This Month @ MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE

February 2015 Vol. 7, No. 6

Celebrating 50 Years: April 19 Event to Showcase Achievements

Middlesex County College is throwing open its doors to welcome everyone to its Community Open House & Expo on Sunday, April 19 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Edison campus. In celebration of the College's 50th anniversary, this event will offer activities for people of all ages.

"It's a celebration of MCC and will be a lot of fun," said Lisa Gregory, associate director of admissions and co-chair of the organizing committee. "We're going to showcase our campus and programs for prospective students. We're going to have carnival games, a play, music, art, mini-golf, a classic car show, fun activities for children, open gym and swim, and refreshments at 1964 prices, the year of our founding. So whether you are considering enrolling at Middlesex or you would just like to see the campus and have a great time, this event is for you."

The Community Open House & Expo is family-friendly and will include activities aimed at children. Kids can decorate (and eat) their own cupcakes; the MCC Theater Camp will conduct a drama workshop; and parents and children can tour the College's Child Care Center. In addition, student employees of the Blue Colt Bookstore will read stories to young children. Other events are also being planned.

Music will be a big part of the day as the British Invasion Tribute Band, featuring Robert Murdock, class of '79, will entertain. The group performed at

Continued on page 2

MCC guard Quorea Pearyer scored her 1000th point on this shot, a 3-point jumper from the right side, during a game against Northampton Community College on January 13. She scored 26 points in the contest, which Middlesex won 76-63. The game was stopped and she was presented a ceremonial basketball, as well as a banner signed by her teammates. She is the first female basketball player in MCC history to reach 1000 points in her career. Ms. Pearyer is in the center, standing, and she is flanked by Middlesex President Joann La Perla-Morales, left, and Michel Powell, head coach, and Tracey Napoleon, assistant, as well as her teammates. Ms. Pearyer was also named National Player of the Week for January 12-18. MCC is now ranked seventh in the nation.

Community Open House and Expo Offers Fun for All

Continued from page 1

MCC's alumni reunion in 2013 to rave reviews.

The Edison Light Cruisers will hold a car show starting at 12:30 p.m. featuring classic, modern muscle cars, exotic and specialty cars.

"This is going to be terrific," Ms. Gregory said. "We expect at least 100 cars."

"Fiddler on the Roof," which also made its debut in 1964, will be performed.

"This is a wonderful musical that is fun for the whole family," she said.

The pool and the gym will be open for recreational swim and play.

Alumni artists have created wonderful paintings, sculptures and mixed media pieces that will be displayed. The program is being curated by Dorothy Bitetto '69, Alumni Association president, and Francine Neidle-Krimsky '86, who retired this past spring after 28 years as professor of graphic arts. Alumni artists include Ray Santolieri '88, Richmond Garrick '95, Ed Wargo '82, Tom Wood, Kristen Belger '90, Kristin Foye '01, Courtney Averette '10, Sue Espin '13, Nancy Swolensky '77, David Link '09, Michele Sutera '08, Ashley Hananiah '05, Linda Stockman '86, Nicholas Tancredi'11 and Professor Neidle-Krimsky '86.

"We are very excited about this year's art exhibition and auction," Ms. Bitetto said. "On display will be beautiful and creative artwork by our MCC alumni who were chosen for their exceptional talents. We have 15 professional and extremely talented artists who graduated between the years 1977 and 2013. In addition to over 60 pieces of artwork on display by the artists, we are including a silent auction component. You will have an opportunity to bid at this silent auction and bring home one of these exceptional pieces of art to commemorate this exciting year at the College. The money received for the silent auction will support the Middlesex County College Alumni Association's Scholarship Fund. You also have an opportunity to buy a piece of artwork from the artist."

MCC student groups are also involved in the day's activities. The award-winning step dance team, "Exitium," will perform, clubs will provide information on their mission and programs, and students and faculty members will hold a "poetry slam."

The Blue Colt Bookstore will be open all day and will have sales of items, including candy popular from the 1960s, as well as the story time for children.

Democracy House, the College's service learning program, will organize a blood drive for the community.

The MCC Foundation will sponsor miniature golf.

"This is a free nine-hole mini-golf game for children and adults," said Venetta Ellerbe, co-chair of the organizing committee.

A 1965 Mustang, one of the cars that will be at the Classic Car Show.

The Foundation will also hold a Community Forum, in which the public can learn about Corporate Mission Partners and other organizations in partnership with MCC.

