



## Frank DuRoss new interim head of Institutional Advancement

Utica native Frank B. DuRoss is the new face on campus after being selected as the interim Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. DuRoss will be using his talents from owning and operating professional sports franchises to the benefit of MVCC after taking the post on September 2 for a one-year appointment.

"Right now I'm just getting my arms around everything connected to the position," said DuRoss. "There are some different challenges running a foundation as compared to running a professional sports team. But there are also many similarities."

Since 1982, DuRoss has been heavily involved in the professional sports industry when he became majority owner of the Mohawk Valley Stars ice hockey team. The program was on the brink of folding, but with his investment the MV Stars regained stable financial footing.

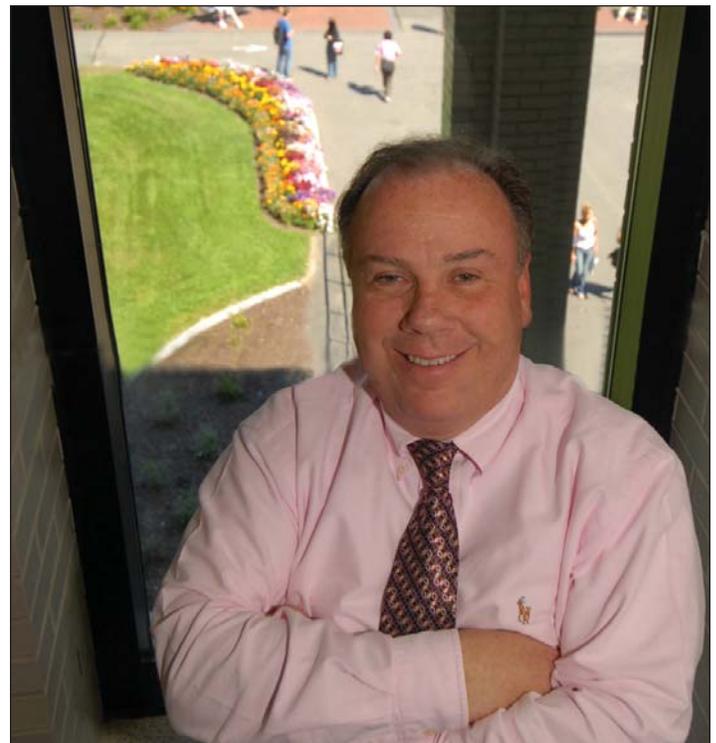
This investment paid major dividends when the New Jersey Devils decided to place its American Hockey League affiliate in Utica, which became the Utica Devils. DuRoss was named president of the team, which he held until he became co-owner of the Maine Hockey Club four years later. The team was moved to Providence, where it was renamed the Bruins, and won the Calder Cup in 1999.

DuRoss became sole owner of the Bruins in 2001 and served on the AHL's Executive Committee until he sold the team in 2006.

"There's a lot to running a sports team. You are always looking for sponsors, meeting with politicians and making contacts," said DuRoss.

Other sports ventures DuRoss has been involved in includes being co-owner of the Rochester Rhinos Soccer Team, a co-founder of 12-team Major League Lacrosse (MLL), and owner of the Rochester Rattlers in the MLL. While involved with the Rhinos, DuRoss was instrumental in the development and construction of the multi-purpose outdoor stadium PAETEC Park in Rochester and part of the investment group that built the ESL Sports Centre on the campus of Monroe Community College.

"I'm looking into ways to best connect with alumni in a meaningful way. ... We are going to meet with business



leaders and alumni to tell them the great story of MVCC," said DuRoss. "This is a great foundation and we are set up to build on our wealth of knowledge and skill."

The MVCC Foundation awards more than \$200,000 annually in scholarships to more than 200 MVCC students. Awards range in size from \$100 to full tuition

DuRoss is a native of Utica and 1969 graduate from Notre Dame High School. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Utica College in 1972. He and his wife Liz have two children, Nicolle and Frank Jr.

To submit information for Communitas,  
e-mail Rich Haubert  
@ [rhaubert@mvcc.edu](mailto:rhaubert@mvcc.edu)



**LUNCH WITH TEDDY** - The Kiddie Campus held a Teddy Bear Picnic on Tuesday in celebration of Teddy Bear Day. Left, teacher Holly Lambert shares a laugh with Mercello Giacovelli after he gave his favorite bear a big hug. Above, Anthony Portalatin and Diamonte Giacovelli kept their bears close at hand during the meal.

## Kiddie Campus was growling with Teddy Bears

The MVCC Kiddie Campus held a Teddy Bear Picnic for its campers on Tuesday, September 9, in celebration of Teddy Bear Day.

"Everyone brought in their own Teddy Bear or favorite stuffed animal," said Jerylann George, Director of Child Care Services at MVCC. "It is a nice way to start off the school year by allowing the children to bring something which comforts them at home, into the classroom. It really helps with the transition."

This is the first of many special events scheduled for Kiddie Campus with future activities including National Dog Week, Share Your Favorite Book Day, and National Family Day.

