Highland Happenings
October 2026

www.thehighlandcenter.org 540-468-1922 61 Highland Center Drive, Monterey, VA 24465

Celebration! We're Debt Free!

There is a lot to celebrate at The Highland Center this fall—and a lot to look forward to!

The Highland Center is now debt-free! Over the past two months, we have raised sufficient funds to pay off the COVID-era loan and an outstanding HVAC balance that had been holding us back thanks to John Sweet and Martha Teeter, the Charles Pinckney Jones Trust, and a group of other generous supporters who stepped up with gifts to help us meet these obligations. We are deeply grateful.

Paying off this debt is an important milestone for The Highland Center and allows us to plan for the future. Program planning for 2027 is already underway. But being debt-free does not mean our fundraising work is finished. In fact, if you have been thinking about making a gift to The Highland Center, now is a particularly good time to do so...

Matching Challenge

The Highland Center currently has an exciting matching challenge in effect: If we raise $500,000 by the end of February 2027, a generous donor will add another $100,000 to the total for the HVAC replacement project.



That means your gift can do more than help The Highland Center right now—it can unlock an additional $100,000 for the future of the building. Whether you are able to make a small gift, a large gift, or give monthly, we appreciate your help. The debt may be gone, but caring for this nearly 105-year old building is ongoing.

Thank you to everyone who has helped us reach this point. We are excited about what lies ahead, and we hope you'll be part of it.

Moving Forward with HVAC Project

The Highland Center is also delighted to announce that the HVAC replacement project is underway! A project engineer has been engaged and is developing design plans for the replacement system. We are pleased to be taking the first step in this important project.

Planning for 2027

Addressing some of our biggest challenges gives us the opportunity to do the fun part– thinking about what comes next! Program planning for 2027 is well underway.

This winter, we plan to begin showing movies at The Highland Center. In January, weather permitting, we will host a Community Lunch, bringing people together for good food, conversation, and a review of the 2026 milestones for the Center.

Then, on March 13, 2027, during the Maple Festival, we will celebrate the 105th anniversary of the building with an All Classes Reunion. We will collect stories and memories from those who attended school here and those who have been part of the building's long history. We'll also unveil the name of our new Heritage Fund, which will be established to provide ongoing support for the care and preservation of the building. The fund will be named in honor of an important person from the school's history. If you're in the area during Maple Festival weekend, we hope you'll stop by, share a story, and help us celebrate!

COMING UP AT THE HIGHLAND CENTER:

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details about these future events!

Wintertide Celebration
December 5

Community Lunch & Highland Center Update
January 23

Valentine's Day Dance & Dessert Event
Saturday, February 13

105th Anniversary and All Class Reunion
Saturday, March 13

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Donate