

Communitas



MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

October 24th, 2005



Local Guild Donates Quilts to READ, Reading Education Assistance Dogs

Kitty Dack and her Piecemakers Quilt Guild of Mohawk, NY adopted a community service project identified by Patty Hirsch last Spring. Through a local service and therapy dog program, Patty, along with a friend -- Susan LeBlanc, worked to develop a local literacy initiative using dogs as reading partners. These literacy "teams" were in the beginning stages of training to bring attention to the many functions a certified therapy dog can provide in our local community.

Modeled after the national R.E.A.D. ® [Reading Education Assistance Dogs] program out of Salt Lake City, Utah, therapy dog teams are offered additional training to work with children who are struggling with reading. The mission of the R.E.A.D. program is to improve the literacy skills of children through the assistance of registered Pet Partner® therapy teams as literacy mentors. The Piecemakers Quilt Guild undertook a project to make "dog" quilts for therapy dog teams providing valuable services such as literacy assistance throughout the Mohawk Valley. These quilts were recently completed and given to Patty for distribution to several locations and to some therapy dog teams.

The Utica Public Library has received several of the guild's quilts to use in their program for children who struggle to read. Local volunteers bring in therapy dogs there and visiting children read to the dogs. The dogs love the interaction with the children, they make no judgments as to how well the children are reading, and the kids love to be with the dogs, so it is a winning situation for all. In addition, if a child is stressed as they struggle to read, the mere presence of a dog reduces their stress level so they have a better chance to succeed and learn to enjoy reading. Children come from the Thea Bowman House and Kids Oneida to participate. The Bowman House has also received a quilt for their reading tutorial program.

Several volunteer therapy dog teams are scheduled to receive their quilts soon. One such therapy team given a special quilt from Kitty's guild is Carol Krehel, DPT and "Morgan" of Valley Physical Therapy Center in Munnsville, New York. Carol and Morgan visit several nursing homes and

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MVCC's 4th Annual Gala Event

**"My Sinatra, The Songs
and the Stories,"**

**Performed by
Cary Hoffman with the
Stan Rubin Orchestra**

Saturday, October 29th

**Faculty and staff can purchase
two tickets at a reduced price
of \$35 each.**

**Call Donna Yaghy at ext 5486
for tickets.**

Friday, October 28th Employee After-Hours Get-Together

Tickets are **\$5.00** for all you can eat, 2 adult drinks and unlimited beverages at the non-alcoholic beverage stand.

Partake in the Penny Auction with chances to win gift baskets, movie tickets, photographs, a camera, and much more.

Silent Auction items include an Oak Hill Country Club golf package, a trip to Las Vegas, a Hotel Utica overnight stay, DelMonico's Restaurant Gift Certificate and many more exciting gifts and packages.

Entertainment will be provided for by Big Beat DJ Service.

Highlights of October 17th Trustees Meeting

During its regular monthly meeting, on October 17th, the MVCC Board of Trustees took the following actions:

- Approved minutes of its September 19th meeting.
- Approved warrants and expenditures covering College operations during the month of September, 2005
- Ratified appointment of the following individuals as members of the College's adjunct faculty:
 - Dr. Lorraine Caldwell, to teach PY212 Adolescent Psychology for the Psychology, Human Services & Education Department. Dr. Caldwell, who is also community service coordinator for the local Salvation Army organization, holds a B.A. degree in Psychology from Syracuse University, and two degrees from Rochville University, an M.S. in Clinical Psychology, and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology.
 - Judith Cortese, to teach FR201 and FR202 for the Humanities Department on a dual credit basis in the Rome City School District. She holds a B.A. degree in Education/English and a C.A.S. in Administration, both from SUNY Cortland, and an M.A. degree in Education from Elmira College.
 - Rosa L. Enriquez, to teach SP201 and SP202 Intermediate Spanish on a dual credit basis at Holland Patent High School. She has also taught Spanish, her first language, in the Rome City School District, and at VVS High School.
 - Kathryn A. Miller, to teach NU202 Adult Medical/Surgical Nursing for the Health Services Department. She is an adult nurse practitioner at Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare. She received B.S. N. and M.S. degrees in Nursing from SUNYIT.
 - Kathleen M. Olney, to teach FR201 and FR202 Intermediate French on a dual credit basis at Rome Free Academy, for the Humanities Department. She holds a B.A. degree in French from St. Lawrence University, and an M.A.T. in French from Colgate University.
 - Nancy V. O'Neal, to teach FR201 and FR202 Intermediate French for the Humanities Department, on a dual credit basis at Westmoreland High School. She has also taught French at Frankfort-Schuyler Jr/Sr High, and at St. Mary's College of Notre Dame, in Indiana. She received an M.A. degree in French from the Paris branch of Middlebury College.
 - Jamie Ray, to teach RC232 Clinical Practicum 2 for the Health Services Department. She is a staff therapist at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. She earned an A.A.S. degree in Respiratory Care at MVCC, and has served since 2002 as a preceptor for the Respiratory Care program at the College.
 - Kenneth C. Rishel, to teach PY101 Introduction to General Psychology for the Psychology, Human Services & Education Department. He is former superintendent of two school districts, the Carthage Central School District and Lacona City School District. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Education from SUNY Cortland, and a C.A.S. in Administration, also from SUNY Cortland.
 - Jennifer Smith, to teach SL107/108 English as a Second Language 3 for the Humanities Department. She received a B.A. degree in Communication Studies from the University of North Carolina, and an M.F.A. degree in Creative Writing from Eastern Washington University.
- Approved the appointment of Kathleen Donovan as STEP Project Coordinator, a grant-funded appointment. She is former principal at Notre Dame Junior Senior High School, in Utica, and also served as director of guidance and associate principal at Bishop Ludden High School in Syracuse. She taught mathematics at several schools before entering administration. She holds a B.S. degree in Mathematics from Le Moyne College, and an M.A. degree in Counseling Psychology from Catholic University of America.

