

PARTNERS

A Publication by the JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club for Former Associates of JCPenney



The Legacy Continues

FALL 2025



PARTNERS

FALL 2025
Volume 123 Issue 3



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Dear Partners,

The H.C.S.C. Foundation and the JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club are pleased to be working together to bring you this special edition of *Partners Magazine*. In it we celebrate Mr. Penney's legacy and history. Included is the H.C.S.C. Foundation, its work and the 2025 Holiday Fundraising Campaign. Mr. Penney helped start the Foundation with a generous contribution to assist retired associates who needed financial assistance. That legacy continues through the work of the Foundation's Board of Directors and through donations from former associates and their family members.

With the leadership of Steve Strom, the Club continued its work to promote the history of Mr. Penney and the Company in Kemmerer, Wyoming, and Hamilton, Missouri. In August, we joined the City of Kemmerer for the 5th Annual Golden Rule Days where historical plaques were unveiled. Then, after working for nearly two years with the City of Hamilton, Missouri, we were proud to participate in the unveiling of Mr. Penney's statue that honored the 150th anniversary of his birth. It was a busy and fulfilling time at both events.

We hope that you will enjoy reading about these activities. As always, we are grateful for your support and partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron".

Ron Salzetti
Chairman

H.C.S.C. Foundation

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Gresham".

John Gresham
President

JCPenney National
H.C.S.C. Alumni Club



I became a member of the JCPenney H.C.S.C. Alumni Club in 2013. Until I joined the National Alumni Club, I was not aware of the H.C.S.C. Foundation that Mr. Penney started in 1960.

I was amazed and pleased that this Foundation was set up to help those who are less fortunate and struggling financially for many reasons. This cause really hit home for me since I have been so blessed to have worked for the JCPenney Company since I was 17 years old until I retired at 60. I have always believed that it is a calling to help others who might need assistance regardless of what that help might be.

I felt it was an honor and privilege to help others through donating to the Foundation and I have done that for the past 12 years. I have been thinking that we have over 1,400 members and if 1,000 of those members gave \$100 each that is \$100,000, half of the Foundation's campaign goal. I know many will give more.

What a great opportunity it is to help a fellow JCPenney associate who hates to ask for help but needs a helping hand and can turn to our Foundation for that helping hand. We are so blessed to have worked for a Company with our Founder who cared about his associates like he did because God blessed him.

I learned when I was a small boy in church from the pastor always saying every sermon, "If you don't think your neighbor is going through difficult moments, it's only because you don't know them well enough." I have found that to be so true as I got older and listened to those around me.



John Gresham
jrgresham3520@me.com

I want to thank Ron Salzetti, Chairman, Jeff Paige, Vice Chairman, Larry Noble, Secretary/Treasurer and the rest of the Foundation Board of Directors for giving their time to keep Mr. Penney's vision alive for our associates.

I hope that you, like me, will find it in your heart to give to this wonderful Foundation. I'm sure you will be blessed many times over for helping a fellow associate.

John Gresham
President
JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club



Dear JCPenney Partner,

The H.C.S.C. Foundation is proud to continue Mr. Penney's leadership by helping to support retired associates who find themselves in financial need. We are asking you to join us in continuing this legacy by donating to the H.C.S.C. Foundation. As living expenses remain high, it is difficult for our recipients to make ends meet. Recent natural disasters have resulted in an increased number of requests.

We know that you have many options when it comes to making charitable contributions. We want you to know that the Foundation is carefully managed.

- Board members are retired associates who volunteer their time. The board members review the finances of each recipient annually and keep in touch with them a minimum of four times a year and on their birthday.
- Our Treasurer prepares financial reports so that we can track income and expenses.
- Our finances are carefully invested with Morgan Stanley to ensure a safe and fair return on the investment.
- The Foundation is audited annually by Gilbert CPAs.

