

INSIGHTS

Montgomery College Alumni and Friends Magazine • Fall 2004

AN ARCHITECTURAL FIXTURE



HUGH NEWELL JACOBSEN '48

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

DECEMBER

Thursday 2

MC WIND AND FLUTE ENSEMBLES

Paul Noble and Vanita Jones, Conductors
8 p.m., Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center,
Rockville Campus. Free.

Thursday 2

THE 38TH ANNUAL FACULTY ART EXHIBITION

December 2 – 17. Opening Reception:
Thursday, December 2, 6 – 8 p.m.
Art Gallery, 2nd floor, Paul Peck Art Building,
Rockville Campus. Gallery hours during exhibi-
tions are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.;
Saturday, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.; evening hours Tuesday
and Wednesday, 6 – 8 p.m. 301-279-5115.

Sunday 5

CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

U.S. Navy Band Piano Trio
3 p.m., Music Recital Hall, Rockville Campus.
Free.

Tuesday 7

MC JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Ward Harris, Conductor
8 p.m., Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center,
Rockville Campus. Free.

Wednesday 8

"HEALING WORDS"

Kelly Huegel, an award-winning author of two
self-help books for teens, will discuss her
works: "Young People and Chronic Illness,"
and "GLBTQ: The Survival Guide for Queer
and Questioning Teens."
7 p.m., Bliss Room, Campus Commons, Takoma
Park Campus. Free.

Friday 10

STUDENT HONORS RECITAL

8 p.m., Music Recital Hall, Rockville Campus.
Free.

Tuesday 14

ANNUAL JURIED SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN STUDENT EXHIBITION

December 14 – February 6, 2005. Award Cere-
mony and Reception: Tuesday, December 14,
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Gudelsky Gallery and Auxiliary Gallery, located
at the School of Art and Design at Montgomery
College, 10500 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD
20902. 301-649-4454.

Friday 31

JOE BYRD QUINTET

Ring in the New Year with the Joe Byrd quintet,
a jazz group dedicated to keeping the music of
Charlie Byrd alive. Champagne, hors d'oeuvres,
and good spirit will be on hand, too.
9:30 p.m., Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center,
Rockville Campus. \$40; \$38 seniors and students.
301-279-5301.

JANUARY

Saturday 8

COLOR ME DARK: A STORY OF THE GREAT MIGRATION NORTH

An adaptation of "Color Me Dark: The Diary of
Nellie Lee Love," a children's book written by
award-winning author Patricia C. McKissack.
The play tells the story of two sisters during
a time of great social uprising. Ages 9 and up.
11 a.m., Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center,
Rockville Campus. \$6 adults; \$5 seniors, students,
and children. 301-279-5301.

Saturday 22

JUNIE B. JONES

A new musical based on the popular children's
series by Barbara Park. Follow Junie's adventures
as she starts first grade. Part of the Saturday
morning children's series. Ages 5 and up.
11 a.m., Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center,
Rockville Campus. \$6 adults; \$5 seniors, students,
and children. 301-279-5301.

Monday 24

MASTER SCULPTORS

January 24 – February 11. Opening Reception:
Monday, January 24, 6 – 8 p.m.
Art Gallery, 2nd floor, Paul Peck Art Building,
Rockville Campus. Gallery hours during exhibi-
tions are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.;
Saturday, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.; evening hours Tuesday
and Wednesday, 6 – 8 p.m. 301-279-5115.

Thursday 27

ARGENTINIAN TANGO MUSIC

Argentinian tango musical ensemble concert.
8 p.m., Music Recital Hall, Rockville Campus.
Free. 301-279-5035.

Friday 28

AIDA

The story of an Ethiopian slave girl torn between
her love for an Egyptian army officer and for her
own people. Performed by Opera Verdi Europa.
8 p.m., Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center,
Rockville Campus. \$30 adults; \$28 seniors, stu-
dents, and children. 301-279-5301.

FEBRUARY

Saturday 5

MC FOLLIES

A singing president and professorial skits high-
light this annual staff talent event. Come join the
fun—you can even purchase unique items in the
Alumni Association's silent auction to benefit
student scholarships.
6:30 p.m., Theatre Arts Arena, Rockville Campus.
For ticket information, call 301-251-7974.

For a complete calendar of upcoming events,
visit www.montgomerycollege.edu and click on
Calendar. For more information about perform-
ances at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts
Center, visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC
or call the box office at 301-279-5301.

U-PASS: ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TRANSIT SERVICE

As a true "commuter college," Montgomery
College is finding ways to increase access to
its three campuses. Through the new U-Pass
Program, MC students who show a current
ID can board Ride On buses without paying
a fare. U-Pass service offers students the

opportunity to reduce the demand for on-
campus parking, reduce pollution, and ease
congestion in the community. For more
information and bus schedules, please visit
www.montgomerycountymd.gov and click
on Ride On. Or call 240-777-RIDE (7433).



