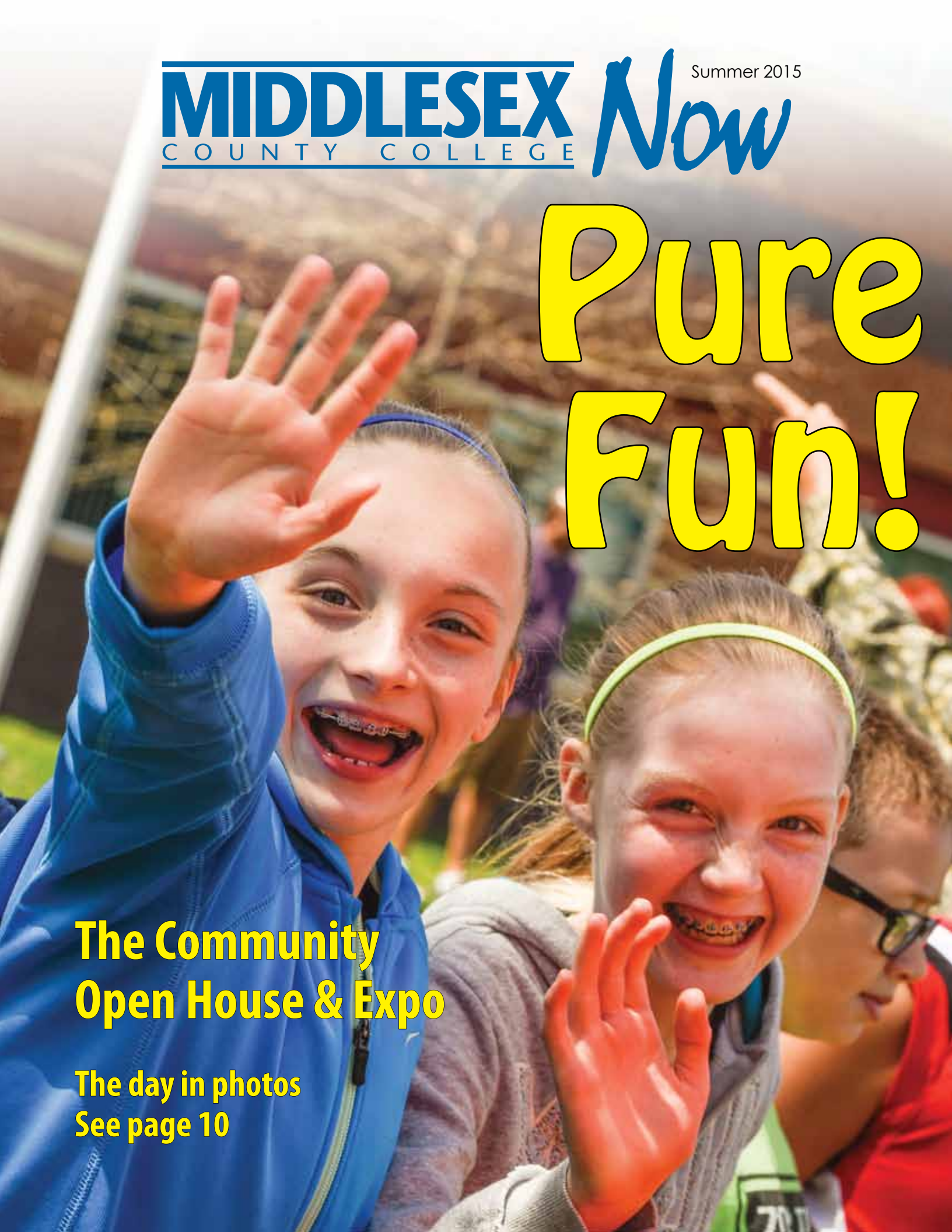


Pure Fun!

The Community Open House & Expo

The day in photos
See page 10



CAMPUS NEWS



Smiling Faces



The Dental Clinic was the home of bright smiles in February as about 60 children from all over the area visited for free dental care during “Give Kids a Smile Day,” a national effort to ensure children have access to quality dental care. Local dentists, hygienists, and MCC dental students and alumnae volunteered their time and talents as they treated kids who received an exam, cleaning, fluoride treatments, sealants, as well as education on how to brush and floss. Above, The Tooth Fairy, otherwise known as Kayla Guido, and dental student Kimberli Heman teach Nityaa Dave the proper way to brush. At right, Dr. Bryan Graye, a dentist in Shrewsbury, treats Isabella Leon.



MIDDLESEX *Now* COUNTY COLLEGE

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Two Grads Receive Nation's Premier Transfer Scholarship

Jonathan Finnerty and Fizza Sulaiman are living examples of the power of persistence. They did not start out as great students at Middlesex County College. But boy, they've made up for it ever since. So much so that the duo just received the largest and most prestigious transfer scholarship in the nation. Mr. Finnerty and Ms. Sulaiman were each awarded a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. It covers up to \$40,000 per year as they transfer on to four-year universities.

Gina Bedoya, a counselor who works with Cooke applicants, said the award covers tuition, fees, books and living expenses.

"It truly is life-changing," she said.

Mr. Finnerty started at MCC in 2007 but quickly decided that college wasn't for him. Ms. Sulaiman arrived in 1999 and did not do well.

But both came back with a vengeance.

Mr. Finnerty is a member of the Metuchen Fire Department; Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for two-year colleges; and Quo Vadis, the student newspaper.

"Quo Vadis is where I first got my start writing and interviewing," he said. "It gave me a chance to express myself." It also allowed him to get to know his professors outside of class.

He is grateful for the scholarship, which will allow him to attend either Rutgers or Columbia University to study philosophy and classical history.

"This wouldn't have happened without the support of my mentors," he said. "Look at any great person throughout history and you realize they really weren't an individual, they had a large support base. Middlesex provided that for me. Each professor I've had has changed some aspect of my thinking." He highlighted Professors John Roskoski, Saul Kelton and Emanuel di Pasquale as especially influential.



From left: College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Mark McCormick, vice president for academic and student affairs; Fizza Sulaiman and Jonathan Finnerty, Jack Kent Cooke scholars; and Gina Bedoya and Sheema Majiduddin, MCC counselors who advise the program on campus.

Ms. Sulaiman left MCC in 2003 but came back determined to succeed.

"Education is the only way up," she said. "I was focused. My time management skills, my study skills – everything changed."

When she received a scholarship from the MCC Foundation, she became even more determined.

"I can't let them down. They trusted me," she said.

She felt the small class size and personal attention she received from her

professors were the keys to her success.

"For me it was the professors," she said. "If they had to stay an extra two hours just to help me understand something, they were willing to do that."

She named Professors George Pangalos, Donna-Marie Gardner and Erin Christensen as mentors.