For those interested in local history, MCC has created a display of photos and memorabilia from its history. An alumna, Kim Silva-Martinez, has written a book about the College, which can be examined at the display or purchased at the Bookstore.

Refreshments will be sold at 1964 prices. For more information and to register, please visit www.MCCOpenHouse.com.

"I'm really excited about April 19," said Ms. Ellerbe. "We have events planned for people of all ages and all tastes. It's going to be lots of fun."

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

This Month at Middlesex is a publication of Middlesex County College
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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.

Today's Table: Develop Your Cooking Skills

This spring, you can learn how to be a great amateur chef. "Today's Table" will be held in Crabiel Hall's culinary lab on the Edison campus. Come hungry and enjoy tastings of food prepared by the chef. Recipes are distributed.

Except for the full-day Saturday classes, you may register a la carte at $40 for each class or choose any three classes for $99. The savings are available to anyone who registers with payment for the three classes at the same time. Except where noted, classes meet from 6:30-9 p.m. For more information visit middlesexcc.edu/profcom or call 732-906-2556. Spring classes include:

Roasting and Braising
Tuesday, February 3.

Ramen Rampage
Thursday, February 5.

Chocolate to Die For
Sat., February 7, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Meatball Madness
Monday, February 9.

The Great Escape
Tuesday, February 10.

Passion for Potatoes!
Thursday, February 12.

Moroccan Magic
Tuesday, February 17.

American Regional Cookery
Thursday, February 19.

Chili to Delight All
Sat., February 21, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Flavors of Sicily
Tuesday, February 24.

Off The Hook
Thursday, February 26.

Sausage Making 101
Tuesday, March 3.

Buttermilk 101
Thursday, March 5.

I'm In It for the Dough, Fee: $75.
Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Very Vietnamese
Tuesday, March 10.

International Dumplings
Thursday, March 12.

Andalusian Dining
Tuesday, March 17.

For the complete schedule, along with a description of each, visit www.middlesexcc.edu/profcom.

Welcoming New Officers
Two new police officers, Wanda Tejada-Coletta and Jean-Pierre Marcenat, were sworn in recently and many of the other officers in the department were there to welcome them. From left, Police Officers Joesph Biundo, Wanda Tejada-Coletta, Jean-Pierre Marcenat, Shawn Wilson, Sergeant Christopher Wertz, Acting Chief Michael Ambroziak, Sergeant Cory Smith, and Officers Ronia Walrond and Samuel Miranowic.

Shraddha Pant '10 takes Kean University classes on MCC's campus.

Bachelor's-Level Classes Taught on MCC's Campus

Shraddha Pant left her Kean University nursing class at 9 p.m., got in her car and was in her Edison home 10 minutes later. Kean is at least 40 minutes from Edison. Was she speeding? Should the police be informed?

No. Ms. Pant didn't speed, and she hasn't figured out how to beam herself from place to place. The Kean class was actually taught on the Middlesex County College campus. She was in a familiar building, L'Hommedieu Hall.

"I got home and still had an hour to review what I did in class rather than driving home," she said. "It's so much more convenient."

Ms. Pant is a 2010 graduate of the MCC nursing program and works at JFK Hospital in oncology. She feels it is necessary to have a Bachelor's Degree to advance in her career.

"I wanted to take the next step," she said. "It makes you more prepared. Continuing education is part of nursing."

Middlesex hosts classes taught by faculty from Kean, Felician College and Jersey City University. The Kean and Felician programs offer Bachelor's Degrees in Nursing and Jersey City features a program in National Security Studies.

"Our students find this to be fabulous," said Marla Brinson, dean of student affairs at Middlesex. "They don't have to leave campus and they can get a Bachelor's degree. They're not our students, but we treat them as if they were."

She said that most of the students are MCC graduates, but it is not a requirement.

Last semester, there were 58 students in the Felician RN to BSN program, 97 in the Kean program, and 98 at the New Jersey City University program.

Anthony Walker started this past fall in the National Security program at New Jersey City University.

"The professors are great," he said. "They have experience in law enforcement and security. They have a lot of knowledge and experience that comes from working in the field."

Mr. Walker, a 2014 MCC graduate in criminal justice, hopes to go into the U.S. Postal Inspection Service or another federal agency, and feels this program will help him do just that.

And a big plus for the South River resident is the convenience.

"It's a 20-minute commute to Edison, versus an hour-and-a-half to Jersey City," he said.