



Graduation



MCC's Townsend a 'Transportation Innovator' at the White House



By Rich Carpenter
 Live Wire Staff Writer

On Tuesday, July 31st, the White House honored leaders who have devoted their time and efforts to helping their communities reach new heights through transportation innovation, including MCC's own Rebecca Townsend, an associate professor of communication.

Townsend attended two events at the Eisenhower Executive Office building with her husband, Tom, their sons, Tommy and Charlie, her mother-in-law Carol and a longtime friend who lives in Washington, Colleen Creighton. In addition to meeting Ray LaHood, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Townsend and her guests also went on a tour of the White House, met Bo, the First Family's dog, and saw President Barack Obama boarding Marine 1 on the South Lawn.

Townsend was named a Transportation Innovator, which are individuals or organizations that have provided exemplary leadership in the growth and expansion of the transportation industry at the local, state or regional level. Other awardees included David Bennett, who is CEO of Proterra, a company in South Carolina that works on developing ecologically-sound busses, and Veronica Davies, an urban planner in D.C., who started a group called Black Women Who Bike.

Townsend was recognized for her work as Principal Investigator for the Partnership for Inclusive, Cost-Effective Public Participation. Her project involves community service learning, cultural communication, and productive deliberation in transit planning public involvement efforts.

Transportation Innovators are named as part of the Champions of Change program, which was created as a part of Obama's Winning the Future initiative. Each week, a different sector is highlighted and groups of Champions, ranging from educators to entrepreneurs to community leaders, are recognized for the work they are doing to serve and strengthen their communities.

"Today's Champions are leaders in developing and implementing innovative transportation initiatives," said LaHood in a release announcing the honor. "They are making a difference every day in their local communities and

across the country by improving America's transportation infrastructure and helping their friends and neighbors get where they need to go."

Townsend, who holds a doctorate from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, has been teaching at MCC since 2008. She said during the process of conducting her research into the transportation needs of the greater Hartford community she learned that community college students can be very effective at reaching populations that planners can't find or are unable to reach.

Townsend said her overall findings surprised her.

"I am really impressed with the desire for bus passes," she said. "Students really said that they would take the bus more, thereby reducing the parking problem on campus, in the same way that such a program already present at Capitol Community College does. It would also result in increasing pedestrian safety, because of the danger to pedestrians present around campus."

Townsend said she is very proud her project and MCC earned the recognition of the White House.

"I am extraordinarily thankful for all the students and staff at MCC, everyone from the custodians to the president has been extremely supportive, and I thank them and am so proud of them all," she said. "My students are pioneers!"



Top: Townsend lays out her findings. To her left is **Jason Roberts**, Oak Cliff Transit Authority, TX. To her right is **Bob Sloane**, Walk Boston. **Top Right:** Townsend stands between the Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and her husband, Thomas as well as her sons Tommy and Charlie. **Below:** Award winners and top DOT officials pose for a photo. **BACK ROW**, from the LEFT: **Michael P. Huerta**, Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, **Therese W. McMillan**, **Victor Mendez**, **Joseph C. Szabo**, **Jason Roberts**, **Townsend**, Manchester Community College, **Sloane**, **LaHood**, Secretary of Transportation, **Jacque Whitsitt**, **Veronica Davis**, **Phillip Washington**, **FRONT ROW**, from LEFT: **Dan Richard**, **David Barger**, **Susan Martinovitch**, **Anne S. Ferro**, **Beverly Scott**, **Ellen Voie**, **David Bennett**, **Jerry Enzler**.



MCC Celebrates 48th Commencement Ceremony

By MCC Staff Writers

More than 900 degrees and certificates were awarded at Manchester Community College's 48th annual commencement ceremony on Thursday, May 31. Graduates from 70 towns across Connecticut and five other states were awarded associate in science degrees, associate in art degrees and certificates. The youngest graduate was 16 years old and the oldest was 70.

Daniel H. Bates, a Newington resident, was the 2012 valedictorian earning an associate in science degree in Engineering Science. While at MCC, Daniel successfully completed 98 credits of coursework, earning an "A" in each of his courses.

In his remarks Bates, who completed his degree in December 2011, praised MCC faculty.

"The professors at Manchester are great teachers and dedicated to their students. They are easy to talk to and it's motivating to know they care about students' success," he said in his valedictory speech, which was written by him but read Academic Dean Joanne Russell because Bates was on a rock climbing expedition in Kazakhstan at the time of the ceremony. "I'm grateful for the experiences I had in the classroom at Manchester and the professors, deans and entire faculty deserve our sincere thanks on this occasion."

The salutatorian was Kevin M. MacVane, a resident of Manchester, who was awarded an associate in science degree in general studies. MacVane enrolled in classes at MCC in 2010 and, earned an "A" in every course. He planned to transfer to Eastern Connecticut State University in the fall.

See Grad pg. 2



Top: Friends and family and graduates gather at the Manchester Bicentennial Band Shell for Commencement. **Top left (square):** Manchester Bagpipers play at the start of the processional. **Top right:** Attendees make themselves comfortable below an art sculpture. **Bottom left:** A graduate's cap and tassel which is worn to the right after the commencement. **Bottom right:** MCC student Ben White poses for a picture on his way to receive his degree.

All photos by SallyAnn Garvey-Lumumba.

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If you are a currently enrolled student looking for assistance with your courses, visit the ASC website at www.mcc.commnet.edu/academic/asc or call for an appointment at 860-512-2610.



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Low Student Services Center
Second Floor, Room L282

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

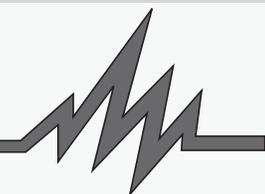
Would you like to promote your club in the Live Wire?

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All clubs are eligible to receive a free
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email: livewire@mcc.commnet.edu
or sdavis@mcc.commnet.edu

The Live Wire



Like what you see?

Join the Live Wire!

Faculty Advisor:

Stephania Davis sdavis@mcc.commnet.edu

The First Staff Meeting of the Fall will
be Sept. 13 at 5 p.m. in Live Wire Office,
Lowe 154J

livewire@mcc.commnet.edu

Main Number
860-512-3290

Asst. Editor
860-512-3289

Continued from Grads pg. 1

The commencement address was given by Lewis J. Robinson, Jr., an attorney with a comprehensive background in business, law and government affairs, as well as charitable organizations. He retired as General Counsel of Travelers Property Casualty, Personal Lines and has served in a volunteer leadership capacity with a variety of non-profit organizations. Most recently he was appointed by Gov. Dan Malloy to serve as chairman of the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education.

In his remarks, Robinson listed the keys to success.

"Planning, working hard, being responsible, kind and respectful, valuing education: all of these attributes are essential for success, but perhaps the most important one is integrity," he said.

Also during the ceremony several awards were given.

The Regional Advisory Council Award was presented to graduate Shae Ming Sau, a resident of Windsor. The award is given to a student in recognition of service to the college. Jackie Dannaher, a resident of West Hartford, was the recipient of the President's Student Award, which recognizes a student who has demonstrated unusual perseverance in spite of difficulties, obstacles or challenges.

The honorary degree recipient was Timothy J. Devanney, president of Highland Park Market. He has demonstrated a commitment and dedication to MCC and currently serves as a member of the college's Regional Advisory Council.

Posthumous recognition was given to Thomas P. Sheridan, Esq.' 73, of Glastonbury, who embodied the vision of a community college graduate. He was a decorated Vietnam veteran, attorney and clerk of the Connecticut State Senate. He served as a longtime member of the MCC Regional Advisory Committee.

Briefs

Farmer's Market Open Wednesdays Through October

This is the 6th year that the MCC Farmer's Market has been in operation. Visit each Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m. near the Bandshell in the back of the college for a mix of delicious locally grown fruits and vegetables, friendly farmers and vendors, and great live music. Be sure to check out the website, www.mcc.commnet.edu/business/farmers/index.php, for details on each week's market. For more information contact Patrick Sullivan at 860-546-1191. It is free and open to the public.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

The Student Government Association will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month on Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 11 a.m. in the Cougar Café in the Lowe building with Spanish food and a live mariachi band. It is free and open to the public.

Cougar Classic Golf Tournament Raises Money for Student Life

The annual Cougar Classic Golf Tournament will be begin Wednesday, Sept. 26, at 11 a.m. at Manchester Country Club. Registration of \$150 per golfer includes 18 holes of golf, lunch, dinner and awards. The scramble format will be used with shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Practice range available for participants. Funds raised will be utilized to support student life and co-curricular activities at MCC. Sponsorship opportunities are also available for those unable to attend. Checks can be made payable to Manchester Community College Foundation. For more information contact Cynthia Washburne, Director of Student Life, at 860-512-3353 or visit cwashburne@mcc.commnet.edu or www.mcc.commnet.edu/golf.

International Film Series Begins

The MCC Fall 2012 International Film Series begins Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. in the SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium with the showing of *Jiro Dreams of Sushi*, from Japan. In the basement of a Tokyo office building, 85 year old sushi master Jiro Ono works tirelessly in his world renowned restaurant, Sukiyabashi Jiro. As his son Yoshikazu faces the pressures of stepping into his father's shoes and taking over the legendary restaurant, Jiro relentlessly pursues his lifelong quest to create the perfect piece of sushi. This film was a nominee at the Tribeca Film Festival. The 81 minute long documentary is in Japanese and rated PG. For more information contact Evelyn Angry-Smith at 860-512-2874. This event is free and open to the public.