Ms. Sulaiman, a biology major, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the North Brunswick First Aid and Rescue Squad, as well as Democracy House, the College's service-learning program. She is planning to attend either Columbia University or the University of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Finnerty and Ms. Sulaiman are the third and fourth Jack Kent Cooke scholars in MCC history. Namema Amendi was awarded the scholarship in 2007 and graduated from Columbia University, and Zizhou Zhao received it in 2010 and graduated from the University of California at Berkeley.

The Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship program began in 2002, and is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. This year, 90 students were selected from 2,061 applications.

"We're so proud of them," said College President Joann La Perla-Morales. "Students who graduate from a community college and go on to a four-year college are going to be successful, because they've learned how to be a student and how to succeed."



The Festival of Arts and Sciences, an annual event highlighting the contributions of music, history, science, sociology, theater, poetry and more to society, included a lecture by acclaimed photographer Jordan Matter. The best-selling author visited campus a few weeks before his lecture to create photos that he would discuss at the lecture. Here, he is photographing Michael Korner in the art studio.

Photo by Nicole Kazar

Outstanding Profs Receive Awards for Teaching, Scholarship

Three outstanding professors were recently honored: Benjamin Marshall, professor of English, was selected as the 2015 Faculty Scholar; Barbara Bogner, of the Natural Sciences Department, received the Excellence in Teaching Award; and Sabrina MisirHiralall, of the History and Social Sciences Department, received the Excellence in Teaching Part Time Award.

Professor Marshall is an excellent teacher who has a long, impressive history of artistry and scholarship.

“While he has written poetry, fiction, and has conducted several academic presentations, what most impressed the selection committee was that he is an award-winning playwright,” said Christine Harrington, director of the College’s Center for the Enrichment of Teaching and Learning and the chairperson of the committee.

Professor Bogner has a passion for teaching that is evident through her innovative pedagogical methods.

“There’s no one like Professor Bogner,” Dr. Harrington said. “She does whatever it takes to excite and engage her students, including using costumes and music. There’s no doubt that her students are extremely fortunate to have such a dynamic, caring professor. Professor Bogner is an inspiration to all of us!”

Dr. MisirHiralall spends endless hours preparing lessons that promote critical thinking and works with

students outside of the classroom on many high-level projects.

“She is an amazing adjunct professor who challenges, engages, and supports her students in and outside of the classroom,” Dr. Harrington said. “Her expertise and commitment are a true value to our college.”



From left: College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Benjamin Marshall; Ronald Goldfarb, special assistant to the president; Sabrina MisirHiralall; Barbara Bogner; Mark McCormick, vice president for academic and student affairs; and Christine Harrington, chairperson of the selection committee.

Serving as a Civilian

Marine Veteran Saves a Life at Home

As a U.S. Marine serving in Afghanistan, Joshua Cohen saved the lives of several of his comrades. Returning to the United States, he never thought he'd have that opportunity again. But three years ago, he signed up to be a stem cell donor.

"I was at a blood drive and they had a booth," he said. "All it took was a cheek swab. I figured why not?" He promptly forgot about it.

But last September, representatives from The Gift of Life contacted him to say he was a possible match for a 49-year-old man. He went in for a blood test; by December it was confirmed. And on January 19, the day before spring classes were to begin at MCC, he donated the stem cells. It was a process that took six hours.

"They told me the guy was going to die if I didn't," Mr. Cohen said. "I was happy to do what I could. If I was in that situation, I hope someone would do that for me. For a couple of days of discomfort, it was worth it."

He has no idea who the recipient is, only that the operation was a success and the man is out of the hospital.

Joshua Cohen joined the Marines in April of 2008, looking for some direction in life.



Joshua Cohen

"It seemed like a great adventure," he said. He grew up, saw combat and received Top Gunner, the Good Conduct Medal and a Combat Action Ribbon. Currently, he is in the Reserves.

"We are very proud of all of our nursing students," said Nancy Berger, the program director. "But Josh, who has given selflessly of himself to others – including those he does not know – is the epitome of

what a nurse should be, someone who cares about others and wants to better their lives. He is a true humanitarian."

Mr. Cohen enrolled at Middlesex in 2012. He received a degree in January in Liberal Arts General with highest honors, and he will graduate in January of 2016 with a degree in Psychology and in May of 2016 with a degree in Nursing. He'd like to work as a nurse for the Veterans Administration.

And what's he going to do this summer?

"Between school, donating stem cells and the military, I'm ready to take a summer off," he said.



The New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability (NJHEPS) presented a Certificate of Excellence to MCC for the work of Professor Claire Condie and the Earth Science Club in promoting sustainability efforts on campus. NJHEPS encourages the New Jersey higher education community to practice sustainability and contribute to the state, region and world's emerging understanding of sustainability through teaching, research, outreach, operations and community life. Dr. Condie and her students have worked on a number of initiatives to promote sustainability. They installed a rain garden; added an outside laboratory and a community garden; and are developing the Sustainability Outside Lounge, which includes benches of reclaimed wood pallets and a moss mural. In 2012, a tree that fell during Hurricane Sandy was utilized for a dendrochronology display. Earth Science students designed the display and determined the age of the tree cut. Facilities Management designed the cabinet that houses the 180-year old tree cut. Pictured in the Sustainability Lounge they created, seated, from left: Kourtney Gush, Jessica Heditsch, Jen Garbowski, Samantha Olvera. Standing: Kamran Ahmad, Ryan Fredericks, Brandon Kessler, Dr. Condie, Tim Shamus, Arjunjit Singh and Emily Koester.



From left: Damian Gonzalez, the art director; Kim Silva-Martinez, the author; and Nicole Kazar, the photo editor.

“endless possibilities” Documents 50 Years of MCC Achievements

Three members of the Middlesex County College class of 2014 have collaborated on a history of the College. “endless possibilities: Middlesex County College 1964-2014” was written by Kim Silva-Martinez, the photo editor is Nicole Kazar and the art director is Damian Gonzalez.

“Middlesex is a unique college, with a fascinating history and a rich legacy,” Ms. Silva-Martinez said. “This was truly a labor of love.”

The book is divided into sections by decades. It actually touches on pre-college history, as the land was part of the Raritan Arsenal, an Army base. It covers the conversion of the property; the public relations campaign in the county to convince the residents of the need for a county college; and hiring the first president, Frank Chambers.

It then spans the decades from the 1960s to the 2010s, featuring faculty, staff and students. Each section includes a two-page spread on a graduate or faculty member, as well as smaller features on other prominent members of the College community. It is sprinkled with photos throughout the years. The text includes smaller stories on students, faculty and staff during those eras. In addition, there are separate sections on the library, athletics, student life, the student newspaper and the MCC Foundation.

Published by the College, the 152-page book, which runs 40,000 words, is available at the MCC Blue Colt Bookstore. A copy, autographed by the three creators, was placed in the time capsule that will be opened in 2064, the 100th anniversary of MCC. College President Joann La

Perla-Morales inscribed the book:

“Fifty years ago the founders of our college saw ‘endless possibilities’ for a community college in Middlesex County,” she wrote. “Today we honor their vision and their dedication.