"This is a way to make the curriculum more exciting and creative for the children," said George, who says there is still

space for nine more children this semester. "These events also bring an educational aspect as the children learn about different things in their world."

National Teddy Bear Day is November 19.

**Teddy Bear History:** The legend behind the Teddy Bear comes from an incident when President Theodore Roosevelt refused to kill a tied up American Black Bear during a hunting trip in Mississippi, deeming it unsportsmanlike. It became the topic of a political cartoon where the bear was smaller and cuter. This image was seen by Morris Michtom who was inspired to create a new toy. He created a little stuffed bear cub and put it in his Brooklyn shop window with a sign that read "Teddy's bear." The toys were an immediate success and Michtom founded the Ideal Novelty and Toy Co.

## The Acoustic Café returns with Jarrett and Meyer

The eloquent music of recording artists Candice Jarrett and Laura Meyer will fill the Acoustic Café on Tuesday, September 16. The Acoustic Café will host these two exceptional artists for back-to-back performances at 8:00 and 9:00 p.m.

Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

Jarrett is a vastly talented singer/song-writer. Her guitar playing and lyrics are inspiring and sensual, leaving listeners emotionally touched. While touring throughout North America, she has opened for such musicians as The Allman Brothers, Lee Ann Womack and Hilary Duff.

Meyer has received national recognition for her song "Love Isn't Enough," which was a finalist in the VH1 Song-of-the-Year in the Folk category. Audiences have been enchanted by the confident vulnerability



Jarrett



Meyer

and penetrating honesty of her music.

The Acoustic Cafe is located in the Alumni College Center's Room 116. The Café serves pastries, coffee, tea and other refreshments. For more information on this and other upcoming events, visit the College's website at [www.mvcc.edu](http://www.mvcc.edu).

"The responsibility of our time is nothing less than a revolution ...peaceful if we are wise enough; humane if we care enough; successful if we are fortunate enough. But a revolution will come whether we will it or not. We can affect its character; we cannot alter its inevitability."



**Robert Kennedy (1925-1968)**  
U.S. Attorney General and Senator

*Submitted by Ron Cantor, Dean of Rome Campus*

## MVCC EVENTS

### Friday, September 12

Literacy Fair, Room 116, Alumni College Center, 8:00 a.m.  
Strategic Gaming Club Tournament, MV Commons, 12:00 p.m.  
Ballroom Dancing, MV Commons, 7:00 p.m.

### Saturday, September 13

Women's Volleyball at Fulton-Montgomery CC, 10:00 a.m.  
Cross Country at SUNY Cobleskill, 11:00 a.m.  
Women's Tennis hosts Broome CC, 1:00 p.m.  
Men's Soccer hosts Cayuga CC, 1:00 p.m.

### Monday, September 15

Chess Club, Room 114, Alumni College Center, 3:30 p.m.  
Board of Trustees Meet, Room 300, Payne Hall, 4:00 p.m.  
Women's Soccer hosts Finger Lakes CC, 4:00 p.m.  
Women's Tennis at SUNY Delhi, 4:00 p.m.  
Lecture: John Zogby, Internationally Known Pollster, Theatre,  
7:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, September 16

Comedian: Preacher Moss, MV Commons, 12:00 p.m.  
Women's Volleyball hosts Herkimer CCC, 6:00 p.m.  
Acoustic Café Performance: Candice Jarrett and Laura Meyer,  
Room 116, Alumni College Center, 7:00 & 8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, September 17

Men's Soccer at Finger Lakes CC, 4:00 p.m.  
Women's Tennis hosts Onondaga CC, 4:00 p.m.  
Lecture: "The Erie Canal Village" with Melody Milewski,  
Plumley Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

### Thursday, September 18

Women's Soccer at SUNY Delhi, 4:00 p.m.

### Friday, September 19

Women's Tennis hosts Hudson Valley CC, 4:00 p.m.  
Cross Country at Oneonta, 5:15 p.m.  
Concert: The Band "Showtime," MVCC Theatre (\$5 General,  
\$2 w/ College ID, Free w/ MVCC ID), 8:00 p.m.

### Saturday, September 20

Women's Volleyball at Tompkins-Cortland CC, 10:30 a.m.  
Women's Tennis hosts CCRI, 1:00 p.m.  
Women's Soccer hosts Genesee CC, 2:00 p.m.  
Men's Soccer hosts Genesee CC, 2:00 p.m.

### Monday, September 22

Chess Club, Room 114, Alumni College Center, 3:30 p.m.  
Movie: National Treasure, Book of Secrets, Rated PG,  
Theatre, 7:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, September 23

Sculpture Space Resident Artist Lecture, Room 225,  
Information Technology Building, 3:00 p.m.  
Women's Tennis hosts Herkimer CCC, 4:00 p.m.  
Women's Volleyball hosts Fulton-Montgomery CC, 6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, September 24

Luncheons with Pizzazz, Rome Hospitality Dining Room  
(\$12.50, reservations required at 334-7702), 11:45 a.m.  
Women's Soccer at Jefferson CC, 4:00 p.m.  
Women's Soccer at Jefferson CC, 4:00 p.m.  
Concert: Jupiter One, Sponsored by MVCC Program Board,  
Theatre, 7:00 p.m.

