

Communitas



MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

February 14th, 2005

Congressman Boehlert to Address MVCC May Graduates



Congressman Sherwood Boehlert of New Hartford will address graduates during Commencement Ceremonies on Friday, May 27th. Ceremonies are scheduled for 4:00 p.m. that day at the Utica Memorial Auditorium. Congressman Boehlert (R-New Hartford), Chairman of the House Science Committee, was first elected to the House of Representatives in November 1982. He is currently serving in his 12th consecutive term representing Upstate New York.

Boehlert has served on the Science Committee since 1983, and was elected Chairman in January 2001. Boehlert is the only full committee chairman from the Northeast region. The Committee has jurisdiction over all federal non military scientific and technology research and development programs, on which the federal government spends more than \$30 billion a year. The Committee has jurisdiction over NASA, the National Science Foundation, and research and development initiatives within the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Commerce. In addition, the Committee has jurisdiction over civil aviation research and development and marine research. Boehlert is a senior member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, serving as Chairman of its Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment from 1995 to 2000. He remains an active member of that Subcommittee.

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Fifty gallons of soup a day. Every day when classes are in session. Three-hundred pounds of pasteurized egg mixture each week, plus 15 dozen shelled eggs. Forty-five pounds of muffin mix each day, yielding 12 dozen muffins. And... 90 gallons of coffee a week.

That just begins to describe what Sodexo - our Utica Campus food service contractor - has been providing for MVCC employees, students and visitors since 1982.

Sodexo at MVCC is part of the largest international organization providing food service in hundreds of locations - colleges, businesses, health care facilities and other sites - across the United States and Canada, and in Europe, particularly in France. Sodexo in the United States and Canada alone employs approximately 100,000 people.

Forty-three of those people are here at MVCC, including 22 full-time employees, and 21 part-timers, 11 of them MVCC students. While naturally some employees stay for a while and then move on, it is interesting to note that seven Sodexo employees at MVCC has been here for 15 years or longer. You may also see 3-4 student workers from Proctor High School, part of Proctor's School-to-Work program.

Jim Suriano is the local general manager. A LeMoyne College graduate (in biology), Jim came to MVCC in August 2000, after four years of food service experience with Sodexo at the New York Chiropractic College in Seneca Falls. He also has 5 years experience as a student and manager at LeMoyne. While Jim is primarily a manager, he has been known to help out in the kitchen - he's been at it since his student days at LeMoyne, and can whip up a pretty mean muffin when necessary.

Mostly, however, baking responsibilities fall to the expert, Gloria Joyce who prepares 95% of the cakes, fresh bread, muffins, cookies and other bakery delights, as she's been doing for 22 years. Additional baked goods are purchased fresh from local supplies, including Friehofer's, Bagel Grove and Dunkin' Donuts.

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News from Student Services

V.P. Denise DiGiorgio

The Spring 2005 semester is under-way and there is always something new and different coming from Student Services.

Website

Thanks to Jennifer DeWeerth and Paul Grazaidei, each academic department now has their own listing of academic advisors on their website. Students are assigned an advisor based upon their last name. This will hopefully help to address students' lack of knowledge about their advisor, their location and how to contact their advisor. Plans are underway to have the advisor's name "pop up" on the plan of study as well.

An "off the cuff" idea to have an e-mail question line has really taken off. In 4 weeks, we have had over 150 questions asked - ranging from pool hours to enrollment for Fall of 2006. The ANSWER BUTTON has now become a permanent fixture on our home-page and I would like to thank those of you that I have had to tap for knowledge and advice. While I can answer most questions, some I cannot and everyone has been very willing to help in this initiative. It can only help enrollment!

Work continues on the web site revisions. All of the academic department pages have been completed and we are now focusing on services that potential students would most likely need to access for Fall 2005 enrollment.

New Hall

Work also continues on the newest addition to campus; our 155 bed Residence Hall, now being referred to as "New Hall." Students and staff are excited about the opportunities and amenities this building will offer. For the Fall 2005, we will be able to house more freshmen in our existing halls and more 2nd year students in New Hall. Dennis Gibbons has done a tremendous job in preparing staffing plans, organizational charts and all the other logistical pieces to fill New Hall. Construction remains on schedule and we hope to begin touring the building once the weather breaks for Spring.