“Our collective memories bring us to the present. Our dreams will guide us for the next 50 years.

“This collection of memories is dedicated to those who left us so much and those who are yet to come to this special place that is Middlesex County College.”

Ms. Silva-Martinez is now a student at Montclair State University; Ms. Kazar graduated in 2014 with a degree in photography and in May 2015 with a degree in Graphic Arts at Middlesex; and Mr. Gonzalez, who also graduated with a degree in Graphic Arts, is the graphic services coordinator in MCC’s Office of Marketing Communications.

The book won the highest honor, Platinum, from the Hermes Creative Awards program, an international competition that was judged by the Association of Marketing and Communications Professionals.

“I think Kim, Nicole and Damian have done a fabulous job in capturing the fabric of Middlesex County College,” said Patrick Madama, vice president for institutional advancement at MCC. “It is very well written, and the photographs and design work together to create a wonderful tapestry. I think anyone who enjoys local history or cares about MCC will love it.”



Students from Community Middle School in the West Windsor-Plainsboro School District won the middle school division of the 23rd Annual State Finals of the New Jersey Science Olympiad held at MCC in March. Here, students Devanei Solai, left, and Shivani Prusty prepare for an event called "Air Trajectory." Students from 26 middle schools and 25 high schools participated in this competition designed to encourage students' interest in science and technology. The top teams from regional tournaments held earlier this year went to the state finals; the state winners – Community Middle School and West Windsor Plainsboro North – went on to the national championship at the University of Nebraska in May.

Program in Public Health to Begin in the Fall

MCC will be offering a new program in Public Health starting in the fall of 2015. The Associate of Science Degree will allow students to transfer to Montclair State, Rutgers and William Paterson University under articulation agreements being developed.

"This is a growing field that leads to good-paying jobs," said Jeffrey Herron, interim dean of professional studies at Middlesex. "The implementation of the Affordable Care Act has created a demand for professionals in this field. Public health professionals investigate and contain disease outbreaks, manage environmental hazards, educate children and adults about healthy lifestyles, analyze data and policies to inform the public about health issues, and

respond to public health emergencies. It is a field for those who want to help others."

Job prospects are expected to increase rapidly over the next few years, particularly in positions such as health educators, epidemiologists, environmental technicians and medical and health services managers.

The program was developed in concert with Brookdale Community College, the County College of Morris and Mercer County Community College. Dean Herron said creating the consortium made it less expensive to develop the program and easier to negotiate the articulation agreements with the four-year schools.

At Middlesex, the program combines several existing courses with a new one, Principles of Public Health.

MCC Receives Grant for Assistive Technology

MCC received a grant for almost \$15,000 from Disability Rights New Jersey's Assistive Technology Advocacy Center. The grant will allow MCC to enhance and expand its own Assistive Technology Lab in Johnson Learning Center on the Edison campus. The Assistive Technology Lab, which is administered by Seham Mohamed, lab coordinator, offers a variety of hardware and software to students with disabilities.

"The expansion of the lab will help MCC meet the needs of students who are blind or visually impaired," said Elaine Daidone, counselor for students with disabilities.

"This is critical for students' success and access at the College."

The enhancements include: Three 15-inch portable video magnifiers; two magnifiers that link to computer tablets; two talking graphing calculators; and one talking scientific calculator. The equipment will be used in the lab and available for students to borrow.

DRNJ's Assistive Technology Advocacy Center works to expand information about and access to assistive technology services to people with disabilities throughout New Jersey. Each year DRNJ awards a number of mini-grants to expand New Jersey's assistive technology network.

MREs Can Be Delicious *(Or at Least Look That Way)*

The assignment sounded simple: create a photograph of food. Make it look tempting and delicious. A snap, right? But Travis Barrett added another challenge. He decided to shoot the food he was served as a U.S. Marine. Called Meals Ready to Eat (MREs), they are anything but enticing.

“But they look a lot more delectable when you haven’t eaten anything in a while,” he said.

The photo turned out so well that it will now hang in a display at the National Veterans Center in Washington D.C. organized by the Student Veterans of America. Called “Warpaint,” the exhibit recognizes and encourages artistic talent among Post-9/11 veterans. There was one grand prize winner and two finalists, plus 37 others so honored.

Mr. Barrett served in the U.S. Marine

Corps as an infantryman deployed to Iraq, Europe and Africa.

“I got introduced to MREs at Boot Camp,” he said.

Mr. Barrett is a commercial photography major and says the assignment provided photographic obstacles.

“It was more challenging because of the different surfaces,” he said.

He enjoys the photography program at MCC.

“It is excellent,” he said. “This class has really helped to round out my skills as a photographer.”

The Student Veterans of America was founded in 2008 and now includes 1,100 chapters, including MCC. Since that time, more than one million veterans have returned home to pursue a postsecondary degree or certificate.



Notables

Kathleen Smith-Wenning, the Rutgers-MCC liaison for the Respiratory Care program, is also an MCC adjunct teaching courses in anthropology and sociology. Each summer, she travels to Oaxaca, Mexico, to volunteer with Oaxaca Street Children Grassroots, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of the most impoverished children in the area. She was invited to serve on the Board of Directors and to provide medical oversight for the Arkansas-based organization. “Most of the children we serve work late into the night selling cigarettes and candy,” she told the Home News Tribune. “They are profoundly poor by our standards: They live in homes with cement floors, corrugated walls and roofs, one light bulb and no running water. Their beds are floor mats. But they have a different type of wealth: A strong, family-centered community.”

Susan Altman, associate professor in the Visual, Performing and Media Arts Department, was appointed to the Professional Practices Committee of the College Art Association for a three-year term. The College Art Association is the national group for art history and studio arts. The Professional Practices Committee works on creating the standards for the profession relating to placement and recruitment, scholarly stands and ethics in art history, studio practice, tenure and promotion

procedures, and studio health and safety. Professor Altman has been a member of the association since 1983. In addition, her work was included in an exhibition of the Society of American Graphic Artists (SAGA) held at the Old Print Shop in New York. SAGA is a national organization of contemporary artists who work in a variety of hand-pulled printmaking media.

Mark Thompson, director of the Library, was named to the New Jersey Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Council for a two-year term. The council assists state library staff in establishing annual grant criteria, priorities and categories and in evaluating activities funded through the LSTA programs.

Dr. Virgil H. Blanco, professor of ESL/Languages and Cultures, has been elected co-president of the New Jersey Fulbright Association at its annual meeting at the Princeton School of Mathematics and Sciences.

Dr. Tracey Siegel, coordinator of the Nursing Program, recently received her Ed.D. from Walden University, and has also been named the editor of “Teaching and Learning in Nursing,” which is the publication of the Organization of Associate Degree Nursing.



Carlos Morales with Phalguni Ghosh, associate chair of the Natural Sciences Department, who mentored him. The biology and chemistry research initiatives are supported by a grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb.

