



# ATLANTIC CAPE COMMUNICATOR

## Atlantic Cape Community College's Information Source

February 29, 2008

### NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

#### **Enrollment Growth Continues**

Enrollments are continuing an upward trend, with the College recording its highest spring semester enrollment ever. Credits taken for spring 2008 totaled 65,264, an increase of 5.09 percent over spring 2007. A total of 6,574 students are registered this spring, compared to 6,482 last spring—a 1.42 percent increase.

Enrollment at the Mays Landing Campus rose to 39,175 credits from 38,989 in 2007 for an increase of less than 1 percent.

Credits taken at the Cape May County Campus were up 12.53 percent with 8,117 credits taken for 2008, up from 7,213 in 2007. Student enrollment rose 4.46 percent to 1,030 from last spring's 986.

The number of students enrolled at the Charles D. Worthington Atlantic City Campus is up 16.11 percent to 1,103 from 950, with credits taken up to 7,536 from 6,368 for an 18.34 percent increase.

There was a 9.46 percent increase in credits taken for the online courses to 10,436 from 9,534, with head count rising 7.05 percent to 2,126 from 1,986. Online offerings have grown steadily since fall 1997 when the College offered six online classes. This spring, the College offered 164 Internet-based sections of 93 different courses. The figures are unaudited.

#### **'The Glass Castle' Selected as 2008-09 College Book**

"The Glass Castle" by Jeanette Walls was selected as the College Book for 2008-09. This riveting memoir explores the themes of poverty, parent-child relationships, alcoholism and growing up, all with a light-hearted voice and hopeful message. The text invites discussion for a variety of disciplines, especially the social sciences. Watch the *Atlantic Cape CommuniCator* for more information.

#### **'Community Dialogues' Foundation Discussion Set for March 11 at ISE**

Atlantic Cape Safe Youth Partnership, the ACCC-Stockton collaboration, invites you to attend an informational meeting regarding the Southern New Jersey Regional Community Foundation titled, "Community Dialogues," at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 11, at the ISE.

The newly-formed foundation exists "to advance every level of philanthropy in order to strengthen all of our communities." Dr. Fred Seamon and founding members of the organization will lead a discussion about the attributes of community foundations and the many benefits a foundation brings to a region. The event is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

## **Volunteers Needed for 25<sup>th</sup> Restaurant Gala, April 3**

The Press of Atlantic City Restaurant Gala, which benefits ACCC scholarships, will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> year on Thursday, April 3, at the Atlantic City Convention Center. This year's gala will be a celebration of all galas past, as well as recognizing longtime supporters and founding members.

Help is needed assembling gift bags, setting up chairs, greeting and checking in guests, seating and providing customer service support. Gift bag assembly will take place at the Convention Center, 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 1. Chairs will be set up in Hall A of the Convention Center at 8 a.m. the morning of the Gala.

Volunteers who are able to assist at the event itself need to be at the Convention Center by 5:30 p.m. and must be in formal attire. Please note that no compensatory time will be given for your help with this event; it is strictly volunteer and, of course, any work absence must be cleared by your supervisor.

To volunteer or for more information, call **Sean Fischer**, ext. 5674, or e-mail [sfischer@atlantic.edu](mailto:sfischer@atlantic.edu).

## **Economic Summit Planned April 25 at ACCC; Register Now**

"Shaping the Regional Economy," a regional economic development summit, is planned for Friday, April 25, in Walter Edge Theater. The day will begin with continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. The fee is \$30 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. The forum will feature economists, industry leaders and architects of the past era for an interactive discussion on how to shape the South Jersey regional economy over the next five years.

Attendees will learn about the emerging trends in job creation, health services, housing, education and transportation that will affect businesses, growth communities and public agencies. Participate in discussions that will generate action from local government and learn more about how some resources will be allocated in the region.

Those who should attend include business owners, executives, elected officials, planning consultants, real estate developers, teachers, engineers and interested citizens.

For more information or to register, visit <http://economicsummit.atlanticcapewib.info>.

## **Tickets Available for 'Dear America,' Free Play on March 9**

A few tickets are still available for "Dear America," a live play presented by ACCC, in conjunction with the New Jersey Theatre Alliance. Two free performances for children grades K-8 and their families will be held on Sunday, March 9: noon, at Middle Township Performing Arts Center in Cape May Court House and 4 p.m., in Walter Edge Theater on ACCC's Mays Landing Campus. Performances are free, but reservations are needed to assure a seat.