The Trustees heard an update on discussions with SUNYIT about ways in which MVCC and SUNYIT might collaborate to achieve more effective

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Quilts, cont.

health care facilities and may soon participate in a reading program in their area. Morgan is a main feature of the therapy center greeting each patient with gentle warmth, assisting in simple tasks, and providing an encouraging presence. In addition to being used in library and school reading programs to help children overcome reading difficulties, Therapy Dogs and their handlers, like Carol and Morgan, become important members of caring teams that provide services in places like nursing homes and health care facilities.

To become a Therapy Dog team, an owner and their canine pet are carefully screened and complete a training program to become certified. There are a number of regional training programs sanctioned by several national therapy dog organizations. Once certified, volunteers can then take their Therapy Dogs to area nursing homes and health care facilities where these dogs greet each resident and provide happy opportunities for petting, grooming and other activities. Therapy Dogs also provide the needed motivation for people recovering in rehabilitation settings and visit special programs for developmentally disabled children and adults. For more information on becoming a therapy dog team, visit the websites of the International Association of Canine Professionals, Delta Society, Therapy Dogs, Inc., or Therapy Dogs International. To learn more about the R.E.A.D. program visit their website at www.therapyanimals.org.

The Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets at the United Methodist Church in Mohawk, NY the 2nd Monday of every month. There is a social hour from 6-7 followed by the business meeting at 7. At the close of the business meeting there is a Show 'N Tell segment where members can show and tell about items they have made. The membership is currently \$35 and new members are always welcome!

MVCC to Host United Nations Day Celebration

MVCC is pleased to be hosting the 60th Anniversary United Nations Day Celebration on Monday October 24, at 6pm IT225.

The theme for this event is "Millennium Goal of 2005: Health Care for Woman and Children, HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria" and will feature an opening musical performance by MVCC International Students followed by guest speakers and closing with a reception.

Faculty and staff; please pass this information as an invitation to any international students you may know.



M. Eustelle McMillan Memorial Scholarship in Nursing Established

Dr. Schafer accepts a donation from John McMillan, Department Head/Professor Emeritus, Mechanical and Civil Engineering, to establish a scholarship in memory of his wife, Eustelle McMillan. The scholarship was created by Professor McMillan and his children to celebrate Eustelle's lifetime of nurturing and caring for others as a nurse. The scholarship will be available to students in the Nursing program who have successfully completed their first year in good standing and demonstrate the potential for degree completion.

The family hopes that by establishing this scholarship, deserving recipients will embrace Eustelle's passion for Nursing, and endeavor to make their world a better place through service to their patients and their community.

Upcoming Events

Monday, 10/24

~ Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Stress and Time Management," 11:00am and Noon, ACC 116.

Tuesday, 10/25

~ Engineering, Technologies and the Trades and Engineering, Computer and Physical Sciences Dept. Open House, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Utica Campus.

Wednesday, 10/26

~ Hospitality Programs Luncheon, theme: "Auguste Escoffier's Birthday: A Salute to the King of Chefs and the Chef of Kings," 11:45am, on the Rome campus. Price is \$9.50, call 334-7702 for reservations.

~ Movie "What the #\$*! Do We Know?" 7:00pm, IT Theater.

Thursday, 10/27

~ Lecture: "American Cemetery Art," by Frank Calidonna, 7:00pm, Plumley Complex Aud.

Friday, 10/28

~ Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, 7:00pm, ACC 116.

Saturday, 10/29

~ NYSIAAS/MVTI 1948-1960 Grads weekend, 10:00am- after 5:30pm, Utica Campus.

~Gala, with "My Sinatra- The Songs and the Stories," by Cary Hoffman and the Stan Rubin Orchestra, 6:30pm, IT Lobbies and Theater.

Monday, 10/31

~ Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Panel of Your Peers" 11:00am and Noon, ACC 116.

Tuesday, 11/1

~ State National Training Service (Law Enforcement Career Development Division) workshop and orientation, 3:00pm-4:30pm; 6:00pm-7:30pm, PCA 10.

~ Women's Basketball vs. Jefferson, 6:00pm.

~ Men's Basketball vs. Jefferson, 8:00pm.

Wednesday, 11/2

~ Rome College Foundation/Hospitality Programs "Food for Thought" scholarship fund raiser, 6:30pm, Hospitality dining room, Rome Campus.

~ Tractor Trailer Driving job fair, 7:00pm-9:00pm, PC Auditorium, Rome Campus.

~ Men's Hockey vs. Broome, 7:00pm, Utica Aud.

Friday, 11/4

~ Julie Nesrallah and Christopher Devlin "Faces of Love" concert, 7:30pm, IT Theater.

Saturday, 11/5

~ Men's Basketball vs. Finger Lakes, 2:00pm.

College Community and Wednesday Luncheon Attendees Donate to Disaster Relief Funds

MVCC faculty, staff and the Hospitality Programs in Rome raised \$1658 for The Salvation Army and the Residence Hall students raised \$210 for the American Red Cross.

Trustee Highlights, cont.

and efficient programs and services for students at the two institutions.

Professor Thomas Capraro of the Life Science Department made a presentation to the Board on his use of Concept Mapping via the World Wide Web as an instructional technique. Through this approach, he is able to provide both on-campus and online students in Introduction to Human Anatomy with interactive questions on his web site, laboratory slides, interactive drawings, animations, and mini-lectures.