



Pete Vidal

Richard Beall '71 (second from right) with Bernice Grossman, Hon. '07, Suzanne Thompson '82, and Lori Thomas '99 at the Alumni Association's Dogfishing for MC Scholarships fundraiser.

Fellow alumni and friends,

his year Montgomery College marks the 50th year of what most of us call the Rockville Campus, but an earlier Rockville Campus wasn't as well known. Anita Neal Powell '79, a chronicler of local life (and an Alumni Association board member), was the force behind the historical designation of MC's first "Rockville Branch," Carver Junior College. The site tells a fascinating story of the distance our county has traveled through the decades. I'm delighted to have Jean Johnson, Carver '53, share her memories in this issue.

Since our last issue introduced the Germantown Campus' Bioscience Education Center, I've visited that new building several times, most recently for our annual Retirees Chapter luncheon. Our retiree members co-hosted their April reunion with the College's employee and retirement recognition program so past employees could mingle with long-time colleagues, including some who are just now calling it a career. The prize for the longest-serving employee went to Professor Rob Ciapetta, whose English classes might be remembered by Rockville students from 1970 on: Rob has taught for 45 years, and he's still going.

As you'll see in the next few pages, Germantown has a lot more to show off. Holy Cross Germantown Hospital has opened as the newest piece of the growing Hercules Pinkney Life Sciences Park. The park will help biotech students hone their skills and identify potential employers without leaving campus.

We also have a story of a Germantown grad who's already made his mark in life sciences. Dr. Fred Romberg '92 came to

the College as a vehicle maintenance supervisor, then took classes that transformed his life. Read more about his journey from an MC engineering degree, to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, to a medical residency at the University of Utah—with side trips to the CIA

This spring your Alumni Association hosted two events at local restaurants to help students. Our fourth annual "Dogfishing for MC Scholarships" drew a record amount at Gaithersburg's Dogfish Head Alehouse in February. We followed that with an event at the Greene Turtle in Olney on May 5 (Cinco de Mayo, which led our planners to adopt the hashtag #MCinco). The photo here shows just a few of the volunteers and staff whose efforts made these events go so smoothly.

We've just celebrated the conclusion of this year's mentoring effort, which paired local professionals with scholarship awardees seeking advice and guidance about their chosen majors. The advice and insights from these alumni really made a difference for a number of students as they planned their careers, and I look forward to expanding the program in the year ahead.

All these projects take involvement from Association members like you. The more support we get, the more fun everyone has. If you're in the area and able to give some time, we'd very much like to have your help. If you can't join us in person, I hope you'll consider supporting MC scholarships through the Annual Fund. I know a lot of students who will benefit from your generosity.

Richard E. Beall

Richard E. Beall '71
Montgomery College
Alumni Association President

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Montgomery College is an academic institution committed to promoting equal opportunity and fostering diversity among its student body, faculty, and staff.



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On the Cover

Beekeeper Miriam Snyder invited Insights photographer Pete Vidal and designer Krista Hanson to watch her add frames to her backyard hive.

Germantown DevelopmentsNEW HOSPITAL ON CAMPUS

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital, the first new hospital in Montgomery County in 35 years, opened last October on the Germantown Campus. It is the only hospital on a community college campus in the United States. Located off I-270 at Observation Drive, the 93-bed, six-story facility provides emergency, surgical, maternity, neonatal, and psychological care for up-county residents; for students, it adds much-needed sites for nursing and other health science clinical rotations, as well as new opportunities for undergraduate research and observation/shadowing.

"Students in other fields, such as bioengineering, may benefit as well," says Margaret Latimer, vice president and provost of the Germantown Campus and the College's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math unit. "Information security is a critical concern in the health sector," she says. "We are exploring opportunities for our partnership to include cybersecurity students."

For more than a decade, Holy Cross Health has supported the College's health science and nursing education programs with gifts totaling \$1.1 million. The funds have benefited students through the Biomedical Careers Pathway Program, the Who Will Care? Fund for Nurse Education, internships, health science scholarships, and resources like molecular modeling software.

Holy Cross also opened a community health clinic in 2004, in the Health Sciences Building on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. The clinic provides care for uninsured and underserved patients while offering community-based clinical experience for student nurses. Holy Cross personnel handle patient care and serve as clinical adjunct faculty, working alongside College faculty in supervising and evaluating students. At Germantown, a similar scenario will follow the down-county model, while opening doors for hospital staff to guest lecture, mentor students, and teach.

Under a new five-year agreement, the College and Holy Cross Health will continue to prepare qualified nurses and other health care professionals, a perennial workforce demand.



Courtesy of Holy Cross Health

The original partnership helped expand nurse enrollment at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus by 38 percent and graduation by 48 percent. Holy Cross supported the partnership with contributions totaling \$600,000 for capital and program enhancements.

At Germantown, where the College is developing the Hercules Pinkney Life Sciences Park, the hospital is the anchor tenant. Over the next several years, the park will be developed with other business, government, and nonprofit tenants. The blended resources and interaction among business tenants, students, faculty, and the community creates an integrated academic, business, and research environment the College hopes will serve as a national demonstration model.

It is the only hospital on a community college campus in the United States.... It adds much-needed sites for nursing and other health science clinical rotations...



Location, Location, Location

Surrounded by woodlands and "technology corridor" neighbors that include Hughes Network Systems, the Department of Energy, and numerous bioscience and technology companies, the Hercules Pinkney Life Sciences Park at the Germantown Campus already comprises more than 25 business tenants in three facilities: Holy Cross Germantown Hospital; the new Bioscience Education Center (opened in fall 2014); and the Germantown Innovation Center within the Paul Peck Academic and Innovation Building. In addition to those existing facilities, the campus

"This isn't something we can build overnight," says Martha Schoonmaker, executive director of the Life Sciences Park, "but we definitely see it as a longterm investment that will benefit the College, the county, and the region."

has 27 acres for companies to build to suit.

Schoonmaker, hired last summer, manages the park on behalf of the College, which includes overseeing contracts, leases, and partnerships with tenants. She is charged with developing corporate and trade association partnerships that will further park development, and expand internships, learning, and career opportunities for students.

Previously, Schoonmaker was director of business development and investment for Prince William County Department of Economic Development in Northern Virginia. During her tenure, she spearheaded the development of the Prince William County Science Accelerator, a \$4.3 million public/private investment of a 9,000-square-foot wet lab. She also had a hand in developing 3,600 new jobs as business development manager for the Prince William Department of Economic Development. In Georgia, she spent 13 years with the Enterprise Innovation Institute at Georgia Institute of Technology.

One thing Schoonmaker counts as a plus against competing sites is that it meets the number-one criterion in company location searches: availability of a highly skilled workforce.

"Montgomery College has the corner on that," says Schoonmaker. "What better place for a company to be than right on the college

LIFE SCIENCES PARK To Washington, DC MARYLAND Germantown, MD Washington, DC campus that is producing its employees,

and with the ability to interact with and influence what they are learning?" She gives the example of companies having students come in and work on sampling DNA in the mock GMP (good manufacturing practice) lab. Entrepreneurs would benefit, too, she says, by being able to speed new science into the classrooms. The students receive advance, market-ready knowledge and skills.

Schoonmaker spends very little time in her office in the Paul Peck Academic and Innovation Building. In her first six months on the job, she reached out to state and local economic development allies, existing businesses in Montgomery County, as well as other national and international science and technology companies. She traveled to India last fall with a Montgomery County contingent intent on selling Maryland to India's business leaders and higher education institutions.

"Within ten days," she says, "we traveled to six different cities in India, met with well

over 200 business, community, political, and academic leaders, and blanketed the country with Hercules Pinkney Life Sciences Park brochures. At the end of the day, we all want economic development to improve each of our community's ability to provide jobs for citizens and raise the standard of living."

Through collaboration with business partners-at home and abroad-the College is positioning itself to become a national demonstration model, as well as gain momentum in creating a continuum of bioscience and technology education and training from middle school to postdoctoral levels. The goal is to strengthen opportunities for all parties involved: the College, the county, the corporations, and the community.