"Dear America" will be performed by the well-known Pushcart Players. The performance is a high-spirited, fast-paced musical journey that explores ethnic roots and promotes the value of multi-culturalism in the U.S.



To make a reservation for the Mays Landing Campus performance, call ext. 4826, or visit <http://www.atlantic.edu/dearamerica>. To make a reservation for the Cape May County performance, call the Middle Township Performing Arts Center, (609) 463-1924.

## **‘The Last, the Very Last...Butterfly’ Holocaust Presentation, March 11**

ACCC, in conjunction with Richard Stockton College, will present the 25th Annual Holocaust Awareness Program, “The Last, The Very Last ...Butterfly,” 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 11, in the Walter Edge Theatre of ACCC’s Mays Landing Campus. The musical presentation is performed by the Pushcart Players, a New Jersey professional theater company and assembled and directed by Ruth Fost, with music by Larry Hochman.

“The Last, The Very Last ...Butterfly,” is based on a collection of poetry, writings and art work created by children who passed through the Terezin Concentration Camp in the early 1940s. It was adapted for the stage and enhanced with music, sound and visual media. The program is being funded by the ACCC Diversity and Equity Advisory Board and the Community Affairs Program.



The presentation is free and open to the public. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to attend.

## **‘Leap’ into this Brain Teaser**

Here’s a nifty trivia question, with a mathematical twist, courtesy of **Dr. Richard Perniciaro**, Dean of Finance, Planning and Research.

We had three paychecks this February, which is only possible when the 1<sup>st</sup> is on a Friday (our bi-weekly payday) and it is a leap year. So, when will this next occur? Remember...there’s a bump that the leap year day gives to other dates and they skip a day of the week. See the last page of this edition for the answer.

## **Visiting Professor Dick Sheeran to Address Business Expo in Wildwood**

ACCC Visiting Professor **Dick Sheeran**, the veteran broadcast newsman who is teaching communications courses here this spring, will speak at the April 23 Cape May Chamber of Commerce Business Expo at the Wildwoods Convention Center. Sheeran, who’s scheduled to speak from 3-4 p.m., will share tips with local business leaders about utilizing the media and communications to promote themselves. The expo is open to all business people from the local and regional communities.

## **Liberty Science Center Features Interactive Race Exhibit**

The interactive touring exhibit, “History, Science and Everyday Implications of Race,” a project of the American Anthropology Association and the Science Museum of Minnesota, is on display at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City through April 27. The display is supported by the N.J. President’s Council of the N.J. Council of County Colleges.

The 5,000 square-foot exhibit features videos, the “Science of Skin,” through which visitors may view their skin under a microscope, talks by a forensic anthropologist and other fascinating explorations of the evolution of race.

Educators are encouraged to organize field trips for their classes. All are encouraged to see this once-in-a-lifetime display. The center is at Liberty State Park, 222 Jersey City Blvd., Jersey City, (201) 200-1000.

## **Art Gallery Features Patricia Walkar ‘Paintings on Silk and Paper’**

ACCC’s Art Gallery will feature “Paintings on Silk & Paper” by Patricia Walkar, March 2-28. A reception to meet the artist will be held 1-4 p.m., Sunday, March 2. The exhibit is free and open to the public.



Walkar is primarily a self-taught artist who resides in Haddonfield. She will exhibit

vibrantly-hued abstract paintings on silk, created with an ancient seven-step process, as well as paintings on paper.

Originally a portrait artist, Walkar shifted her focus “to represent my own inner images and privately held voices. My paintings became rich blends of color and design that began to reflect a journey of the spirit. The result has been a dance with beauty that has brought joy and healing to me and those who share my art.”

Walkar has received many awards in juried exhibitions. Her works can be found in more than 400 private collections. She is represented by the Solaris Gallery in New Jersey and Thyme Gallery in Pennsylvania.

The Art Gallery is in room C-125 on the Mays Landing Campus. Call **Buddy Jacobs**, Art Gallery Coordinator, ext. 5040, for more information or hours.

## HERE’S THE SCOOP

Welcome aboard to **Gorgianne Giordano**, Human Resources Specialist.

Congratulations to **Neera Desai**, Assistant Professor, Developmental Mathematics; **Michele McGowan**, Assistant Professor, Developmental Mathematics; **Geralyn Michelfelder** Assistant Professor, Nursing; and **Donna Vassallo**, Assistant Professor of Hospitality Management and Business, on earning tenure!