“Extraordinary Student” Researches Ebola

Carlos Morales wants you to be wary of Ebola, but not frightened.

“You should not fear Ebola, it is hard to contract,” he said. “Be aware, but not frightened to death.”

And the chemistry major has some promising news: at least one drug, called “ZMapp,” looks promising in fighting the disease.

“It binds to the virus and keeps it from touching the host cell,” he said. “So far it has worked a few times in curing Ebola, and scientists are trying to perfect it. I think it’s going to work.”

The study of Ebola is Mr. Morales’ topic that he delivered at the Arts and Sciences Festival in April. The festival is an annual month-long event highlighting the contribu-

tions of music, history, science, art, sociology, theater, poetry and more to society.

Mr. Morales always liked science, but fell in love with chemistry while a student at Piscataway High School. After graduation he plans to transfer to the University of Toronto – he has already been accepted – and focus on biochemistry.

Phalguni Ghosh, associate assistant chair of natural sciences, says Mr. Morales has a great future ahead of him.

“He’s an extraordinary student who understands concepts on a graduate level,” he said. “He has an exceptional potential to become a scientist. I’m trying to convince him to go on for a Ph.D. and work at a major research university.”



The MCC step team, called Exitium, won first place at the fifth annual “Step or Die” competition at Temple University in Philadelphia in April. The team had earlier won several regional competitions and faced the Princeton Steppers at the Temple competition in the finals.

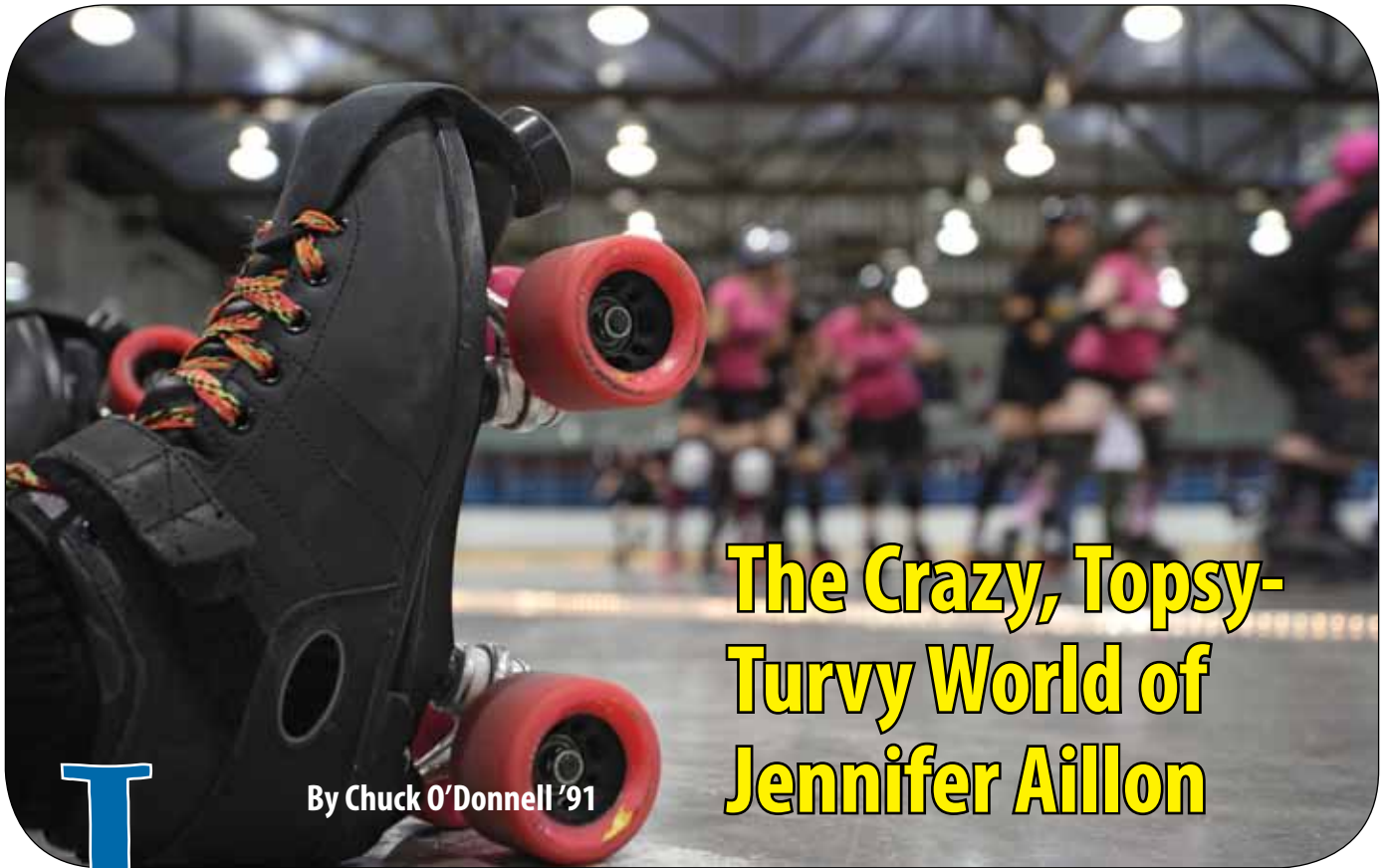
“Two students, Aliyah Knighton and Charles Jones, founded Exitium in the fall of 2013 as a means of expressing excellence through the African art of stepping,” said Lori Johnson, the advisor. “With a purpose to educate, entertain and excel, Exitium has gained much recognition on campus.” In front is Lauren Villanueva. Standing from left: Rodney Green, Aliyah Knighton, Imani Wheeler, Shayla Henderson, Kaila Smith, Nina Scott and Charles Jones.

Smiles + Learning + Fun = Expo

Blue skies met smiling faces at MCC's Community Open House and Expo, the signature event of its 50th anniversary celebration. Kids enjoyed the pony rides and petting zoo, bubble soccer, face painting, carnival games and story time. Activities aimed at adults included the classic car show, British Invasion Tribute Band, blood drive, academic and continuing education demonstrations, poetry readings, and much more. About 3,000 people visited the campus and had a great time.







By Chuck O'Donnell '91

The Crazy, Topsy-Turvy World of Jennifer Aillon

Jennifer Aillon likens the chaos inside a roller derby jam to the plight of a travel-weary straphanger.

At rush hour.

Packed on a bus.

With a bunch of ornery strangers.

“You’re just being jostled around,” she said. “The driver is hitting a lot of bumps and you’re bumping back and forth into each other. You don’t have much choice in the matter, there’s someone that’s going to bump into you, there’s someone who’s standing too close to you and you kind of have to deal with it.”

“You have to either try to push them out or hit them out. You technically don’t do that on the bus, but sometimes you want people to get out of your way. You know, to give yourself some extra room on the bus.”