STEMNews

Secretaries in the House

US Labor Secretary **Tom Perez**, Commerce Secretary **Penny Pritzker**, and a cadre of cybersecurity professionals and elected officials gathered for a panel discussion on cybersecurity and workforce development goals late last year. The event followed a \$15 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant award to MC and partner institutions.

In her remarks, Pritzker underscored the importance of developing a cybersecurity workforce. "As you all know, cybersecurity is a threat not just to our national security, but to our businesses and our economy at large... Meeting that task ... requires close cooperation between government, the private sector, and institutions of higher education. That is what TAACCCT is all about: building a partnership between community colleges and local employers to train students to fill the jobs of today and prepare for the opportunities of tomorrow."



Secretary Pritzker touring the High Technology Building at Germantown.

Cybersecurity professional **Aekaluck "Golf" Phanmanivong '11** sat on the panel, alongside grant partners, College faculty, and cyber and workforce industry experts. Phanmanivong interned at Lockheed Martin during high school and saw a possible career pathway, but he didn't have the credentials or skills needed to grow in the company beyond customer service. He studied computer science at Montgomery College—because it was local and affordable—then he earned a four-year degree in cybersecurity at University of Maryland University College. He then landed his current position as information assurance engineer at Lockheed.



US Department of Ed Visitor

Following the US Secretaries' visits to campus, the White House sent **Mark Mitsui,** deputy assistant secretary for community colleges at the US Department of Education, on behalf of President Obama. Mitsui participated in the Department of Applied Technologies construction management program panel discussion on career and technology education. Two MC workforce development programs were highlighted: construction management and hospitality management.

Learning to Teach

Students bound for teaching careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education can now try out teaching early in their academic careers via the new Learning Assistant (LA) program. Funded by a National Science Foundation Noyce Grant, the program allows MC to hire and train students to work with a faculty mentor, one on one, to assist in a specific STEM course. Opportunities include classroom assistance, mini-presentations in lecture, laboratory assistance, review sessions, office hours, computer lab guidance, and STEM outreach opportunities in the local public schools. A new partnership with University of Maryland allows the LAs who transfer there to continue working at College Park. The program currently has 30–35 participants spanning all three campuses and representing all STEM disciplines each semester. MC is one of the few community colleges nationwide to adopt the LA model for developing new teachers.





More on Cyber

Learning Center and Lab Improvements

The College is funding Internet-accessible cybersecurity lab infrastructure in support of the expanding cybersecurity program. A new Science Learning Center in the Bioscience Education Center in Germantown opened for business during the spring semester.

Engineers Without Borders, Student Style

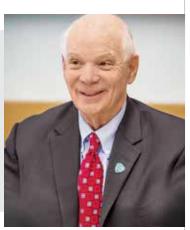
The student chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB-USA) is partnering with the professional chapter of EWB-DC on two projects: the design and construction of cookstoves for a community in El Salvador, and of a library/computer/community center in Panama.

Electricity comprises 82% of the College's total energy consumption. MC is now purchasing 100% of its electricity in the form of renewable energy certificates (REC) from wind farms.

Source: Resource Conservation Plan, FY 2015

Free Community College?

Montgomery College recently welcomed US Senator Ben Cardin to the Germantown Campus. Senator Cardin held a town-hall style meeting with students to discuss President Obama's proposal to provide free community college tuition for those willing to work hard at their studies. A dozen students from each of Montgomery College's three campuses shared their educational aspirations with the senator. They discussed in detail the impact that rising tuition costs has on them and their families. Biotechnology and cybersecurity faculty also gave Senator Cardin a tour of the Bioscience Education Center.

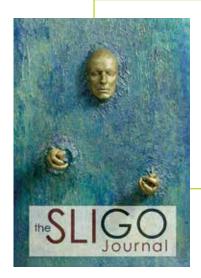


Pete Vidal



"Investing in community colleges allows a broader class of Americans to master skills for the 21st century. Rather than limit our workforce to those who can afford an education, why wouldn't we use all of our resources to propel the economy? US Labor Secretary Tom Perez captured this sentiment precisely on a visit to MC when he said, 'there are no spare Americans' in this tight economy."

-Dr. DeRionne Pollard, *The Baltimore Sun*, Op-Ed, January 20, 2015



Journal Wins National Book Award

The Sligo Journal won the 2015 Florida Book Festival Award for Compilations/
Anthologies. The journal is an arts and literary publication featuring work by MC students and local poets of Takoma Park/Silver Spring. The award is a national book award that recognizes excellent writing in a variety of genres, including poetry, fiction, nonfiction, how-to, spiritual, and others. Professor Robert L. Giron is editor in chief; Dr. Michael LeBlanc and Madona Tyler LeBlanc are layout/graphic designers. Cover art for the fall 2013/spring 2014 book was by Pablo Callejo '14.

K to College

The women's basketball team led 26 kindergarteners at Beall Elementary School in stretches and small activities to introduce the youngsters to the formal educational opportunities that await them in college. The Raptors, Coach Lakisha Nickens-Gaither, and students enjoyed the activities, made possible through the new K to College program, a partnership between Montgomery College and Montgomery County Public Schools. For the spring term, each campus adopted a nearby elementary school in Germantown, Rockville, and Silver Spring. At East Silver Spring Elementary, Dwayne Henry, biology lab coordinator at Takoma Park/Silver Spring, shared a collection of skulls and lab samples with one kindergarten class. Dr. Pollard read to a class at Daly Elementary, and the MC Libraries donated 30 books to the same class.







11:59

"Students are more successful when they register for a class before it begins," says Dr. Gwendolyn Dungy, interim senior vice president for student services. On-time registration also allows more time for academic advising, making class choices without rushing, and applying for financial aid. Starting in the fall 2015 semester, late registration will no longer be an option. Students must register for classes by 11:59 p.m. on the day before the class is scheduled to start.



A new **Open Educational Resources (OER)** fellowship program aims to help faculty replace traditional (and expensive) textbooks entirely. Several disciplines have already implemented the use of OERs in their courses, including astronomy, physics, engineering, and math. Faculty members and the Office of E-Learning, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence are working together to explore more ways to use or create OERs in the classroom. The effort kicked off in the spring semester.

Jew Courses

Introduction to Drug Development* – A course on drug discovery, global and ethical questions, the clinical trials process, trials design, and monitoring (developed and delivered by an industry partner, Amarex Corporation)

Mobile Forensics – A comprehensive study of the application of the digital forensics process in the mobile device context

Modern Middle East – Selected themes in culture and history

Small Business Management – How to start a business; emphasis on capital acquisition, marketing, management, and commercial issues

catalog.montgomerycollege.edu

* indicates grant-funded programs



Destination CUBA



BY DIANE BOSSER

ong before the Obama-Castro handshake last December, dramatic change felt imminent in Cuba. So says Professor Swift Dickison, who boarded a flight last year with 27 students, faculty, and friends as part of the College's Travel Abroad Program. Beyond sun-bleached buildings, nightclubs, and vintage cars, the group discovered the warmth and the strains of being American in a blockaded country.



Get the full story, plus Professor Dickison's reading list on Cuban history, culture, and geography online at montgomerycollege.edu/insightsonline.

nder the embargo against
Cuba, "Yankees" must
bring cash for all expenses.
Educational groups are required to
retain two tour guides (one must be
non-Cuban) for the duration of their
stay. Government "minders," agents
who monitor anti-government rhetoric,
troll events covertly. "End the blockade"
(el bloqueo) messages are posted
widely. Even so, the Cubans greeted
their MC guests warmly and voiced
goodwill for the American people.







Guitar, conga, and clave rhythms enliven street corners, restaurants, and clubs throughout Cuba.

Dickison's group attended an evening show at Benny Mores' Taberna, where the Buena Vista Social Club—the large Latin jazz ensemble originally formed with guitarist Ry Cooder—played for three hours straight. The band hosted a stream of guest vocalists, men in their 80s dressed in guaybera shirts and Panama hats, who sang traditional songs. In Matanzas, at a secondary school, uniformed students entertained their American guests in the school auditorium, singing and playing conga and guitar. Even a Committee for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR) meeting, toward the end of their stay, turned from solidarity speeches to spontaneous celebration.