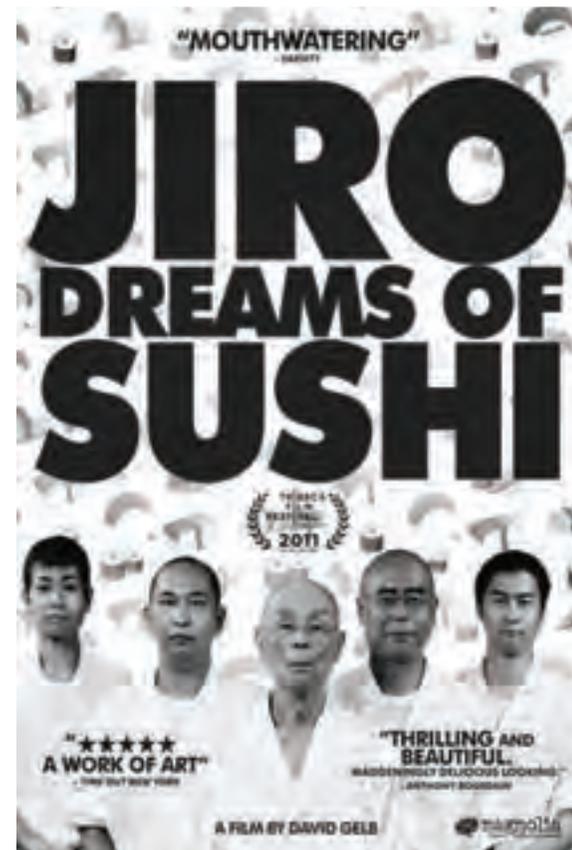


Photo courtesy of www.movie-poster-artwork-finder.com

Please submit briefs to Live Wire advisor Stephania Davis by emailing sdavis@mcc.commnet.edu

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The Adult Success Coach offers:

- Trained coaches who will work with you to plan and set goals, and guide you to resources online and on campus.
- Useful online tools for managing your time, establishing balance among competing priorities and developing your study skills.
- Referrals to professionals on campus who can help you succeed.

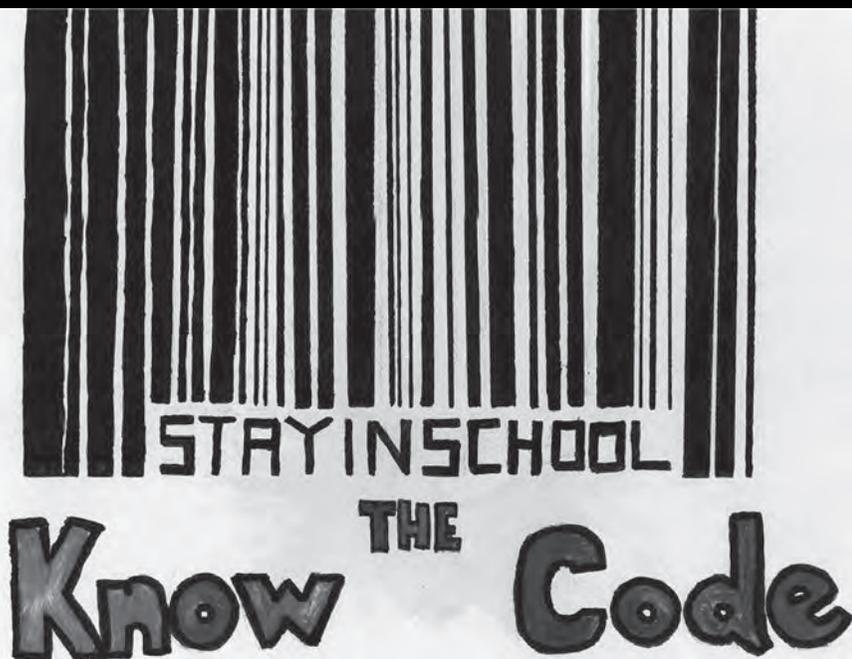


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For more information or to log in, go to
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MCC has the resources to help you "KNOW THE CODE!"

- **Academic Support Center: Tutoring, Lowe L 282**
Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Info: 860-512-2610 or visit www.mcc.commnet.edu/academic/asc
- **Advising and Counseling Center: Lowe L108**
Mon.-Tues. 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Wed.-Thurs., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.;
and Fri. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Info: 860-512-3320 or visit www.mcc.commnet.edu/students/counseling
- **Student Development Specialists: Lowe L125**
Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Info: 860-512-3344 or visit www.mcc.commnet.edu/students/transitional

Artwork by MCC student Colin Gallerani



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ASK JASON

Hi MCC students. My name is Jason Scappaticci; many of you may have already met me in my "other" role as the Interim Coordinator of Transitional Programs. For those of you who have never met me, you will in this role as your advice columnist. This will not be a traditional advice column. My office helps students learn the skills they need to be successful, which is one of the reasons I wanted to write this column. This new advice column has been specifically created to give you answers to your questions. If you have questions about MCC policies, offices and traditions, or academic problems, I'll get you answers.

Image courtesy of: ManchesterDems.com

Hello readers! For returning students: Welcome Back. And for new students: Welcome to MCC. For those students who are new to campus "Ask Jason" is an opportunity to ask an MCC employee questions related to MCC and college academics.

I thought I would devote this issue's Ask Jason column to some tips to get your semester off to a good start. Here are some pointers from staff, faculty and your fellow students:

1. Attend every class.

One of the most important reasons is because professors go over what they expect you to know. In that way, class prepares you for exams and assignments. Now I know how tempting it is to skip sometimes, especially because nobody is going to be following up on you if you do skip. College is so different from what most of us experienced in high school. It may be true that we won't get into disciplinary trouble if we don't show up but we will get into trouble academically. Failing a class has far reaching impacts on us as students. While attending doesn't guarantee a passing grade in a course, it certainly makes a difference.

One more reason to attend every class is because you paid for it! It costs \$482 to take a three credit class (provided that there are no studio fees). This works out to roughly \$11 for each hour of class. So skipping one 90 minute class costs about \$16.50. So, you lose more than instruction when you aren't there. Even if you have the benefit of financial aid, it lasts only so long, and can be taken away for poor performance.

2. Buy your books now.

How can you read your assignments without them? And reading before the class lecture is one form of college studying. The lecture will be a review of the material and an opportunity for you to gain a better understanding of the material and what the professor thinks are the most important parts of what you've already read.

3. Read all assignments.

Professors expect that you will have completed all reading before class and they will have a lecture or activities prepared to compliment the reading. The class will be very challenging to follow if assignments haven't been read.

4. Get to know your professors.

At least once a week I have a student who is unable to tell me who their instructor is. You may not know their names the first week of classes, but after a month you should really know who is teaching the class. What is more important is that if a student doesn't know the name of their professor it means they haven't engaged with them. Ask your professor questions during class or after class. Get to know them; it will make the MCC experience even more fulfilling for you.

5. Dedicate enough time to coursework.

New students frequently don't realize how much time is necessary to complete required reading, assignments and studying. For each credit hour spent in class you can expect to spend 2 to 3 hours outside of class on coursework. This means that a 3 credit course will require 6-9 hours of work outside of class each week. Keep this in mind if you are planning to work or have a family to take care of. Being a full time student may require only 12 hours spent in class each week but coursework for 12 credits means 24 to 36 hours outside of class. Plan accordingly.

Jason Scappaticci is interim coordinator of Transitional Programs at Manchester Community College. If you have a question about MCC policies, offices and traditions or academic problems, Jason will get you answers. Email him your questions at jscappaticci@mcc.commnet.edu.

Domestic Violence Strikes Close to Home

By SallyAnn Garvey-Lumumba
Outgoing Live Wire Editor

Annatassia Keise, 23, was in many ways a typical Manchester Community College student. She lived near campus with her long-time-boyfriend and was working toward earning her associate degree one semester at a time. But this fall you won't stand next to her in line at the bookstore, or sit next to her in classes and professors won't call her name during roll-call. That's because on July 21, 2012, Keise was murdered.

Keise met with her adoptive father, Mark, for lunch a few days before she was killed by her boyfriend Steve Simpson.

According to published reports, his daughter tearfully told him that she was going to end her relationship with Simpson. Mark Keise recalled their conversation to the Journal Enquirer newspaper:

"She said she loved him, but she wasn't in love with him anymore," he said. "She was crying. I asked her, 'Has this guy ever hit you?' She had her head down. I lifted up her head and asked her, 'Has this guy ever hit you?' and she said, 'No,' but now I don't know if I believe that."

Just a few short days after this exchange Annatassia was dead, shot at least three times, in the apartment she shared with Simpson in Manchester. Simpson was charged with both murder and a narcotics charge.

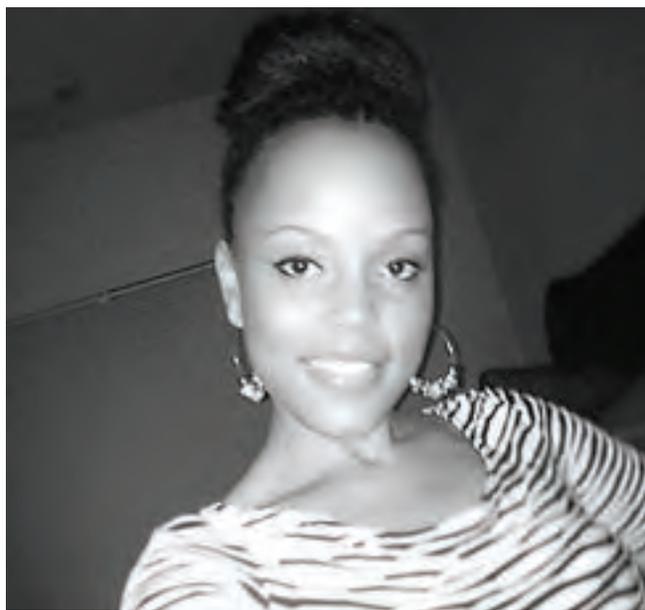
Keise's murder is also a shocking reminder of a crime that occurred on Valentine's Day 2009 when a University of Hartford alumna, Tiana Notice, was murdered by her ex-boyfriend. Notice had split from James Carter in December of 2009 and was granted a restraining order, which Carter violated numerous times. Finally, on February 14, he drove to her apartment complex with a knife, and after many attempts to enter, attacked Notice, stabbing her 18 times. According to FBI homicide data, 35 percent of female murder victims in 2009 were killed by an intimate partner.