Last year, our Penney Partners donated over \$150,000 during the summer and holiday fundraising campaigns. Thank you! This year the Foundation is hosting only one campaign with a goal of raising \$200,000. As a member of the National HCSC Alumni Club, we invite you to make a contribution at one of the Partner levels listed. If you choose so, you will be recognized in the next issue of Partners magazine and on our website, under the following categories.

H.C.S.C. Foundation Partners Campaign levels are as follows:

H. Honor Partners \$5,000 and up
 C. Confidence Partners \$2,000 to \$4,999
 S. Service Partners \$1,000 to \$1,999
 C. Cooperation Partners \$300 to \$999
 H.C.S.C. Partner \$100 to \$299

Ron

Ron Salzetti
 Chairman, H.C.S.C. Foundation

Your contributions are tax-deductible and can be mailed to:

H.C.S.C. Foundation
 15220 Green Valley Drive
 Chino Hills, CA 91709-4267

You can also donate through our GoFundMe account by going to our website:

www.hcscfoundation.com



WAYS TO GIVE

For years we have been asking you to write a check to help the H.C.S.C. Foundation, but there are other options available to donors.

We recently set up a GoFundMe site that has been successful and made giving more convenient. You can reach the GoFundMe site at www.gofundme.com/hcsc-foundation. Or you can go to www.hcscfoundation.com and click on the Donate link there.

But Guess What? There are other ways of giving besides making a cash donation. Below are ways you can help the H.C.S.C. Foundation fulfill its mission to provide financial aid to former Penney Associates in their time of need.

- The IRS allows individuals aged 70 ½ or older to make up to \$100,000 annually in Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from their IRAs directly to charities. If you don't wish to take all of your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution), you can donate part of it this way and avoid paying taxes on the amount you donate.
- Did you know another easy and tax-efficient way to support the H.C.S.C. Foundation is by making a bequest? You can name the H.C.S.C. Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, retirement account, and life insurance policy. Naming the H.C.S.C. Foundation as a beneficiary is a simple, tax-free way to add to your charitable legacy without affecting your finances during your lifetime.

There are other charitable gift planning programs available depending on your situation, consult your financial advisor, tax person or GOOGLE it.

Please look into these alternatives! However as always - we'll take a check.