Street art colors Cuban neighborhoods—graffiti, murals, and sculptures. At La Muraleando ("mural making"), a community art project in Havana, the group toured a barrio-turned-art zone where children attend outdoor arts workshops. In Las Terrazas, an arts community inside the Sierra del Rosario Nature and Biosphere Reserve, they discovered a "rural utopia" where artist Lester Campa was at work:

"He was facing a large canvas, using acrylic paints to put the final touches on the image of a huge tree," says Dickison. "He chatted with us about his life, and about showing his work in New York, and elsewhere in the world."



Museums preserve island history—including French, Spanish, and African influences. Highlights at the Museo de la Revolución in Old Havana included Cuba's War of Independence from Spain, and the Castro-led revolution of the 1950s. The group stopped at the Ambos Mundos Hotel and La Finca, former Hemingway dwellings, and the Belén Convent and Church (est. 1718), where they learned of Castro's early life among the Jesuits.



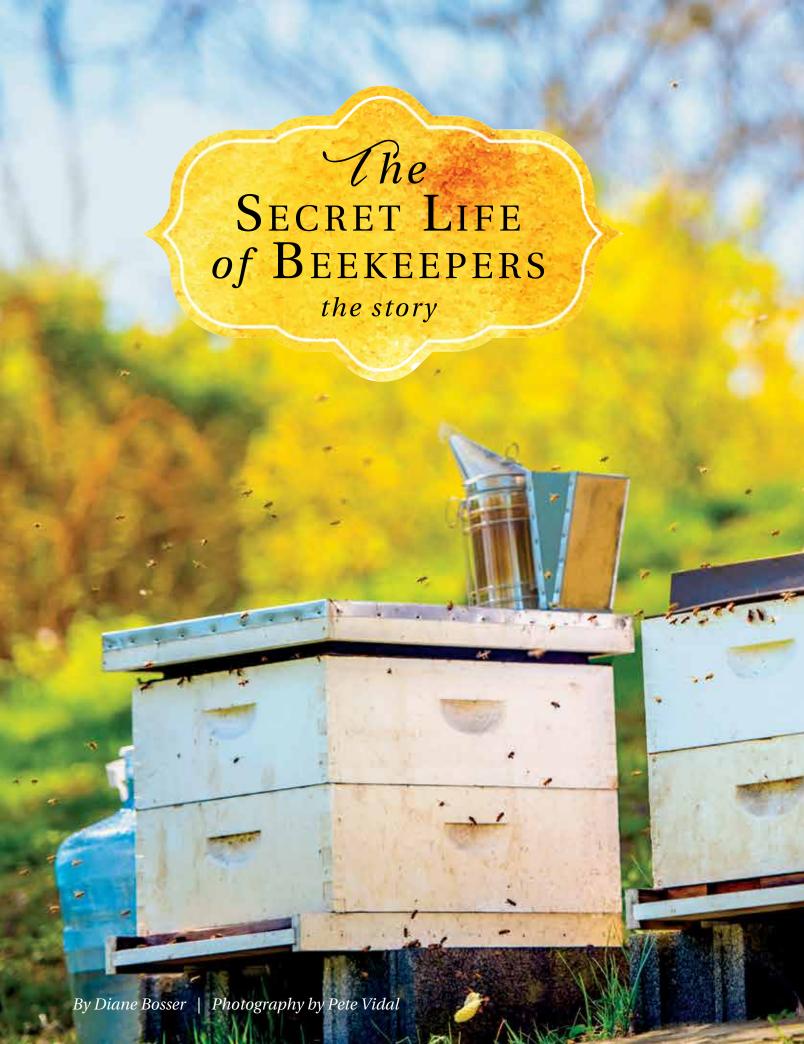




En route to Pinar del Rio, on the island's western side, the group glimpsed a motorcade of motorcycles, police, and a shiny black van. They discovered later it was El Jefe, Fidel Castro, who appears rarely in public since his retirement. He was headed to Havana for a televised event, a gallery opening.



Swift Stiles Dickison holds a BA in English, an MA in creative writing, and a PhD in Caribbean literature. A professor in the Department of English at Rockville since 2001, he has taught World Literature, Creative Writing, Caribbean Literature, Postcolonial Literature, American Literature, Modern Poetry, Women's Studies, and Composition. Dr. Dickison also writes fiction and poetry, and plays percussion and guitar with the Montgomery College World Ensemble.







Sweet Rewards

Sean Kelly recalls ordering his first box of bees. The five-pound package of Italian honeybees with a queen was delivered to his local post office.

"I got the call as soon as the buzzing package arrived at the station and was told it would be greatly appreciated if I came and picked up my lively package that day.... I've been keeping bees ever since."

He came to the hobby eight years ago, when a family friend shared stories about his own father and grandfather keeping bees.

"He talked about watching them in the yard, smoking the hive, getting ready to harvest the honey," says Kelly. "I imagined myself doing the same. Once John showed me his hive, and I saw the bees shooting in and out, bringing food and water to the colony, I was hooked."

Before starting his own hive, he read Beekeeping for Dummies and studied catalogs from industry giants, Dadant and Betterbee. Every year, he learns something new about the bees.

"It's neat to watch them grow and pack the frames with honey, pollen, and larvae. It is exciting to be around all the bees knowing that if they chose to, they could give you a bad day. There can be 50,000 bees or more in a single hive."

Last summer Kelly had five swarms in one week; he was able to catch three of them. One of which he had to climb 30 feet up into a maple tree and knock them into a big plastic bag.

"Keeping bees isn't the easiest," he says.
"There have been times I thought of selling
all my equipment and starting another hobby,
but something has always pulled me back in
when the times got tough."

Sean Kelly is a landscape management student. He keeps three hives going while working full time as a landscaper and attending college part time.

Snyder rarely gets stung. A seasoned apiarist, she suits up in full protective clothing—a veil, gloves, and jumpsuit—only for intrusive work, like harvesting honey or treating problems. Other times, she just covers her arms and face. She uses a smoker to settle the bees before and during hive work, a centuries-old technique.

"The trick," she says, "is to move slowly and calmly."

When a bee stings, she scrapes the stinger away with her fingernail. "Don't pinch the stinger," she says, "because you can inject yourself with additional venom." As soon as possible afterward, she applies ice, takes an

antihistamine, and elevates the affected body part. She follows up with a topical antihistamine lotion when it starts to itch a few days later.

Apiarists have varying hive management routines, but the overall consensus is the less intrusion the better. In spring and summer, Snyder checks her hives once a week to see whether the bees are laying eggs in the brood box, if there is honey in the cells, and for signs of trouble—mites or disease.

A thriving colony will continually generate new bees to sustain itself, and without adequate space, it will vacate en masse for new, more spacious digs—sometimes to inconvenient places like the neighbor's shed or attic. Apiarists add frames or hives to prevent a swarm.

To extract honey, Snyder removes a frame from the hive and cuts the wax off the comb. She places it into an extractor (borrowed from their local beekeeping association). The machine use centrifugal force to draw honey out of the comb and into a receptacle. She strains the thick, golden honey by pouring it through woven cloth, removing bee wings and other impurities, then jars it for storing and sharing. The raw honey needs no processing or pasteurization; it is naturally antibacterial and safe to consume.

Although production varies from year to year, dependent mostly on weather conditions, each frame yields approximately three pounds of honey. In past years, the Snyders have enjoyed harvests of 30 to 60 pounds from 10 to 20 frames. After a harvest, the hive returns to normal operations quickly. In fall, when the days grow shorter and cooler, the bees naturally grow less active. Although not native to North America, they overwinter

WE DON'T NEED BIG

BUSINESS TO DO THIS. WE

NEED 100 PEOPLE KEEPING

ONE COLONY EACH.

PEOPLE KEEPING BEES IS GOOD

FOR EVERYBODY.