Ms. Aillon has been blocking, jamming and going elbow pad to elbow pad with all comers with the South Brunswick-based New Jersey Hellrazors for five years. They’re a group of dedicated weekend warriors who typically play teams from New York, Pennsylvania and the Jersey Shore from early spring to late fall.

And while the Hellrazors are taking a break to train some newcomers – fresh meat in roller derby parlance – Ms. Aillon can’t wait for practices on Sunday and Tuesday nights at the Kendall Park Roller Rink because she gets to trade in the 9-to-5 grind for the rough and tumble sport.

On the track, she’s “Thiza Glory,” a powerful skater and blocker who embraces roller derby’s colorful history with her non de plume and her trademark black fishnet stockings and black skirt.

Those brave enough to lace up the skates understand this is not a sport for the faint of heart. Ms. Aillon has fallen flat on her back, sprained an ankle and once had such a severe case of rink rash when she slid along the track that it left a painful mark on her leg in the pattern of her fishnets.

The rule of thumb is never push an injury to the point

where you won't be able to play the next game. That said, in roller derby, it's a badge of courage to push through bumps and bruises.

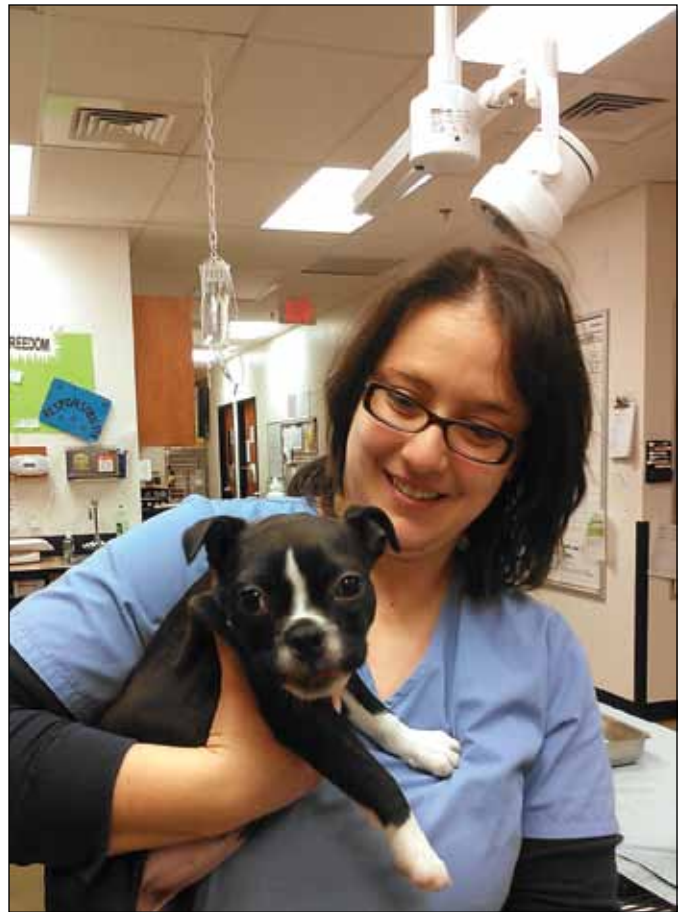
"I've had friends who have played in different leagues, softball, things like that," Ms. Aillon said. "You injure yourself, you're pretty much out nursing that injury. We try to be on the floor as much as we can, skating as much as we can."

While she might be as fierce as a lioness on the track, she's as gentle as a pussycat off it. Maybe that's because she gets to care for them and many of God's other creatures as a veterinarian's assistant at the South Brunswick Animal Hospital.

She began her time at Middlesex County College by taking music classes. She would sometimes dream of being the singer in her own rock band. But when her uncle told her about the school's Continuing Education Veterinary Assistant program, she had found her calling.

Whether she's giving a dog fluids or running blood work on a cat, Ms. Aillon says her work warms her heart – and she's thankful for the foundation she got at MCC.

"It's rewarding to help someone take care of their pet better, or something as simple as, 'Oh now your pet unfortunately has diabetes' and you have to teach them to give insulin to their pet and show them they can take care of their pet. It's just a matter of having one show you how to do it," Ms. Aillon said. "It just makes everyone better. They realize, 'Oh we don't have to give this pet up now. We can keep it. It's part of our family. We can take care of it.'"



By day, Jennifer Aillon is a caring, compassionate veterinary assistant. On the track, it's another story. For more information about the Hellrazors, visit www.njhellrazors.com

Photo courtesy of Jennifer Aillon



Photo courtesy of Marc Rojas

From One Generation to the Next

An organization of military veterans who live at an adult community in Monroe Township recently donated \$4,000 to MCC's Center for Veterans Services for course materials and other educational expenses that student-veterans may face. The group, called the Renaissance at Monroe Veterans Club, indicated they hoped to make similar contributions on an annual basis, and were pleased that 100 percent of their donations will go to the Middlesex student veterans.

College President Joann La Perla-Morales thanked representatives of the club for their generosity to this newest generation of veterans. Richard Feldman, coordinator of the MCC Center for Veterans Services, expressed his appreciation as well.

"This will help a number of our student-veterans as they transition to civilian life," he said.

Seated, from left: Mel Nudelman, club vice president; Nick Burghgraf, president; Noel Schleifman, treasurer. Standing: Bob Friedman, president emeritus; Richard Feldman; Robert Giorgi, the incoming president of the MCC Veterans and Servicemembers Association; and Paul Lazaro '11, assistant in the center.



Congressman Frank Pallone hosted a forum on President Obama's proposal to offer free community college tuition to responsible students. The forum included speeches by three MCC students. From left: student O'Shane Rennie, Freeholder Kenneth Armwood, Freeholder Blanquita Valenti, student Karen Alvarez, Congressman Frank Pallone Jr., Freeholder Director Ronald Rios, student Barbara Roberts and College President Joann La Perla-Morales. New Jersey Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan Jr. also spoke at the conference.

Outstanding Student

Jennifer Stein Aumack, a student in the Dietetic Technology program, received the Outstanding Dietetics Student Award at the New Jersey Dietetic Association Annual Meeting in May. The award recognizes student achievement in accredited programs. They must have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, and professional participation in a student dietetic association and community service activities.

In Memoriam

The College mourns the passing of three members of the College community.

Elliot Pasternack, professor of history and one of the founding faculty members at MCC, passed away February 17. He spent 46 years teaching the subject that he loved before retiring in 2012. He understood and taught the big picture issues and always focused on the development of critical thinking skills in his students. But he also loved the detail, even the minutia, of the American story, amazing his colleagues and students with his knowledge of names, places, and dates – from the important to the obscure.