The HCSC Foundation
15220 Green Valley Drive
Chino Hills, CA 91709-4267

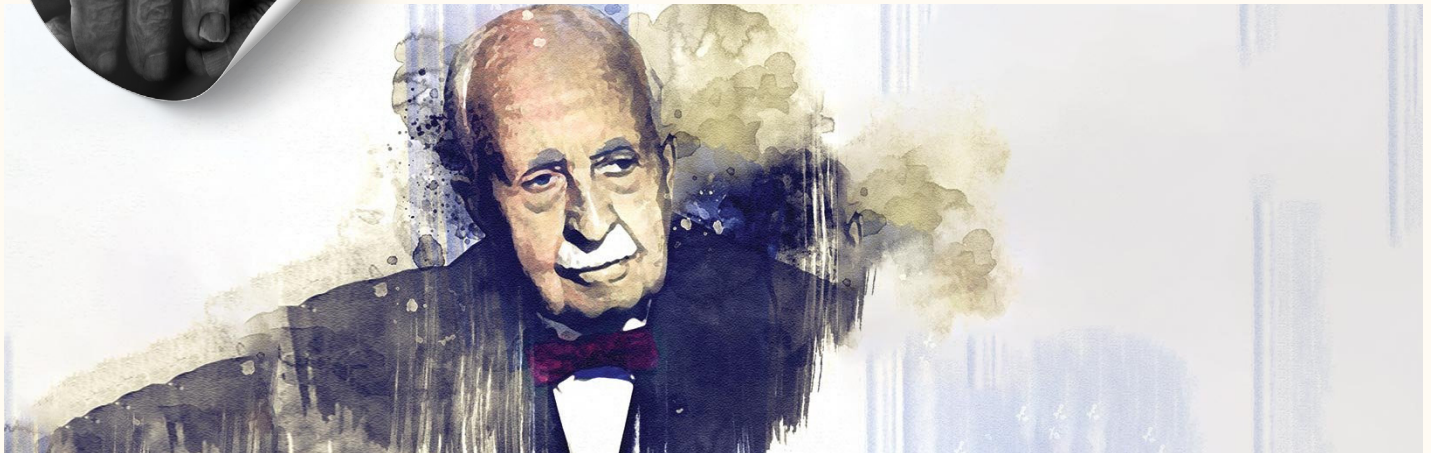
HCSC FOUNDATION

Honor, Confidence, Service, Cooperation

Assisting JCPenney Associates Since 1960



"When my husband passed away, I was lost. I had no idea where to turn. I was speaking with a friend and she told me about the Penney Foundation. I reached out to them and they were so caring and helpful. They were able to help me with funeral expenses. They also stepped up to review my expenses and help me break even on a monthly basis. They even call me every few months to check on me. I don't know what I would have done without their help."



Keeping the Golden Rule Alive

Your Donation Changes Lives

For over 60 years, the HCSC Foundation has been there when retired J.C. Penney associates needed a hand up. Today, you can be part of that legacy.

JCPenney associates built careers, served customers, and supported their families, while looking forward to their retirement. But when life takes a hard turn, many of these retirees find themselves struggling to make ends meet. The HCSC Foundation exists to provide financial aid to JCPenney Associates age 60 and older, with 20 years of service, who have fallen on hard times.

Your contribution to the Foundation will help insure we can keep providing assistance to our in-need associates. By clicking below, you can help.

Go To hscsfoundation.com To Donate

LETTERS *of* GRATITUDE

Letters from a few of our many recipients that the H.C.S.C. Foundation helps each month

I am a widow and I became aware of the H.C.S.C. Foundation through a former JCPenney Manager who gave me the information when they saw I was struggling. I have been with the Foundation for over 15 years. Without the help of the Foundation, I would be bankrupt and homeless. This assistance has helped me with housing, food, prescriptions, and has seen me through two knee replacements and lung cancer. The retired JCPenney associates that have been assigned to me are always checking on me and my health – again, without their help I really have no idea where I would be. It certainly would not be with a roof over my head, food to eat or my prescriptions. I have no idea where I would be with my health. With my gratitude I could never thank H.C.S.C. enough. Thank you!

I would like to share with you that the monthly award the H.C.S.C. Foundation provides assists in my transportation to and from kidney dialysis. Without this transportation I would have an extremely difficult time getting to my appointments. I am extremely thankful for this. The Foundation's resources have been a blessing to me.

I want to thank you for the financial help that you have given me for the past few years. It has helped so much since I am a widow living on just my Social Security. The money helps me fix and repair things around the house that I would never have been able to. For instance, recently my shower had a leak, and I had to have the entire shower and damaged walls replaced. So yes, receiving the money each month has been a tremendous help. It's so wonderful that you have this Foundation to help others like me. Thank you so much.

LETTERS *of* GRATITUDE

A little thank you to my JCPenney friends at H.C.S.C.: I spent over 28 years with the JCPenney Company – wonderful and fulfilling years! During the past several years I have fallen on hard times, needing financial assistance. The H.C.S.C. Foundation has been there helping me survive the obstacles I have endured. Without this help I would not have been able to live independently with my only companion, Snowflake, my dog. H.C.S.C. has been there for me assisting with monthly expenses and unexpected emergencies. I am forever grateful and blessed for your help and love.

The monthly assistance I am receiving from the H.C.S.C. Foundation has made a huge difference in my life- not only for helping with the rent, but also for the care of my cat. I am not sure what I would do if my cat wasn't in my life right now. There are not enough words to express how the H.C.S.C. Foundation has improved my life with their monthly assistance. With the extreme cost of rent, plus all other living expenses and food, there is no way that my normal monthly income would cover the costs, and I could very well be in a dire situation, I am so grateful and thankful for the support from the H.C.S.C. Foundation – they are so caring and helpful for us retired employees. Thank you and the Foundation for your help and caring. God bless you all.