MORE SMALL-SCALE

by huddling together inside the hive. Snyder provides a sugar-water solution and fondant to prevent starvation.

This year, however, since their bees did not survive the winter, there will be no Snyder honey; it takes a new colony more than a year to produce surplus stores.

Rather than give up, the Snyders refilled their empty hives with a strain of European bees (Italian and Russian bees are the most common nowadays), purchased from a local breeder. The box of 2,500 to 3,000 bees cost \$120. Days later, Miriam checked the hive to see whether the queen had been released yet. To free her, the adult bees must nibble away at the small sugar-sealed box where she resides. Once the queen moves in, the colony can begin to function properly.

Two years ago, Miriam Snyder bartered 20 pounds of honey for a puppy. Bella, the 100-pound Maremma Sheep Dog/Anatolian Shepherd/Akbash mix, is her faithful companion in the garden.



Wannabees and newbees: the Beekeeping course, offered seasonally at the Germantown Campus, covers basics of the honeybee life cycle, hive management, and hive products.

The bees' comings and goings around the Snyder's yard benefit the larger ecosystem. Honeybees pollinate 80 percent of crops, including fruits, legumes, and vegetables. The Maryland Department of Agriculture estimates honeybee pollination benefits \$40 million in state vegetation. Their worth in food-chain production cannot be taken for granted.

In recent years, adult honeybees began to disappear suddenly and without explanation. The live queen and immature bees remain, as do honey stores, but without the adult drones and other workers, the colony fails. The widespread phenomenon, called 'colony collapse disorder,' is still cause for alarm among scientists and agriculturalists.

"CCD, or colony collapse disorder, is a big concern nationally as well as internationally," says Professor Steve Dubik, program coordinator of the landscape technology program.

To help the local community with beekeeping education and training, Dubik developed the College's first beekeeping course, LN 141 Beekeeping. The inaugural class, held in summer 2014, drew wannabee beekeepers of all ages.

Led by instructor Gregg Gochnour, a county bee expert, inspector, and high school science teacher, students learn the basics of the honeybee life cycle and functions, seasonal management, parasite and pathogen management, and about products from the hive. They also work with live bees at hives on campus, which were established at Germantown with equipment donated by Chemistry Professor Don Newlin. At his peak, Newlin managed 30 hives on a half-acre property for more than 15 years. His hives yielded nearly 1,000 pounds of honey annually. Although he gave up the equipment, Newlin held onto a honey collection amassed from 60 different countries.

John Hamman, dean of mathematics and statistics, maintains the College hives. Hamman's beekeeping expertise stems from his own experiences running a hobby farm with his wife, Kira. Along with chickens, a donkey, and a vegetable garden, they maintain two apiaries. Their honey goes to baking and gifting. The beeswax becomes soap, hand lotion, and conditioning for joints in woodworking projects.

"I believe in the mission of bees and beekeeping," says Hamman. He points out the MC hive's dual purpose of aiding instruction and pollinating the greenhouse plants next door. He is encouraged by increasing interest in beekeeping, something he considers an outgrowth of the sustainable living, buying local, and recycling movements.

"The sooner people realize their food doesn't just appear in the supermarket, or on their plate in a restaurant, the better.... We don't need big business to do this. We need 100 people keeping one colony each. More small-scale people keeping bees is good for everybody."



Honey & Health Sara Bachman Ducey

Honey as a food and medicine has its roots in ancient times. Neolithic cave art demonstrates honey-gathering as far back as 40,000 years. Mentions of honey appear throughout ancient and sacred writings, Sumerian Tablets (2100 BC) to Qurans, the Old Testament, and the East Indian healing tradition Ayurveda. Today, honey's beneficial properties are supported by research. In addition to its natural sugars (glucose and fructose), honey contains small but valuable amounts of minerals, vitamins, amino acids, and other nutrients. Honey is also antibacterial, anti-viral, anti-fungal, and anti-parasitic. Medical researchers have re-discovered its ability to promote wound healing without encouraging antibiotic resistance.

Here are a few ways to include honey into your health and beauty routines:

Sore Throat: Place 2 tablespoons of honey into a glass of warm (not hot) water. Gargle for 30 seconds. Spit and repeat until all is used up. The honey serves two purposes here: it soothes raw tissues at the top of the throat, and it helps discourage pathogenic bacteria.

Facial Scrub: Mix raw honey with a bit of brown sugar, olive oil, and a touch of lemon juice. Use this as a gentle facial scrub. Leave off the lemon juice and it's an aid for dry lips.

Honey Mask: The high sugar concentration in honey both kills bacteria and inhibits its growth. For teens prone to acne, they can rub warm (not hot) raw honey onto their face as a gentle "mask" to treat acne. Leave on for 30 minutes and wash off with warm water.

Purchase and Storage Tips: Wild,

unprocessed honeys offer the most health benefits. Refining honey (heat and filtration) to make the perfectly clear honey seen in plastic honey-bear containers will diminish many of its health benefits. Consider buying small amounts of honey. Store in a cool, dark environment and use within 12 months. Always use a clean and dry spoon to dip the honey out of the jar.

Sarah Bachman Ducey, MS, CNS, is director of the Paul Peck Humanities Institute.





Doctoring Up His Life Story

By Jill Fitzgerald

s Dr. Fred Romberg '92 explains, his job as an anesthesiologist requires using potent pharmaceuticals and various high-tech gadgets to hijack the brain, heart, and lungs to control important vital signs like temperature, blood flow, and respiratory rate. He continually processes multiple patterns and waveforms to make such decisions, in essence, treating the human body as if it were a complex control theory problem.

So when he sits down at a piece of equipment designed to perform one of these functions and he can't turn it on or change a setting, there is a problem. Does it take a rocket scientist to figure out this systems engineering conundrum?

Fortunately, Romberg, who holds a master's in electrical engineering, is also a rocket scientist.

"I come from the space industry, where you think a lot about what you design before you build it. You run it through simulations and you get users to comment on it. Then you recreate and improve it based on user specifications. You design something that should work the first time. When it's in deep space hurtling towards Mars, it better work."

"Someone with an engineering background and a medical background has the potential to create very efficient and well-designed medical products," says Romberg, who left a 12-year career at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) at Caltech to enroll at Yale Medical School in 2006.

Romberg, 46, says his motivation was less midlife crisis—and more about working with people in crisis. In his last years at JPL, he counseled students at Caltech. He describes it as very gratifying work. "I now have the luxury of thinking about what will make me happy. Growing up in a single-parent home on welfare did not allow me to make my initial career choices based on passion or fulfillment. Instead, at an early age, practicality and survival were key motivators."

At 16, he left high school and lived independently to escape an unstable home life. Mechanically gifted, he supported himself by working as an automotive and heavy truck mechanic for seven years. During this time, he earned a GED. After landing a job as the vehicle maintenance supervisor at Montgomery College in 1989, he enrolled at the Germantown Campus, initially taking remedial coursework.

His supervisor, Ruth Henderson, gave him leave throughout the day to accommodate his class schedule, although he had to wear a beeper to respond to emergencies. While working full time, Romberg earned a 3.92 GPA—and an AA in engineering.

Professor Emeritus Ed Sereno, who taught Romberg at every math course he took at MC, from college algebra and trigonometry to calculus and differential equations, says, "I recognized early on that he had some very strong abilities and very high capacity." Romberg sought out Sereno for transfer advice, and Sereno suggested the engineering program at Virginia Tech.

"It all started at Montgomery College. To this day, it holds a special place in my heart. People like Ed Sereno, Vince McManaman [physics professor emeritus], and many others helped me change my path in life in ways I never thought would be possible. I will never forget the incredible support and encouragement I received at MC."

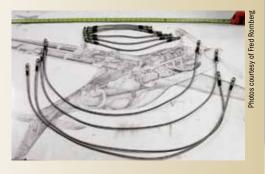
Romberg flourished at Virginia Tech. To help defray the cost of school, he received financial aid through a work-study program at Virginia Tech's Satellite Communications Group. He later entered a co-op program, working summers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) at Caltech. Caltech offered Romberg a job at JPL after graduation, but he did attract interest from CIA recruiters.