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Donor Honor Roll



Reading this issue's articles and Class Notes, you may be struck by the range of creative ingenuity our alumni can display. Bliss graduate Charley Grigsby '42 has made a lifetime of contributions to fields ranging from cheesemaking to rustproofing to skin care. Wayne S. Green '43, also a Bliss alumnus, taught electronics to World War II submariners and later went on to publish *BYTE*, the first general-circulation computer magazine. Hugh Newell Jacobsen '48 used MC to turn around his academic progress and set himself on the path toward becoming one of Washington's premier architectural designers. Dolores Wojeik '78 has embarked on a writing career—after retiring from 19 years of teaching. And computer programming developed by Ezinne Uzo-Okoro '02 is helping NASA collect information from the Cassini probe, which swung into Saturn's orbit earlier this year.

Now I'm happy to welcome a new creative force into the Alumni Association—the past students of the Maryland College of Art and Design, which this fall became the School of Art and Design at Montgomery College. We all look forward to reading about their achievements in these pages in the years ahead, and we begin here with an update on Ty Wilson '79.

We celebrated the new school by helping to launch the College's Art Stars Awards, honoring community efforts to strengthen the arts in Montgomery County. The awards gala succeeded thanks to help from many members of the arts community and from the Student Ambassadors—students volunteering to represent MC in the community.

Recently, I had the honor of presenting transfer scholarships to Judith Martinez '04 and Lisa Ku '04, both of whom volunteered at association events and represented MC as Student Ambassadors. Most of our scholarships benefit current students; all are important to the success of our future alumni. I hope you'll keep that in mind when you have a chance to attend an Alumni Association activity, or give to the Annual Fund, or make other contributions in support of Montgomery College.

And on the subject of supporting activities, we have a new way to brighten your table, as well as a new gift idea for your wine-loving friends. Carol Wilson '72, owner of Elk Run Vineyards, helped us develop a line of Montgomery College Alumni wines, with a portion of sales benefiting our scholarship programs. This kind of product is not unique to our association, but we're among a very few to feature wines produced here in Maryland, and there's a distinctly local touch in each variety. In particular, our Chardonnay is named in honor of Milton F. (Sonny) Clogg '48, who remains our association's founding force and guiding spirit.

Please stay in touch and let us know what you're doing. It's a delight to read about the accomplishments of our members.

John Libby '80
Alumni Association President

AN ARCHITECTURAL

“Good architecture, like a well-mannered lady, never shouts at the neighbors.”

For someone who’s called a minimalist, his portfolio brims with details; for a man of modest physical stature, he’s reached iconic proportions in the world of architecture. Hugh Newell Jacobsen ’48 has spent 45 years building on his passion for pure architectural design.

“If I’m remembered for anything, it will be that,” Jacobsen says, pointing to 136 sheets of line drawings for his latest building project—a \$16 million museum he designed specifically to house and display 40 French impressionist paintings at the University of Oklahoma, an acquisition the university openly declares “the most important collection of art given to an American public university,” valued at \$78 million. The building’s exterior is Texas limestone, the “color of French unsalted butter.”

To date, Jacobsen has designed 450 buildings in 28 states and 9 foreign countries, including additions to the U.S. Capitol Building (west terraces and below-grade), and Jacqueline Onassis’s Martha’s Vineyard house—just to name names.

Jacobsen has received more than 110 design awards, including six National Honor Awards, the highest national award given by the American Institute of Architects. And he’s been named one of the top 100 designers in the world four times by *Architectural Digest*.

Two museums have exhibited retrospectives of his work: one in Sao Paolo, Brazil, and another at National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. He is currently awaiting publication of a third monograph, which will chronicle, with stunning photography, his architecture from 1994 to 2005.

It’s nice to get recognition,” says Jacobsen, “but people like to hold up buildings and put them on pedestals. Let’s keep the building on the podium, and reserve the pedestal for a beautiful woman.”

His “minimalist” design style is best described with words like clean, and serene, rather than cold or sterile. When designing a residence, Jacobsen works with his clients to create determinedly “family friendly” residences, often warmed by natural elements like hardwood flooring, fireplaces, lots of books, and maximized natural lighting—an essential component in his design.

He paints all-white interior walls, intentionally reserving them as many blank canvases for the changing daylight’s hues: pink sunrise, golden-afternoon, blue-gray at dusk. He employs his own interior designer to

ensure that furnishings and interior details complement the exterior. Through this careful attention to detail, he achieves his aims. At 75, Jacobsen prefers to let his staff work the computers; he draws the old-fashioned way. “I learned my craft by tracing. You get a certain feeling for the slant of a roofline that way. A computer won’t sketch.”

Long before the advent of computers or CAD training, Jacobsen was schooled in the traditional curriculum—reading, writing, and arithmetic. Far from top of the class, he struggled through school in Grand Rapids, Mich., with an undiagnosed disability. “They didn’t diagnose dyslexia back then. They gave me D’s just to get rid of me.”

After relocating to the Washington, D.C., area with his family, Jacobsen expected to attend college, as his parents had done and his friends were doing. He applied to seven universities; all of them turned him down. Not knowing where else to turn, and feeling “lower than a snake’s belly-button,” Jacobsen decided to try the business administration courses being offered by a startup Montgomery Junior College. It was 1947.