I am a retired JCPenney associate and am fortunate and blessed to be accepted into the H.C.S.C. Foundation. This assistance has been life-changing for me. My life has been less stressful, and I am able to enjoy everyday living. It opened a whole new world for me, having happy days and peaceful nights. I'm hoping the Foundation will be able to continue to assist me. Bless the people who are part of the Foundation to make this happen.

Honor Partner \$5,000 and higher

Anonymous
Marshall Beere
Bruce and Linda Hill
Jeff and Jennifer Paige
Schmidt Family Foundation

Confidence Partner \$2,000–\$4,999

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Donna Salzetti
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H.C.S.C. Partner

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Archie and Judy Gabriel
Carol Jablonowski
Clare Poremsky
Jeannette Siegel***
Sunju Suh
John Yee
Kathryn Yeomans

* In memory of Bill McCarthy

** In memory of Joe Gilliam

*** In memory of Ted Spurlock

H.C.S.C. Foundation Board Members

The members of the H.C.S.C. Foundation Board of Directors are grateful for your support. They include: Ron Salzetti, Chairman, Jeff Paige, Vice Chairman, Larry Noble, Secretary/Treasurer, Betty Bidwell, Wayne Burt, Vincent Caporusso, Sandy Gonzales, Roger Hanson, Jim Mckeown, Lucy Rau, Mark Schultz, Suzanne Sotelo and Steve Workman. Members have extensive JCPenney experience. Here are bios of four of the Directors:

Wayne Burt

Wayne Burt brings nearly five decades of professional experience to his role as the newest member of the HCSC Foundation Board of Directors. His career spans 25 years in retail, including two decades with JCPenney in store sales and management, 13 years as a Senior Sales Consultant in manufacturing, and 10 years as a Regional Manager in the communications industry.

Now retired, Wayne continues to stay actively involved in the JCPenney community, serving as Website Administrator for the JCPenney Southern California Alumni Club (www.hcsc-socal.org). His appointment to the Foundation Board reflects his commitment to giving back and supporting fellow JCPenney associates and retirees.

Wayne and his wife of 41 years live in Southern California and are proud parents of two adult children. He looks forward to bringing both his professional experience and personal dedication to furthering the Foundation's mission.



Jim Mckeown

I have served on the Foundation board since 2021. It has been very gratifying to be involved in a process helping other JCPenney Associates who have needed help in their retirement years. I speak to my recipients at least monthly and have enjoyed the entire process of aiding others.

I started with JCPenney in 1963 in Store #890 in downtown Spokane, Washington, running the Men's Department. I then became a Sales and Merchandise Manager at Store #110 in Shadle Park, also in Spokane. Next came District Personnel Manager in the Portland area. In 1977, I managed a store in Missoula, Montana, for 7 months. From there I was transferred to Los Angeles as District Manager under Al Johnson. In 1979 I was promoted to New York as Manager of Personnel for the Stores Division. From there I became the District Manager in the Fresno District in 1981. I finished my career as District Manager in the Sacramento District until I retired in 1995.

Ron Salzetti

When I retired in 1998 with the Company's early retirement program, I was asked by Paul Simons, then chairman of H.C.S.C. Foundation, to join the board. At that time, we only had 13 recipients. We changed our bylaws to allow all associates, not just management, having 20 years of service and who are at least 60 years old to be eligible for assistance. We have assisted over 80 associates in need. To date we have given over eight million dollars in assistance.

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to visit with many associates in need. It gives me great pleasure in working with these associates to solve some of their problems. We are so blessed that Mr. Penney had the foresight to set up this foundation. As far as I know, there are no other companies that have such a program.

