



A Beautiful Evening of Magic and Mirth

The Middlesex County College Gala mixed magic with fun as the College raised scholarship support for students on March 3. Wells Fargo received the Corporate Honoree Award, Joanne Fillweber '82 was named Alumna of the Year, and Xenia Balabkins received the Spirit of Middlesex award. From left: Joanne Fillweber; Patrick Madama, vice president for advancement; College President Joann La Perla-Morales; William Egbert, president of the College's Alumni Association; Rose Cofone, executive director of the MCC Foundation; Brian Daugherty, chairman of the Foundation Board of Trustees and senior regional director of Wells Fargo; Karen Hays, vice president for academic and student affairs; Xenia Balabkins, Spirit of Middlesex award winner; and Genette Falk, co-chair of the Gala.

Alumni Association to Host Benefit Food Tasting April 25

Restaurants from all over the area will be offering samples of their best dishes at the Middlesex County College Alumni Association food tasting on Wednesday, April 25. The event, which will run from 6:30-8:30 p.m., is a fundraiser for the association's scholarship fund.

"We anticipate about 25 high-quality restaurants will set up tables in the College Center and offer small samples of their best items," said Doug Wilson, member of the Alumni Association's Board of Trustees. "The public is invited to visit each and see what they have to offer. We expect to have diverse

A wonderful evening of great food to benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund.

types of restaurants participating in this program, which is called "An Evening of Good Taste for the Educated Palate."

The cost is \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door, and Middlesex County College students are \$20. Children

under 12 are free with the purchase of an adult ticket. The proceeds go toward the Alumni Association's scholarship fund.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.middlesexcc.edu/taste or by calling 732-906-7732.

Restaurants that have registered for the event include Akbar Restaurant, Bahama Breeze, Chili's Bar & Grill, Beechwood Café and Grill, and Edible Arrangements. In addition, a number of restaurants have verbally committed to attending. A complete list will be on the website.



Lions of Baseball Lore

MCC hosted a night of baseball literature in March as four authors gathered to discuss their work. About 50 members of the community – mostly baseball fans – heard each speak on his area of expertise and then answer questions from the audience. In addition, one Edison resident, Moe Resner, showed a DVD he created that included footage he shot on the last day the New York Giants played in the Polo Grounds in September of 1957. The authors included Lawrence Hogan, senior professor of history at Union County College and the nation’s foremost historical expert on African American baseball before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in 1947. He was principal author of “Shades of Glory: The Negro Leagues and the Story of African-American Baseball,” and he has written “The Forgotten History of America’s Negro Leagues,” which will be published this summer. Rubil Morales, professor of history at Bergen Community College, wrote the book “Farewell to the Last Golden Era: The Yankees, the Pirates and the 1960 Baseball Season.” He is also author of the soon-to-be-published “New York Versus New York 1962: The Birth of the Yankees-Mets Rivalry.” Gene Racz and Frank Russo authored the book “Bury My Heart at Cooperstown,” brief stories of how numerous baseball players lived and died and where they are buried. The group chatted before the presentation. From left, Mr. Resner, Dr. Hogan, Mr. Racz, Mr. Russo and Dr. Morales.

Prof Portrays Murderer

Santi Buscemi, professor of English, along with Professor William Da Rienzo of the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, performed a dramatic reading of Professor Buscemi’s translation from the Italian of Luigi Capuana’s short play entitled *The Interrogation*. The reading took place at a meeting of the Italian-American Writers’ Association at the Cornelia Street Café in New York. The reading was well received, with about 60 people attending.

There are two characters in the play: a judge and a murder suspect. Through skillful questioning, the judge gets the suspect to confess to the crime. Professor Da Rienzo portrayed the judge and Professor Buscemi read the part of the murderer. They read the beginning in Italian and then switched to English.

Oral Cancer Screening

The College will host an oral cancer screening for adults on Tuesday, April 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Dental Hygiene Clinic in L’Hommedieu Hall on the Edison campus. The event is free and open to the public; preregistration is not necessary. The noon to 1 p.m. hour is reserved for College faculty, staff and students; any adult is welcome from 9 a.m. to noon.

“April is Oral Cancer Awareness Month and it is a good time to focus on this issue,” said Lynn Tobin, adjunct faculty member in the College’s Dental Hygiene program. “It is a disease that is often curable if you catch it early, but can be fatal if not diagnosed in time. Oral cancer kills more than 8,000 people a year.”