A year earlier, the Montgomery College history records show: “A committee formed to explore the need for a public junior college to help WWII veterans adjust to a post-war

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FIXTURE

BY DIANE BOSSER

Photos courtesy Hugh Newell Jacobsen



AN ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER

BY LARRY MOFFI

Other than the new sign—School of Art and Design at Montgomery College—the one-story brick building that houses the former Maryland College of Art and Design (MCAD) in a Georgia Avenue hollow just minutes from the Beltway looks the same as it has for years. But the sign tells only part of the story. The consolidation of MCAD, also a two-year institution, with Montgomery College in September represents nearly 80 years of learning and teaching, two impressive traditions that have launched accomplished careers of thousands of grads. Ty Wilson, who graduated from MCAD in the late 1970s, is one whose tale is worth hearing.

An illustrator living in New York City, Wilson has been honing his art since the age of six

and a kindergarten experience that changed his life. When he passed off a drawing by his brother as his own in kindergarten Wilson took the embarrassment of the lie as motivation, committing himself to learning to draw—and to never lying again.

Over the years, his commitment has never wavered. By the time he graduated, doors across the art world were opening to him. There was the scholarship offer to the prestigious Pratt Institute, the job pitch from Hallmark Cards.... He took the job and moved to Kansas City. But, in 1984, when higher ups discouraged him from aspiring to anything other than a production artist, Wilson left for New York, where he made a huge splash immediately.

Twenty years later Wilson is still causing tidal swells in the world of magazine publishing, fashion art, fine art lithographs, and serigraphs—even a line of wedding accoutrements. He has created theatre posters for Broadway shows, including *Hayfever* and *Staggerlee*. His work has graced covers of *PLAYBILL* and has appeared in *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, *Harper's Bazaar*, and on the sets of television shows like *Friends*, *Seinfeld*, *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air* and such films as *About Schmidt*, *In and Out*, and *Shall We Dance*.

Wilson describes his work as being “rooted in realism,” a pulse that he traces back to

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With a distinctively elegant style, Ty Wilson has designed Broadway posters, as well as numerous advertising and fashion illustrations. The top-selling African American poster artist of the 1990s has licensed his images for calendars, giftware, and wedding accessories. A frequent college lecturer on the business of art, Wilson currently teaches fashion illustration at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.



A MODEL PROGRAM

BY LARRY MOFFI

Montgomery College's architectural and construction technology program is about details evolving into buildings evolving into communities. And, while that concept is fundamental to architecture and architectural design today, the MC program started in a very different place.

Thirty-three years ago under Professor Cecil Van Allen, Montgomery College graduates were prepared to fill a professional niche as architectural drafters. If drawing a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, it was also the most expedient way to earn a living. Over time, changes in the industry like computer-aided design (CAD) and drafting

technology created new career options. While the College's curriculum still contains courses in drafting techniques, electives such as Architectural Photography, Marketing of Architecture, Sustainability, and Historic Preservation are among the many choices students have today. If those titles sound impressive, they should: Not one of those classes is offered to architecture students at any of the local four-year universities, according to program coordinator Randy Steiner.

Today, Steiner and her colleagues stress a combination of visionary risk taking and basics. Five years ago, for instance, she asked students to design a Metro shuttle stop for the

Rockville Campus, then brought in architects from Torti Gallas, the firm that designed the King Farm residential community in Rockville, Md., to judge the competition. Ensuing projects have included designing a campus clock tower, a campus "Place of Peace" (in response to 9/11), and a "Mini-Museum." Her introductory course this year requires students to design a coffee shop for the Rockville Campus.

"The professors at MC teach you to think like an architect," says Anh Vu, who received an A.A. two years ago and, next year, a bachelor's degree in architecture from Morgan State University. Thinking like an architect—in a word, professionalism—defines the program.



Tom Logan '73 said goodbye to MC after more than 30 years as both student and teacher. Logan leaves behind a vibrant arts program that he helped build, including the newly formed School of Art and Design at Montgomery College, the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, and the Montgomery College Arts Institute.

NOT [^] THE RETIRING TYPE

BY CARRIE HURD

On June 30, 2004, Tom Logan '73 took the long drive home from Montgomery College's Rockville Campus, and entered the unfamiliar world of retirement. Would it feel strange to not drive back to MC the next day as he had, religiously, for well more than 30 years?

The answer was "yes," it did feel strange. But it also felt very right to a man who first set foot on the campus as a student in the early 1970s, and who had worked at MC ever since. "I knew too many people who had worked—because they loved the job—longer than they should have. I wanted to retire when I was healthy, and I'm glad I did. I can go out and play with the dogs, and do things that require big chunks of time. I'm having a great time, and I feel good."

When he first started as an MC student "a million years ago," Logan had an English professor who instilled in him a passion for learning. After completing his associate's degree at MC, Logan continued his education at the University of Maryland and at George Washington University. He reminisced about those hectic years with a smile on his face.