I started my career as trainee in Store #12, Price, Utah, in 1961. I held various management positions including Department Manager and Floor Manager in the Price Store. In 1967 I was transferred to Omaha, Nebraska, to open Store #911, the new full line store. After several management positions in Omaha, I was promoted to Sales and Merchandise Manager in Manhattan, Kansas, in 1970. In 1973, I was transferred to the Kansas City District Office where I held positions of District Merchandiser and District Personnel Manager. My next move was in 1978 to the Los Angeles Market as the Area Home Furnishings Manager. During my stay in Los Angeles, I held positions as Sales and Marketing Manager and managed two stores, Los Altos in Long Beach and Carson, California.

In 1983 I was promoted to the Corporate Office in New York as the Meetings Manager. That was followed by Company Communications Manager during which time the Direct Broadcast System was developed. I returned to field work in 1987 as Store Manager of Reno, Nevada. In 1990, I returned to the Los Angeles Market to manage the Downey Store until I retired in 1998.

I have four children and eleven grand kids. When not doing Foundation business, I enjoy traveling with my wife Donna whenever possible.



Suzanne Sotelo

My JCPenney career began in high school in 1972 at the Treasury Store in Orange County, California. This was a discount department store division of Penney. I worked my way through college at the Fashion Valley store in San Diego and became a department manager after graduation. Throughout my 33 years with JCPenney, I relocated several times, working in San Diego, Las Vegas, and eventually returning to Orange County. I held a wide range of positions, each offering unique challenges and opportunities. I served as a Department Manager, Assistant Store Manager, Mixit Sales Manager, trainer at the Corporate Development Center in Buena Park, DLDC Manager (Deliverable Lines Distribution Center) at the furniture warehouse in Buena Park, Business Planning Manager for Women's Apparel for the Los Angeles district, and ultimately Store Manager at the Orange, California store.

After taking early retirement from JCPenney, I found that I was not quite ready to step away from professional life. I ran my own business for several years and later worked at Orange Lutheran High School. I was there for 13 years managing and generating income from the school's thrift shop for scholarship fund.

I became involved with the HCSC Foundation around two years ago, following my second retirement. My role with the Foundation has been deeply rewarding. I regularly check in with recipients and witness firsthand the impact the Foundation has on the lives of those who have given so much to the Penney Company. It is a privilege to be part of this organization. I appreciate the opportunity to give back to the community I have long been a part of.

5th Annual Golden Rule Days & Community Picnic Kemmerer, Wyoming

The Fifth Annual Golden Rule Days and Community Picnic was held at Triangle Park in Kemmerer, Wyoming, on Thursday, August 28, 2025. It was a festive day as JCPenney H.C.S.C. Alumni Club members, JCPenney/Catalyst LLC representatives, and City of Kemmerer officials came together with the community and other guests to honor James Cash Penney and the Golden Rule that he lived by in both his personal and professional life.

Thanks to our JCPenney H.C.S.C. Alumni Club, this year's event featured two new special additions to Triangle Park and the surrounding JCPenney historic buildings.

- Three new bronze plaques identify the J. C. Penney Homestead, the 2nd Golden Rule Store, opened 1904, and the JCPenney Mother Store #1, opened 1929, as National Historic Landmarks by the U.S. Department of the Interior. While this recognition occurred in 1978, the buildings have not been identified as such. Thanks to the family of James Cash Penney, the plaques were created and installed on the buildings in honor of this important recognition. Special thanks go to Jason Miller, JCP/Catalyst LLC VP of Construction Services, and Art Rechtenwald, President/CEO of Rechtenwald Construction of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They volunteered their time and provided the materials to complete the installation.
- A new park bench for Triangle Park was installed as part of a revitalization effort in downtown Kemmerer by the Fossil Basin Chamber of Commerce. Our Alumni Club sponsored the bench in the photo, one of four new benches. It includes a dedication plate honoring Mr. Penney and recognizing our sponsorship.