College Works

I am pleased to be on the ground floor of an opportunity that will help young adults reach their highest potential. College Works is a collaborative project that we have engaged in with the ARC of Lewis & Madison counties. Its goal is to provide a collegial environment to a select group of students who need skill training in specific career fields. The curriculum will be the ARC's curriculum and we will be providing the college environment by way of activities, library resources, etc. Patrice Joslin is the College Works Coordinator and she is currently located in the Student Service Center. It is a wonderful partnership that truly defines our role as a "community" college.

Retention, Retention, Retention

The three divisions of the College - Student Services, Administrative Services and Instruction have joined forces to review existing retention efforts and make modifications as needed. Our marketing efforts aimed at recruitment are always evolving and we are putting together our Fall strategies. Those strategies include billboards, potentially off-site offerings, direct mail pieces as well as a host of other efforts. Retention of students needs also to be considered a "recruitment" strategy and this joint effort should provide insight into retention areas that we need to focus on as an institution.



Left - right, President Schafer, David Mathis, Angela Vanderhoof
MVCC, The Arc,
Announce CollegeWorks
Project

MVCC and the Oneida-Lewis Chapter of NYSARC recently announced creation of a collaborative project entitled CollegeWorks. Making the announcement were President Schafer, David Mathis, who not only serves as MVCC's Trustee Chair but is also a member of the Arc's advisory committee for CollegeWorks, Angela Vanderhoof, executive director of The Arc, and Joanne Donaruma, director of employment services at The Arc. Assisting was Patrice Modell-Joslin, director of the CollegeWorks program.

CollegeWorks is a college program for individuals with disabilities that was developed by The Arc (Oneida-Lewis Chapter) to improve outcomes for students moving from high school to employment.

Scheduled to begin serving 10-20 students in the fall, CollegeWorks is a non-credit program to be offered jointly by The Arc and MVCC on the College's Utica Campus. Graduates will receive a Certificate of Course Completion. It is the only program of its type in New York State.

The goal of the program is to help students develop areas of ability and skills that will lead to gainful employment. CollegeWorks will teach individuals to develop work readiness and social skills through classroom study and hands-on training at worksites in the community.

Students in CollegeWorks will receive a college identification

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Sodexo, cont.

Another Sodexo face familiar to many on campus is Mary Waters, who holds down the fort at AB General. She enjoys a loyal following, and serves up good cheer with every order, as many as 600 transactions each day when classes are in session.

One who may not be as visible, but is important nonetheless, is Deb Hanson. Deb is the Chef Manager who resides primarily behind the scenes - planning menus, ordering food and preparing many of the selections served at catering events. She has been with Sodexo just over two years and has been a huge asset to operations in that time.



Jim Suriano, right, gives Paul Palumbo a hand.

Two other Sodexo employees important to daily operations are Karen Arrigo, the retail supervisor who oversees the Snack Bar, and Ellen Klotz, the resident dining hall supervisor. Karen is among the first to arrive every day, at about 6:30 a.m., and hour before the Snack Bar opens at 7:30 a.m. In the resident dining hall, about 45 students are served at breakfast, about 200 at lunch, and approximately 240-250 at dinner. On average another 1,000 transactions happen daily in the Snack Bar.

A list of other Sodexo employees is included at the end of this article.

Several times, Sodexo has invested in renovating food service facilities at the College. That will likely happen again later this year, as modifications are made in the resident dining hall area to accommodate the additional 155 students who will live in the residence hall now under construction. The revamped dining hall may move away from the present traditional serving line configuration to a series of movable specialized stations featuring different items. The changes may mean some additional staff as well.

Sodexo recognizes and accommodates a variety of special dietary needs, including those of Japanese and Muslim students. They also pay careful attention to food allergy concerns, including wheat and peanut allergies.

Another facet of Sodexo operations at MVCC is the Interlude, a faculty-staff dining area in the Alumni College Center. Among its features is an "all-you-can-eat" special for just \$4. If you haven't been there, you should give it a try.