He had juggled teaching photography full time at the College (and eventually, also chairing the Visual Communications Technologies Department), earning his bachelor's and then master's degrees, raising a family, and freelancing. "That was back when I had so much energy I didn't know what to do with it all," he mused.

In 1988, Logan became the instructional dean of Fine, Performing, and Visual Arts, and the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center (PAC) at the Rockville Campus, a job he held for 16 years. "There were lots of individual successes—you know—nothing earth shattering," Logan claimed modestly when asked about his greatest professional accomplishments. He's pleased that music is part of the academic vitality of the campus and that all four of the art departments work so well together, sharing galleries and students. "I don't know that I had much of anything to do with it other than allowing it to happen." He expressed extreme satisfaction that the PAC puts on countless annual shows (put together and performed by the students in the music, speech, dance, theatre, and American Sign Language departments), including four main stage productions, dance concerts, a professional guest artist

series, a music series, and a Saturday morning children's series. "Plus, it's a facility that's available for the community to use."

Logan can also take pride in having been part of the team that created Montgomery College's Arts Institute, as well as helping to facilitate the consolidation of Montgomery College's art departments with the Maryland College of Art and Design, now called the School of Art and Design at Montgomery College.

When asked what advice he would give to current students, faculty, staff, and those contemplating retirement, Logan hit home the idea that students ought to demand what they pay for in a college education. "Don't walk out of a classroom feeling confused or unsure. Insist that the professor help you to learn what you are there to learn." For the faculty and staff, he shared a favorite quote from Albert Einstein: "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them." And for those on the brink of retirement, he urged them to know when the time is right to make a graceful exit and to allow themselves years of health, activity, and happiness following the close of their professional lives.

ARCHITECTURAL FIXTURE

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Photos courtesy Hugh Newell Jacobsen

All of Hugh Jacobsen's signature residential designs are based on a simple shape: a box topped by a peaked roof, or as he calls it, the "Monopoly house," after pieces used in the board game. Not limited to residences, Jacobsen has designed 450 buildings in 28 states and 9 foreign countries, including academic buildings, churches, museums, libraries, and theatres.

society." And by September, the College opened evening and Saturday classes, which were held in the basement of Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. Jacobsen remembers his classmates clearly; through his 18-year-old eyes, he saw them as "old men," later realizing they were all of 25 or 26, just returned from the war.

After one semester, Jacobsen was accepted at the University of Maryland. There, he changed his major from business to fine arts, and earned a B.A. in 1951. "My father found out about it when I showed him my diploma! He must've wondered what all those paintings were doing around the house."

Earning a bachelor's degree was just the beginning of Jacobsen's professional education. Almost by accident, he discovered architecture sitting in a lecture class where the professor diverted to architectural theory. For the first time, he heard why and how buildings serve mankind. It was the moment he experienced his epiphany. Intuitively and instantly, he knew he would become an architect.

Jacobsen earned a certificate from the Architectural Association School in London, their undergraduate degree, in 1954, and a master's degree in architecture from Yale in 1955. He spent a year employed as an architect/draftsman in the office of Philip Johnson in Connecticut in 1955, then worked for Keyes Lethbridge in Washington, D.C., from 1957 to 1958. He has been in private practice in Washington, D.C., since 1958.

Today, Jacobsen's home base remains Washington, D.C. When he's in town, he walks to work, located just down the street in an unassuming gray townhouse in Georgetown. Occasionally, he finds opportunities to work on local projects, which allow him to take "a lovely lady," his wife, to lunch, and make day trips to building sites.

Just over the line in Virginia, for example, he's been working with John Kent Cooke, a former owner and president of the Washington Redskins, on the new Boxwood Winery. Comprising four buildings, including a reception building for wine tasting and a circular underground cave housing oak barrels, the winery design is modern, but it is

being constructed with materials characteristic of the 18th century rural area of Middleburg, including field stone from the historic Boxwood Farm, and standing seam metal roofs. His work will be featured on the Boxwood label.

Another project close to Jacobsen's heart and home is the University of Maryland's Samuel Riggs Alumni Center, scheduled to open in winter 2005. The \$30 million, 69,000-square-foot center houses a 500-seat alumni hall, office and meeting space, a club, and gardens. For his alma mater, Jacobsen worked with a theme of connectedness: "connections to Maryland's past, connections to the arts and sports, connections between the exterior gardens and the interior spaces."

Rather than rest on his accomplishments, Jacobsen looks forward to the opportunity to try it again. He points to a small metal plate engraved in Sanskrit, lying on his desk. He translates: "To live a full life, you must leave some record." By that simple directive, Hugh Jacobsen could have retired years ago; he's just having too much fun to stop now.

ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER

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his MCAD days. "Everyone looked out for you," he says, "but we were not coddled. We were challenged."

An artist of tremendous versatility and energy (he continues to teach part time), Wilson, who was born in Washington, D.C., and graduated from Duval High School in Lanham, Md., was the first member of his family to attend college. Once he graduated, the "firsts" kept coming.