Joan Annette, an administrative assistant in the School Relations Office, passed away February 26. Before beginning at Middlesex in 1987, she had a career as a disk jockey in Plainfield, and then assistant to Steve Allen and the vice president of daytime television for NBC, working with luminaries such as Elvis Presley, Fats Domino, Don Knotts, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme. She finished her NBC career in finance. She graduated from New York University in 1986 with High Honors and a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Marilyn Dunne, an administrative assistant in the Department of Continuing Education, passed away on February 27. Before joining Continuing Education (formerly Corporate and Community Education), she worked in Admissions, Financial Aid and Public Information. She started her career at MCC in 1974 and retired in 2004. She was an avid traveler, reader and baseball fan. She enjoyed spending time with her family and following her grandchildren's activities.

FOUNDATION REPORT

The Professor Elliot Pasternack Endowed Scholarship

Lynn Pasternack has generously provided a gift of \$27,000 to establish The Professor Elliot Pasternack Endowed Scholarship in memory of her husband, Elliot. Professor Pasternack was a founding faculty member and spent 46 years as MCC's primary teacher of American history prior to his 2012 retirement. Professor Pasternack passed away in February 2015 and The Professor Elliot Pasternack Endowed Scholarship will ensure his memory lives on in perpetuity. The scholarships will be awarded to full-time students majoring in History.



Diane Conboy, senior vice president at Provident Bank and the treasurer of the Middlesex County College Foundation, was presented a Women in Business Award by the radio station Magic 98.3 in May. Ms. Conboy joined Provident Bank in 2007 with the responsibility of managing commercial loans over \$3 million and providing financial resources to business owners and nonprofit organizations. She has been employed in commercial lending for the past 25 years and was previously a vice president with Ocean-First Bank. She also volunteers as a key member of the Board of Trustees of the MCC Foundation, serving as treasurer and chair of the Finance & Allocations Committee. She is an energetic contributor to special events and participates in all fundraising initiatives. The award was presented by Chris McCoy, one of Magic's on-air personalities. Other winners included Lina Llona, president of the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce; Pamela Christy, of JFK Medical Center; and Shirley Lopez, owner of Burn Fitness Studios.

Walter & Louise Sutcliffe Foundation Provides Generous Gift

Trustees of the Walter & Louise Sutcliffe Foundation, managed by Wells Fargo Wealth Management, provided a generous gift of \$10,000 for Nursing scholarships for 2015-2016. The Walter & Louise Sutcliffe Foundation Scholarships will provide financial assistance of \$2,000 to five Nursing students who would otherwise be unable to pursue their degrees, or whose academic progress would be delayed or impeded due to work, family and financial obligations. These scholarships provide opportunities for students who have high hopes but who face financial barriers to achieve their educational and career goals.

The Auxiliary of JFK Medical Center Foundation Funds Scholarship

Through fundraising programs and special events, the Auxiliary of the JFK Medical Center Foundation provides financial support for students interested in pursuing their educational and career goals in health-related or science disciplines. The Auxiliary of JFK provided a gift of \$2,000 to fund the JFK Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarships to support full-time Health Technologies students from Metuchen, Edison or Woodbridge.

Corporate Partners Renew Support

Corporate Partners enhance MCC Foundation's resources and help meet the challenge of providing financial opportunities for students to attend MCC and fulfill their educational and career goals. Through support of annual events, the following corporate partners have renewed their commitment to help the Foundation in assisting a growing number of students.

Corporate Mission Partners (\$10,000):

Johnson & Johnson
Investors Bank
The Provident Bank Foundation

Mission Partner (\$5,000):

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

Associate Mission Partner (\$2,500)

Stewart Business Systems

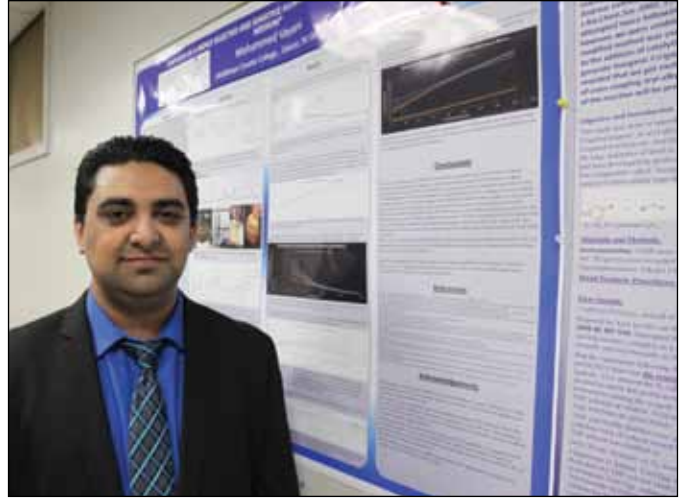


From left: Dorota Pietrusinski, Hendy Zelishovsky, Jenna Boni and Christine Walters with Ashley Atkins, manager of corporate contributions and community relations at J&J.

Johnson & Johnson 50th Anniversary Awards – A Very Special Gift

Loyal and generous supporters Johnson & Johnson provided an additional gift of \$10,000 in recognition of the College's 50th anniversary. Two graduates of the Nursing program and two from Dental Hygiene were selected to receive a graduation gift of \$2,500 for their outstanding performance in completing their studies. These commemorative one-time awards were made to Nursing graduates Christine Walters and Jenna Boni, and to Dental graduates Dorota Pietrusinski and Hendy Zelishovsky at the recent Honors Convocation. The recipients are required to return to campus during the next academic year to make a presentation to current or prospective students in their fields of study.

Two MCC students received Alumni Association Scholarship Awards this spring. Lia-Victoria Vega received the \$750 scholarship for academic excellence, and Edward Zubrowski was awarded the \$500 Alumni Association Scholarship for a dependent of an alumnus. Ms. Vega, a Nursing major, volunteers with the Dunellen Rescue Squad. Mr. Zubrowski is the son of Christine (Hanson) Zubrowski who graduated from MCC in 1998. His older sister Lisa also graduated from MCC last spring. He is majoring in Criminal Justice-Police Option and hopes to become a State Police trooper. The two recipients are flanking Dorothy Bitetto, president of the MCC Alumni Association.



Bristol-Myers Squibb Supports Student Research

For the past two years, Bristol-Myers Squibb has provided generous funding for student research initiatives at MCC. On April 17, student Mohamed Vayani, whose research was funded by Bristol-Myers Squibb, received the second best research poster award at STEM C2 Research Summit held at Bergen Community College. Mr. Vayani's poster was selected from a total of 41 posters and 16 presentations contributed by 19 institutions including NJIT and Rutgers. The MCC Natural Sciences Department had six student posters at the Summit; this is the second year that student research abstracts have been accepted for the Bergen STEM Summit.

Please Support the Annual Fund

Your donation to the Annual Fund helps the MCC Foundation fulfill its mission of providing scholarships for MCC students. Gifts of all sizes make a difference!

Please make your gift online at www.mcc-foundation.org or call 732-906-2564. Thank you!

Additions and Corrections to Donors Lists

The 2013-2014 Annual Report, which was distributed in the last issue of “Middlesex Now,” contained errors and omissions corrected below. In addition, the fiscal year net assets were incorrectly reported. They are: \$12,116,496.