Sodexo employee Erin Brush waits on a student in the MV Commons

Last fall, Sodexo developed a special service for those having meetings on campus, providing coffee and a bakery item for groups as small as six and as large as 18 (although they are willing to accommodate even larger groups with adequate notice). The cost is \$1.75 per person.

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CollegeWorks, cont.



CollegeWorks Program Director Patrice Modell-Joslin

card, which provides access to the college environment, including athletic facilities, computer labs, library, gym and dining hall. This gives students the opportunity to be part of campus life and student activities.

Any individual over the age of 18 with a disability is eligible to participate in CollegeWorks. The target population is students aging out of school who demonstrate the need for vocational maturity, career exploration and real work experience opportunities that will lead to unsubsidized employment. The disabilities of the individuals to be served will include learning disabilities, mental retardation, hearing impairments, visual impairments and emotional disabilities.

While addressing skills training as a key component of the program, students will also learn about the world of employment and preparing to enter its ranks. In addition to the classroom component of job skills training, additional life skills that are essential in the workplace will also be a part of the core curriculum. The selected curriculums to be offered were developed after researching the local community and determining the needs in this locale, in conjunction with Mohawk Valley Workforce Investment Board. The program will begin with four careers: caregiver, food service worker, industrial/maintenance, and retail/office.

The on-campus director of the program is Patrice Modell-Joslin. Her office will be in the Counseling Center. She is already on campus, and can be reached by telephone at extension 5465, or by e-mail at [pj Joslin@mvcc.edu](mailto:pjoslin@mvcc.edu).

Sodexho, cont.

Sodexho at MVCC generally does very well in regular inspections by the Oneida County Health Department. That may be because Sodexho has put even more strict standards in place, and has its own inspection program.

Sodexho operations can also be found locally at SUNYIT, St.

Elizabeth Hospital, and Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare, the Masonic Home and Heritage Healthcare.

Sodexho regularly supports and participates in charitable projects.

Throughout the corporation every April brings "Servathon," which entails activities designed to help combat hunger. You may have helped by dropping your change into special containers at AB General, MV Commons, Interlude or Resident Dining Hall. (Currently they are assisting with the College's support for the annual Heart Run and Walk.) Last April, "Servathon" raised approximately \$160,000 nationwide, as well as 100 tons of food items, and 125,000 individual meals. Locally, this translated into a cash contribution of \$1,100 to Catholic Charities, providing approximately 1,200 meals to the summer school meal program.

You can help by participating in raffles conducted periodically by Sodexho. In a current raffle, related to Valentine's Day, you could win a five-pound Hershey's chocolate bar, or one of three Valentine's Day baskets. In March, you will be able to buy a chance at various prizes on an Easter egg tree. Who else works at Sodexho? Here's a list:

Name. Status. Years of Service

David Acevedo - Student, 1
Karen Arrigo - Full Time, 15
Andrea Aurigema - Part Time, 4
Chris Boehlert - Part Time, 3
Lindsay Bouchard - Student, 2
Erin Brush - Full Time, 6
Dan Budzynski - Part Time, 1
Justin Byrd - Part Time, 1
Rob Carr - Full Time, 5
James Davy - Part Time, 1
June Davy - Full Time, 1
Lindsay Decker - Student, 2
Inez Duval - Full Time, 16
Derrick Edmonson - Full Time, 1
Emmanule Gary - Full Time, 5
Tim Gray - Full Time, 1
Jason Grower - Full Time, 1
Ed Harrison - Student, 3
Pam Hooks - Full Time, 19
David Johnson - Student, 1
Crystal Joseph - Student, 1
Hiram Josiah - Student, 1
Gloria Joyce - Full Time, 22
John Joyce - Full Time, 5
Ellen Klotz - Full Time, 14
Lisa Klotz - Part Time, 3
Molly Knopka - Full Time, 4
Edina Krupic - Part Time, 1
Sy Le - Full Time, 3
Celina Maddox - Part Time, 1
Milton McBride - Student, 1

Brian Murdie - Student, 1
Andrey Navmovich - Part Time, 3
Robert Nilsson - Full Time, 1
Matt Niziol - Full Time, 1
Paul Palumbo - Full Time, 1
Mirnesa Salihovic - Student, 3
Tanesha Sessoms - Part Time, 1
Emily Shaffer - Full Time, 4
Ronald Smith - Part Time, 1
Margaret Stockton - Full Time, 10
Melissa St. Vil - Student, 3
Colleen Sweeney - Full Time, 1
Rose Talarico - Full Time, 17
Mary Waters - Full Time, 21

From the folks at Sodexho, an invitation: "Come join us for breakfast, or lunch, or dinner, or a snack almost anytime. Call on us for help with your special events and meetings. We appreciate your business, and we enjoy being part of the College community."