In 1997 and 1998, he took two leavesof-absence from JPL to work with the CIA in, as he puts it, "Technical aspects of foreign intelligence operations of interest to national security." All he can divulge of his I come from the space industry, where you think a lot about what you design before you build it.... When it's in deep space hurtling towards

Mars. it better work.



Romberg, who mentored high school students in an engineering class, says, "It all started at Montgomery College. To this day, it holds a special place in my heart."











An Idea That Took Off

Romberg and a co-worker at JPL purchased a Lancair Legacy, an experimental high-performance 370-horsepower, two-seater plane that Romberg built himself. Elaine Gee (third photo down), Romberg's Harvard-educated wife who works in next generation DNA sequencing, helped with the three-year project.

work with the CIA is extensive fieldwork and foreign travel; use of technical knowledge in liquid propulsion, guidance, and control; and flight test systems of specific foreign ballistic missiles. But his resume listing of the Clandestine Information Technology Office speaks volumes about his assignments.

Romberg, having acquired a great deal of knowledge about Scud missile systems in his first stint with the CIA, accepted a short assignment as a weapons inspector for the United Nations, Office of the Special Commission (UNSCOM) in Iraq.

"When we arrived by UN cargo plane in Baghdad, we were

immediately surrounded by Iraqi military with weapons drawn," he says. "It was a fascinating trip. The locals were very friendly and I explored another culture I may not have otherwise experienced."

"I was a bit naïve about what I thought I would accomplish on these missions," says Romberg, "but I'm always seeking out interesting experiences and try to 'travel the path less taken' when able."

Romberg's path often takes him to greater heights. His fascination with space and flight started at an early age. While at MC, Romberg was one of 44 students nationwide to participate in NASA's Space Life Sciences Training Program at the Kennedy Space Center. At 22, Romberg received Federal Aviation Administration certification as a private pilot. He went on to obtain an instrument rating, as well as flight instructor and commercial pilot certificates. He befriended a fellow pilot while in graduate school at Caltech. The two lifelong friends co-own a Lancair Legacy, an experimental high-performance 370-horsepower, two-seater plane that Romberg built himself.

Elaine Gee, whom Romberg met at Caltech, shared his interest in flying and helped with the three-year project. The two not only share nerdy hobbies, but also a curiosity to explore the world. Romberg calls Gee, a Harvard-educated PhD who works in next-generation DNA

sequencing, his smarter half. On March 14, 2015 (the Pi Day irony is not lost on them), he made her his better half. Ed Sereno, recently ordained as a minister for this purpose, officiated the wedding. Vince McManaman and Romberg's best man, Kevin Roberts '92, also represented the Montgomery College contingent.

"Marrying Elaine is one of the best decisions Fred made," says Sereno. "And every decision Fred makes is well thought out and purposeful."

Another example of Romberg's methodical planning is his decision to help people in crisis. In his last years at JPL, Romberg was a resident associate at Caltech, providing counseling and crisis intervention to undergraduates. Romberg found the work immensely gratifying. "My passion for helping others was colliding with my intellectually stimulating, but less personally fulfilling career as an engineer." His Caltech mentors, namely Dr. Alice Huang (who later became one of Romberg's student pilots), encouraged him to parlay his engineering skills into a career in medicine.

When Romberg contemplated his transition to medical school, he enrolled at Occidental College to complete post-baccalaureate work in, among other subjects, organic chemistry and biology. He answered the bell with a 4.0 GPA, but his struggles with seemingly routine lab quizzes did not go unnoticed. One of his instructors, who had children with the same condition, suggested he might have dyslexia.



Fred Romberg, now an anesthesiology resident at the University of Utah, says his job requires using potent pharmaceuticals and various high-tech gadgets to hijack the brain, heart, and lungs to control vital signs like temperature, blood flow, and respiratory rate. He continually processes multiple patterns and waveforms to make such decisions, in essence, treating the human body as if it were a complex control theory problem.

After testing revealed Romberg was both highly gifted (IQ in the 98th percentile) and dyslexic (reading speed in the 8th percentile), he obtained testing accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act for his Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). At Yale, Romberg requested, but was denied accommodations by the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) for the US Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE).

To appeal the decision of the NBME, Romberg enlisted the help of Dr. Sally Shaywitz, a leading dyslexia researcher and head of Yale's Center for Dyslexia and Creativity. Shaywitz encouraged Romberg to file a complaint with the US Department of Justice (DOJ), which opened an investigation.

In a compelling letter written on Romberg's behalf, as part of his final medical school evaluation summary, Shaywitz wrote: "Fred Romberg... presents with an unexpected difficulty in reading quickly and automatically; he is highly intelligent and dyslexic.... He is the sort of caring, thoughtful, compassionate, creative, and highly positive and forward-looking individual who can and will contribute substantially to medicine and the kind of individual whom medicine dearly needs."

In the February 2011 settlement, the NBME agreed to give Romberg twice the usual testing time. "It was an enormous weight off my shoulders," says Romberg. "I am extremely grateful to my mentors and colleagues at Yale and the folks at DOJ for their support. I hope these efforts will also benefit others in a similar situation. I thought my career in medicine was over—it was the longest year of my life."

With a life full of stranger-than-fiction material, Romberg, now an anesthesiology resident at the University of Utah, is poised to launch his next career—and is ready to write the next chapter of his book. Although the ending remains uncertain, with all of Romberg's intellectual pursuits and passion for helping people he will not have to "doctor up" the details.

He is the sort of caring, thoughtful, compassionate, creative, and highly positive and forward thinking individual... whom medicine dearly needs.

—Dr. Sally Shaywitz

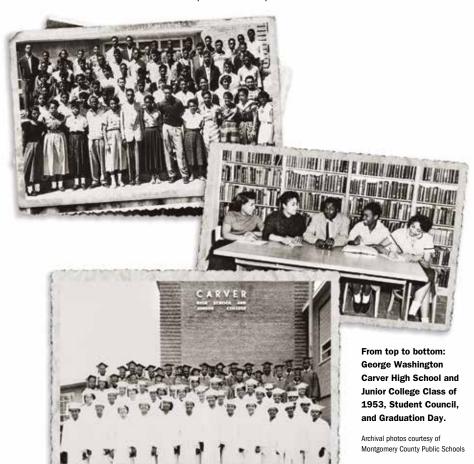
Co-Director

Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity



Public Schools Offices Were MC's Original Rockville Campus

By David M. Frey





cross Mannakee Street from Montgomery College's Rockville Campus hides a relic of hope from the days of segregation.

Once an old flat-roofed two-story brick high school, the building today houses the Montgomery County Public Schools administrative offices; but inside, hints of its past remain. The basement cafeteria is preserved much as it may have looked when students first filled it, with a blackand-white checkered floor, chrome-legged chairs and Formica tables.

Throughout the 1950s, this building was the George Washington Carver High School and Junior College. In the parlance of the day, it was a Negro school, the county's only high school for African-Americans, some of whom spent hours on buses to travel from as far as Damascus and Dickerson to attend.

It was also the county's only black college, at a time when Montgomery Junior College, still operated under the county's



Pete Vidal

segregated public school system, barred blacks from attending. Through the twists of history, though, Carver would become Montgomery College's first Rockville Campus.

Jean Johnson, now 86, was in Carver Junior College's first graduating class. She remembers commencement day, May 31, 1953, walking across the lawn in her graduation gown—and her dog, Spirit, a big police dog, tearing across the grass to congratulate her, terrifying the crowd as it bolted a mile from her home to see her.

"Everybody was running and scampering," she recalls, laughing. "I said, 'Oh my God, it's my dog!'"

Schools in Montgomery County had a history of being separate and unequal. The first Negro elementary school opened in 1866. The first high school, Rockville Colored High, didn't open until 1927, in a building with windows on one side that made some call it a "chicken house."

Blacks could only go as far as eighth grade. By 1931, they could get to eleventh grade. In 1943 they could finish twelfth grade, by then at Rockville's Lincoln High School.

