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# THE ASSOCIATE

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A NEWSLETTER FOR THE ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Office of Development / Alumni Affairs

Fall 2000

(508) 588-9100, x1105 & 1960 ~ Fax: (508) 427-1255

e-mail: [cburns@massasoit.mass.edu](mailto:cburns@massasoit.mass.edu)

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Welcome Millennium Graduates

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The Alumni Office is pleased to send you your first copy of the Associate. This is our way of trying to keep in touch with our Alumni. Attached to the newsletter, you will find a "What's New" form. Please use it to update us if you should change your address. There is also space on this form for you to share information regarding your advanced degrees and/or career achievements.

You will notice that one page of each newsletter is entitled Alumni Milestones. This is where we like to boast about our Alumni. Completed "What's New" forms are the major source for these success stories.

Also, please feel free to call, write, e-mail or fax your suggestions or comments on what you would like to see in a newsletter and/or what you feel the Alumni Office should do for you. In other words, please keep in touch.

## New Technology on Campus

"The use of technology and resources related to technology have expanded significantly during the past year" stated President Rose at MCC's Annual Meeting.

President Rose's annual report described the two new state-of-the art computer classrooms that were constructed on the Canton Campus this year. The U-shaped, two computer station format, shown in the above photo, provides unprecedented workspace for large blueprints and architectural drawings while facilitating the team-centered, project based approach. AutoCAD 2000, the latest version of computer aided design software will be utilized for Applied Technology as well as other campus departments. The new certificate program in AutoCAD will be offered for both credit and non-credit short-term training.

A distance learning multimedia computer classroom was also constructed by combining space from the previous nurse/secretary offices in Room 110. The fifteen student carrels shown in the photo at the bottom of this page are equipped with access to headphones, individual desktop video cameras as well as full screen video conferencing capability. Sixteen laptop computers for a similarly equipped classroom on the Brockton Campus were also created to connect with the Canton lab as well as other institutions.

In addition to the technology upgrades, President Rose reported that over \$400,000 was

spent to repair roofs on both campuses. A new Student Services area was created in the Administration Building and the Culinary Arts teaching area in the Students Center was completely renovated with \$90,000 of new equipment installed.

#### Community Service Learning

Since its inception on campus in the fall of 1998, MCC's Community Service Learning Program has successfully recruited students to provide service to community agencies through their academic courses. The promotion of this program has been made possible by a grant from Americorps that has provided funding for MCC's VISTA volunteer. As a result of her efforts, faculty members have been encouraged to integrate service learning into their curriculum and to educate MCC students on the importance of making connections in their community. The program matches the needs of the community with curriculum from degree programs. MCC's Americorps grant is currently in its second year of funding.

This year, VISTA is celebrating its 35th Anniversary. In honor of this milestone, MCC would like to recognize members of the alumni who have served as VISTA volunteers any time during the past 35 years. If you are in that group, please call or e-mail MCC's Alumni Office. For more information regarding VISTA's 35th Anniversary events that will take place throughout the year, visit [www.americorps.org/vista/](http://www.americorps.org/vista/)

#### Featured Events:

##### Fall Musical:

Rogers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" on November 10-12, 17, 18, 19  
Alumni Night - November 17th at 8:00 p.m.

##### "Whirligig" in Concert:

Celtic and Irish Musical with Contemporary International Flavor: December 8.

##### Winter Production:

Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple" on February 8-11, 2001.

"Swing Dance America": February 23, 2001

Aaron Copland's "The Tender Land" March 23-25, 2001.

"Fires in the Mirror" Crown Heights, Brooklyn and Other Identities on April 19-21, 2001.

"12th Annual Radio Classics Live" May 4 & 5, 2001.

Director Mike Pevzner, has designated the November 17, performance of Oklahoma to be Alumni Night at the Buckley Performing Arts Center. Join your classmates and members of the MCC faculty and staff to enjoy this gala performance of one of Broadway's greatest hits. Bring your whole family. Oklahoma is an ageless musical for all ages. Here's your chance to renew acquaintances with your professors and classmates. For reservations, call (508) 427-1234. When you order tickets, be sure to ask for the

special discount that is available for Alumni and their guest for the November 17, performance.

Members of MCC's Gala 2001 committee are already working hard to make the March 3, 2001 event an entertaining "Evening in Paris."

Senior Center Holiday Bazaar November 15 from 10 AM - 2 PM in the Student Center Upper Lounge.

Tables are available for crafters who would like to sell their products.

Indoor Yard Sale / Silent Auction -- The Development Office has postponed its auction to the last weekend in March and linked it to an indoor yard sale. As the last event for "Women's Month," this fundraiser will offer alumni, faculty & staff, and friends of the college the opportunity to get rid of items no longer needed (commonly know as clutter) as well as the chance to shop for bargains early in the Spring in a comfortable climate controlled environment.

