy. He served as Chairman and CEO of Nelsonville Home and Savings Bank until its merger with Farmers Bank in 2023. As he approaches his semi-retirement, Cox looks back on a journey shaped by family, community values and a steadfast commitment to the people of Nelsonville. Born in 1956, Cox's roots in the community run deep. He graduated from Nelsonville York High School in 1974 and completed his education at Hocking College in 1976, where he first found his love for finance. "I went to school at Hocking after high school, not really knowing what I wanted to do," Cox recalls. Encouraged by his father's friendship with a local bank president, he started a summer position at First National Bank on the square. That opportunity led to a 36-year career at First National, before he transitioned to Nelsonville Home & Savings Bank in 2010.

Throughout his career, Cox has valued the deep connections he's fostered with his neighbors and friends. "It's a real blessing to know almost every customer who comes through the door. They're people I've grown up with," he says. As he shifts to a more relaxed role, Cox remains committed to the bank, continuing to attend board meetings and support the community he cherishes. The Nelsonville Banking Center, originally founded in 1888, has always played a unique role in helping the community's lower-income residents achieve homeownership. Steve likened to a "It's A Wonderful Life" type place where locals could find a helping hand and a

Cox has seen his community through numerous changes, from celebrating local high school championships on the square to managing banking operations as technology transformed the industry. "When I started, we were using hand-posted ledgers," he recalls. Over the decades, he embraced advancements, from early Radio Shack computers to today's internet-driven banking landscape, continually adapting to meet the needs of his customers.

fair deal. Even after merging with Farmers Bank, the institution retains its community focus, a priority for Cox and his colleagues.

In addition to his work, Cox has dedicated his time to several local initiatives. He is a trustee of the Baird Brothers Foundation, which supports Nelsonville's nonprofits, and he remains closely involved with Nelsonville-York High School, where he's served as a coach, referee and announcer. "The people here are the best on earth, in my opinion," he says, reflecting on his commitment to the town he loves.

Looking ahead, Cox sees growth opportunities for Nelsonville in tourism and hopes to see more affordable housing options developed. For anyone looking to get involved in the community, his advice is simple: "Stick your nose in the door, tell people you want to help, and before you know it, you'll be in charge of something."

As Cox steps back from daily responsibilities, he feels grateful for his lifelong connection to Nelsonville and the people who make it home. "I don't know any place else," he says. "It's the people that make this place special, and I'll always be here to support them."

CAMPUS EVENTS



Women's

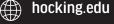
December 14 | vs. Owens CC | 3pm

December 21 | vs. Miami Middletown | 1pm January 18 | vs. Tri-C | 3pm January 26 | vs. CC of Allegheny County | 12pm January 29 | vs. Edison State CC | 5:30pm February 1 | vs. Lorain CC | 3pm February 12 | vs. Community Christian College | 5:30pm February 26 | vs. Clark State CC | 5:30pm March 1 | vs. Terra State CC | 3pm

Men's

December 4 | vs. Edison State CC | 7:30pm December 7 | vs. Bryant & Stratton | 11am December 14 | vs. Owens CC | 11am January 18 | vs. Cuyahoga CC | 11am January 26 | vs. CC of Allegheny Co. | 3pm February 1 | vs. Lorain County CC | 11am February 12 | vs. Comm. Christ (Detroit) | 7pm February 26 | vs. Clark State CC | 7:30pm March 1 | vs. Terra State CC | 11am





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Hocking College Ombudsman

ombudsman@hocking.edu | 740-753-7050

All of Hocking College's career and technical education programs follow the district's policies of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability in all programs, services, activities and employment. In addition, arrangements can be made to ensure that the lack of English language proficiency is not a barrier to admissions or participation.

The Hocking College Press

DR. JAE PARK, NEW DIRECTOR OF HOCKING COLLEGE CHOIR & BAND BRINGS DYNAMIC PERFORMANCES TO COLLEGE COMMUNITY

The School of General Studies, Arts & Sciences is pleased to announce the return of the Concert Band in January 2025. Dr. Jae Park, who recently joined the Hocking College community to lead the Hocking College Singers (concert choir), will now be expanding his teaching to include the Concert Band.

Dr. Park holds faculty positions at Hocking College, The Ohio State University Community Music School, and Heart of Ohio Classical Academy. Beyond teaching, he serves as the cover conductor for the Springfield Symphony Orchestra (OH) and is the music director of Collegium Musicum of Ohio. He regularly conducts performances across the United States, South Korea, and various European countries. Previously, as a doctoral student, he led the Ohio State University Campus Orchestra, successfully growing its membership from 45 to 90 within two years through his effective leadership.

He notes that many Hocking College students are unaware of the excellent music programs available, including the Band and Choir. With a student population numbering in the thousands, Hocking College holds tremendous potential for expanding these programs and enriching campus life. Currently, Hocking College singers enjoy music-making every Wednesday. They hope more students will join, creating opportunities to share and enjoy music together.

Dr. Park envisions a collaboration with the Film and Video Department next semester to create a music video, along with an annual concert in May 2025 to celebrate the talents of the Choir and Band students. Additionally, he is planning community engagement opportunities through performances and ensemble participation. Students can join the Concert Band (MUS-1134) and Choir (MUS-1131) through Spring course registration. Students should work with their Academic Advisor in order to add these classes to their schedule.

Great news for ensemble participants: students who register for either of these classes are eligible to apply for the Choir and Band Scholarship. For general inquiries, please contact Emily Davis at davise37786@hocking.edu (School of General Studies, Arts & Sciences). For questions about the audition process, reach out to Dr. Park at parkj1@hocking.edu (Director of Choir and Band). All woodwind, brass, and percussion players are welcome to join the Concert Band, while soprano, alto, tenor, and bass voices can participate in the choir program.

Dr. Park holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting from The Ohio State University, a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting from Georgia State University, and a Professional Artist Diploma in Choral Conducting from Korea National University of Arts.







Hocking College's annual "Rodeo on the Hocking" returned on October 19, delivering an exciting evening of team roping, bull riding, and barrel racing, with proceeds supporting the college's Equine Program.

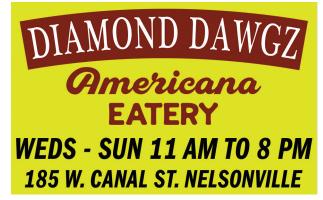


Hocking College hosted the Appalachian Artificial Intelligence Conference on October 30, uniting regional leaders and innovators to discuss Al's role in advancing Appalachia's economic and educational future. The event featured Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted as the keynote speaker and included engaging sessions on Al-driven solutions for health, education, and governance.





Water are you waiting for? Dive into your future at Hocking College! With hands-on programs, affordable tuition, and a supportive campus community, now's the perfect time to enroll. Take the plunge and apply today at hocking.edu/you









The Perfect Getaway

Whether you're looking for a relaxing weekend away or a venue for an event, The Lodge has a room for you!

https://thelodge.hocking.edu/

Upcoming Important Dates

- Mon, Nov. 25- Wed, Nov. 27 Fall Break College Open, No Courses, No Faculty
- Fri, Dec. 6 Autumn Term Ends
- Sat, Dec. 7 Autumn Commencement
- Mon, Dec. 23 Fri, Jan. 3 Winter Break
 Wed, Dec. 25 Christmas College Closed