He was the first MCAD alum to serve on the school's board of trustees, the first recipient of an MCAD Alumni Award, and the first to have a scholarship named after him.

With so many firsts to his credit, it was only fitting that Wilson give the last commencement address at MCAD, which he did last spring. Noting that as a student he took much of his inspiration from fellow MCAD artists, Wilson

challenged grads "to dream a bigger dream." "It was wonderful—and incredibly important—for graduates to see and hear for themselves that there's life after schooling," said Don Smith, former MCAD president and current director of the Montgomery College Arts Institute.

With MCAD now a part of Montgomery College, that "inspiration" will only grow, as two rich traditions intertwine as one.

CLASS NOTES

> **Wayne S. Green '43** asks why he hasn't seen notes from other 1943 Bliss graduates: "Am I the only one left?" After wartime work in New London, Conn., he published *BYTE*—the first computer magazine.

> **Saul M. Honigsberg '55** has published a memoir, *Reflections of a Lifetime*, tracing his life as a student, businessman, and public servant in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

> **David T. Crow '71**, president of D.C. Legislative and Regulatory Services, Inc., writes, "I am very proud of my connection to MC and would like to stay plugged into it." His clients include national trade associations, global corporations, regional companies, and small, family-owned businesses.



> **George Hackey '71** is pastor of Sharp Street United Methodist Church in Sandy Spring. He received the Community Appreciation Award from the Montgomery County

Elks Lodge 347, and is retired from a 29-year career with the Montgomery County Police.

> **Dolores Wojcik '78** retired on medical disability after a 19-year teaching career. Under the name Dolly Nasby, she has written *Images of America: Harper's Ferry* and has a contract for three more books. She writes, "For me, it's just the beginning and I'm having a blast!"

> **Dianne E. Fitzgerald-Verbonitz '79**, RN, is executive director of the Arizona Psychological Association. She earned a B.S. in health services and an M.A. in educational psychology and has served as president of the National Association of Orthopedic Nurses.

> **Scott C. Boyd '84** is a freelance writer living in Fredericksburg, Va. He has published a series of historical articles about the Civil War, including one that Scooped the *Washington Post* on the discovery and examination of the *CSS Hundley*, an early Confederate submarine.

> **John T. Adams '85** has released *Hold on to the Dream*, a collection of original folk music on CD. His album *Halo Moon* was previously released on vinyl. He lives in Rohrsersville, Md.

> **Susana Garten '86** exhibited her enameling work at a National Enamelist Guild juried art exhibit this summer at the Rockville Arts Place. She credits an MC course for her interest in art. She has taught at MC, at Glen Echo Park, and at the Torpedo Factory Arts Center in Alexandria, Va.

> **Wayson P. Lee '86** was recently an extra in an HBO film *Something the Lord Made*.

> **John K. Drury '89** writes that he recently received the Alumni Association's electronic newsletter: "Now I can keep up with what is happening at Montgomery College even though I currently reside in Charleston, S.C."



> **Joyce Knight '91** earned her 10-year wings as an employee of United Airlines in May. She has done freelance journalism work, on-camera narrations for training videos, and

appeared in commercials and movies. She is secretary of the MC Alumni Association's Board of Governors.

> **Michael Thomas Holmes '92** has been traveling with the national touring company of Mel Brooks's hit musical *The Producers*. Since performing in MC Summer Dinner Theatre shows, he has earned a bachelor's and a master's degree and made his Broadway debut in a 2002 revival of *Oklahoma*.

> **Blanca P. Kling '92** was inducted into the Human Rights Commission's Hall of Fame in recognition of her work as an advocate for Hispanic families and victims of abuse. She currently serves as victim services coordinator for the Montgomery County Police.

> **Kim (Mackey) Potter '93** earned a master's degree in communications technology from Strayer University. She works at MC's Germantown Campus.

> **Frank Ricci '93** is a firefighter in Middletown, Conn., active in the New Haven firefighters union. An injury led him to begin a program that educates rehabilitation trainers about special physical requirements firefighters encounter. He lives in Wallingford, Conn.

> **Sheree Friedman '98** started a Bethesda interior design company, Studio Nuovo, LLC, in 2000 with business partner **Ricardo Ramos '83**. Her work has been published in *Home and Design* magazine, and she has recently designed a room for the Washington Design Center's Fall Show House (open through December).

> **Crystal Price '99** is a program analyst with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. She has earned a bachelor's degree in human services and a master of divinity degree—both *magna cum laude*—and serves as director of evangelism at First Baptist Church of College Park.

> **Sonia Aslam '01** is an assistive technology specialist with the Torres Foundation for the Blind. She provides training to individuals with low vision or blindness.

> **Yvette Gross '01** is completing her B.A. in art history this fall at St. Mary's College. She plans to pursue a master's at Morgan State University. She writes, "When I talk about the College or my experiences there, I remember a young, 27-year-old mother full of dreams. I am making them come true...and MC made that happen."

> **Michael Somerville '01** graduated from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland. He is a systems engineer at Lockheed Martin.