The Homestead with plaque insert



Mother Store with plaque



Park Bench at Triangle Park



2nd Golden Rule Store

The JCPenney H.C.S.C. Alumni Club Meet and Greet took place at the Fossil Basin Chamber of Commerce Cabin in Triangle Park. Special guests included the family of Natalie Klun, Kemmerer resident and director at the JCPenney Accounting Center in Salt Lake City, and a Golden Rule Community Award recipient; Century Club member, Jim Sivelle (99 ½ years old) and his wife, Leigh Ann, from Polson, Montana; Mary Wisner, new District Manager over the JCPenney Mother Store and Store Manager, Linda Slovernik; Kemmerer City Administrator, Brian Muir and new Special Events Coordinator, Kaylynn Williams; Hamsfork Museum curator, Deb Archibald; and H.C.S.C. Alumni Club honorary member, David Kruger. David is the author of “J.C. Penney, the Man, the Store, and American Agriculture” and soon to be published book “Appalachian CEO,” the story of JCPenney President and CEO, 1958-1974, Mil Batten.

David conducted a historical tour of the J. C. Penney National Historic Landmark District buildings for a large group of guests and completed the tour inside the JCPenney Mother Store which is part retail store and part museum. He then held a book signing of his book to the delight of numerous guests.

The City of Kemmerer Golden Rule Community Award Program began at 6 p.m. and included a welcome from City Administrator, Brian Muir. Special Events Coordinator, Kaylynn Williams, served as master of ceremonies.

Program highlights included:

- Jason Miller, Vice President of Construction Services for JCP/Catalyst LLC, presented a \$10,000 check from the JCPenney Communities Foundation to Denise Sargent, VP of the J.C. Penney Homestead Board. The funds will support museum maintenance and operations.
- Jason Miller, VP of Construction Services for JCP/Catalyst LLC, and national contractor, Art Rechtenwald from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received framed certificates in appreciation for their professional installation of the three bronze Historic Landmark plaques on Mr. Penney's buildings and for building new wooden steps at the rear entrance of the J. C. Penney Homestead.



City of Kemmerer Golden Rule Community Award



City of Kemmerer Golden Rule Community Award



JCPenney Communities Foundation presented \$10,000 to the Homestead Museum



David Kruger book signing



Construction team appreciation

- A special presentation of a framed certificate was made to Linda Slovernik, JCPenney Mother Store manager, to honor and recognize Natalie Klum, former Kemmerer resident and retired director of JCPenney Accounting Center in Salt Lake City. Natalie passed away in September 2024. She had an outstanding high school, college, and JCPenney Company career and will be remembered with her certificate displayed in the JCP Mother Store.

Natalie's husband, Trace Bunderson, daughter, Monica Heaton, sister, Cindy Waiseth and husband Colby, and good friends Kathy Rattenbury and husband, Jerry, attended to honor Natalie.

- The program concluded with Special Events Coordinator, Kaylynn Williams, presenting the City of Kemmerer's Golden Rule Awards to three deserving recipients who practice the Golden Rule in their lives in South Lincoln County:

Deb Archibald, curator, Hamsfork Museum,
Kemmerer
Shavna Zorne, Opal, Wyoming
Paul and Laurie Kaiser, Diamondville, Wyoming

Each recipient received a gift bag with goodies donated by local Kemmerer retailers and a \$25.00 gift card from the JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club.

After the program concluded, guests were treated to a free community BBQ and picnic sponsored by the City of Kemmerer. Local mayors, city council members and county commissioners served the meal. A crowd of over 200 Lincoln County residents enjoyed a great Wyoming BBQ meal!



6th Annual Golden Rule Days & Community Picnic

Thursday, August 27, 2026, in Kemmerer

All H.C.S.C. Alumni Club members are invited to attend.
Save the date!