We apologize to our donors for the inaccurate reporting of their generous support.

Tribute Gifts to the MCC Foundation

Memory & Honor

In Memory of Ele Bates
H. Wayne Brady

In Memory of Paul A. Bachmann
Simon I. Aloff
Maria DeLucia
MCC Math Department
Frank Mento
Michael A. Miniere
Kathleen B. Shay

In Memory of Frank M. Chambers
Frances H. Blakey
Elizabeth C. Brodach
Elizabeth H. Dufour
Frederica A. Harley
John A. Hoffman
Paige B. L’Hommedieu
Jerome Shindelman

In Memory of George T. Clay
Sally K. D’Aloisio
Michele Menditto

In Memory of Ellen Finkelstein
Ronald C. Goldfarb

In Memory of Georgina Lage-Gonzalez
Gary Abbott
Maria DeLucia
Pamela C. Hedberg
Vicki P. Kahn
Mary A. Lynch
Middlesex County College Faculty Union
Janet Peleg

In Memory of Dorothy Kelemen
Robert M. Fishco
Ronald C. Goldfarb

In Memory of George Kocinski
Rose Kocinski

In Memory of Samuel I. Landis
Johnson & Johnson - Matching Gifts

In Memory of Mel Lerer
Robert M. Fishco

In Memory of James J. Mikusi
Saurav Banerjee

In Memory of Dee Nolan
Robert M. Fishco

In Memory of Martin Pearlman
Elizabeth A. Jurewicz
Jack L. Waintraub

In Memory of Andrew D. Randolph
Elaine M. Randolph

In Memory of Marlene Rauchbach
Robert M. Fishco

In Memory of Jim Sawyer
Robert M. Fishco

In Memory of Barbara Schaefer
Robert M. Fishco

In Memory of Joseph Servon
Neil F. Kennett

In Memory of Francis A. Spano
Paul Dwyer
Ronald C. Goldfarb
Pamela C. Hedberg
Johnson & Johnson - Matching Gifts
John Murray
Kathleen B. Shay

In Memory of Robert Urbanski
Kathleen B. Shay

In Memory of Ida Waintraub
Robert M. Fishco

In Honor of Elisabeth A. Altruda
Brenda Hagan

In Honor of David Brogan
Douglas R. Kuiken
Nicole F. Lopresti

Scholarships and awards established by, or in tribute to, members of the faculty and staff include:

Goldelie and Stanley Schneider Scholarship
Menlo Engineering Scholarship

Scholarships and awards established by, or in tribute to, members of the Boards of Trustees of Middlesex County College and the MCC Foundation, include:

Blahe Battaglia Family Scholarship
Ernest A. Johnson Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Scholarships and awards established in memory of MCC students include:

Ron Romano Academic Achievement Award

Scholarships and awards established by, or in tribute to, MCC alumni include:

Barbara A. and Samuel E. Wike Memorial Scholarship
Shirley Zall Memorial Endowed Scholarship

The Middlesex County College Foundation Gratefully Acknowledges all Donors

July 1, 2013 thru June 30, 2014

Mattie McCarthy

MIDDLESEX GOLD: A Community Salute



MCC glittered on the evening of March 28 as supporters gathered at the "MIDDLESEX GOLD" gala to celebrate the College's 50th Anniversary. The College Center was elegantly decorated to host a sell-out crowd of over 300 guests, including faculty, alumni, trustees, administrators, elected officials, students, and representatives from a wide array of businesses and communities. From left: Dorothy K. Power, chairman of the Middlesex County College Board of Trustees; Paige B. and Elizabeth L'Hommedieu; and Mat and Stephanie Spano. Mat is a professor of English and the son of founding faculty member and dean Frank Spano.



Above, Dr. Ronald Goldfarb, special assistant to the president, with his wife, Marianne. Above right: Middlesex County Freeholder Director Ronald Rios (far left), Freeholder Kenneth Armwood (back, center) and Freeholder Charles Tomaro (far right) joined students (l-r) Kimberly Guerriero, Raja Munjal, Diane Vanderhoof, Michael Spadoro, Victoria Okudoh and Josephine Okudoh.

MCC Supporters Through the Decades

Frank Deiner, left, was a Middlesex County freeholder in 1964 and he led the group that secured the land that would become Middlesex County College. He is with Paige B. L'Hommedieu, longtime MCC supporter, and son of founding Board Chair Paige D. L'Hommedieu.





The Brookdale Big Band kept the spirit light as they entertained with dance music.



From left: Evelyn Rosa, Melissa Rosa, Miguel Rodriguez and Carmen Oshiro.



Alumnus Mark Dzuban '73 and his wife, Shawn, visited from Pennsylvania.



From left: Hope-Claire Holbeck, Claire Pean, Mary Pat Maciolek, Risa Levi, John Kruszewski, Lynn Tobin and Elaine Buscemi.

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

AlumNotes

Ric Sarno '73 is a retired freelance artist and has been on several cruises. He has worked in the packaging field for 25 years where he has had many positive experiences.

Jeff Gottesman '75 works as a travel agent and is an avid bowler and fitness advocate.

George R. Bandics '78 served as police director at MCC for two years and taught a criminal justice course for several semesters. He enjoyed interacting with students and giving criminal justice presentations. George spent many years with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, retiring as deputy chief. He now works as a contract investigator vetting candidates for employment. His grandson Kyle will be enrolling at Virginia Tech this summer. George's three sons are hard at work in various occupations, and he and his wife are very proud of all their family members. And he still finds time to play a little golf!

Michael Blake '79 earned a B.S. in Marketing at Rider College. He began his career at Uarco Business Forms, later moving on to Hyco Printing, and then formed a partnership with a computer supply company in Upper Saddle River. Michael started Pro Form Printing, Inc. in 1990 in his basement in Basking Ridge, relocated to a home he built in Bridgewater and then on to Pennsylvania where he now resides. He built his business by keeping costs low and passing those savings along to his customers, and he is now celebrating 25 years in business. Pro Form Printing, Inc. provides specialized services for the medical, financial, manufacturing, and insurance industries. Michael is single with one son.

Stephanie DiAngelo '90 is self-employed teaching stress reduction techniques and mindfulness meditation and yoga in corporate settings.

Assemblyman Joseph Daniels '90 earned a B.A. in Visual Arts from Rutgers University and is an IT consultant and owner of Network Blade LLC. He served on the Township of Franklin Planning Board from 1997-2010, the Franklin Township Commissioner of Fire District No. 1 Board from 2000-2006, and he has been a volunteer firefighter for 22 years. In 2014, Joe was elected to the New Jersey General Assembly for District 17 and serves on the Law and Public Safety, and Telecommunications and Utilities committees.

Maria Tajés '93 is a full professor at William Paterson University, and is the Spanish program director and assistant chair of the Department of Languages and Cultures.