Like Montgomery College three years before, Carver Junior College got its start in a high school basement—in this case, Lincoln High. In 1949, Montgomery Junior College Dean Hugh Price headed a Board of Education ad hoc committee to launch a junior college for blacks. He approached Lincoln High School Principal Parlett Moore about serving as its dean. Moore agreed.

In *Montgomery College: Maryland's First Community College*, the late William
Fox recounts this period, using the terminology of the 1970s:

"As public education in Maryland was then segregated and as there had been no junior college facility in Montgomery County for Negroes, the Board of Education established in August 1950, the George Washington Carver Junior College which was to operate in Lincoln High School with Mr. Moore serving as the dean."

One year later, the college found a new home at a brand new high school.

"From its opening in 1951, George Washington Carver High School and Junior College was unlike any other county school for African American children," says *Carver: The Heart of a Community*, a history published by Montgomery County Public Schools. "Built to modern standards, Carver shined. Former students remember the gleaming floors and pastel walls, unmarred even years later."

"Carver made a lot of difference in my life," says Johnson, who studied secretarial work. Others studied mechanics, construction, cosmetology, dry cleaning, tailoring and home economics.

Many lives were changed by Carver, says Anita Neal Powell '79, a Montgomery College Alumni Association board member





1957 Homecoming

who has chronicled Carver's history and championed its preservation.

Named for George Washington Carver, the scientist most famous for discovering new uses for peanuts, the school "played an important role in the African American community," Powell says. "It was the only place you could go."

But it was also a place where faculty watched over students and where, despite a high dropout rate, black students had a chance to succeed.

Then everything changed. In May 1954, with the *Brown v. The Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* decision, the Supreme Court ended school segregation. Maryland schools laid plans to integrate.

Carver merged with Montgomery Junior College. After serving 125 students, Carver became Montgomery Junior College's Rockville Branch. In the spring of 1960, 53 graduates became the last to receive George Washington Carver Junior College diplomas. Segregation at Montgomery Junior College was over.

Carver's legacy lives on.

Today the building is called the Carver Educational Services Center. Signs throughout the building honor its history as "a place where ambition and dreams were nurtured." In 2003, supported by Powell's research, it was designated a Rockville Historic District.

"We're very proud of it," says Powell, who also serves on Rockville's Historic Preservation Board. "We're very proud of what we were able to do."

"Classmates still get together. They maintain their history," Powell says. "When you look at the students that attended the junior college and graduated, they proudly say 'I am a Carver graduate.'" ■

Visit the new MCPS Carver High School website: montgomeryschoolsmd.org/carver

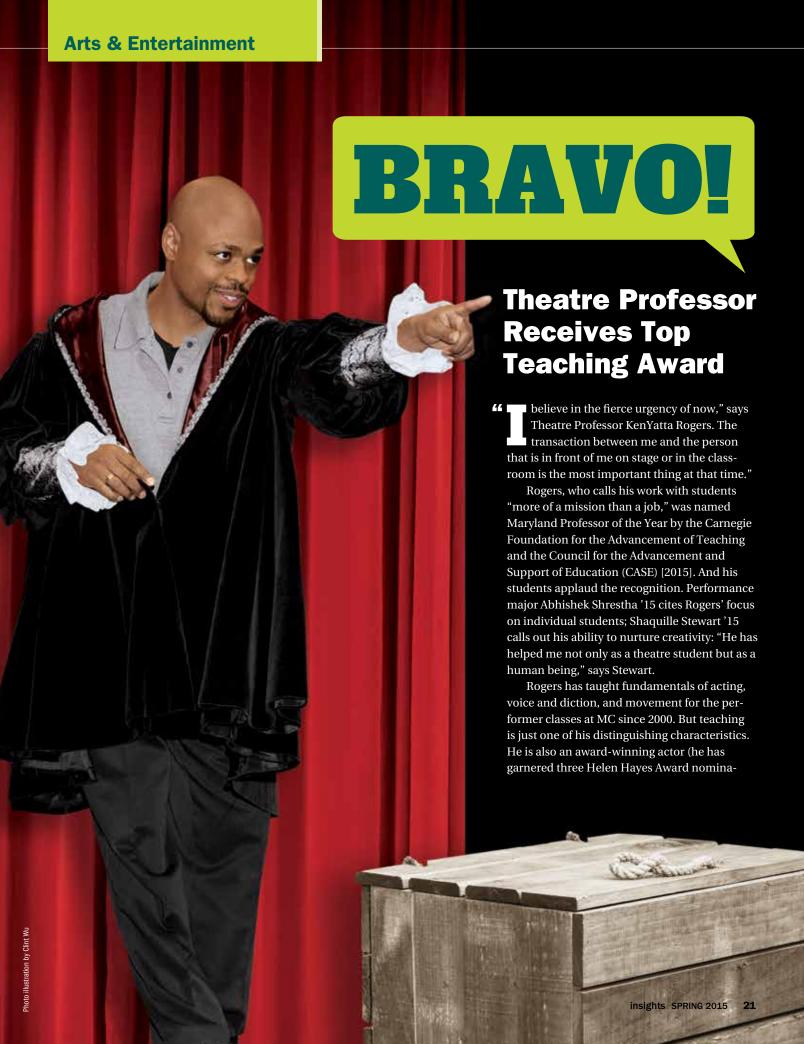
Leading Us Back

Anita Neal Powell, current Montgomery County NAACP president, spearheaded the research that led to Carver's historical designation. Her work has documented the often forgotten connection between MC and Carver alumni. Powell, a Rockville native, is president/CEO of the Lincoln Park Historical Foundation and oversees the Leroy E. Neal African American Research Center. Her publications include African American Heritage: A Guide to African American Sites in Montgomery County; African American

Heritage: A Journey through History; and The Hub of Black Education. She has received numerous awards, citations, and recognitions for her volunteer work and accomplishments, including Maryland's Top 100 Women for 2007 Award, and the African American Chamber of Commerce of Montgomery County, 2007 Community Service of the Year Award. Her more than 40-year career at the US Department of Health and Human Services includes her current work as a health statistician.



ete Vidal



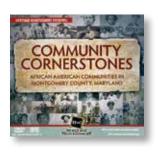
Arts & Entertainment

tions for his stage performances) with more than 50 film, television, radio, and voiceover credits, including the National Endowment for the Arts' *The Big Read* series and PBS' *Standard Deviants*. Often, he acts on Washington-area stages at night and comes in to teach the next morning. He also advises the Black Box Players, a student theater group on the Rockville Campus, and mentors more than 30 students each year. He has served as a director and coach for more than 15 productions for the College.

Rogers co-produces WILLPOWER!, an annual Shake-speare festival founded in 2003 and attended by more than 10,000 people. He also co-produces MCSLAM!, an annual poetry festival featuring student work. Looking ahead, Rogers says the department will be departing from Shakespearean WILLPOWER! to a broader global perspective. In April, the WILLPOWER! week of master classes, performances, lectures, and workshops featured both Shakespeare and Commedia dell'Arte—an art form of the Italian Renaissance that features broad physical comedy and fun, irreverent, brassy characters, recognizable in today's sitcoms and rom-coms.

"Exciting things are coming up next season," says Rogers. "We will be taking on world issues and examining them through the lens of theatre." In addition to next season's lineup of *Godspell, Marisol, In the Heights*, and *Conference of the Birds*, the department will offer a learning community course with the Music Department. The pairing will coordinate the global themes so each class reinforces the other and enhances learning. Rogers is also working with a student to create a promotional video for the learning community, as well as archival products of performances as reference material for other theatre and educational groups.

This is the eighth time in eleven years—and the sixth consecutive year—that a Montgomery College professor has been named Maryland Professor of the Year. Previous winners are Dr. Mary Furgol (history); Professor Joan Naake (English); Susan Bontems (chemistry); Dr. Deborah Stearns (psychology); Professor Dawn Avery (music); Professor John Hamman (math) and Dr. Greg Wahl (English).