James Cash Penney Statue Dedication Hamilton, Missouri

The new statue of James Cash Penney was dedicated in his hometown of Hamilton, Missouri on Saturday, September 27, 2025. The dedication was part of the town's annual J.C. Penney Days fall festival and celebrated the 150th Anniversary of Mr. Penney's birth on September 16. The J.C. Penney Memorial Library and Museum Maintenance Trust in Hamilton and the JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club partnered to raise funds starting in November 2024 to purchase the statue and were successful in achieving that goal!

J.C. Penney Days had a great menu of Mr. Penney related events including a meet and greet for guests at Penney High School (that Mr. Penney helped fund in 1951), tours of his Boyhood Home in the newly named "J.C. Penney Park" on the main street in Hamilton, tours of the J.C. Penney Memorial Museum, tours of Penney Family plots at Highland Cemetery and of the Henry Farm near Hamilton which Mr. Penney once owned.

The meet and greet at Penney High School brought together five of Mr. Penney's grandchildren; David Kruger, Mr. Penney historian and Special Collections Librarian at the University of Wyoming; statue artists Lee Leuning and Sherri Treeby; John Gresham, National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club president and other Club attendees. After a wonderful brunch, a tour of the school was led by Principal, John Schieber, Student Council Sponsor, Eddy Kraber, the student council president, Danica Green and vice president, Isac Bales-Rodriguez. The school recently opened new facilities and dedicated a new high school track on this J.C. Penney Days weekend.

The J.C. Penney Boyhood Home was open for self-guided tours during the entire day. A local historian, Dennis Cox, led a detailed tour of the Penney family burial plots at the local Highland Cemetery. While Mr. Penney is not buried here, his parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins are in Highland Cemetery. It was fascinating to hear the history behind the Penney family in Hamilton and Caldwell County!

There was also a tour of the Harold Henry farm which Mr. Penney owned at one time along with three other farms in the county. Harold Henry worked on Mr. Penney's farm as a 12-year-old youth and later worked at JCPenney Store #500 in Hamilton. When Mr. Penney decided to sell his farm decades later, he offered it to Harold which Harold quickly purchased. Harold passed away earlier this year and his son, Wil, conducted the tour. One of the tour highlights was the grave of Eileenmere, one of Mr. Penney's prized bulls. There is a formal monument where Eileenmere is buried on the farm. Here is a wonderful video about Harold Henry and Mr. Penney's farm entitled "I am Angus." It is well worth watching!

<https://shorturl.at/r432P>

The Penney Quilt Store, formerly JCPenney Store #500, was open for business and attendees could immediately recognize the polished wood floors and 2nd floor mezzanine style of store for that era. Store #500's number was personally selected by Mr. Penney. It celebrates its 100th anniversary this year! This quilt store still has the original yellow and black JCPenney Store sign displayed on its interior.



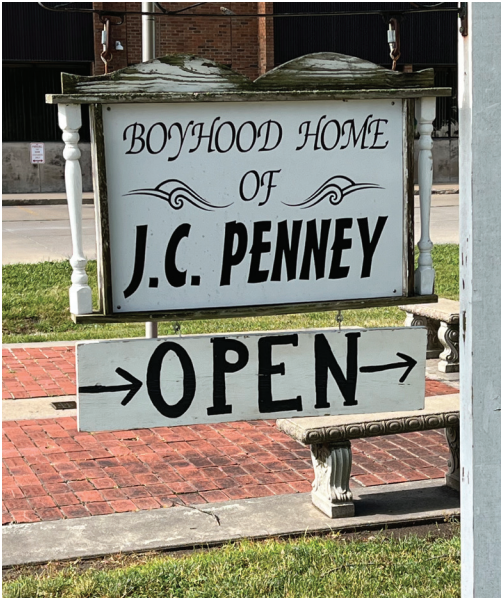
Statue wrapped in quilts



Unveiling the statue



Mr. Penney Statue



Boyhood Home sign



Boyhood Home

The 1947 silver Cadillac that Mr. Penney owned until he sold it to the Hale/Mogg family of Hamilton in 1965 was on display adjacent to the new J.C. Penney Park. The classic automobile, now in pristine condition, was purchased from Mr. Penney on a farm he owned in Gilman City, Missouri. Later, the car was sold to just the Hale family and is now maintained and stored by a son-in-law, Randy Railsback, on his farm in Hamilton.