MCC Alumni Association

This organization meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:15 p.m. in the Student Center. Anyone who has earned 26 credits at Massasoit Community College is eligible to join. Currently there are no membership fees. If you go to the November 15, Senior Center Bazaar, be sure to stop at the Alumni Association's table.

PTK Alumni Association

Calling All PTK Graduates! The PTK Alumni Roast for this year will be held on March 9, 2001. This year the roastees will include faculty and staff. We would appreciate your help (especially Canton PTK graduates). Please come and share your ideas at one of our meetings. The PTK Alumni Association meets every second Tuesday of the month in the Student Senate Conference Room, Student Center at 7:00 PM.

## A L U M N I - M I L E S T O N E S

Patti (Gates) Macchioni, class of '91, and former Student Trustee has recently been hired as a part time Grant Writer for MCC's Division of Institutional Planning & Development. Patti earned her Bachelor of Social Work from Rhode Island College where she was recognized in 1994, by "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities" for Student Leadership. In addition to working at MCC as a part time Grant Writer and taking care of her three children, Patti is also studying for her Master's in Social Work at Boston College. "At the surface, MCC provided me with the opportunity for an affordable start at an education. However, as time went on, I received more of a holistic education. One that not only educated my mind, but also brought forth skills that I did not realize lay dormant within myself. Without these skills, and other valuable lessons obtained through my education at MCC, I would not be where I am today. I attribute my accomplishments to the strong support of my family, the Student Life Office, Rose Tosca and Dean Thayer, Dean O'Leary, Ed Monteiro, my fellow MCC students and especially Professor Napoli. At MCC, I received a foundation to build success. Thank you Massasoit."

Robert McGowan '97 recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from U Mass-Boston, School of Nursing and is employed as a Registered Nurse at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Brockton where he is also a preceptor and nursing education liaison.

Robert is married to June (Hopwood), class of '95. Bob works in the detox unit providing nursing care and encouragement to Veterans who seek for help with their substance abuse addiction. Bob wishes to thank, in particular, Sandy Duffy, Andrea Morgan and Dot Sweeney for their invaluable assistance during his years at Massasoit. "The entire staff within the Nursing Department at Massasoit is the best."

Lisa (Antonius) Elkary, class of 1989 graduated from Wheelock College and is currently studying for her Master's Degree while teaching in East Boston's Early Education Center. Her husband, Ziad Elkary, graduated from MCC in 1992 and from U Mass-Dartmouth in 1994 with a Civil Engineering degree. He is currently working as a consultant in Boston. They are the proud parents of two beautiful children: Jordon, three and Nikaela, eight.

Christine M. Cedrone, class of '91 earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Suffolk University and is a millennium graduate of the New England School of Law. Christine is an elected member of the Quincy School Committee and was appointed by former Gov. William Weld, and later reappointed by Gov. Paul Cellucci to the Quincy Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

Anne Bonner '97 is currently working at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, as an operating room nurse, while studying for her BSN at U. Mass Boston. "I love what I do. I'm glad I went to Massasoit. I felt that my instructors knew me and worked with me. The friendships I made carried me through and I'll always be grateful."

Suzanne Norris-Silvia, class of 1987, has earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Bridgewater State College and is currently a Social Worker for Community Care Services in Attleboro. She is also studying for her Master's in Social Work at Rhode Island College. "Massasoit gave me a second change in education. I was never a serious student in high school - earning mediocre grades. Massasoit accepted me in the autumn of 1985. I received my Associates from Massasoit, transferred to Bridgewater State in 1987, graduating in 1990 with degrees in Social Work and History. After working in the field of social work since 1993, and becoming a licensed social worker, I was accepted to the School of Social Work at Rhode Island College and began this autumn. I tell everyone about the opportunity that Massasoit afforded me - and how grateful I am for that opportunity. I met my best friend, Colleen Fleming at Massasoit - another reason for being grateful to Massasoit."

Kimberly D. Rapoza, class of '97, passed her CPA exam in May. Kimberly earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Eastern Nazarene College's Lead Program. She is currently an auditor for the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Office of Inspector General. "The Massasoit Community College Continuing Education program allowed me to attend classes at my own pace while working full-time during the day. I am very grateful for the professors who encouraged me to continue on to a Bachelor's degree program. My new career is challenging but I felt prepared to meet the challenge because of the confidence I gained at MCC."

After earning his Bachelor of Arts from Gannon University in Erie Pennsylvania, David Biondi, class of 97, chose a career in Criminal Justice and is currently working as a

Federal Corrections Officer for FCI McKean in Bradford, PA.



Last revised: April 20, 2001 10:45 AM