

Celebrating Black History Month

An array of events, including a lecture on baseball, cooking demonstrations, and an exhibit of photos of jazz icons, will be featured during February as Middlesex County College celebrates Black History Month. Other than the cooking program and the trip to Harlem, all are free and open to the public.

“Join us as we celebrate Black History Month at MCC,” said Marla Brinson, dean of enrollment and student support services. “This is a monumental year because it is the anniversary of so many events in the

history of Civil Rights and milestone birthdays of important people in the movement.”

This year is the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks, and the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have Dream” speech.

“The program showcases the tremendous influence African-Americans have had on the culture and history of the United States,” Dean Brinson said.



One of Bill May’s images of jazz greats: Abbey Lincoln.

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Scholarship Gala Honors New Brunswick Leaders

The City of New Brunswick will take center stage at Middlesex County College’s 43rd Scholarship Gala, “New Brunswick Lights: Shining Bright.” Mayor James Cahill ’72, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and New Brunswick Tomorrow will be honored at the event, to be held Saturday, March 2 at 6 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency, New Brunswick.

“This will be a wonderful evening of fine food, outstanding music and great fellowship,” said Joann La Perla-Morales, president of the College. “We are very pleased to honor our alumnus, Mayor Cahill, as well as two organizations that do so much for the citizens of New Brunswick and Middlesex County.

However, the true beneficiaries of the gala will be deserving students.”

Proceeds from the event will go to the Middlesex County College Foundation which provides student scholarships. “For some, a scholarship means the difference between going to school or having to drop out,” Dr. La Perla-Morales said. “It can be a life-changer.”

Individual tickets are available at \$250; there are also sponsorship opportunities available. Please call 732-906-2564 or e-mail foundation@middlesexcc.edu for details.

Mayor Cahill, who graduated from MCC in 1972, has served as mayor since 1991. During his tenure, New Brunswick has seen tremendous growth and investment that has transformed

the city into a thriving urban center.

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH) is a national leader in health care that routinely captures awards for the outstanding quality of its services. RWJUH is a 600-bed academic medical center and the principal teaching hospital of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

New Brunswick Tomorrow (NBT) is a nonprofit organization that promotes self-sufficiency and economic upward mobility among low-income youth and families. NBT works as a partner in the city’s revitalization, ensuring that health, human service and social issues are addressed that complement the city’s physical and cultural revival.

Andrea Craparotta Appointed Interim Director of Campus Police

Andrea Craparotta, acting captain with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, has been appointed interim director of the MCC Police Department. The appointment is under a shared services program with the Prosecutor's Office. She will be paid by the Prosecutor's Office and maintains her rank but will work at the College full time.

"The MCC Police Department is very fortunate to be able to partner with the Prosecutor's Office to have someone with Andrea's experience

lead our department and provide a cost savings to the College at the same time," said Donald R. Drost Jr., executive director of facilities management, who oversees the department.

Ms. Craparotta has 25 years of experience in law enforcement, joining the Middlesex Prosecutor's Office in 1990 after two years in Ocean County. She has experience in investigating homicides, sex crimes, child abuse, bias crimes, narcotics, as well as working with juvenile and training units. She has



Andrea Craparotta

Nursing Grads Score 100% on National Exam

The MCC Nursing program received a preliminary report that for a six month period in 2012, its graduates scored 100 percent on the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX®). This ranks the graduates first out of all nursing programs in the nation.

"This is a very, very positive result," said Nancy Berger, chair of the department.

She will learn of the official NCLEX results for the entire year sometime this month. The report, issued by Mountain Measurement, said that 45 MCC graduates took the exam between April and September and all passed.

The exam tests the graduates in areas such as management of care, health promotion and maintenance, and safety and infection control. The report indicated that the graduates scored significantly higher than the national average in all areas.

"This helps us with our assessment goals and our accreditation requirements," Professor Berger said. "It helps us to see if we're on target."

The 2012 graduates were the fourth class of the joint MCC-Raritan Bay Medical Center nursing program. Each class has received final passing scores of over 90 percent.

also served as a training coordinator and administered areas such as supervision of investigations, personnel scheduling, training oversight and budget review.

Ms. Craparotta is a past president of the New Jersey Narcotic Enforcement Officers Association and is on the Executive Board of Directors of New Jersey Women in Law Enforcement.

Notables

Ronald Goldfarb, special assistant to the president, has been appointed as an appeals panel member for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Members serve for three-years and review decisions of the commission. There are a total of 15 people on the panel; three review each case.

Kimberlee Hooper, director of school relations, was awarded the Linda Milstein scholarship to attend the Governor's Conference for Women in Atlantic City, as well as a grant to support professional development and a leadership activity for the MCC chapter of American Council on Education Office of Women in Higher Education. She is the campus chapter leader of that organization and will be developing the upcoming activity for which the grant money was awarded.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

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The Golden Boyz of New Brunswick will bring a “live band karaoke” show to MCC. Join them and become the lead singer (for one song) of this excellent band.

Radio Through the Years: Participate in Its Evolution

“Radio Heads,” an homage to the history of that medium, will be held at MCC during February. The program is a series of performances of radio from years ago to the modern era. All performances will be in the Studio Theater and are free and open to the public.