Welcome to **Maria Kellett**, Director of Major Gifts, who joins us on March 3. Her office will be in room 340 at CMCC. Her ext. is 3670 and her e-mail is [mkellett@atlantic.edu](mailto:mkellett@atlantic.edu). Maria comes from the Wetlands Institute with an extensive background in fundraising and major gift solicitation. **Jennifer Martucci**, advancement, will move to CMCC to join Maria. Jen’s new extension is 4511. We’ll miss you in Mays Landing, Jen!

Welcome to **Karen Wilson-Wylie**, Financial Aid Office Assistant.

Get well wishes to **Nancy Hand**, Accounts Payable, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery. Our thoughts are with you, Nancy!

Borders Books and Music is once again honoring educators with a special discount during Educator Savings Week, Wednesday, April 2-Tuesday, April 8. You’ll enjoy 25 percent off your personal and classroom purchases of list priced books, CDs, DVDs, cafe items, gifts and stationery and more when you bring in your current classroom or educator discount card, college ID or pay stub. For more information, visit [www.bordersmedia.com/educators](http://www.bordersmedia.com/educators). Don’t miss their special reception of food, fun and prizes, 4-8 p.m., Friday, April 4, at the Mays Landing store near the Hamilton Mall.

Please note these title changes in your phone directory:

**Catherine P. Skinner** to Dean, Administration and Finance; and **Dr. Richard Perniciaro** to Dean, Facilities, Planning and Research.



*Ken Foster*

We were saddened to hear of the passing of retired ACCC Housekeeper **Ken Foster**. Mays Landing Campus staff fondly recall Kenny’s wide smile, hearty laughter and the unmistakable aroma of his trusty cigar as he stood quietly near the J building doors while on break. He joined the college on Feb. 16, 1981, and retired on July 1, 2006. Prior to his more than 25 years here, he was employed by Independent Linen of Pleasantville. He also served as a woodworker at Pacemaker Inc. of Egg Harbor for 15 years until the company closed in 1979. He was 68. Expressions and donations can be made to Ken’s widow and loving companion of 49 years, Joan Foster, at P.O. Box 214, Mizpah, N.J. 08342.

Congratulations to **Mike Ferrino**, Maintenance Mechanic, Facilities Management, who retires on June 30 after more than 27 years of service. The Board commended Ferrino for his dedication to duty as reflected in his numerous Perfect Attendance Awards. He was recognized for consistently enhancing his knowledge and capabilities with HVAC systems by taking personal initiative to seek out and successfully complete countless continuing education courses. Good luck, Mikey!

**Valerie Weller**, Financial Aid, was surprised with a baby shower on Feb. 26. She sent this note, “My husband, Chris, and I thank those involved with my baby shower and for all the wonderful gifts received. We appreciate everyone’s kindness and thoughtfulness and I feel very fortunate to have such a great extended family.” You’re welcome, Val, and good luck with your baby girl!

BJ’s Wholesale Club will be on the Mays Landing Campus, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday, March 6, in front of the bookstore in J building. Save \$10 on the annual membership fee plus get an extra three months free! Check or credit cards accepted.

Happy birthday to **Richard Collins, Lenora Sheppard**, March 1; **Miguel Delgado, Claude Fortune**, March 3; **Julia Ratliff, Wilfred Parsons**, March 5; **Cindy DeFalco**, March 10; **Jed Soifer**, March 11. Adjunct birthdays: **Francis Rauscher**, March 3; **Shawna Beals**, March 4; **Mary Prychka**, March 6; **A.K. Mustafa**, March 7; **Brian Adair**, March 12.

## NEWS FROM ACCC’S OTHER LOCATIONS

by Daymis Alicea

Well, with a little reshuffling, we got the week off to a great start (with a snow day thrown in for good luck).

On Feb. 20 we celebrated our very own **Josie Chivalette**’s birthday. We could not resist yet another occasion where we ate cake and made merry. Joining her to celebrate were the “dedicated cake hounds” from all over the building. Great job to her staff for the surprise!

Speaking of Josie, her new office space is ready and inhabited. The copy room has officially moved to her old office space and an office for Testing is finally coming together. Josie needs a vacation...she worked so hard at moving that she surprised even herself.

We hosted the wonderful Kofi & Sankofa Drum and Dance Ensemble in our second floor student lounge. Students, faculty and staff all joined in the merriment. The singing and stories were enchanting and the dancers weaved magic over the crowd. Students participated on stage with various ethnic drums (after a brief lesson) and others joined in the native dances (some without lessons). A fine conga line ensued and it paraded through the whole area calling on the native gods to bless and keep the crops! It was great seeing such enthusiasm and participation.