The Notice family have created the Tiana Notice Foundation (TianaNoticeFoundation.org) to help prevent domestic violence through education, awareness, and providing resources and empowerment to victims. Notice's father, Alvin, fought tirelessly to get the state of Connecticut to fund a program that requires violent individuals to be tracked by GPS motoring devices, which, if in effect on that fateful Valentine's Day, might have saved his daughter's life. A similar GPS program was created in Massachusetts, and between 2006 and 2010 there were no violations of restraining orders monitored by GPS. Connecticut did enact a similar bill in 2010 with the hope of preventing similar crimes from occurring.

Mark Keise hopes to educate others about the importance of education, and remind other students how domestic violence can change or even end a life. MCC Dean of Student Affairs G. Duncan Harris said in a statement to the *Live Wire* that "It was truly disheartening to see a beautiful life ended far too soon," and that the college is working with the Keise family as well as representatives from the Interval House, a shelter for battered women, to create an educational program in the fall as well as a memorial.

The event is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13, 2012, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., but may change as plans were still being finalized at press time. For up to date information contact the event coordinator Jaria Aljoe, at jaljoe@mcc.commnet.edu.

According to the American Bar Association one in every four women will fall victim to domestic violence in her lifetime. Below are listed services and programs for victims of domestic violence. Please consider keeping the information for reference, because domestic violence is closer than you may think.



Annatassia Keise, pictured at left, was a typical MCC student until she was slain, allegedly by her boyfriend Steve Simpson. Photo courtesy of the Journal Inquirer, Manchester, CT.

Informational Resources:

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence: 1 (888)-774-2900 ctcadv.org for victims, advocates, and others free of charge advice referrals and information.

Interval House Hartford: 1- (860)-527-0550 Hartford-based 24-hour domestic violence hotline. Interval house runs a 20-bed shelter for abused women and children has Spanish-speaking staff and offers many tools including support groups, and court help and advocacy.

Interval House Manchester: Hotline: 1-(860)-645-4033 offers numerous services including information referrals, share groups with babysitting, and court advocacy.

National Domestic Violence/Child Abuse/Sexual Abuse hotline: 1 (800)-799-SAFE Spanish speaking: 1-(800)-942-6908, TDD: 1-(800)-787-3224

Info-line, United Way Hotline: dial 211, a confidential and free counseling service that provides resource referrals.

Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services (CONNSACS): 1-(860)-282-9881

Programs:

The CT Safe At Home Program: Provides address confidentiality for victims of crimes including, stalking, family violence, sexual assault etc. with a substitute address so that the victim can choose when and if to give out their home address. Information about the program is available online, or by calling the **YWCA of New Britain Sexual Assault Crisis Services** (which covers the greater Hartford area including Manchester): Office: 1-(860)-241-9217, Hotline: 1-(860)-547-1022.

Statewide Legal Services of CT: A telephone hotline that helps callers with non-criminal legal problems relating to family, employment, public benefits, housing and consumer problems like bankruptcy. You must meet criteria to qualify for services. Visit CTLawHelp.org or call 1-(860)-344-0380 or 1-(800)-453-3320 toll-free. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. on Mon. Tues. Thurs. and Friday and 1-3 p.m. on Wed.

Greater Hartford Legal Aid Foundation: A not-for-profit law firm whose attorneys provide low-income clients with free representation for civil legal issues. Call 1-(860)-541-5000 (Spanish speaking representatives available) or email ghla@ghla.org.

A Note on Undocumented Victims of Violence: U-Visas for Victims: If you are a victim of a crime (including domestic violence and/or sexual assault) and are undocumented, you may be eligible for a U-Visa. The U-Visa is a special class of visas issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS). The U-Visa is generally available for crime victims who (1) have suffered substantial physical or mental abuse from criminal activity; (2) have information regarding the criminal activity; (3) assist government officials in the investigation or prosecution of such criminal activity. U-Visa holders receive employment authorization and a path to a green card.

10 Things to know about MCC to get the school year off to a good start.

1. There is more than enough parking. If you don't find something in the front C lot, try the back or the sides.
2. Get in the habit of checking your MCC email address. Important stuff will be sent there.
3. Use the library! In addition to books, computers and printers there are also study rooms to reserve and a quiet place to study in the Fireside Lounge.
4. Find out who your adviser is and see them.
5. Join a club. Get involved in campus life.
6. Take advantage of tutoring services in the Academic Support Center early in the semester. Don't wait until you're in danger of failing.
7. Need help with something? Check with the office of the Dean of Students. There you can borrow a calculator or get help with purchasing books.
8. Check out the TV screens near the cafeteria, the library and in the Tower lobby for announcements, hours and other valuable information.
9. The MCC home page is chock full of information. So is your school newspaper.
10. There are several ways off campus, don't get caught in the front traffic jam.

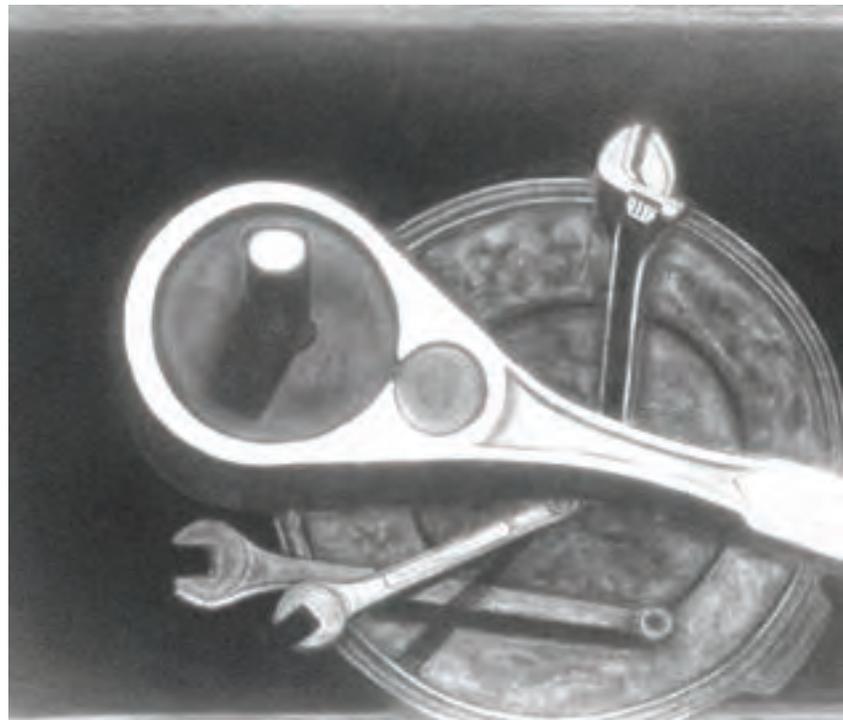
May 11, - June 20, 2012 **MCC Spring Art's Festival**



Above: An assortment of the work on display at the 2012 Spring Arts Festival.
Top Right: A painting in ink by Abby Soucy made in Drawing I.
Lower Right: An ink painting by Rebecca Whittemore.



Above: A charcoal portrait by Emily Albee, Drawing I.



Above: A charcoal still-life by Jon Drobiak. *Left:* A drawing by Mathew Spinella, Drawing I. Photos by SallyAnn Garvey-Lumumba.

See more photos from the Spring Arts Festival on the back page of this issue!

26.2 Miles of Dedication Lead to the Boston Marathon

By Megan King
Special to the Live Wire

It's four in the morning and the alarm goes off as Tricia King jumps out of bed, eager to get out the door of her Glastonbury home and meet her running group.

Before King steps out the door she enjoys her usual breakfast of a banana with peanut butter. Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday she wakes up at four in the morning to run because she runs marathons.

King meets her running group, named The Glastonbury River Runners, which she helped start and now has more than 200 members. She follows a 16 to 18 week training schedule, running about 50 miles a week along with her other elite running group members.

On Saturdays, King meets with another group, the Hartford Marathon group. Throughout the week and on Sundays she runs fast, speed work and interval running where she is timed.

But on Saturdays she enjoys getting up early the most because it's her time to enjoy a very long but slow run, usually around 18 to 20 miles.

King said she enjoys Saturdays the most because she feels like she is running a marathon.

Tricia King works extremely hard all year long to run about two actual marathons a year.

King has run dozens of half marathons, which are 13.1 miles long, and she has run 15 marathons of 26.2 miles each.

Her best marathon finish time is four hours, three minutes, and thirteen seconds in a Marine Corp marathon in New York. But she has also run four other marathons within the four hours, three minute mark, which King thinks is pretty funny; she wants to get that to two minutes instead. King plans to run a marathon in every state, no matter how long it takes or how old she gets. She's run a marathon in 10 states so far and her next race is the Lehigh Valley Marathon in Pennsylvania.

King said her favorite marathon to run was the Walt Disney World Marathon in Florida. She enjoyed how the racecourse was through all the Disney parks and she loved running by Cinderella's castle. But most of all, she said she couldn't believe every Disney character, from Mickey Mouse to the Seven Dwarfs were throughout the race to cheer for the runners.

King has long dreamed of running in the prestigious Boston Marathon in Massachusetts. This Marathon is extremely hard to qualify for, and even if your race time is fast enough, entry is not guaranteed.

Fortunately after trying for a couple years King's dream came true and on April 16, 2012 she ran the race wearing her favorite green shirt.

When the end of the 26.2 miles race near, King said all she could think was "I feel miserable!!! But all I want to do is finish."

The race is over and there are tears in her eyes because this is why she wakes up at four in the morning every day, to be able to accomplish her dream and run marathons.