> **Carolina Lasso '02** graduated *cum laude* from University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business and is currently marketing director for VIVA 900, a Spanish-language radio station.

> **Ezinne Uzo-Okoru '02** is a computer scientist for the NASA team analyzing data from the *Cassini* orbiter, which reached Saturn this summer after a six-and-a-half-year trip from Earth.

> **Daphnee Cherburn '03** is studying to be a doctor in Michigan. Her experience organizing a fund-raising event for breast cancer at MC has led her to work with local hospitals to improve health care in a low-income community in Michigan.

> **Brad Beck '04** has forgone his sophomore year at MC to sign a professional baseball contract with the Anaheim Angels. He will report to spring training in Mesa, Ariz., in February.

BLISS BEAT

> Charley Grigsby (Bliss '42)



Photo courtesy Hill Printing

Charles Grigsby '42 was a microbiologist when America entered World War II. He arrived in the Navy with a B.S. in dairy industries from Iowa State College (now university) and had experience as quality control manager for Kraft's Swiss cheese, when he was assigned to Navy Class #12 at Bliss. "Many of the Bliss class already had master's [degrees] or Ph.D.'s," he recalls. "Some

had physical handicaps, but they could do the work, so they were sent to Bliss.

"We went through a semester of material each month. And you *had* to know it, because it was lights out at nine o'clock—no studying until two or three in the morning....Every month, there were cullings. In the fifth month, they flunked about 50 percent of us. At the sixth month, they wouldn't *let* you flunk, because they had too much invested in you."

He fondly remembers the "wonderful atmosphere" Professor Bliss created. "He was courteous and obliging, and told us 'You are going to be treated like gentlemen here.'"

He enjoyed learning the new radar technology taught by English WRENS [women's navy corps] from Great Britain and Northern Ireland. "The Germans didn't know we had radar, and that's how we won the war." Grigsby served in radar

and communication, and spent time at Purdue and other schools.

After leaving the Navy in 1946, he returned to Kraft and helped start its research center in Glenview, Ill. Later, he ventured out to work on epoxies and polymers, which led to developments in paint and rust proofing, and natural ointments for skin and joint pain relief. His expertise in cheesemaking endured, and in the 1970s he created Lorraine low-sodium cheese, naming it after his wife. Two years ago, he began working with the Minerva Cheese Factory in Ohio to produce reduced-fat, low-cholesterol cheese.

He has nine children, and 20 grandchildren, and still works two 16-hour days every week.

In 1950, Montgomery College purchased the grounds of the Bliss Electrical School in Takoma Park to establish the College's first campus.

IN MEMORIAM

The Alumni Association notes the passing of faculty, staff, and alumni of the College.

> **Susan E. Diller '67** died February 5, 2004. She worked for many years in the Admissions and Records Department at the Takoma Park Campus and later in the Rockville Campus Art Department until her retirement.

> **Gordon M. Hogg, Jr.**, died February 19, 2004. He served the College from 1966 until his retirement in 1985, first in the Office of Human Resources and later as supervisor of budgeting.

> **Elnora (Ellie) Mantz**, a longtime staffer for the Office of Student Development on the Rockville Campus, died June 17, 2004. She worked at the College from 1969 until her retirement in 1996.

> **William T. Ramsay** died June 22, 2004. He retired in 1983 as an English professor on the Takoma Park Campus, where he had taught since 1961.

> **Catherine Gurick Mrazek '69** died July 4, 2004. She was an antiques dealer in Long Island, N.Y., and an interior designer in Atlanta, Ga. She grew

up in Silver Spring, Md. She also worked as an assistant in the Federal Trade Commission.

> **Paul W. Leech '91**, analyst-programmer for the College's Office of Information Technology, died July 19, 2004. He enjoyed hiking and was a member of the Friends of Seneca Creek State Park.

> **Bhramara Heid '81**, professor of interior design, died July 30, 2004. She had been with the College since 1987. The Interior Design Department has established a Bhramara Heid Interior Design Scholarship and Award Fund under the Montgomery College Foundation to honor her commitment and dedication to her students.

> **Neal Fredericks '89** died August 14, 2004. He was cinematographer for the team of MC alumni who created, *The Blair Witch Project*. He worked on more than 20 films in his career.

> **Thyllis O. Marletta** died September 16, 2004. She had retired as a Senior Administrative Aide in the Facilities office.

> **William W. Swyter** died September 21, 2004. He began teaching mathematics at the Takoma

Park Campus in 1954 and became chair of the new Rockville Campus math department in 1965. He taught part time for several years after his retirement in 1983.



> **Howard Lee Cook '92** died August 5, 2004. An advance planner for President Lyndon Johnson, he

was active in Montgomery County public affairs and was serving on the Alumni Association's Board of Governors when he died. The association has established the Howard Cook Memorial Fund for a scholarship in honor of his service to the College and the community.