*Bobby Royal, Atlantic County Freeholder Charles Garrett (who was taking a tour of WACC at the time) and Josie Chivalette.*



Students enjoyed a taste of Africa on Feb. 25 with a tasty sampling of sweet potato and peanut African stew and African-American cornbread. The beautiful sounds of the Charter Tech Choir Ensemble from Somerset accompanied this repast. The choir sang a selection from Nat King Cole’s collection of beautiful songs ending with his signature and well-loved, “Unforgettable.” Bravo to the Charter Tech Choir... the performance was *truly* unforgettable!

The City Campus hosted its bi-annual Transfer Fair on Feb. 26 in the second floor student lounge. Fourteen colleges and universities enjoyed a full afternoon of recruiting as students converged during their class breaks to get more information on their favorite schools. Among them were Stockton, Rowan, Rutgers, Seton Hall and Johnson and Wales.



Till next time, readers, happy trails.

## **Greetings from the Cape May County Campus by Lisa Apel-Gendron**

Happy leap year! CMCC continues to bustle with a variety of goings-on throughout the building.

More than 60 people attended the March 19 workshop on teacher certification with Stockton's Assistant Director of Teacher Education, Nancy Fiedler. If you missed the event, please feel free to contact Nancy at (609) 626-3405 with your questions.



*Harriet Tubman performance*

Student Services brought *Harriet Tubman: The Chosen One*, a one-woman show that takes audiences through one of the 19 journeys that Ms. Tubman took through the Underground Railroad, to CMCC on Feb. 26. Wow!

The next event was Transfer Day, Feb. 27, which brought a dozen four-year school representatives to CMCC to meet with students.

Customized training continues for Sturdy Savings Bank and the Thomas Heist Agency through the next two months. Topics to be covered include customer service and team building.

A workshop on advising students about ACCC math offerings is set for March 4 at 10:30 a.m. in room 324 via ITV.

The Heart Walk kickoff meeting is scheduled for March 7 at 9 a.m. in room 324 via ITV.

A Career Fair, sponsored by Student Services, is on the agenda for March 12 from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. on the second floor.

A Continuing Education information session on their career training programs for youth will be held March 12 at 1 p.m. in room 103.

**Linda Dolan**, Continuing Education, is offering a three-session grant writing workshop beginning March 13 at 1 p.m. in room 105.

N.J. Assemblyman Nelson Albano's office will conduct two meetings March 13 at CMCC.

And finally, the 4-H public presentations competition begins March 14 at CMCC and runs each evening through spring break.

Just a reminder that if you need to order refreshments for a function at CMCC, please contact **Martha Lemcke** of Next Generation, formerly All Seasons, on the Mays Landing Campus. Martha will coordinate with the CMCC café team.

Need a sure sign that spring is close at hand? We have two encouraging indicators: **Mike Bolicki**, Social

Science, is reciting baseball statistics nonstop, and **Tim Cliggett**, Facilities, is heading to Clearwater, Fla, to make sure the Phillies are practicing diligently.

After a long week, do you need a chuckle? If so, ask security officer **Tom Clark** what he did on his recent week off. ☺

Now through the end of March, CMCC student nurses are collecting greatly needed items to support the Coalition Against Rape and Abuse (CARA), a Cape May County nonprofit group that assists survivors of sexual violence and domestic abuse. Collection boxes are located in the CMCC first floor lobby. Items needed include toiletries, such as shampoo, conditioner, diapers, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, bar soap, lotion and feminine hygiene products; paper products, such as paper towels, napkins and toilet paper; old cell phones; and new clothing for women and children, (socks, underwear, bras). Items can be sent to CMCC interoffice. Thanks for your help.

Have a worry-free weekend!

## ACCC IN THE NEWS

Chef **Annamarie Chelius** conducted a demonstration with the help of daughter, Victoria Matt, 7, at the Ocean City High School Chocolate Jamboree recently. Some of the winning chocolate pieces Chef Chelius' students created for the New York Food Show were also on display. The event was a chocolate-lover's paradise, with every imaginable chocolate dessert available to enjoy. A photo of Victoria at the event appeared in the Ocean City Sentinel. The event, organized by the OCHS Key Club, raised money for the Beacon Animal Rescue, Cape-Atlantic Citizens Altering the Strays of Ocean City and Life Improvement for Cats and Kittens.