Above: Runner Tricia King smiles for the camera at the 2012 Boston Marathon. **Below:** King stretches before an early-morning practice run. All photos by Megan King.

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Visit the Adult Success Coach, an online resource designed to help the busy adult succeed.

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The PETS Animal Rescue Bus Brings Dogs & Dog-Lovers Together

By William Hornyak
Special to the Live Wire

Every Saturday morning, David Wolf goes to the Putnam Bridge Park and Ride in Glastonbury to help run the pickups for the Peterson Express Transport Services, also known as PETS.

PETS is a transportation company that does animal rescue road trips. They rescue animals and bring them to the families that have adopted them. People who cannot adopt can also become foster families until PETS can find a permanent home for the animal. The service has been featured on the Animal Planet television show "Last Chance Highway."

The owner of two adopted dogs, Wolf has been helping PETS for six years. He said that he has seen people come from as far as New York and Maine in order to pick up their dog from the transport in Glastonbury, because they cannot wait to pick up their new dogs. Between 8 and 40 dogs have been dropped off in Glastonbury on a weekend, he said.

In addition to helping with transport, Wolf also helps with adoption paperwork, answers questions about the transport from new owners and prepares them for how the animals might act when they leave the transport. Wolf said he wants the new owners

to have a "memorable experience" in getting their dogs.

Wolf said dogs coming off of the transport come off in one of four different ways: with their tails wagging in excitement; nervous and scared with their tails between their legs; really scared, some lying down with all fours spread out when they get out of their cages; and so scared that they do not want to get out of their cages.

While working with PETS, Wolf said, he has seen

come memorable first meetings between dogs and new owners.

Once, Wolf said, a football player with the New England Patriots showed up knowing that he was picking up a puppy, but he did not know that the puppy was really for him. He acted like a tough guy when he thought the puppy was for someone else, but his attitude totally changed when he found out that it was for him. He melted and got affectionate towards the puppy he was so happy to it.

There was also an elderly couple who wanted a calm dog to have around. But when the dog got out of its cage, it was hyper and jumping around. Until the husband brought the dog over to the wife, who was in a wheelchair, so she could see the dog. The dog just sat down right next to the wife and laid its head on her lap for her to pet it.

For more information about adopting a dog through PETS visit <http://www.petsllc.net/index.php> or <http://www.petfinder.com/index.html>.



Above, already adopted dogs wait to be picked up by their new families on board the PETS mobile.



Above: David Wolf checks adoption paperwork.



New owners line up and wait for their pets to be unloaded from The Peterson Express Transport Services bus. All photos by William Hornyak.

FREE ONLINE TUTORING

www.etutoring.org

Free online tutoring is available for MCC students in writing (in all subject areas), math (developmental through calculus II), statistics, accounting, biology, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, and information literacy and research methods.

You may:

- Submit your paper to the online Writing Lab
- Leave eQuestions for a tutor's response
- Work online, one-on-one with a live tutor in eChat

To set up your free account, go to www.etutoring.org, select Northeast eTutoring Consortium, then select Manchester CC.

eTutoring is sponsored by the Academic Support Center and the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium



This activity supports the learning goals of Intellectual and Practical Skills, and Understanding of Self

“I believe in tradition. I believe in the old ways. Those are the people that gave me my profession and I respect that.”

-- Steve Cullen



Keepin' It Old School

By Caitlin Aldrich
Special to the Live Wire

Drawing from the time he could hold a pencil, Steve Cullen strives to be good at all types of tattooing, he said. Cullen, 52, owns Phantom Ink Tattoos in Forestville.

Cullen has been tattooing for 23 years and said he loves tattoo artistry. Although Cullen started drawing at a young age, as a child he said he liked bikers and wanted to become one. He was also in love with their tattoos. When he was 18 he got his first tattoo and knew right away it was something he wanted to do. So, he waited until he was around 30 years old, got sober, hooked up with some old timers and started tattooing. He's been tattooing ever since, said Cullen, adding that he feels very strongly about old classic American art.

“This business is far too swamped with tattoo parlors,” he said of the industry. “It’s not just Connecticut; it’s every state, every country. There’s far too many tattoo parlors. And there’s some good art coming out of them, but technically are they going to be good tattoos? No, in 10 years they’re going to look like crap.”

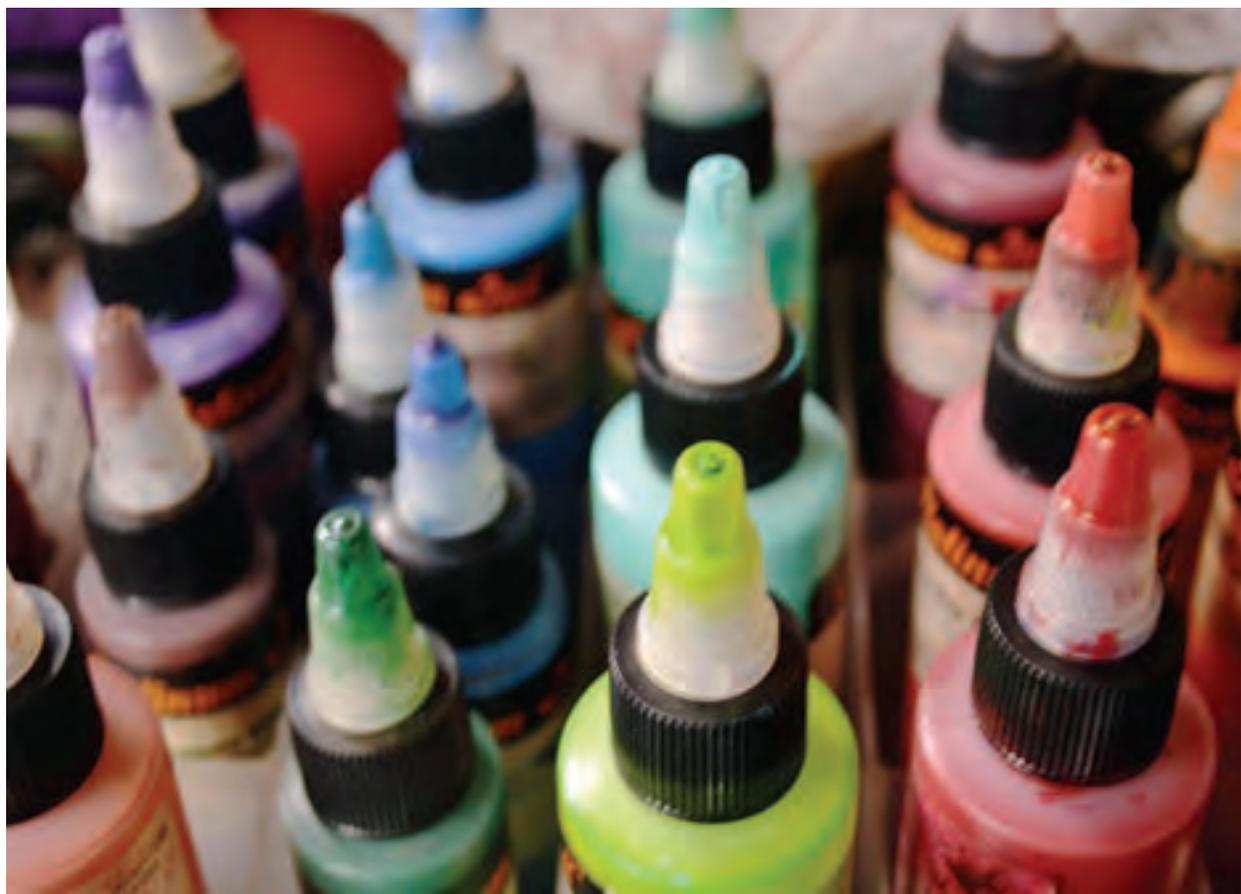
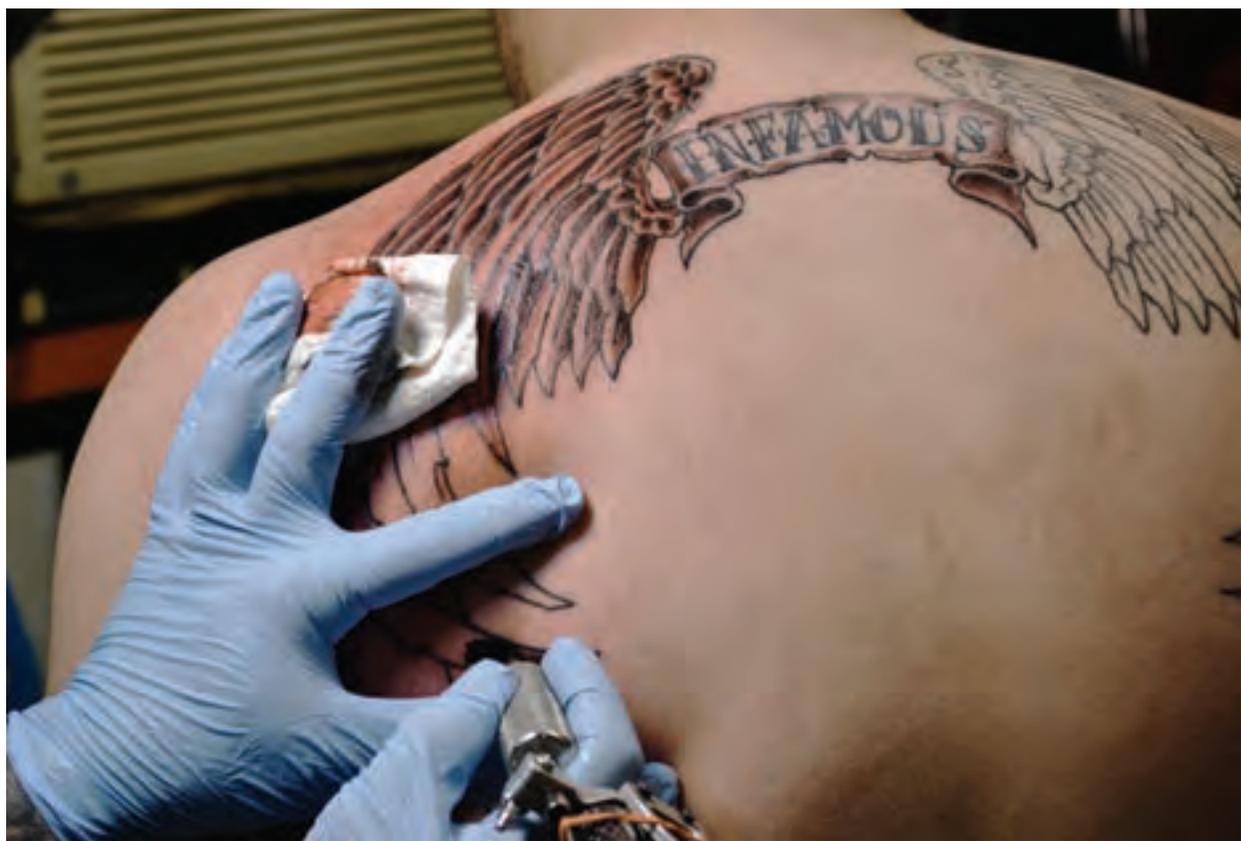
Cullen said that while newer techniques may look nice, older ones last longer.