Rosario Maimone '01 earned a Bachelor's Degree in Economics at Rutgers University in 2003. Rosario is currently employed on Wall Street as an associate analyst for Morgan

Alumni President Honored for 45 Years of Service

Dorothy Bitetto '69, president of the Alumni Association, was honored at an alumni reception for 45 years of volunteer service to the College. She was presented with a framed copy of the resolution of the College Board of Trustees, which approved the resolution at its February meeting.

Ms. Bitetto has been involved as a volunteer with MCC since she graduated in 1969; she was a founding member of the Alumni Association and is currently the president. Over the years, she has worked extensively on numerous events, including the Alumni Art Exhibit. She played key roles in planning and implementing alumni reunions in 1983, 1991 and 2013, and she worked on the College's Community Open House and Expo, which was held April 19.

She also served on the College Foundation's Advisory Board and supports its fundraising efforts.

"This was an amazing surprise to be honored with such a special distinction coming from the Board of Trustees," Ms. Bitetto said. "What I do for MCC is out of my love and devotion to the College. I am proud to be called an MCC alumna."



Dorothy Bitetto, left, with College President Joann La Perla-Morales.

Stanley. He volunteers at food banks, helps to restore parks in New York City, and enjoys working out at the gym.

Kristoffer Engel '04 graduated from Kean University with a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration with honors in 2013. Kristoffer worked in tax services in between earning his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees, and in local and state government and higher education during and after his Master's program. He plans to continue his career in education. He has volunteered for the public service honor society, Pi Alpha Alpha, serving as vice president, secretary, and currently as president.

Crystal Roach '07 is a library assistant at the Edison Public Library. Crystal plans to be married later this year.

Jonathan Rosario '07 and his wife Shannon are the proud parents of son, Jaxson, born on March 31 at 5:30 p.m. weighing 8 lbs. 12 oz., measuring 21 inches. Congratulations to Jonathan and Shannon!



Jaxson Rosario

Edith Juarez '09 came to the USA from Mexico and recently graduated from Rider University with a Presidential Award. Edith plans to enroll in law school.

Jaclyn Squillace Olsen '09 is a new mother to her baby, Nicholas.

Kehul Patel '10 received the award for Outstanding Laboratorian of the Year from the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science - New Jersey. He worked at JFK Hospital until recently, graduated from Kean University and is now employed as a supervisor at Summit Medical Group.

Miguel Saldana '10 and **Christine Facarile '11** visited campus on April 10. Miguel proposed to Christina in the exact spot where they had first met eight years earlier. Family and friends—and faculty and staff—were on hand to help the couple celebrate.

Romeoryan B. Arbiol '11 is a Health Science graduate and Phi Theta Kappa alumna. She was promoted to practice operations supervisor of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Community Health Center at the University Medical Center of Princeton at Plainsboro, where she is responsible for the coordination of a multi-specialty practice. Romeoryan is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Business Administration at the University of Scranton, and a Master's Degree in Information Systems at Drexel University.

Richard Llanos '11 earned a bachelor's degree in Business from Kean University and was recently on campus representing Santander Bank at Career Day.

Dorna Edwards '13 enrolled at MCC after having children and says she enjoyed many wonderful professors. Dorna is currently employed at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School as management assistant for the professor and chairman in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. Her husband is now employed in Georgia, and the family will soon be fully relocating. Dorna previously lived in London and traveled all over Europe. In the future, she and her husband plan to resume their travels. Her hobbies include cooking, entertaining and writing. Dorna recently suffered a near death experience and is currently writing a book about it.

Erica Stolte '13 was recently crowned Miss New Jersey East Coast USA 2015. She is currently in the Art Education program at Montclair State University. Erica has worked in day care/preschool for the past three years.

Jacqueline Tamashiro '13 graduated from Seton Hall University with a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice & Sociology. While at SHU, she was inducted into the Sociology Honor Society. Jacqueline recently applied to grad school to complete a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice. She says MCC was the best choice for her. She had a wonderful experience with her professors.

Antoinette Dormer '14 is a realtor associate at Century 21 Burke Realty.

Evelyn Fuertes '14 is an avid food and nutrition blogger and health coach and came to MCC to earn her Dietetic Technician, Registered (DTR) credential. Upon completing the Dietetic Technology Program, Evelyn was hired by the Community FoodBank of New Jersey as the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) coordinator where she combines her passion for nutrition while serving New Jersey's underserved population.

Jessica Norberg '14 recently accepted a position at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway as a nutrition technician.

Melissa Perez '14 came to MCC with a background as a regional manager for a healthcare facilities financial management company. After graduating from the Dietetic Technology Program, Melissa accepted a newly created position in the dining facilities at Rutgers University's Behavioral Health Center where she works closely with registered dietitians providing food service and nutrition expertise.

Kendra Thatcher '14 came to MCC after finding a passion for food and nutrition while working as an associate producer for the Food Network. Kendra did her field experience course at RWJUH and, upon completion of MCC's Dietetic Technology Program, was given a position supervising the Food Service Department. Kendra then went on to earn her DTR credential (Dietitian Technician, Registered) and was hired by Matheny Medical and Education Center which specializes in educating and providing medical care for children and adults with disabilities. Kendra most recently accepted a position as a coordinator for a media production company in its pharmaceutical and medical division.

In Memoriam

Eileen Weissman '73
Thelma Coffey '82
Janet Carson '86
Raymond Torres

Making History



Bryant Webb and Quorea Pearyer each reached 1000-point milestones this year. It is believed that they are the first male/female duo to reach that threshold in the same year at a two-year school. Mr. Webb, who scored his 1000th-point February 18, finished the year with 1096 points; Ms. Peayer scored her 1000th on January 13 and ended with 1309 points.



Peter Han



Matthew Lavan slides in under the tag.

The **baseball** team finished just under .500 and barely missed the playoffs this year. The team was very young, and expect to have a number of quality players back next season.

The **Softball** team also finished just outside of the play-off race. Jillian Reed and Erin Stvan made the All-Region and All-Garden State Athletic Conference teams. Brittany Clayton was also named to the All-Garden State Athletic Conference team. Erin Stvan was named to the NJCAA All-American team.



Jillian Reed

Track and Field had nine athletes qualify for the national meet, including William Surber, Joseph McNulty, Derek Dorsey, Arthur Jenkins, David Caamano, Daniel Crawford, Tyler Barlett, Kimberly Campbell and Stephanie Zeng. Joe McNulty finished third in the 400 hurdles.



Nathalia Arocha applies the tag.

2600 Woodbridge Ave.
Post Office Box 3050
Edison, NJ 08818-3050

Change Service Requested



A beautiful vase, designed by student Eva Cheng, will grace the President's Office for the next year. The piece, called "Harmony" is on loan from the artist until April of 2016. From left, College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Susan Altman, assistant chair of Visual, Performing, and Media Arts; Ms. Cheng; and her professor, Theo Uliano.