The College is the only place in Middlesex County that is performing the free screenings.

The screenings are aimed at those 18 and over. The procedure, which takes about 10 minutes once the patient is in the dental chair, will be performed by volunteer dentists and oral surgeons. For more information, e-mail Professor Tobin at jaltobin@comcast.net.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

“This Month at Middlesex” is a publication of Middlesex County College
2600 Woodbridge Ave., Edison, NJ 08837

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From left: Carmen Oshiro, vice president and Magyar branch manager in Bridgewater; Frank Lankey, community relations specialist, Magyar; Jay E. Castillo, president of the Magyar Bank Charitable Foundation; John Fitzgerald, president and chief executive officer, Magyar; Middlesex County College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Denise Watson, assistant director of the New Brunswick Center; and Evelyn Rosa, director of the New Brunswick Center.

Magyar Bank Donates Funds to Empower the Community

Magyar Bank recently donated \$1,000 to the EMPOWER program at the Middlesex County College's New Brunswick Center. EMPOWER is a mentoring program for Latino youth that encourages them to work hard and go on to college. The money will be used for scholarships for the group.

"Magyar Bank is one of our best community partners, a strong supporter since the beginning of the program," said Evelyn Rosa, director of the New Brunswick Center. "One of its executives, Carmen Oshiro, is on the EMPOWER advisory board and helps mentor students. We are very grateful

for their involvement and support."

Other mentors include Middlesex County College and Rutgers University students.

"They are the backbone of the program," Ms. Rosa said. "They are committed young people who give back to their community."

MCC Student Wins Essay Contest; Trip to Las Vegas

Ryan Murphy, a first-year student in the Radiography Education program at Middlesex, will be heading to Las Vegas for an all-expense-paid trip this summer. But he'll keep the casinos at arms length, because he'll be spending the week at the American Society of Radiologic Technologists convention.

It's actually where he wants to be.

"I'm looking forward to it," he says. "It should be very cool."

Mr. Murphy entered an essay contest sponsored by the society and wrote on why he chose radiography as a major and future career. He wrote that health care is a secure field; that he liked the active nature of the work, helping people and communicating with them; and that he loved the technology. He was one of 50 students selected.

James Ferrell, the chair of the Radiography Department, said the week should be an excellent experience.

"This is almost an internship," Professor Ferrell said. "He'll get a close-up look at the profession and see how the society operates. He'll be shadowing one of the association board members while he is there and developing contacts all over the country. It could be career-changing for him. This is very special."



Ryan Murphy with James Ferrell, chair of Radiography.

MCC Wrestler Takes National Championship; Team Finishes Third Among Non-Scholarship Programs; Ninth Overall

Middlesex County College wrestler John McArdle won the National Championship in the 184-pound weight class on February 25. He defeated Austin Morehead from Clackamas Community College in Oregon City, Oregon at the championships held in Rochester, MN. McArdle, who had three pins leading up to the finals, won the championship bout on a 9-8 decision. He was named an All-American and was also named Outstanding Wrestler of the National Tournament..



John McArdle

Sam Emburgia came in seventh in the 141-pound class and Billy Bonnette finished sixth in the 157 class. They were also named All-Americans.

Overall, Middlesex was ninth out of 46 schools participating and third among schools not offering wrestling scholarships.

The wrestlers qualified for the National Championship tournament by their performance in the districts. Nassau Community College and Gloucester County College also sent

wrestlers to the nationals. Nassau came in fifth and Gloucester came in 12th.

“Wrestling is very strong in this area,” said Bob Wisniewski, the Middlesex athletic director. “I’m very happy with their success. The program is continuing to get stronger and the

coaching staff is doing an excellent job.” The coaches are head coach Mike Malinconico and assistants Dan Corio and David Saraiva.

Former Middlesex and Rutgers wrestling coach John Sacchi attended both tournaments as the athletic administrator.



Emanuel di Pasquale, professor of English, signs copies of his new book, “Dark Room,” for Tracey Esser of the English Department, during a book signing and lecture at the College Bookstore. “Dark Room” is a collection of poems by Paolo Ruffilli that Professor di Pasquale translated from Italian.

2600 Woodbridge Avenue
Edison, NJ 08837

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