*Photo courtesy of the Ocean City Sentinel.  
Chef Chelius and her daughter, Victoria Matt.*

An article about recent ACA graduates **Tony Cekada** and **Bob Quirk**, who underwent midlife career changes to become chefs, appeared in the Community College Times. The article was submitted by the College Relations office.

Dean of Facilities, Planning and Research **Dr. Richard Perniciaro**, who's also the director for ACCC's Center for Regional and Business Research, was prominently quoted in an article in the Ocean City Sentinel about the city's need to target specific markets to aid its promotion. He also was quoted in an article in the Princeton Weekly about business lobbyists who support Gov. Jon Corzine's toll hike plan.

The "Town Hall" meeting conducted by Gov. Jon Corzine at ACCC was featured in The Current and The Record Journal in addition to the media outlets listed last week.

ACCC setting yet another enrollment record was on the front page of the region section of The Press of Atlantic City.

The Sentinel of Somers Point, Linwood and Northfield, featured chefs from the ACA and Local 54 Culinary Apprentices Program in a story on the second annual Family Health and Fitness Day at Northfield Community School.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The calendar is updated regularly at <http://www.atlantic.edu/calendars/index.php>. Be sure to add your events. Go to [www.atlantic.edu](http://www.atlantic.edu) and at the top right, click on calendars. Scroll down and at the bottom left, select Add Event Form and submit your event!

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Dr. Mora, Board Treasurer **Dr. Liz Dworsky** and **Brittany Williams** met with Congressman Frank LoBiondo, Senator Robert Menendez and Senator Frank Lautenberg. The ACCC trio was in Washington, D.C., for the Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit, Feb. 11-13.

As part of the conference, which focused on legislative and advocacy issues for the sector, the ACCC cohort had the opportunity to meet privately with the elected officials and their staff members. Discussion focused on the college's master plan, *Blueprint 2020: Building a Better Future for ACCC*. Support was garnered for some of *Blueprint 2020*'s lead projects such as the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math building and the Energy and Sustainability Plan.



*Left to Right: Apryl Clark, legislative aide to Senator Frank Lautenberg; Dr. Peter Mora, Dr. Liz Dworsky, Brittany Williams and Kristen Michaels, projects director to Senator Lautenberg, at the Senator's capitol office.*

ACCC welcomes **Terry Crowley**, newly appointed member of the Board of Trustees. Crowley serves as Executive Superintendent of Schools of Cape May County. Prior to his gubernatorial appointment as Executive Superintendent, Crowley served as Superintendent of Kingsway Regional School until retiring in 2006. He also teaches and has served on the state monitoring team of Camden. Crowley completed his Board orientation on Feb. 21. He will serve on the Foundation and Academic and Student Affairs committees of the Board.

## ALUMNI

Chef **Michael Schlow**, '87 ACA, is heating up the restaurant scene in Boston. His fifth Boston-area restaurant, 606 Congress, is now open at the new Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel. He describes the restaurant's cuisine as modern American. The restaurant features indoor and outdoor seating, two private dining rooms, an exhibition kitchen and a communal chef's table. This new venture joins Schlow's existing restaurants, Radius, Via Matta, Great Bay and Alta Strada. Radius's burger won the Amstel Light Burger Bash, Feb. 21, at the South Beach Wine and Food Festival, hosted by Rachael Ray.

ACCC General Studies graduate **Mark Beamer** '06 was the subject of a profile in the Vineland Daily Journal, which showcased his budding success as an entrepreneur. In addition to holding down a full-time job at South Jersey Gas Co., Beamer—who hails from Collings Lakes—also runs his own, successful computer products and service company called Beamer Computers Inc., located in Folsom.

## Next CommuniCator March 14

The next *Atlantic Cape CommuniCator* will be Friday, March 14. Deadline is noon, Monday, March 10. E-mail your submissions to [mcgowan@atlantic.edu](mailto:mcgowan@atlantic.edu).

### Trivia Question Answer

The answer to the Trivia Question on page one is 28 years, if the 28-year period doesn't include a year ending in 00 that is not a leap year. You also have to determine how often we get bonus summers, years in which Memorial Day is as early as it can be (May 25) and Labor Day is as late as it can be (Sept. 7), like next year. (Four of the 28 years have bonus summers.) Thanks to **Dr. Richard Perniciaro** for this bit of trivia.

—Kathy McGowan, editor