Above: Steve Cullen taking a break after a long session.

Top Right: Devon Garbolosa getting part of his back piece shaded in. He says, “There’s no other place like this place to get a tattoo.”

Bottom Right: Bottles of colored tattoo ink.

All photos by Caitlin Aldrich



“That’s why I’m adamant man, the best type of tattooing is old school tattooing,” he said. “That [stuff] was designed for the skin. That’s why when you see veterans that are 70, 80 years old you can still see what they got.”

Cullen said he has tattooed all types of people, from corporate executives to professional athletes and World War II veterans.

“I had a guy come in years ago; he was a WWII vet. There were only five guys left in his battalion, everyone else was dead,” Cullen said. “But every year they get together and he was wondering if I could do anything with an old tattoo that he got when he was in the war. I said, ‘I can make that look brand new.’ So I redid his tattoo. That was probably one of the happiest moments in tattooing I ever had...”

Cullen added, “He was so happy he started crying. So then he asked how much he owed me; I said you don’t owe me a ... thing.”

Despite the popularity of shows about tattoo artists and parlor on television, Cullen said he believes what he is doing is art, not glamour.

“Everyone cares about their egos,” he said, “I don’t have an ego about anything, I just do a job.”

For that, he thanks those who held the inks and needles before him.

“I believe in tradition, I believe in the old ways,” he said. “Those are the people that gave me my profession and I respect that.”

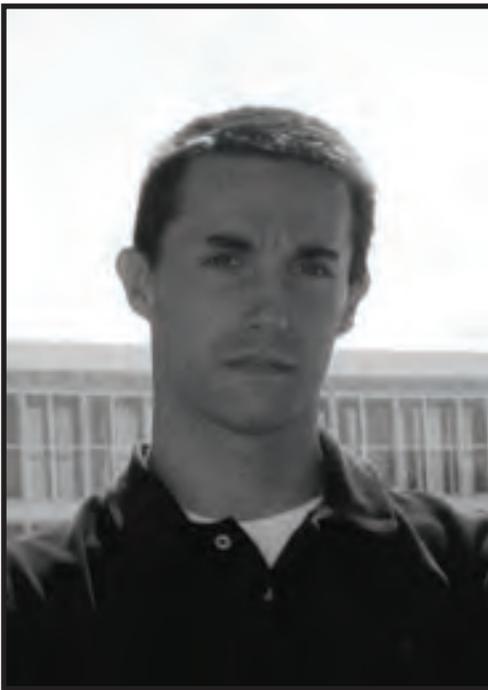
Right: Cullen picks up some ink to continue working.

Below: Cullen works diligently on Garbolosa’s tattoo.

These photos and stories were the result of a photo assignment for instructor Stephen Dunn’s Introduction to Photojournalism class during the Spring 2012 semester. Students were charged with producing an in-depth look at a subject of their choice in documentary journalism style. The *Live Wire* is proud to publish the top three on pages 6 through 9.



Meet the Executive Board Members of the MCC Student Government Association



Name: Nicholas Sheppard

Position: Social Vice President

Responsibilities: To plan, organize, and execute events for MCC students

Plans for the semester: Working on the SGA E-letter and the Fall Welcome Festival

Major: Liberal Arts

Favorite '90s cartoon: "Doug"

Name: Toni Coble

Position: Executive Senator 1

Responsibilities: To support the activities of the Social Vice President and co-chair the Student Activities Board.

Plans for the semester: Helping the Social Vice President plan trips, student activities on campus, such as a time capsule, and the SGA E-letter.

Major: Exercise Science/ General Studies

Favorite '90s cartoon: "Doug"



Name: Josh Quintana

Position: Office Manager

Responsibilities: Reserve rooms and help to make events happen at MCC

Plans for the semester: A Thanksgiving event to celebrate with faculty and students

Major: General Studies

Favorite '90s cartoon: Invader Zim



Name: Erik Owen Rogelstad Gilbert

Position: Vice President

Responsibilities: Liaison between clubs and SGA; chair of the constitution committee; chair of the honors committee; chair of the elections committee

Plans for the semester: Working on amending the constitution to bring more structure, accountability, and purpose to the SGA, while increasing student involvement.

Major: Liberal Arts, with the UCONN GAP program

Favorite '90s cartoon: "Hey Arnold"



Name: Gordon Plouffe

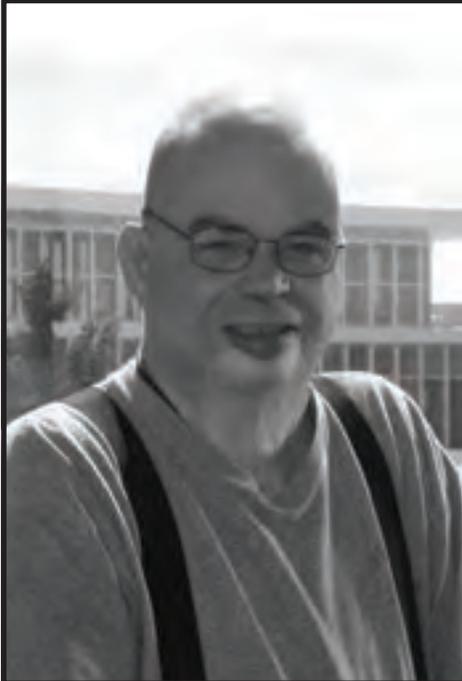
Position: Treasurer

Responsibilities: I am responsible for the administration of the student activities funds. I keep records of all financial transactions of the student clubs.

Plans for the semester: I am currently on the Imagine Main Street committee, planning activities to link the downtown Manchester and the MCC community. Also meeting with club representatives to plan their budgets for upcoming events.

Major: Business Office Technology

Favorite '90s cartoon: "The Critic"



Name: Nirav Shah

Position: Webmaster

Responsibilities: manage all web activity pertaining to the SGA

Plans for the semester: Trying to improve communication between SGA and students and promoting various SGA events through Facebook, flyers, etc.

Major: Engineering Science

Favorite '90s cartoon: "Duck Tales"



Name: Jonathan Colon

Position: President

Responsibilities: Aside from running the meetings, getting the agenda, and making sure my team does their jobs, my number one responsibility is to do what's best for the students at MCC.

Plans for the semester: Revising the SGA Constitution and its bylaws and amendments, which will increase the accountability of clubs, and the addition of informational night meetings.

Major: Liberal Arts

Favorite '90s cartoon: "Hey Arnold," "Doug," "Ren and Stimpy" among others



SGA Meeting Dates and Times

The SGA meets roughly every 1st and 3rd Wednesday during the academic year. All meetings are held at 3:30 p.m. in the Great Path Academy Community Commons unless noted otherwise.

Fall 2012

Wednesday, September 5, 2012
 Wednesday, September 19, 2012
 Wednesday, October 3, 2012
 Wednesday, October 17, 2012
 Wednesday, October 31, 2012
 Wednesday, November 14, 2012
 Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Spring 2013

Wednesday, February 6, 2013
 Wednesday, February 20, 2013
 Wednesday, March 6, 2013
 Wednesday, April 3, 2013

great path academy has a new principal!



Tory Niles-Outler the new Great Path Academy principal.

Tory Niles-Outler became principal of Great Path Academy, Manchester Community College's magnet high school, as of July 1, 2012. She is the choice of Hartford Public Schools, which was chosen to administer GPA earlier this year.

Niles-Outler began her career with the Hartford Public Schools as a paraprofessional in 1994. She then obtained the following positions: Long Term Substitute Teacher, Teacher at

SAND School and John C. Clark Elementary School, where she was nominated as Teacher of the Year, and a Literacy Facilitator at Annie Fisher School, among other positions. She became principal of E.B. Kennelly School in 2001. While there her accomplishments included:

- Academic Achievement Award for closing the achievement gap
- Successful collaboration with University of Connecticut & Pine Grove Elementary School
- \$75,000 grant from the CT Health Foundation for 3 years to support students and their families
- Met AYP requirements for academic achievement from 2002-2006
- In 2004, Kennelly was 1st school to receive continued accreditation from NEASC
- In 2004, Kennelly was named one of the Top Ten Middle Schools for closing the achievement gap

In the Fall of 2007, Niles-Outler was appointed as principal of the Hartford Public High School Freshman Academy. The mission of the academy was to reduce the retention and drop-out rate. After the first year, the number of 9th grade students retained dropped from 212 to 110 and the following year to just 37 students. The number of drop-outs reduced from more than 50 to fewer than 25, with decreases each year. The work at the Freshman Academy was recognized in the book entitled, "Inside School Turnarounds," published in 2010.