If you would like to make a donation in memory of the deceased, please make your check payable to MC Foundation and mail to MC Foundation, 900 Hungerford Dr., Rockville, MD 20850.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI



Each year, we recognize alumni and former coaches whose performance at the College and beyond reflects the best of our community. These honorees and their achievements will be celebrated at the Alumni Association's annual awards program on April 22, 2005.

The 2004 Milton F. (Sonny) Clogg Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award

> **Eduardo Sanchez '90, Ricardo Moreno '91, Stefanie Sanchez '90, Lonnie Glerum '90, and Neal Fredericks '89[†]** collaborated in producing a low-budget, horror, parody film about three Montgomery College students who disappeared during a trip to Burkittsville, Md.—and *The Blair Witch Project* was born.

> **Dr. Steven W. Boyce '75** is a world-renowned heart surgeon serving as director of heart transplant and ventricular assist device programs at Washington Hospital Center. He has pioneered new techniques in repairing heart damage, including using carbon dioxide lasers and other devices to treat patients with congestive heart failure. He has traveled worldwide teaching heart surgical procedures.

> **Dr. Usa Bunnag '90** is a dentist in private practice in Bethesda. She started her career as a dental assistant with no college education. In 1985, three months after her first child was born, she enrolled at the MC. From 1985 until she completed graduate studies in 1994, she worked full time and attended school non-stop. Her dental practice, now in its tenth year, has eight employees. Two years ago, she created "Smile on Wings," a non-profit organization to provide volunteer "dental outreach" in rural areas of her native Thailand.

> **Eglon Oliver Daley '89** is an artist specializing in painting and photography. After coming to the

Takoma Park Campus in 1977, he took virtually all of the offerings in art, and has maintained a close working relationship with the Art Department faculty. In the 1980s, he devoted himself to painting and showing his work at a variety of public venues, while developing a successful framing business that serves many of the area museums, as well as collectors and fellow artists.

> **Ursula (Sue) Flatow '72** retired in 2000 after a career as a microbiologist at NIH and began her volunteer career at Montgomery College as a tutor and reader for the blind. For four semesters, she has served traditionally under-represented student populations through the College's Project Success and Disability Support Services. She tutors students in Spanish, reading, English, and biology, and she helps students of English as a second language.

> **Hugh Newell Jacobsen '48** is a renowned architect who has won the National Honor Awards of the American Institute of Architects—the highest honor for architectural design in the United States—six times. His work has won hundreds of awards and recognitions throughout his career. He had difficult years academically throughout his schooling, due to what was later identified as a learning disability. It was not until he took courses at Montgomery College that he developed the confidence to pursue his education and his subsequent, legendary design career.

> **John F. McAuliffe '52** retired as a judge on the Court of Appeals, Maryland's highest court, in 1993. He began his legal career as a committing magistrate and justice of the peace, he was appointed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court in 1972, and in 1985 was elevated to the Court of Appeals. His commitment to the community began early, when he worked as both a paid and volunteer firefighter in Chevy Chase while attending American University's Washington College of Law. He has been a teacher of law to students ranging from paralegals to members of the judiciary.

> **Barbara Walsh '75** is an actress with five Broadway shows and a Tony Award nomination on her resume. Since her days of student performances, she has worked in regional and Broadway theatre, where she earned a "Best Featured Musical Actress" nomination in the Tony Award-winning musical *Falsettos*. She returned to the College for a benefit concert celebrating

the 10th anniversary of the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center; and last year she took time between Broadway performances of John Waters's musical *Hairspray* to meet with audience members from the Alumni Association's New York theatre trip.

The 2004 Montgomery College Athletic Hall of Fame

> **Terry Cox '69** was the College's first All-American in cross country and track and field, a status he held in both sports for two years. He was JUCO Champion and Region 19 NJCAA Champion in cross country for 1968 and 1969. In 1968 he was Tri State Champion in the mile and two mile, and placed sixth at the NJCAA championships in the mile. In 1969 he was both Maryland JUCO Champion and Region 19 Champion in the mile and two mile. His record gained state, regional, and national recognition for Montgomery College's nascent track and field program.

> **Jerome Williams '94** is in his ninth season of professional basketball. Drafted by the Detroit Pistons in 1996, he has played for the Toronto Raptors and the Chicago Bulls. He currently plays for the New York Knicks. On Montgomery College teams, he averaged 23 points and 17 rebounds per game, and he took statewide MVP honors in his sophomore year. In his rookie season with the Detroit Pistons, he earned the nickname Junk Yard Dog—a moniker he uses to promote community outreach projects to inspire young people to excel in academics and develop self-confidence.

> **Dr. Frank Peterson, 1970–1999**, coached 36 teams in four different sports—baseball, soccer, tennis, and golf—during his 29 years on the faculty. He was the College's first full-time coach to hold a Ph.D. He was named Maryland JUCO Coach of the Year 14 times and Region 20 Coach of the Year twice. He coached eight NJCAA All-Americans—five in soccer and three in golf. He was listed in the Who's Who of College and University Professors.