## Humanities Department sponsors trip to Italy

The Humanities Department is sponsoring an eight-day trip to Rome, Italy, on May 25, 2009, as part of SA300 course for study abroad.

This trip is open to MVCC students, faculty, staff, and friends.

In addition to visiting all the sights in Rome such as Ancient Rome and the Vatican, the tour will also visit Pompeii, Florence, and Tivoli.

There will be two information meetings for anyone interested on Monday, September 15, at 12:00 p.m. in Room 391 of Payne Hall and Thursday, September 18, at 2:00 p.m. in Room 218 of Information Technology Building.

Those interested may contact Roman Santos at 792-5595 (rsantos@mvcc.edu) or Carolyn West Pace at 792-5447 (cpace@mvcc.edu).



**UP IN THE AIR** - Illusionist Jason Bishop thrilled a packed house in the MVCC Theatre on September 3, with a mystifying tricks. With the help of assistant Kim Hess, Bishop demonstrated levitation, slight of hand and stunning magic. This event was sponsored by the Program Board.

## Baseball team collects toy for less fortunate children

The MVCC Baseball Team will be making a donation of toys to the Holly Days Program which is similar to Toys for Tots. The difference is the Holly Days Program keeps all donations in the Mohawk Valley.

All the toys collected by the baseball team will be donated to the Holly Days Program on Friday, October 3, at Donovan Stadium.

The baseball team's goal is to bring some smiles to many less fortunate children in the community.

To donate a new toy or a game, contact Dave Warren by e-mail (dwarren@mvcc.edu) or call 792-5674. He will be happy to pick up donations at all MVCC offices or work stations.

# MVCC saddened by loss of Frank Tobiasz

MVCC lost a family member over the Labor Day Weekend when Frank Tobiasz passed away as the result of a boating accident on Oneida Lake.

Tobiasz retired from MVCC in December 2003 after 37 years of service. He began his career at MVCC in the Fall of 1966 teaching courses in the former Mechanical Engineering Technology Department specializing in Industrial Material Science and Drafting courses.

A year after being hired, Tobiasz spent a year at Penn State University where he earned his Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. During his 37 years at MVCC, he became a full Professor and served as Department Head in the Mechanical Engineering Technology Department before it was consolidated into the Mechanical-Civil Technology Department.

Prior to retiring, Tobiasz became the department specialist in teaching Microstation/CAD, a specialized software used by the New York State Department of Transportation.

After retirement, Tobiasz could be seen visiting the campus periodically to obtain reading material from the library and would spend time visiting college employees and visited the campus as recently as last Thursday.

Tobiasz was 72 years old.

## Mark Your Calendar!

### TIAA-CREF Individual Counseling Sessions

This individual counseling session will help you to simplify your retirement by:

- Providing objective advice and asset allocation based on your individual needs
- Showing you how you can obtain a personalized actionable plan
- Recommending fund selections to keep you on track to and through retirement
- Reviewing your retirement income options



Location	Date	Time	Room
Utica Campus	Sept. 17	9 am-5 pm	PH104F
Utica Campus	October 23	9 pm-5 pm	PH104F
Utica Campus	November 18	9 am-5 pm	PH104F

**Sign Up Today:**  
 If you would like to schedule an appointment, please visit our Web site at [www.tiaa-cref.org/moc](http://www.tiaa-cref.org/moc).  
 Or call (866)842-2046

## MVCC Faces: Rhona S. Patterson



**Rhona S. Patterson  
Coordinator for Upward Bound**

When it comes to helping children reach their full potential, Rhona S. Patterson goes out of her way to make their dreams come true.

That is the reason she jumped at the opportunity to be the Coordinator for the Upward Bound Program, a four-year academic enrichment program designed to prepare high school students for entry into college. The mission of Upward Bound is to help students build the skills necessary to enter college, pursue a degree and graduate successfully.

Patterson knows the benefit of hard work in school. She earned her first degree, an Associate in Applied Science for Medical Secretarial, from MVCC in 1994. She returned to the classroom years later to earn an Associate in Science in General Studies from MVCC in 2002 and then went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Utica College in 2006.

This Utica native accomplished all this while raising three sons and a daughter.

"My goals are to give the students of Upward Bound the support and necessary guidance to be able to be successful in all areas of life," said Patterson, who also teaches MS 108, Concepts in Mathematics.

## Submit club, meeting & other events for calendar

To have your club's event, meeting or other activities listed in the College Calendar, Communitas, MVTV, and/or MVCC Today, submit to Rich Haubert at [rhaubert@mvcc.edu](mailto:rhaubert@mvcc.edu). Please submit at least two weeks in advance.