Niles-Outler is extremely excited and honored to be a part of the MCC community and said she looks forward to sharing all of Great Path Academy's successes!

Does Peyton Manning Have Anything to Prove?

By Dan Dobbyn
Live Wire Staff Writer

Let me start off by saying that if you're being paid to play any kind of team sport whatsoever, you have signed yourself up to prove something.

At a minimum, you have to prove that you can contribute enough to your team to win games. It doesn't matter how old or young you are. It doesn't matter how many games or championships you've won. It doesn't matter where you came from. Until you are out of your respective league, you have to prove you belong or you will be forced out systematically and swiftly.

With that said, if Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning retired before this season in lieu of missing the entire 2011 season with two neck surgeries and being let go by the Indianapolis Colts, he'd easily be considered an all-time top 10 quarterback to the casual NFL historian.

Not only would he be inducted into the Hall of Fame immediately after gaining eligibility, his greatness would be so great, it would dull the greatness of all the other former players who would get inducted alongside him.

However, there's one tiny, yet very relevant, detail that needs to be addressed that has me concerned about Manning's legacy: his little brother, New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning has more championship rings than Peyton does.

Let me rephrase this to get the point across: Eli, who has never had the blocking production Peyton has, who has made nine fewer pro-bowls than Peyton, who is 0-2 against Peyton all-time, who has never had the consistency at quarterback that Peyton has and is generally and justifiably considered to be an inferior quarterback to his older brother, has more rings than Peyton.

Eli must have been foaming at the mouth when "Saturday Night Live" dedicated an entire skit to Eli's hypothetical little brother complex when he hosted the comedy show on earlier this year on May 12.

Not only has Eli won 1 more championship than Peyton so far, but Eli's runs to both were miraculous and filled with tests of manhood, character and poise. There was a hard-fought overtime battle on the road in both of those NFC Championship games where Eli stayed in the pocket to complete passes on plays when he knew the defense was going to bury him every time. However, he kept getting up.

In the 2007 NFC Championship game, on the other hand, retired Packers quarterback Brett Favre threw an interception that would be his last in Green Bay after 16 years of playing there. In the 2011 NFC Championship game, San Francisco 49ers quarterback Alex Smith couldn't help but run out of the pocket to try to escape the rush and it resulted in incomplete passes. But in similar situations Eli bore down and took a beating to complete passes.

Let's not forget that in both Super Bowls against the New England Patriots, the Patriots were heavily favored and in 2007, they were undefeated in the regular season.

The Colts' defense carried Peyton through the first two playoff games of his lone Super Bowl championship year. He threw five interceptions to one touchdown combined in the Colts' first two playoff games against the Kansas City Chiefs and Baltimore Ravens, respectively.

Peyton did have an 18-point second-half comeback against the New England Patriots in the 2006 AFC Championship game when he finally showed up in the playoffs in the 3rd quarter of that game. Otherwise they had a very easy time in the playoffs, capped off by a 12-point victory in Super Bowl 41 over the highly overrated '06 Chicago Bears, led by the always mediocre Rex Grossman at quarterback.

And Peyton has a losing record (9-10) all-time in the playoffs, whereas Eli only has three playoff losses to eight playoff wins, which are all in a row on an active streak.

There is also a very long and documented list of how quarterbacks on Peyton's level do when they play for another franchise at the end of their career. Legendary Baltimore Colts quarterback Johnny Unitas was

See Manning pg. 12

Fall 2012 Job Search Skills Workshops

Tuesday afternoon workshops are held from 12:30 - 1:45 pm

Tuesday, September 25.....	Resume Writing
Tuesday, October 2	Interviewing Tips
Tuesday, October 9	Job Search & Cover Letters
Tuesday, October 16	Effective Career Choices
Tuesday, October 23	Resume Writing
Tuesday, October 30	Interviewing Tips
Tuesday, November 6	Job Search & Cover Letters
Tuesday, November 13.....	Effective Career Choices

Thursday night workshops are held from 6:00 - 7:15 pm

Thursday, September 27.....	Resume Writing
Thursday, October 4	Interviewing Tips
Thursday, October 11	Job Search & Cover Letters
Thursday, October 18	Effective Career Choices
Thursday, October 25	Resume Writing
Thursday, November 1	Interviewing Tips
Thursday, November 8	Job Search & Cover Letters
Thursday, November 15.....	Effective Career Choices

Workshops are held in Lowe, L-107 (1st Floor - Computer Lab)

ALL WORKSHOPS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

No advance registration is required, but is encouraged via MCC Credit Free Programs.

Please contact MCC Career Services for more information:

cochnio@mcc.commnet.edu

jgreene@mcc.commnet.edu or cmcgadney@mcc.commnet.edu



Manchester
Community College

**PART - TIME
JOB FAIR**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
SBM CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION BUILDING
1st FLOOR**

**Find a job! Develop valuable skills!
Have a rewarding learning experience!
Complement your academic goals!
Please wear appropriate dress and have
your résumé handy!**

**For more information, please visit:
www.mcc.commnet.edu/career
or stop by MCC Career Services in
L-120 of the Lowe Building, opposite
Counseling/Academic Advising.**

From **Manning** pg. 11

visibly past his prime after he was traded and then replaced mid-season while playing for the San Diego Chargers (before the Colts moved to Indianapolis). That was his last season in the NFL.

On the other hand, when retired 49ers quarterback Joe Montana was traded to the Kansas City Chiefs, he fell one win short of a Super Bowl appearance in his first year there, and in his second year, he beat the 49ers and his replacement, quarterback Steve Young, before losing in the playoffs again and retiring.

Favre also proved he had something left in the tank after he was traded from Green Bay and ultimately wound up playing for their rivals, the Minnesota Vikings. He beat the Packers twice in his first year there and also fell one win short of a Super Bowl berth.

Quarterback Kurt Warner got to the Super Bowl with two different teams. In his third and final Super Bowl appearance (his only appearance with the Arizona Cardinals), the Lombardi trophy eluded him due to the legendary last-second pass to the corner of the end zone from Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger to then Steelers receiver Santonio Holmes.

There are no quarterbacks who have a Super Bowl ring with two different franchises, although four of them have had the chance as a starter and six have had a chance in total. Peyton Manning, however, has the tools in Denver to go deep into the playoffs and do what his legendary predecessors could not. Not to mention, he'll match Eli's championship total. Most people with brothers or sisters could appreciate a sibling rivalry.

Peyton Manning turned 36 on March 24, and therefore, he doesn't have a lot of years left to do whatever he thinks he has left to do. If I were him, I'd use his remaining time in the NFL wisely.

MCC Sports Calendar

Men's Soccer

September

Sat 1	SUNY-SUFFOLK	MANCHESTER, CT	1:00 PM
Wed 5	@CCRI Lincoln, RI		4:00 PM
Sat 8	@Massasoit CC	Brockton, MA	12:00 PM
Wed 12	@Holyoke CC^	Holyoke, MA	4:00 PM
Sat 15	BUNKER HILL CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	3:00 PM
Tue 18	BRISTOL CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Sat 22	BEN FRANKLIN INSTITUTE^	MANCHESTER, CT	1:00 PM
Tue 25	@MassBay CC^	Wellesley, MA	4:00 PM
Thu 27	SPRINGFIELD TECH CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Sat 29	@Bristol CC^	Fall River, MA	3:00 PM

October

Mon 1	MONROE COLLEGE	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Wed 3	HOLYOKE CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Sat 6	DEAN COLLEGE	MANCHESTER, CT	3:00 PM
Wed 10	@Springfield Tech CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Sat 13	@Bunker Hill CC^	Boston, MA	3:00 PM
Thu 18	MASSBAY CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Sat 20	@Ben Franklin IT^	Somerville, MA	1:00 PM
Mon 22	AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE JV	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Sat 27	NJCAA REGION 21 TOURNAMENT	MANCHESTER, CT	12:00 PM
Sun 28	NJCAA REGION 21 TOURNAMENT	MANCHESTER, CT	12:00 PM

Tue September 18, a friendly Baseball game between staff and students, with refreshments and music. Bring your own glove and enjoy a nice game of baseball.
MCC Baseball field @ 2:00 PM

Women's Soccer

September

Sat 1	New Hampshire Institute of Technology	Springfield, MA	3:00 PM
Sun 2	UMaine-Augusta	Springfield, MA	1:00 PM
Thu 6	@Hudson Valley CC	Troy, NY	4:00 PM
Sat 8	@Massasoit CC^	Brockton, MA	2:30 PM
Mon 10	@CCRI Lincoln, RI		4:00 PM
Sat 15	BUNKER HILL CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	1:00 PM
Wed 19	@Dean College	Franklin, MA	4:00 PM
Fri 21	@Springfield College JV	Springfield, MA	7:00 PM
Tue 25	@Springfield Tech CC^	Springfield, MA	4:00 PM
Sat 29	@Harcum College	Bryn Mawr, PA	1:00 PM

October

Wed 3	@Holyoke CC^	Holyoke, MA	4:00 PM
Sat 6	DEAN COLLEGE	MANCHESTER, CT	1:00 PM
Wed 10	SPRINGFIELD TECH CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Sat 13	@Bunker Hill CC^	Boston, MA	1:00 PM
Tue 16	BRISTOL CC^	MANCHESTER, CT	4:00 PM
Mon 22	NJCAA Region 21 Tournament	Holyoke, MA	12:00 PM
Tue 23	NJCAA REGION 21 Tournament	Holyoke, MA	12:00 PM

The Cougar Pride Discount Program encourages MCC's over 16,000 students, faculty and staff to shop locally and support Connecticut businesses. Simply show your MCC ID at any of the businesses listed below to receive the listed discount. For an up to date listing visit our website:

<http://www.mcc.commnet.edu/students/activities/cougarpridediscountprogram.php>

Participating Businesses:

Anne's Place Unisex Hair Salon, Downtown Manchester, 10% off
Antonio's Pizza Restaurant, Downtown Manchester, 10% off
Attorney Mary Rossettie, Downtown Manchester, 10% off
Augies Restaurant, Manchester, 15% off food only
Bettylou's Gardening, Manchester, 15% off
Brookstone.com, online, 10% off

Cutting Edge, Berlin, 10% off (no SALE items)
Days Inn, Berlin, 15% off
Eastern Mountain Sports, Manchester, 20% off EMS, 15% off national brands

EEE Educational Services, Manchester, 15% off
803 Pizzeria, Manchester, 10% off food only
Elite Karate & Krav Maga, East Hartford, 15% off
El Salon, LLC., Downtown Manchester, 15% off
eVacuumstore.com, online, 10% off
FastSigns, Manchester, 15% in-house printed banners
FileCatalyst.com, online, FREE file transfer services
Fitness Revolution, Vernon, 20% Off
Gathering Restaurant, Manchester, 10% off food only
Granby Bicycle, Granby, 10% off clothing and accessories
Great Harvest Bread Company, Downtown Manchester, 10% off
Grid Games, Downtown Manchester, 10% off
Highland Guitar Studio, Manchester, 20% private lessons
Holiday Inn Express, Vernon, \$99 rooms regardless of night
Hungry Tiger Music Club & Restaurant, Manchester, 10% off FOOD
India Kitchen, Manchester, 10% off FOOD
Indigo Indian Bistro, Manchester, 10% off FOOD
Jerry's Artarama of CT, West Hartford, 10% off
Katherine's Hair Design, Downtown Manchester, \$5 off of haircut
Lavigne, Mark & Rogers Attorneys, LLC, Downtown Manchester, 10% off

Lily Pad, Willimantic, 10% off all general merchandise
Mary Kay, Hartford, 20% off total bill
Michaud Chiropractic, LLC, Manchester, 33% off
Motel 6, Vernon, 10% off
Optical Style Bar, Downtown Manchester, 10% off
Overstock.com, online, 10% off
Primary Residential Mortgage, Inc., Downtown Manchester, \$200 off closing costs
Pizza Hut, Manchester (Broad Street), 10% off FOOD
Pro Eye, Inc., Vernon and Coventry, \$99 eye exam w/refraction, \$99 eyeglasses (select lens/frames options) and 30% off any additional optical purchases.
Professional Promotions, Online, 10% off
Reed Networking, LLC, Manchester, 60% off services
Rockhouse BBQ & Wings, Manchester, 10% off FOOD
The Sinnamon Shop, Downtown Manchester, 10% off FOOD
Slickseats.com, online, 10% off SUBTOTAL
Stone Age Rock Gym, Manchester, ~30% discount
Studio 6, Manchester (Spencer Street), 10% off
The Stone and Paddle, Manchester & Vernon, 10% off FOOD
Three Amigos Mexican Taqueria, Manchester, 10% off FOOD
Totalvac.com, online, 10% off
Turbo Technicians, South Windsor, 20% off
Wadsworth Atheneum, Downtown Hartford, FREE general admission
Yes Cleaners, Manchester, 20% off





KEEP THE GEARS TURNING

Quick Tip Sessions for Student Success

Week of Sept. 4, **10 Tips for a Successful Semester**

Sept. 10, 11, **SQ3R** (*Text book reading strategy*)

Sept. 17, 18, **5 Note-taking Strategies**

Sept. 24, 25, **Stress and Anxiety Reduction**

Oct. 1, 2, **Memorization Techniques**

Oct. 9, **Midterm Exam Review**

Oct. 15, 16, **E-Tutoring**

Oct. 22, 23, **How to Transfer**

Oct. 29, 30, **How to Study**

Nov. 13, **Helpful Websites**

Nov. 19, 20, **Victim vs. Creator**

Nov. 26, 27, **Memorization Techniques**

Dec. 3, 4, **Final Exam Review**

All sessions will be held in AST T201, 11:00-11:20 a.m.

Refreshments will be served.

Artwork by MCC student Evan Parker



This activity supports the learning goals of Intellectual and Practical Skills, and Understanding of Self



MANCHESTER
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At the Academic Support Center, you can obtain and improve skills essential to college success.

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- Walk-in assistance from writing tutors in the Writing Center.
- Walk-in math tutoring on one or two math problems.
- Assisted Computer Lab and ESL Conversation Lab.

If you are a currently enrolled student looking for assistance with your courses, visit the ASC website at www.mcc.commnet.edu/academic/asc or call for an appointment at 860-512-2610.



This activity supports the learning goals of Intellectual and Practical Skills, and Understanding of Self



MANCHESTER
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COLLEGE

**Low Student Services Center
Second Floor, Room L282**

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

A New World Order in Baseball

By Zachariah Hand
Live Wire Staff Writer



Stephen Strasburg of the Washington Nationals pitches his signature curve ball.

As summer comes to a close, so too does Major League Baseball's regular season. A surprising season it has been, with teams thought to have no chance to compete owning some of the best records in baseball, and teams thought to be competitive sitting at the bottom of the league. What has occurred this past season in baseball is the beginning of a new world order, one that will usher in an era of prosperity for some organizations, and an age of darkness for others.

No team exemplifies a new world order better than the Washington Nationals, who are perhaps the best team in the National League. Finishing at 80-81 in 2011, the Nationals were believed to be on the right path towards building a winning franchise, but were not expected to soar to the heights that they have reached during the 2012 season.

Much of their success is due to the arm of pitcher Stephen Strasburg, a former number 1 overall draft pick who returned to Major League Baseball in 2012 after missing most of 2011 due to an injury. The performance of Strasburg combined with that of the other Nationals pitchers who have exceeded expectations has allowed Washington's pitching to be dominant. Nineteen-year-old Bryce Harper, another number 1 overall draft pick of the Nationals, has also brought a spark to the team and contributed greatly to their success. The fact that the Nationals have a legitimate chance to win the National League East is astounding, considering the rough history of the franchise that was once the Montreal Expos.

In 1992, the sporting world was very different. The United States had a truly unbeatable Olympic Basketball team, and the Pittsburgh Pirates had a winning season. Since then, the Pirates have utterly failed to find any success, producing 19 straight losing seasons. In 2011, they sit well above the .500 mark, and have a chance to win their division and make the playoffs. Perhaps their turn around is due to the fact that Tim Wakefield, the last player on that 1992 team to still be active in baseball, finally retired. Or perhaps the Pirates' success is due to strong play from MVP candidate Andrew McCutchen, and the resurgence of pitcher A.J. Burnett. Either way, Pittsburgh has so far had an incredible season.

In the American League, the Oakland Athletics have somehow managed to remain competitive in a west division that features the powerful Texas Rangers and the revitalized Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. Despite an underwhelming offense, the Athletics have followed the same path of the Nationals, winning with strong pitching. If their strong season continues, a sequel to the 2011 film *Moneyball* could soon be in the works.

The Baltimore Orioles are a team which makes very little sense. In 2011, they suffered another disappointing season, finishing last in the American League East. In 2012, the Orioles have not hit or pitched particularly well, but have somehow managed to remain in the race for the American League East. Timely hitting and timely wins have kept the Orioles afloat so far, but it may not be enough to propel them into the playoffs.

On the other side of the spectrum are teams that have vastly underperformed, notably the Boston Red Sox and Philadelphia Phillies. At the trade deadline, the Phillies traded away star players Shane Victorino and Hunter Pence, all but conceding the 2012 season.

The Boston Red Sox have only given fans slightly more hope by not trading away any major players, but have struggled to compete consistently. In 2011, these two teams were picked to face one another in the World Series. In 2012, they compete to not finish last in their divisions.

The 2012 season only shows why baseball is interesting to fans of all teams. At any point, a bad team can completely turn its luck around and become competitive. As the Nationals, Pirates, Athletics, and Orioles illustrate, no team can be bad forever. As the Red Sox and Phillies illustrate, no team can be good forever. Baseball is an ever changing game, one that is full of surprises.

Cougar Watch

Katie DaCosta Named Interim Women's Head Basketball Coach

Mary Roickle Resigns in May After Leading Cougars 15-8



By Paul Ofria
MCC Sports Information

Manchester Community College named former Central Connecticut State University basketball player and Classical Magnet High School girls coach Katie DaCosta as women's basketball head coach following the resignation of Mary Roickle.

Roickle led the Cougars to a 15-8 record and playoff berth in her only season at the school despite having just one returning player from the previous season.

In making the selection Director of Student Life Cynthia Washburne said she felt it would be best for the program to have a coach in place as soon as possible rather than conduct a search that could possibly stretch out over several months.

DaCosta, who was on the verge of being named by Roickle as an assistant, was promoted to head coach on a temporary basis, Washburne said.

"Katie is very similar to Mary and that's another piece of that continuity," Washburne said. "Philosophically, they come from the same position - student first, athlete second - it's about the growth and development of the players within the game of basketball."

DaCosta, 27, split her high school playing career between Bulkeley High and East Catholic High Schools before spending two seasons at Division I Central Connecticut. She was the Classical Magnet High School girls head coach the past two seasons and has been an assistant girls coach at Enfield High School and the freshman boys coach at Sports and Sciences Academy. She is also the boys' tennis coach and girls' soccer coach at Classical and coaches boys at the AAU level.



DaCosta, the interim coach of the Lady Cougars.

"I'm ready to dive in full force," DaCosta said of the opportunity to coach at MCC. "I would like to get acquainted with the campus and meet the athletes that are here and see where they stand. I know they have had success over the past few years. I want to bring my own thing to it, but not get away from what has made this program successful."