[†]On August 14, 2004, Neal Fredericks was traveling to shoot a new film when the engine failed on his small airplane, crashing in the water off the Dry Tortugas islands in Florida. Mr. Fredericks was unable to escape from the plane before it sank. His award is conferred posthumously.

> Professor Denise Simmons Graves Honored



Professor Denise Simmons Graves, a counselor at Montgomery College's Rockville Campus, has been named the 2004 Maryland Outstanding Educator in

the advisor/mentor category by the Maryland Association for Higher Education. Graves has worked at the College since 1990 as a faculty member, counselor, and adviser. For the past three years, she has served as a counselor working with Montgomery Scholars students. She also works with transfer students helping to secure scholarships, and she serves on the collegewide transfer scholarship coordinating committee.

> All-Maryland Academic Team



Marga Fripp (left) with Montgomery College President Dr. Charlene R. Nunley.

Five Montgomery College students or recent graduates were selected as members of the 2004 All-Maryland Academic Team, a recognition program sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society of two-year colleges; the American Association of Community Colleges; USA Today; local community college presidents; and state associations. Takoma Park Student **Marga Fripp** was also chosen for the All-USA Academic Team as one of the top 60 scoring students in the nation.

Dede Adomayakpor and **Yimo Wu** from the Germantown Campus; **Doretha DeStefano** from the Rockville Campus; and **Birane Mbaye** from the Takoma Park Campus were named to the All-Maryland Second Academic Team. The students were chosen for their high grade point averages, participation in honors programs, and service to the College and the community.

> Beacon Competition

Three Montgomery College honors graduates and their faculty mentor were recently honored for presenting outstanding research papers at Beacon 2004, a conference for student scholars at two-year colleges, held at Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, Pa. The students, **Sinead Goldman**, **Sarah Megorden**, and **Quesia Sousa** were awarded a monetary prize and recognized along with their faculty mentor, Dr. Rashidul Alam, a Montgomery College biology professor. The three winners are also members of the College's 2004 class of Montgomery Scholars, an academically rigorous honors program for traditional age college students.

> Montgomery College Wins Prestigious Grant from National Science Foundation

Montgomery College recently received a prestigious Partnerships for Innovation grant from the National Science Foundation to support the development of a world-class biotechnology education and training program, which will serve students at all levels. The grant will work in conjunction with the planned bioscience and technology business park at the Germantown Campus, providing Montgomery College with \$600,000 over the next three years. Montgomery College is one of only two community colleges nationwide to receive the NSF grant.

> Patricia E. Lopez '91—Minority Access Role Model



Patricia E. Lopez '91, the collegewide financial aid scholarship coordinator at Montgomery College, received a Minority Access Role Model award from Minority

Access, Inc., a national nonprofit educational organization. Lopez coordinates the Montgomery College Foundation scholarships, Board of Trustees scholarships, state scholarships, and the National Science Foundation grant-funded scholarship program in computer science, engineering, and mathematics. In addition, she oversees the Macklin Business Institute scholarships and the Montgomery Scholars program scholarships.

> Montgomery College Names New Deans



Tony Hawkins



James Daniels



Dr. Sanjai Rai



Dr. Humberto Segura '73

Montgomery College recently appointed four new deans to fill key posts on each of the College's three campuses. At the Germantown Campus, **Tony Hawkins** has been appointed as dean of humanities, social sciences, and education. At Rockville, **James Daniels** is the new dean of student development, and **Dr. Sanjai Rai** is the new dean of science, engineering, and mathematics. At the Takoma Park Campus, **Dr. Humberto Segura '73** has been named the new dean of student development.

Segura, who recently assumed his post at the Takoma Park Campus, was once a student at that same campus in the 1970s. Most recently, he was director of the Learning Resources Center at California State University at Northridge.

Daniels, the new student development dean, comes to Rockville from Humboldt State University in California, where he served as director of academic support services.

Hawkins, the new dean at Germantown, was born and raised in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. He most recently served as the associate dean of English and humanities at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City, N. J.

Rai, Rockville's new science, engineering, and mathematics dean, served as a professor and chair of the Department of Mathematics at Jacksonville University in Florida.

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Now available to order, each bottle of Montgomery College Alumni Association wine you purchase will provide a benefit to the scholarship programs our association supports.

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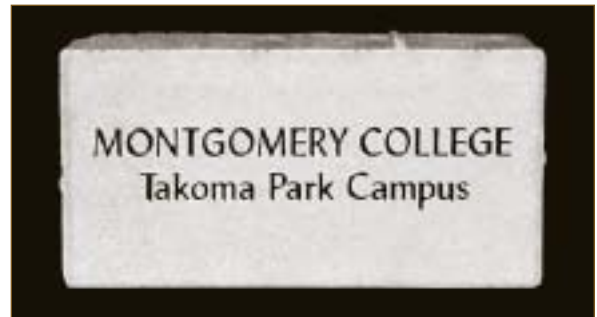
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For more information, call **Deborah M. Johnstone**, executive assistant to the vice president and provost, Takoma Park Campus, **301-650-1311** or e-mail deborah.johnstone@montgomerycollege.edu.



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