



Jasmine Lytle signs the C4 (Community College Completion Challenge) pledge as Phi Theta Kappa Co-President Yana Burlachka encourages her.

## C4: Motivating Students to Get That Degree

A student-led, student-run effort to encourage Middlesex County College students to complete their education started this fall. It is being led by the MCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

“Statistics show the surest way to land a job in the field you want is to finish college and earn a degree or certificate,” said Ron Rubanick, co-president of PTK. We hope this effort will motivate students to graduate from Middlesex and then, if they choose, transfer as a junior and complete a bachelor’s degree.”

Those who sign the completion pledge and then graduate from MCC will be honored with the Community College Completion Challenge logo

**Phi Theta Kappa is taking the lead in inspiring students to graduate**

next to their name in the Commencement program.

In addition, administrators, faculty and staff have also been asked to sign the pledge, committing themselves to do whatever they can to facilitate completion of student credentials.

Learn more at [www.ccompletion-corps.org](http://www.ccompletion-corps.org).

At a White House Summit, President Obama called for community

colleges to produce an additional five million degrees and certificates in the next 10 years, part of a goal to restore the United States as the world’s leader in college graduates. The U.S. is now ranked 16th among industrialized countries in the percentage of citizens holding higher education credentials.

Students who complete their degrees or certificates will earn an average of \$500,000 more over the course of their careers than their peers who did not. In addition, individuals with credentials are less likely to become unemployed than their co-workers who did not earn credentials.

“We’re trying to motivate students to graduate,” said Yana Burlachka, PTK co-president. “Don’t drop out. Don’t leave early. Get that degree.”

# MCC Again Named Military Friendly School

Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life, has named Middlesex County College to the coveted Military Friendly Schools® list for the second consecutive year. The list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans and spouses and ensure their success on campus.

"Inclusion on the 2014 list of Military Friendly Schools shows Middlesex County College's commitment to providing a supportive environment for military students," said Sean Collins, vice president at Victory Media and a nine-year Navy veteran. "The need for education is growing and our mission is to provide the military community with transparent, world-class resources to assist in their search for schools."

The Military Friendly Schools website, [www.militaryfriendlyschools.com](http://www.militaryfriendlyschools.com), features the list, as well as interactive and search tools to help military students find the best school to suit their unique needs and preferences. The 1,868 colleges, universities and trade schools on this year's list exhibit



David Brimmer, director of the Center for Veterans Services, works with Dennis Penny, MCC student and Navy veteran.

leading practices in the recruitment and retention of students with military experience.

David Brimmer, director of the College's Center for Veterans

Services, said inclusion on the list is an honor.

"Our center is committed to providing student veterans with all the tools they need to succeed at MCC," he said. "Our purpose is to help our military-affiliated students feel welcome on campus, to make sure they have access to the educational benefits to which they are entitled, and to make their college experience rewarding and productive. We offer various methods of support to student veterans, current service members and dependents alike. And the center is a place where our military-affiliated students can relax between classes and socialize with each other."

The list of Military Friendly Schools was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 10,000 schools approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

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

### Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Ronald G. Rios, <i>Freeholder Director</i>	Stephen J. Dalina
Blanquita Valenti, <i>Deputy Director</i>	H. James Polos
Kenneth Armwood	Charles E. Tomaro
Carol Barrett Bellante	

### Middlesex County College Board of Trustees

Dorothy K. Power, <i>Chairman</i>	Sanford Harty '13
Thomas Tighe, <i>Vice Chairman</i>	George J. Lisicki
Mark J. Finkelstein, <i>Treasurer</i>	John P. Mulkerin
Robert P. Sica, <i>Secretary</i>	Robert Oras
Frank T. Antisell	Eileen Palumbo '78
Todd C. Flora	Praful Raja
	Joann La Perla-Morales, <i>President</i>



From left: College President Joann La Perla-Morales, Brian Daugherty, and Dorothy K. Power, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

## Foundation Chair Presented L’Hommedieu Award

Brian Daugherty was presented the L’Hommedieu award during the Fall Convocation at MCC in August. The L’Hommedieu award is the highest honor given by the College. It is awarded annually to a person who embodies the citizenship, leadership and humanity of Paige D. L’Hommedieu, the founding board chair of the College.

A strong supporter of Middlesex County College, its Foundation, and its mission of providing a high-quality, affordable education, Mr. Daugherty joined the Foundation Board in 1990 and has guided its finances and investments. He has been the president of the Foundation for five years and was instrumental in its reorganization in 2010.

“Brian was pivotal for the Foundation and the College,” said Thomas Tighe, vice chairman of the College Board of Trustees. “As chairman, he realized the Foundation needed to be reorganized to make sure it remained on solid ground. We couldn’t have had a better chairman.”

Mr. Daugherty, who spent his career in the banking industry, has also served on the Foundation’s Finance Committee and was treasurer.

“I am pleased and honored to receive this award,” Mr. Daugherty said. “But the honor needs to be shared with

all of the great people I have had the opportunity to work with, both at the MCC Foundation and the College. Why is the Foundation important to me? At each of our board meetings, we hear from a student who we have helped.

Their stories, invariably, say that without the assistance from the Foundation they would not have been able to pursue their college education. This is what the Foundation is all about: helping students achieve their goals.”

**MCC REUNION**  
**Classes of the '60s & '70s**  
**Saturday, October 12 • 4-8 p.m.**  
**3-hour dinner buffet • Share memories with classmates and faculty • Dance music of the era**  
**Visit [ww.middlesexcc.edu](http://ww.middlesexcc.edu) for a full schedule and to register. Share this with other '60s and '70s alums.**  
**\$35 advance/\$50 door**  
**[alumni@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:alumni@middlesexcc.edu)**  
**732-906-7732**



The women's soccer squad is off to a great start (4-1-1 and 4-0 in the Region). At left, Jillian Lawnick heads the ball and below Allyson Mazzarella (in white) battles for possession.



**MIDDLESEX**  
COUNTY COLLEGE

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual

# Casino Night



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Friday, October 18, 2013, 5:30 p.m.**

**The Rosewood, 2863 Woodbridge Avenue, Edison, NJ 08837**

Proceeds from this event will help advance the Foundation's mission to provide scholarships and financial aid to deserving Middlesex County College students.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit us on the web at [mcc-foundation.org](http://mcc-foundation.org)

or call 732.906.2564

**SUCCESS STARTS HERE**