The annual J.C. Penney Days fall festival featured craft booths, food booths, bounce arounds for the kids, face painting, a farmer's market and more. This annual event takes place the last Saturday of September in Hamilton.

Special guests attending the statue dedication at 4 p.m. included five of Mr. Penney's grandchildren who reside in San Francisco, Portland and Massachusetts. David Kruger, author of the book "J.C. Penney, the Man, the Store, and American Agriculture", attended and did a historical presentation about Mr. Penney's time in Hamilton. He then did a book signing for local residents.

Hamilton Mayor Cole Crawford led the statue dedication that included speeches from Bob Lund, curator of the J.C. Penney Memorial Museum and HCSC Alumni Club member, David Kruger, and Mary Wagley Copp, granddaughter of Mr. Penney. Angela Marshall Hofmann, Vice President of Corporate Affairs for Catalyst LLC, presented a flag and recognition certificate to Mayor Crawford. The flag was flown at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., in honor of Mr. Penney's 150th Birthday on September 16, 2025. Mayor Crawford recognized statue artists, Lee Leuning and Sherri Treeby, from Bad River Artworks of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, with a certificate of appreciation for their beautiful creation of Mr. Penney's statue. And the program concluded with Mayor Crawford proclaiming that the park where Mr. Penney's statue now resides will be formally named "J.C. Penney Park."



Penney High School



Hamilton is a popular destination for quilting supplies



Store #500, now a quilt store



Museum display



Museum display



Museum display

Prior to the unveiling, the statue was covered in quilts from the Memorial Museum and the Missouri Star Quilt Company in Hamilton and included a JCPenney Company quilt. The statue was unveiled by Mr. Penney's five grandchildren.

After the statue dedication, the annual Penney High School (PHS) Alumni Banquet was held Saturday evening with all PHS classes invited to attend. All of Mr. Penney's grandchildren and other statue dedication participants attended and enjoyed a wonderful catered meal in the school's new gymnasium. The Class of 1966, led by our H.C.S.C. Alumni Club member, Bob Lund, had the most attendees of any class! David Kruger did another book signing to the delight of those at the banquet with many of his books being signed and sold!

The next day, J.C. Penney Memorial Museum curator, H.C.S.C. Alumni Club member and Hamilton resident, Bob Lund, opened the museum and led a two-hour tour for Mr. Penney's grandchildren, some of whom had never been to Hamilton. The museum has wonderful and detailed displays about Mr. Penney's history and heritage in Hamilton, his founding of the Company and beyond until his passing in 1971. Check out this website for museum details:

<https://shorturl.at/6t3Gb>

We thank the grandchildren of Mr. Penney, the many H.C.S.C. Alumni Club members and Regional Meeting Groups and other outside donors whose generous donations along with numerous Hamilton organizations and the J.C. Penney Memorial Library and Museum Trust for making this historic project possible!



Mr. Penney's Cadillac



Mr. Penney's grandchildren: Shelly Guyer, Marion Guyer, Alyssa Keny Guyer, Mary Wagley Copp, Leigh Guyer



Neal Keny Guyer, Allyn Copp, Mary Wagley Copp, Tom Huntington (husband of Shelly), sculptors Sherri Treeby and Lee Leuning, Shelly Guyer, Alyssa Keny Guyer, Marion Guyer, David Kruger



Glenn and Linda Wiesjhan, John Gresham, Susan Dunseth, Pat Carberry



JC Penne served at Pasta Villa restaurant



Statue sculptors Lee Leuning and Sherri Treeby, Mark Radman, Marcia and Steve Strom

JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club
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Plano, Texas 75206-1978

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