

## Massasoit Honors Two Local Businessmen

William J. Morse and Charles H. Tartaglia receive honorary degrees at 46th commencement ceremony

June 5, 2013

*Brockton, MA (June 5, 2013)* – Massasoit Community College honored two local business leaders at its spring commencement ceremony for more than 950 students on May 31. The College presented honorary degrees to William J. Morse, President and Chief Operating Officer of Mutual Bank and Charles H. Tartaglia, owner of George's Café in Brockton. Selection is based upon outstanding support for the College and overall contribution to the greater community.

William J. Morse is the president and COO of Mutual Bank. In this role, he helps guide the policy and direction for the mutually owned bank. Mr. Morse has shown his commitment to promoting the southeastern area of Massachusetts through his many volunteer efforts. Mr. Morse was a member of the Board of Trustees for Massasoit Community College from 1987 to 1992, where he also served as chair of that board during his tenure. Mr. Morse has served as chairman of the board of *School on Wheels* in Massachusetts, which is an organization that provides tutoring services to homeless children. He also served as a tutor in that organization.

As a committed business leader in the area, Mr. Morse has served as a director of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, and is the current chair-elect of that organization. Mr. Morse is a member of the Banker's Mutual Resource and serves as treasurer and director of the Goddard Health Foundation. He is a past member of the Easton School Committee. He is also a member of the Stonehill College Executive Committee for Development. A longtime resident of the town of Easton, his exemplary volunteer efforts over the course of many years have contributed much to the economic success of this area.

"Bill Morse's commitment to our community is evident in the vast amount of time and resources he commits to serving the Greater Brockton region. It is our great pleasure to honor him for his exemplary commitment to education and the community as a whole," said Massasoit President, Dr. Charles Wall.

Charles Tartaglia is the owner of George's Café, a City of Brockton landmark since 1962. He is committed to public service and is very active on many community and state committees. Mr. Tartaglia was a member of the board of trustees at Massasoit Community College for 11 years—from 2000-2011. He is currently a director on the Massasoit Community College Foundation board. During his 11 years on the board of trustees, he served in many different capacities and was chair of the board in 2006. In 2010, he donated \$25,000.00 to the support of the Respiratory Therapy Program and the allied health programs in honor of his son Charles H. Tartaglia, Jr. (MCC, 1984), and his daughter, Paula Franciosi.

Mr. Tartaglia has served on the MA State Boxing Commission from 1995 to the present and on the President's Committee at Stonehill College for many years. He is a former city counselor in Brockton, and he served on the Brockton Park Commission from 1986 to 1989. He is a 25-year member of the American Legion, a 10-year member of the Italian American War Veterans, and a member of the MA Restaurant Association. He is also a member of the Hundred Club of Massachusetts whose members dedicate themselves to helping the family members of police or firefighters who are killed in action; members ensure that any existing mortgages of those killed in action are paid and tuition to college for the children of the fallen is paid. Mr. Tartaglia and his wife live in South Easton, Massachusetts.

"Charlie Tartaglia's leadership in community service has benefited residents of Brockton and beyond for decades. He is truly a champion for our students and it is an honor to present

William Morse



(r-l) Massasoit Trustee Chair, Pamerson Ifil, Massasoit President, Dr. Charles Wall, William J. Morse

Charles Tartaglia



(r-l) Massasoit Trustee Chair, Pamerson Ifil, Massasoit President, Dr. Charles Wall, Charles Tartaglia, Brockton Mayor, Linda Balzotti

him with this award," said Dr. Wall.

## Photos by J. Lynch

*Founded in 1966, in the heart of southeastern Massachusetts, Massasoit Community College is a public two-year college in the Massachusetts Public Higher Education System. It is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States. Many departments carry additional accreditations. The College offers a full spectrum of associate's degree programs in arts, sciences, and applied sciences as well as one year and short term certificates across a variety of occupations and interests. In addition the College offers corporate and job skills training courses.*