Roickle came to MCC as a semi-retired pharmaceutical executive a year ago but took a full-time position in the industry toward the end of the basketball season.

"This was an opportunity that I couldn't walk away from," Roickle said. "First and foremost I am going to miss the student athletes and the ability to work with them on and off the court. Certainly I am going to miss all of the good people at MCC who supported the basketball program. It's going to be a tough transition that way and it already has been."

Washburne said she was appreciative of Roickle's experience and care for the program, even if it was for a shorter time period than both had envisioned.

"I expected her stay here for a long time," Washburne said. "She did a great job in one short year, bringing the women together, creating a family, not just a team. I certainly appreciate why she stepped down and we will continue to move forward to build a quality program."

Although the job is viewed as temporary for now, DaCosta said that will not affect her commitment to the team.

"It shouldn't make a difference," she said. "You give it everything you've got every time you step out on a court or a field, so it doesn't bother me."

DaCosta holds a bachelor's degree in Business Management from CCSU and is currently enrolled in a master's program there.

Not sure where you're headed?

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Jim Insinga Retires as MCC's Men's Soccer Coach

Career spanned 12 seasons, 139 wins, seven New England championships and three national tournament appearances

By Paul Ofria
MCC Sports Information

Manchester Community College announced the retirement of men's head soccer coach Jim Insinga in June after 12 seasons and named assistant and former MCC All-American Darren Foster as interim head coach.

Insinga's teams won seven NJCAA Region XXI, Division III titles and made three national championship tournament appearances, in 2002, 2008 and 2011, all while producing 10 National Junior College Athletic Association All-Americans. Insinga led the Cougars to the New England championship last fall in his final season.

"I'm sort of officially retiring now from business and soccer," said Insinga, who retired from United Technologies after 31 years in 2005 and has moved to Florida with his wife and former MCC women's soccer coach, Jean Insinga. The Insingas coached simultaneously at MCC from 2000 through 2004. "We are planning on doing a lot of vacationing and spending more time with the grandkids and the kids. It was a difficult choice, but this was the right one for me right now."

Insinga (139-72-11) maintained throughout his tenure that recruiting was 80 percent of his job and it was arguably one of his strong suits. He was a player's coach and they responded well to his demeanor and leadership both on and off the field.

"It was great to play for Jim," said 2009 captain Kevin Battista, who's goal in the penalty kick round of the district championship sent the Cougars to Dallas for the 2008 national tournament. "He really knew how to recruit players who fit his style of coaching. I knew I was going to play for him after the first time I talked to him."

Insinga's other strong suit was player placement. His phone bill offers evidence of the many hours he spent talking with four-year schools procuring scholarship money for players such as Foster, who played at Hartford Public and was an NJCAA Division III All-American in 2004. Foster went on the play at Southern Connecticut State University on scholarship. Another student, Hami Kara of Wethersfield, a 2009 NJCAA All-American, has been a goalkeeper at the University of Pittsburgh in the Big East the past two seasons.

"It was a great run," Insinga said. "I came in in 2000 and by 2002 we were an established top ten team and we stayed a top ten team for 90 percent of the time from that point on. I've seen a lot of kids come into the program and leave with scholarships and becoming successful in life. The feedback from former players is very rewarding for me."

Insinga was hired to coach the women's soccer team in March of 2000 by MCC Athletic Director Cynthia Washburne, but moved over to the men's side before practices began.

"The men's job opened up and he said he would like to give that a shot," said Washburne, who then hired Jean Insinga to fill the void on the women's side. "Twelve years later, he built what had to be the best men's soccer program that we have had since we've had soccer at MCC."

Insinga's teams played in the New England championship game in 10 of his 12 seasons. MCC had just one New England title (1994) in 30 pre-Insinga soccer seasons.

"Jim and his program became the team everybody chased," Washburne said. "They measured their season by how they did versus Manchester and Jim. MCC became the model program of Region 21 in a short time."

Insinga was also highly regarded among the other coaches in the region.

"He was my biggest rival in the region," said Scott Benjamin, the head soccer coach at Bunker Hill Community College for the past

10 seasons. "Whether he won or lost he was always respectful to me and my team and was gracious either way. He was coaching for the right reasons and really cared about the kids. He was a mentor to me and helped make the league stronger. The league will miss him."

Insinga's famously large phone bills won't be shrinking anytime soon as he will continue to help with recruiting, placement and scheduling.

"This thing is part of my blood so I will be thinking of you guys all the time," Insinga said.

The feeling from the MCC Athletic Department is mutual.



Photo by: Paul Ofria

Darren Foster Named Head Soccer Coach

Former MCC All-American Tapped as Insinga's Replacement on Interim Basis

By Paul Ofria
MCC Sports Information

A former player on the Manchester Community College men's soccer team will replace his former coach and mentor when the season begins.

Darren Foster was an NJCAA All-American and assistant coach at MCC and now has the opportunity to take over the storied men's soccer program from his former coach and mentor Jim Insinga. Athletic Director Cynthia Washburne made the announcement in June.

"I have seen Darren grow from when he was a player to the man he is today," Washburne said of Foster, who had his college soccer career interrupted twice by active military service. "It is an interim position for the season and we will conduct a search at the end of the year, but I feel very comfortable turning it over to Darren."

On Foster's end, taking over the MCC soccer program from his mentor is a dream come true.

"Having the opportunity to be an assistant after being a player and move from assistant to head coach is just remarkable," said Foster who is an Army veteran of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. "I'm going to do the best I can for the student athletes and make sure the program continues to succeed."

Foster said over the years Insinga has been more than just a coach to him, especially during his deployments overseas.

"Jim has always been a mentor to me," Foster said. "I played here in 2002 and shortly after that was deployed overseas and Jim stayed in touch with me and sent me care packages. He would call me, but sometime at the wrong time, like when we were getting shot at. I would say, 'Jim, I can't talk to you right now, I'm getting shot at.'"

Foster scored 20 goals and assisted on six others as a freshman when the Cougars won the Region 21 title and made their national tournament debut in 2002. The former Hartford Public star missed the 2003 season due to military obligations, but returned in 2004 to lead the Cougars with 11 goals and was named to the NJCAA Division III All-American first team.

For the 2012 season, Foster inherits a solid nucleus from Insinga's 2011, Region 21 championship team, including All-New England selection Mark Grant (17 goals, nine assists) and goalkeepers Steve German (1.17 Goals Against Average) and Robert Strevel (1.62 GAA).



Foster, above in hat, will lead the men's soccer team.
Photo by Paul Ofria

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September

Fall Hours:

Wednesday 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
Thursday 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Free Wi-Fi access.

upcoming events

Friday, September 7

Doing Business with the State of CT and the 169 Towns and Cities.

1-3:30 p.m., Seminar Room 1. First of three workshops on procurement hosted by the MCC Entrepreneurship Center and SBA's CT District Office. Pre-registration encouraged: 860-240-4892 or lisa.powell@sba.gov.

"Book to Film Series"

The Hunger Games, book by Suzanne Collins. 7-9 p.m., Seminar Room 1. Discussion to follow film. Seating limited. Call 860-512-2874 or email eangry-smith@mcc.commnet.edu to reserve your seat.

Thursday, September 13

MCC on Main Grand Opening Fundraiser

Pre-opening Wine and Champagne Reception: Charles Cheney Mansion, 5:30 p.m. Dessert Reception, Art Show and Sale: MCC on Main, Gallery, 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Tickets: \$60. Register by August 31: 860-512-3603 or smills@mcc.commnet.edu.

Friday, September 14



"Live on Main"

Cross-Fluence & Gaslight Arkestra
Jazz and spoken word, and jazz fusion. 7-10 p.m., Gallery. Donation at door, \$5.

Wednesday, September 19

"Urban Storytellers"

Featured artist:
Tracy Caldwell, 6-8 p.m., Gallery. Donation at door, \$5.



Thursday, September 20

"Mishi-maya-gat Spoken Word and Music Series"

7 p.m., Gallery
Kaleidos, classical guitarist Yovianna Garcia and multi-percussionist Sayun Chang. Featured poets at 8 p.m., **Marilyn Nelson** and **Michael Palma**.



Friday, September 21

"Live on Main"

The Rahsaan Langley Project
R&B, neo-soul, Motown, 7-9 p.m., Gallery. Donation at door, \$5.

Thursday, September 27

Fine Arts Students and Alumni Exhibition

Opening reception, 6 p.m., Gallery. Show runs September 13-October 25.

Friday, September 28

"Live on Main"

Trainwreck Jerry. Folk/Country, 7-9 p.m., Gallery. Donation at door, \$5.

Sundays in September

Zumba® Fitness

with EveAnn Mazur
9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30; 10 a.m.-11 a.m. Seminar Room 1. \$8 walk-in fee or purchase a Zumba punch card (\$60 for 10 sessions). To purchase punch card, contact Joanne Britton at jbritton@mcc.commnet.edu.



INFORMATION: 860-647-6030

Visit www.mcc.commnet.edu/mcc-on-main or contact Ta'Shema N. Odoms at todoms@mcc.commnet.edu.

MCC on Main events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted, and are subject to change without notice. For current information or notices of cancellation, visit the Events calendar on MCC's web site: www.mcc.commnet.edu.

MCC on Main is made possible by a partnership among Manchester Community College, the Town of Manchester, MCC Foundation, Inc., and the generosity of First Niagara Bank Foundation. 1C/August 2012/PRaum

MCC Spring Art's Festival May 11, - June 20, 2012



Right: John Ziewacz's watercolor of an interplanetary warrior with other watercolors on display.

Below: Laura Summer's painting completed in Watercolor II.

Bottom Right: A painting entitled "Everything but the Kitch Sink" by MaryClare Cole, Painting III.

All photos by SallyAnn Garvey-Lumumba