Professor KenYatta Rogers narrated the documentary film, "Community Cornerstones: African American Communities in Montgomery County, Maryland," produced for Heritage Montgomery by Barbara Grunbaum and edited by MCTV producer Francine Wyron. The hour-long program

features oral histories of county elders in local communities that developed after the Civil War. **heritagemontgomery.org**

SUMMER DINNER THEATRE

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

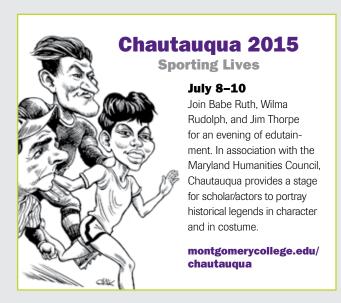
June 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28

LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL

July 17, 18, 24, 25, 26, 31 August 1, 2

TICKETS montgomerycollege.edu/sdt

Alumni receive a 10% discount on the opening Saturday night of each performance!







In Her Element: Artist Thrives in Open Studio

nside Studio #227 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria, Jennifer Brewer Stone '01 experiments with color, form, and mixed media under fish-bowl conditions. For her new Textural Series, she thins brightly colored oil paint with linseed oil, testing consistency, and then blends it with molding paste. Using a palette knife, she spreads the mixture onto a Masonite board, forming peaks and swirls as she goes. The foundational layer will take two weeks to dry, at which point Stone will paint details on the hardened summits and crests. For a recent commissioned piece, she painted delicate sea plants atop a gradient of Dioxazine Purple, Phthalo Turquoise, and Cobalt Blue. She uses a Robert Simmons Sn51 liner brush so fine it comprises just a few fibers. The scene took nearly 50 hours to complete.

Stone, a full-time artist and former graphic designer, was juried in to the art center in 2012. In exchange for the studio and gallery space, she must work there at least 28 hours a week. She was nervous at first about having onlookers during the creative process, but three years in, the live audience has proven to be an asset. People ask questions, provide feedback, and occasionally buy a piece of her art.

"People are either scared to step into the studio," she says, "or they walk right up to the piece. The interaction helps me know what people respond to, and how to price it."

Children are her favorite art critics: "They like to talk about what they see, and they are refreshingly honest."

Young and young-at-heart seem drawn to her tropical, hyper-realistic Dance of Life Series. The brilliant colors and unusual plants and creatures radiate Stone's joie de vivre. In works titled, Jelly Undulations, Seadragon's Surprise, and Spring Serenade, winged creatures float along a Cobalt backdrop that could be sky or water. She gravitates to dramatic forms in nature-orchid petals, coleus leaves, and butterfly wings.

"I like to paint reef fish—especially creatures like batwing slugs, seadragons, and nudibranchs-because they look so fantastic, so otherworldly."

Working in public view brings interruptions, but Stone is mindful that the

Side view of Swells and Undercurrents. Stone used molding paste and oil paint to create a highly textured surface that resembles ocean waves.

narrative of each piece translates into positive customer relations and art appreciation in general.

"Most of my sales are from people who have already made personal connections to me or the work, either at the Torpedo Factory or at shows."

Stone has participated in more than 45 shows since she began painting full time five years ago. Her artwork has been featured in èlan magazine and in The Washington Post. She had a solo show at the Art League Gallery of Old Town Alexandria in July 2013, and has been accepted into national and international juried shows for the Dance of Life Series. Collectors across the United States and in Europe have purchased her work. Stone is usually in her Torpedo Factory studio Wednesday through Friday, and on Sundays, from 11 a.m. through 6 p.m.

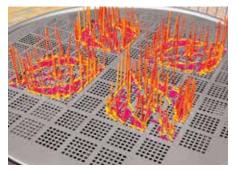
torpedofactory.org and jennifersartgallery.com











artw@lk

The Rockville Art Department's ArtWalk takes place each April on the campus grounds. Works by individual students and class collaborations—visual, participatory, and always outside—remain on display for one week. This year's ArtWalk featured more than 25 installations and events, including temporary tattoos, screen printing, drawings, sculptures, and performances. More than 200 students participated. Germantown Campus celebrated the arts with their first annual event. Special projects, in coordination with MC-Germantown Student Life's Earth Day celebration on April 22, included group project sculptures made from recyclables; buttons with designs based on endangered species from Maryland; and screen-printed Earth Day t-shirts.

montgomerycollege.edu/artrockville





HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Help Release a Raptor

You can support scholarships for Montgomery College students by contributing to MC's Annual Fund. Last year, alumni contributed more than \$275,000 to 519 student scholarships.

Represent the Raptors

Be an active part of the Alumni Association. We coordinate alumni events, organize student scholarship fundraising activities, select student recipients of scholarship funds, and determine member benefits.

Take a Raptor Under Your Wing

Even if you are a former Knight, Falcon, or Gryphon, you can mentor a current Montgomery College student majoring in a field like yours.

Recruit a Raptor

You can support students by posting available jobs in your company.

Squawk—or Tweet—about Montgomery College

Speak up about issues important to Montgomery College. Get the word out on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media. Contact Montgomery County and State of Maryland legislators to encourage support and funding for the College.

For more information on how to help the Alumni Association, call Greg Enloe, director of alumni relations and annual giving, at gregory.enloe@montgomerycollege.edu or 240-567-7977.

Greg Enloe serves the Alumni Association by creating networking opportunities for alumni that also generate money for scholarships. Enloe (center), with Lori Thomas '99, Alumni Association vice president, and John Libby '80, alumni coordinator, poses for a picture at a recent Association event at the Greene Turtle in Olney, Maryland.



montgomerycollege.edu/onlinegiving

For more information, contact Greg Enloe, director of alumni relations and annual giving, at 240-567-7977 or gregory.enloe@montgomerycollege.edu.





Robert Falcetti

EVELYN ROJAS



After transferring to Cornell University, Rojas attended UConn School of Law in 2009. She works as a prosecutor for the State of Connecticut. After more than a decade, she wrote to thank English Professor, Robert Giron, for introducing her to creative writing. Giron told *Insights* that her e-mail was "the cherry on my figurative sundae," adding that he was intrigued, but not surprised, to learn of her career choice. "I often tell my students English and argumentation pave the way to law, and she has proven that."



When did you know you wanted to be an attorney?

I went to law school intending to go to foreign service. But I changed my mind after interning for the State's Attorney's Office the summer after my first year of law school. After that, I interned for an additional year and a half. During that time, I worked with various prosecutors and observed up close the hard work, dedication, and passion they had for their work, regardless of how long they had been prosecutors. I assisted in preparing for trials, calling cases before the judge, and talking to defendants. Becoming a prosecutor was a way I could help people and give back to the community.

Describe your typical day as a prosecutor.

Every day, I talk to people who have been arrested and charged with a crime. I review the police report and, depending on the seriousness of the offense, whether or not there is a victim who was injured or who needs to be made whole in the form of restitution, the person's criminal history (or lack of), and any mitigating circumstances, I make an offer to resolve the case. Sometimes doing the right thing means offering a period of incarceration to a defendant who has shown through his actions/behavior that he/she is not amenable to rehabilitation. Other times it means giving a defendant a suspended sentence and giving them an opportunity to obtain mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, etc. In some instances, it means "nolleing" (dropping) the charges and giving a person a second chance because they made a mistake, they acknowledge it, and it is very likely the first and last time I will see them in court.

What about cases that cannot be resolved with a plea agreement?

Oftentimes, cases that go to trial are the hardest to try because the complainant is reluctant to testify, is vulnerable

(due to their age or mental state), is unsympathetic, is dead, or most of the evidence is circumstantial and the state's witnesses have criminal histories, pending cases, etc. Nevertheless, those cases, like any other, still need to be prosecuted because we do not get to pick and choose only the cases that are strong. We also have to proceed on cases we cannot reach agreements on and must leave to the judicial juror process for decision and determination of truth as to whether the defendant is guilty.

What has been your most memorable case?