Congressman Boehlert, cont.

Boehlert also serves as a senior member of House Homeland Security Committee, by appointment of Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert. The committee focuses solely on the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security and Mr. Boehlert's seniority and expertise will serve the committee well.

Born on September 28, 1936 in Utica, New York, Boehlert is a graduate of Whitesboro Central High School and Utica College (Bachelor of Science, 1961). Before serving as Oneida County Executive (1979-83), he was manager of public relations at Wyandotte Chemical (1961-64) and served two years in the U.S. Army (1956-58).

Boehlert served as chief of staff for two area Congressmen, Alexander Pirnie (1964-72) and Donald Mitchell (1973-79), where he became intimately familiar with the people, places and issues of Upstate New York.

The 24th Congressional District includes all or parts of Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Herkimer, Oneida, Ontario, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins, and Seneca counties.



Timothy Carville, a 2002 Photography grad, is the owner of Creative Photo in Utica.

Alumni Association Donates to Team MVCC

Dave Mathis, President of the Alumni Association, recently presented President Schafer with a \$500 donation to the Heart Association.

Pictured left to right, MVCC's Inspirational Honoree (and MVCC alumnus) Gene Militello, Mathis, Schafer, and Team MVCC's committee chair, Donna Sawyer White.

The Association of Mohawk Valley Administrators, the College Bookstore, the Professional Association and the United Service Employees Union also made generous donations to the American Heart Association.

Join Team MVCC at the Greatest American Heart Run & Walk on Saturday, March 5th at Utica College. For more information, visit the MVCC website and click on the green running band.



Upcoming Events

Monday, 2/14

~ Brown Bag Lunch series, "Math Anxiety," 11:00am-Noon, Noon-1:00pm, IT 225.

Wednesday, 2/16

~ Upstate Cerebral Palsy job information table, 10:00am-2:00pm, PC Atrium, Rome Campus.

~Hospitality Programs Theme Dinner, "German Karneval," \$18pp, 6:00pm, Hospitality Dining Room, Rome Campus. For reservations, call X7702, Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm.

~"From Auction Block to Hip Hop: the Miseducation of Laurynn's Girls," 8:00pm, IT Theater. Admission is \$5 for the public; free with college ID.

Thursday, 2/17

~ Women's Basketball vs. Schenectady CCC, 5:00pm, Gym.
~ Men's Basketball vs. Schenectady CCC, 7:00pm, Gym.

Friday, 2/18

~ Bowling, 3:00pm, Pin O Rama.
~ Cultural Series Event: MUSICAL PERFORMANCE: "The Slackers with special guests, The Hot Steppers," 8:00pm, IT Theater. Admission is \$5 for the public; free with college ID.

Monday, 2/21

~ Brown Bag Lunch series, "Strategies for Success," 11:00am-Noon, Noon-1:00pm, IT 225.

Wednesday, 2/23

~ CCED Cybersecurity Seminar, 9:00am-Noon, PCA 10, Rome Campus.

~Hospitality Programs Theme Dinner, "Hawaii's Kona Coast," \$18pp, 6:00pm, Hospitality Dining Room, Rome Campus. For reservations, call X7702, Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm.

~ Men's Basketball vs. SUNY Cobleskill, 7:00pm, Gym.

Saturday, 2/26

~ Defensive Driving Program, 9:00am-4:00pm, PC 211, Rome Campus.

~ Utica Symphony Orchestra Concert, "Mostly Mozart," 2:00pm and 8:00pm, IT Theater. Call 724-4000 for tickets.

Sunday, 2/27

~ Bowling, Regionals at PinORama, 11:00am.