“Radio Heads is an enjoyable, energetic look at what radio has done for the culture,” said Nadine Heller, chair of the Department of Visual, Performing and Media Arts at the College. “The audience will be able to participate in the evolution of radio by touring through a series of curated environments based upon significant moments in radio history. Step back in time to hear historic broadcasts and music. Enter a 1930’s living room and sit around the radio to hear the broadcast of the Hindenburg disaster. Cozy up in the front of a classic car and swoon to the hits of the 60s. It’ll be nostalgic, educational and fun.”

Thursday, February 7, 5-9 p.m.

The opening reception includes a live performance and broadcast of

the classic comedy “The Income Tax” from The George Burns and Gracie Allen Show, directed by Peter Lowey. This will be followed by a kick-off celebration with New Brunswick’s own The Golden Boyz, who will bring their unique live band karaoke experience to the College.

“Have you ever wanted to be the lead singer in a live band?” Professor Heller asked. “This is your chance.” There will also be interviews with the band, karaoke participants, and audience members who will be broadcast along with the performances.

Thursday, February 14, 5-7 p.m.

This program features an original play based on Orson Welles’ notorious radio play thriller, “War of the Worlds.” The performance, directed by Professor Jess K. Smith of the College, incorporates live original music by William Sieke, a 2011 graduate and a composer and member of the band, Hope, Star and Browning. It is followed by a broadcast of apocalyptic love letters, written and recorded by members of the campus community.

Thursday, February 21, 5-7 p.m.

This event includes a live performance of “The Riverboat Runs Aground: Based on a True Story.” Directed by Professor Smith, this is a piece of home-grown storytelling by Seattle-based writer and performer Wesley K. Andrews. Rooted in his adolescent years growing up in Fairbanks, Alaska, the stories revolve

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Alumni Bowling

Join the College Alumni Association for an afternoon of bowling on Sunday, February 10 at the Woodbridge Bowling Center, 346 Main St Woodbridge. Bowlers should arrive at the lanes by 1 p.m. Friends and family are welcome as well. The cost is \$17 for three games, including shoe rental. It’s great fun and players of all ability levels are welcome.

Please RSVP by February 4 to alumni@middlesexcc.edu or by calling 732-906-7732.

Black History Month: Baseball, Photography and Cooking

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February 1-28, College Center Gallery

“Juneteenth” is photo exhibit of jazz performers. Photographer Bill May captured images of jazz greats such as Dizzy Gillespie, Harry Connick Jr., Chuck Mangione and Sarah Vaughan. There will be a reception on February 26 from 5-7 p.m.

Monday, February 4, 11 a.m., College Center Gallery

David Tarver, a businessman, philanthropist and author, will provide the month’s keynote speech. An engineer, Mr. Tarver left AT&T Bell Laboratories to start his own company that became wildly successful. After selling that company, he dedicated his life to community service.

“He is a man who knows how to give back to the community,” Dean Brinson said. “He talks the talk and walks the walk. He is both warm and inspirational.”

Saturday, February 16

MCC students are invited to take a trip to Harlem, including a behind-the-scenes tour of the Apollo Theater.

Tuesday, February 19, 11 a.m., College Center Lobby

A showing of the movie “Lincoln” with a post-film discussion.

Thursday, February 21, 5-7 p.m., College Center Gallery

Larry Hogan, senior professor of history at Union County College, is an expert on African-American baseball before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier. Dr. Hogan will speak on “The House that Ruth Built and Pop Opened! Negro League Baseball and Yankee Stadium.” It will include a discussion, accompanied by video and exhibit material of the history of Negro League baseball from 1930 through 1948 at America’s most historic ballpark, Yankee Stadium. It

will focus on the historic opening of the Stadium to Negro League play on July 5, 1930, for a doubleheader that is arguably the most significant game ever played at the fabled Yankee Stadium.

Monday, February 25, 11 a.m., College Center

History Game Show. A game show in which participants can win prizes by answering questions based on the month’s activities.

In addition, the College’s Professional and Community Programs division will dedicate four of its cooking classes to African-American food. “Today’s Table: Classes for Contemporary Cooks” is a series of cooking classes held in the demonstration kitchen in Crabiel Hall. The chef makes the food, describing all the steps, while the audience watches and learns. They also receive copies of the recipes as well as a sample of the food. Three of the four classes will include commentary by Fannie Gordon, director of the College’s Educational Opportunity Fund. She will talk about the origin of African-American cooking as it relates to the evening’s menu. Visit www.middlesexcc.edu/profcom for details.



The men’s basketball team in a game against Delaware County Community College of Pennsylvania, a 74-71 win. MCC is now 7-12. Here, Magdy Assawi goes in for two points.

Radio Heads

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around a true transformative act of magic and reincarnation. It includes original music by Mr. Sieke and Renee Maskin, a Brooklyn musician, and is followed by a discussion with the writer.

Friday, February 22, 7 p.m.

After a week-long master class with Mr. Andrews, students will perform their original stories in concert with excerpts of his newest piece entitled “War War War,” paired with original music by Mr. Sieke.