Miles Community College celebrates 75 years of excellence this year. As part of the year-long celebration, MCC held a “Celebrating the Decades” 75th Anniversary Event on the evening of October 25th. This special event was attended by over 400 people including employees, faculty, alumni, retirees, and community members. To honor former MCC Board of Trustee, James P. Lucas, who served the college and community for over 50 years and was instrumental in the design and implementation of the community college system in the state of Montana, an endowed scholarship was introduced as part of the event. During the event, funds were raised for the James P. Lucas Endowment Scholarship which will be awarded to a Custer County resident. More events will be planned throughout the rest of the year, culminating with commencement ceremonies in May 2015.

MCC student-athletes from the Men’s Baseball, Women’s Basketball, and Men’s Basketball teams participated in Trick or Treat for canned goods On October 23rd. The event was put together by MCC Head Women’ Basketball Coach Liz Lewis, Assistant Women’s Basketball Coach Janie Rayback, and Pioneer Baseball Assistant Coach, Dan McKinney. Athletes dressed in Halloween costumes as part of a costume competition and traveled from door to door around the Miles City area collecting over 1,000 pounds of food which was donated to the Custer County Food Bank to help fight hunger.

MCC students, Dannon Olson (freshman) and Shelby O’Toole (sophomore), were inducted into Kiwanis as corporate members as part of a Student Engagement Opportunity. Kiwanis voted this fall to allow two Miles Community College students to join and participate during their time enrolled at Miles Community College. After MCC, these students will have experience with a community service organization as well as the opportunity to continue to be personal members of Kiwanis. Once the students have graduated from MCC, the seat becomes available to another incoming student.

The new Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) simulator purchased with the College’s SWAMMEI grant dollars and the simulator trailer has been delivered and is being utilized in the fall CDL training courses. Additionally, the College’s Vocational Building has been renovated to house the heavy equipment simulators that just arrived in October.

The MCC Nursing Department had their accreditation site visit September 23-25. Overall, the accreditation visit went well. The final reports from the two accrediting bodies, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing and Montana State Board of Nursing, are expected to arrive mid-November. The Nursing Program continues to have full accreditation and approval from both entities.