I do not necessarily have a memorable case, but I have a memorable defendant. This past summer, I had a defendant who was a 65-year-old woman charged with larceny in the sixth degree. She allegedly went into a store and took a pair of socks without paying for them. The police were called and she was arrested. The woman had no criminal history, and she did not speak English very well. I explained to her that I would continue her case for a couple of months. As long as she did not pick up any new arrests and did not go back to the store, I would nolle (drop) the charges against her. The woman agreed to the offer, but she wanted to return the socks because they did not match and were "useless" to her. She then opened her purse and showed me the mismatched socks. I explained to her that she could not go back to the store or she could get arrested again.

Advice to students or anyone following in your footsteps?

Do not give up too easily. It took me four years to get my associate's degree at Montgomery College. I also applied twice to Cornell University before I got accepted. I took the LSAT twice before going to law school. It took me two years to get hired as a prosecutor, but it was worth the wait.

Looking back, how did starting at a community college make a difference?

I went to MC because when I graduated from high school, I did not yet have a green card. My mother and I left El Salvador and came to the United States seeking asylum, so we only had a permit. Montgomery College allowed me to attend part time. For two years, I took just one class per semester, since it was all my mother could afford. On the days I did not have class, I would help her clean houses. Eventually, I was able to go full time, but it took me four years to finish. I graduated from Montgomery College in 2002 with an associate's degree in English.

You went from English literature to law? Tell us about the switch.

I took Professor Robert Giron's creative writing class as an elective. It was one of the most enriching classes because it gave me a deeper appreciation for creative writing, particularly for writing children's stories. At first my goal was to become a literature professor. My senior year at Cornell, I was researching graduate schools and PhD programs in English when I saw the home page for law school. I read about their law program and learned the different things one can do with a law degree (from teaching to practicing law). I realized a career in law was what I wanted to pursue. Sometimes life takes us through unexpected turns. We have to be flexible enough to adapt to new situations in order to succeed.

What's next?

My long-term goal is to become a Part A Prosecutor, a prosecutor who tries all the serious felony cases, such as murders, sexual assault in the first degree, armed robbery, etc. And, if God wills it, perhaps one day I will become a judge.

-Diane Bosser



What will your legacy be? **CGA: Life Income and Help for Future Students** The Montgomery College Foundation Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) offers a way to make gifts today and later. A charitable gift annuity enables you to make a gift that might otherwise have come through your estate—while you also enjoy significant benefits today. Find out how simple it is to leave your legacy. Call us today. Montgomery College Foundation • Francene T. Walker, CFRE francene.walker@montgomerycollege.edu • 240-567-7491 "I am pleased to honor my wife's memory by supporting future students through a CGA." –Joseph, donor

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Send your updates and photos via e-mail to **alumni@montgomerycollege.edu** or the online "Submit Your News" form at **montgomerycollege.edu/insightsonline**.

Photo Submission Guidelines

Send your photos as high-resolution JPG files (at least 1800 x 1200 pixels or 1 MB file size). Do not embed your photos into your e-mail. Send them as attachments. Because of space limitations, we are not able to publish every photo we receive.

1970s



Anita Volpe '76 is director of perioperative patient safety and quality at New York Hospital Queens. She comments, "The advice that I received at graduation from the College's nursing program director, Helen Statts, had a tremendous impact. She said, 'never forget who you are. You are a nurse.' This has been my philosophy for many years—to uphold my duties as a nurse and to promote the vital role nurses play in providing care and support to the patients and families they serve."

Dr. Burton Clark '76 has published a collection of essays on fire science, *I Can't Save You, But I'll Die Trying: The American Fire Culture.*

Debra Burrows '78 manages Kids Dental Clinic in Germantown.



1990s

Dr. Ruth T. Naylor'93 is a cognitive behavioral hypnotherapist who volunteers at West Parish Garden
Cemetery.

She has created a juried project that will be shown at the Andover Historical Society in October 2015.

Ted Malaska '98 is the co-author of *Hadoop Application Architectures*, a manual on big-data management, which was released in fall 2014.

2000s

Joseph Black '02 is the founder and president of Joe Black Entertainment (J.B.E.) in Baltimore, which reached its tenth anniversary in 2014.

Pauline Tither '04 received her doctor of nursing practice degree from Frontier Nursing University in 2014. She is working as a family nurse practitioner.



Timothy Van Zandt, RN '06is vice president of government and community relations for the Saint Luke's Health System.
He was a budget

overseer for the departments of Health and Mental Health in the Missouri House of Representatives from 1995 to 2002. He serves on the boards of the Kansas Economic Progress Council; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Armour Oaks Senior Community; and Friends of the Conservatory of Music and Dance at UMKC.

2010s

Franklin Nouketcha '11, a Bliss Memorial Scholarship recipient and Kendall Scholar, earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Maryland and now has

entered their PhD program in electrical engineering. He writes, "I am glad and honored to have started my education in the US at Montgomery College. I have met incredible faculty and staff who have all transformed my life. Although I graduated from the College in 2011, I still receive support from my engineering teachers. They are always there to help me and to encourage me to learn more. I came to US from Cameroon with very little, but with all the help that I have received, my dreams are coming true."



Heather Schramm '12 is an archaeological field technician for Skelly and Loy Inc.

Michael Eleff '13 graduated cum laude from the University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in finance. He was chosen to give the graduating seniors address to fellow classmates, family, and friends at the 2014 Robert H. Smith School of Business winter commencement.

Kenya Sesay '14 is a program coordinator for NAMI Montgomery County, the Maryland affiliate of National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Dr. Jane J. Anderson

January 27, 2015

She was a history/political science professor at the Rockville Campus. She retired in June 2005 after almost 40 years at the College.

Dr. William T. Anagnoson

January 21, 2015

He was a professor in the Student Development Office at the Takoma Park/ Silver Spring Campus. He worked at the College from August 1, 1967, until his retirement on January 1, 2015.

Gloria "Nell" Kane

November 20, 2014

She worked as a gift coordinator in the Office of Institutional Advancement. She retired in January 2013 having worked at the College for 33 years.

Thomas E. Marshall, Bliss '41

November 8, 2014

He worked as a civilian engineer for the Naval Weapons Lab and the US Naval Research Laboratory (NRL). He was awarded seven patents while working at NRL. One of his projects included designing and building weather stations for use in Antarctica.

Glen A. Leizear '80

May 19, 2014

He owned and operated The Club House Restaurant in Daytona Beach, Fla. for 22 years.

Phillip Travis Weigner '10

May 12, 2014

Marianne W. Hollis '82

March 25, 2014

She worked as an art teacher for the residents of William Hill Manor and

Genesis Healthcare. She was also a member of the Working Artists Forum and the Rehoboth Art League.

Robert L. Cale, Bliss '49

February 16, 2014

He served in the US Army for two years during the Korean War and was stationed in Okinawa, Japan. He later became an electrician and was employed by Heim Electric for 33 years before retiring in 1991.

Linda C. Bren '75

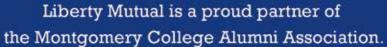
July 31, 2013

Catharine B. Wetteroth

July 3, 2013

She was an instructional assistant in the Humanities Department at the Rockville Campus.





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Montgomery College Alumni Association 51 Mannakee Street, WG-110 Rockville, MD 20850

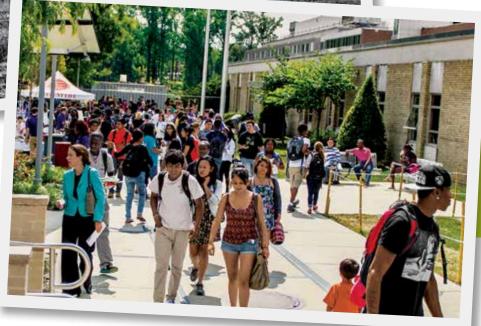
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In September 1965, 2,489 students enrolled at the College's newest campus in Rockville. According to the late William Fox, "The campus was raw and disappointing in appearance... and 'boxes' for buildings with unimaginative design." Fifty years later, the Rockville Campus is a vibrant campus serving 16,364 students with innovative new buildings and the 500-seat Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center.

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