

# ALUMNI CONNECTION



FALL 2008



**HCC's Theater,  
Electronic Media,  
and Communication**

alumni return to  
the stage that launched  
their careers

**HOLYOKE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Futures Inspired

# Bill's bulletin

The *Alumni Connection* is published two times per year by the Holyoke Community College Alumni Office, Holyoke, Massachusetts, and is distributed without charge to alumni and friends of HCC. Third-class postage is paid at Springfield, Massachusetts.

**Editors:**

Natalia Muñoz, JoAnne Rome, and Anne Sroka

**Contributors:**

Joanna Brown

**Design:**

Peter Hutchins, Litmus Designs

**Class Notes:**

News and photographs from alumni should be addressed to the Alumni Office, Holyoke Community College, 303 Homestead Avenue, Holyoke, MA 01040.

**Letters:**

Readers are invited to submit letters and stories concerning HCC and its alumni. Contact the alumni director by phone (413) 552-2253 or email: [jbrown@hcc.mass.edu](mailto:jbrown@hcc.mass.edu) (put "HCC Alumni Connection" in the subject line).

**Class Notes/Change of Address:**

Please submit the reply form on page 10, or call the Alumni Office (413) 552-2253.

**2008-2009 Alumni Council:**

President

Gloria G. Lomax '75

First Vice President

Gertrude E. Monson '97

Secretary

Marsha Ryan '70

Alumni Council Members:

Joanna Brown, ex officio

Angela M. Belisle, R.N. '77

Laura L. Brennan '79

Carol Bright '75

Dawn R. Bryden '89

Carrie Buckner '77

Eddie Corbin '68

Judy A. Cote '86

Geraldo Cotton '06

Margaret DeJesus '90

Joyce D. Desorcy '88

Elizabeth A. Murphy '74

Mark Olier '05

Shawn Robinson '05

James Sheehan '74

Rhonda Soto '97

Nancy Spagnoli '83

Karen Thompson-Brown '04

Vandelyn T. Wright '83

The Alumni Council, a group of key alumni volunteers, oversees alumni initiatives. To learn about joining, please call Joanna Brown, (413) 552-2253.



HCC President William F. Messner

Each semester, HCC's Theater, Electronic Media, and Communication Department produces works on par with the best available around the region. HCC is fortunate to count gifted playwrights, performers, photographers, videographers, multimedia producers, reporters, and essayists among its alumni, students, faculty, and staff.

HCC is particularly proud of the accomplishments of its alumni and their commitment to the college. As noted by Joanna Brown and Gloria Lomax, alumni response to HCC's Kittredge Center fund appeal resulted in the largest total dollars - raised in the shortest amount of time - of any US community college alumni association to date.

I know you will enjoy reading about your classmates and discovering how HCC students today are finding new ways to express their vision and connect with the world around them. Visit HCC often, whether on campus or online. I encourage you to play an active part in this vibrant community of thinkers and doers.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Messner". The signature is fluid and cursive.

-William F. Messner



From left to right: Alumni Association President Gloria Lomax '75, HCC President Bill Messner, Alumni Relations Director Joanna Brown, and Alumni Council member Jim Sheehan '74 recognize alumni giving at the dedication of the Kittredge Center's Alumni Clock Tower.

## Letter from the Alumni Relations director

**D**ear alumni,  
There are so many important happenings to share with you in this issue of the Alumni Connection:

I am delighted to announce that our Alumni President, Gloria G. Lomax '75, proudly presented a check for \$500,000 to President Bill Messner on July 9, at the Alumni Clock Tower dedication. In the photograph at left, Bill Messner (center) is seen with Gloria (left), me (second from right), and Alumni Council member Jim Sheehan '74 (far right) as Bill enthusiastically thanks alumni for their support and hard work in surpassing our goal in record time.

The HCC Theater, Electronic Media, and Communication alumni reunion, on Sunday, April 13, was a marvelous gathering of alumni from this area and from as far away as California and Florida. Please turn to page 5 for the article about alumni involved in these fields, and to page 4 for photographs of reunion festivities.

Now that alumni gifts have helped to build and equip the Kittredge Center, the focus of our fund raising work in the coming two years will be upgrading the equipment in classrooms and labs in Donohue, Frost, Marieb, and C buildings, and building new

student study areas in those buildings. If you would like to make a contribution to the quality of our students' lives, please call me at (413) 552-2253 or Joyce D. Desorcy '88 at (413) 552-2704 for information about this exciting project.

As we look to the future at Holyoke Community College, it is timely to ask whether HCC should partner with a baccalaureate degree-granting institution to offer part-time bachelor's degree programs at the HCC campus for alumni who have associate degrees. If you would consider attending a part-time bachelor's degree program on the HCC campus, return the survey below, or for the online version visit [hcc.edu](http://hcc.edu) (click on the "Alumni and Friends" link at the top of the home page, and follow the links to the alumni survey).

Thank you for building one of the most active and successful community college alumni associations in the United States. As I enter my 10th year as director of alumni relations, I want to express my gratitude for all that you have accomplished and my excitement at what we will do together in the future.



Director of Alumni Relations Joanna Brown

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joanna Brown".

Joanna Brown

**P.S.** If you ordered a copy of the HCC Alumni Directory from Harris Connect Publishing, you can expect to receive it in January.

### HCC ALUMNI BACHELOR'S DEGREE AT HCC REPLY FORM

If you have earned your associate degree and would consider earning your bachelor's degree by taking courses on the HCC campus, please check the bachelor's degree program(s) that would be of interest to you:

Liberal Arts

Healthcare Management

Non-licensure Early Education with Optional Licensure Component

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in attending during:  Evening  Saturday

Name and email/ mailing address (optional if you wish to receive further information about these programs):

\_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: HCC Alumni Office, 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke, MA 01040 by November 1, 2008



# Theater, Electronic Media, and Communication reunion

**T**he Theater, Electronic Media, and Communication reunion took place Sunday, April 13, and provided an opportunity for many HCC alumni to recognize the impact that late professor Leslie Phillips had on their lives. A special part of the reunion celebration was the re-dedication of the Leslie Phillips Forum as the Leslie Phillips Theater. We were grateful that Leslie Phillips' children, Melissa Hruska '92, Abbie O'Connor, and Ben Phillips '85, with their families, were able to attend the dedication ceremony and the reunion dinner.



Tim McKenna '82, second from right, provided a special moment in the dedication ceremony as he gave the Phillips' family cuttings from the original geranium plant that he had bought for the stage set of the last play that Phillips directed, more than twenty years ago. Pictured left: Nick O'Connor, Abbie O'Connor, Lisa Phillips (partially hidden), Tim McKenna, and Ben Phillips '85.



Front row from left: Silvana Gravini '92, Jamie Cass '75, Donna Defant '77, Back row: Timothy Shea '99, Jon Roe '76, Louis Pronovost, Valerie Ruel '79, Ray Pronovost '75



Professor Patricia Sandoval '87 with Danny Eaton '74, founding member of the HCC Players and now producing director of the Majestic Theater in West Springfield, MA.



Steve Bailey '77, technical assistant for the Leslie Phillips Theater, was in fine form as reunion dinner master of ceremonies.



Melissa Hruska '92 accepts a cutting from Tim McKenna. With her are her son, Ben, daughter, Josalyn, and husband Mark.



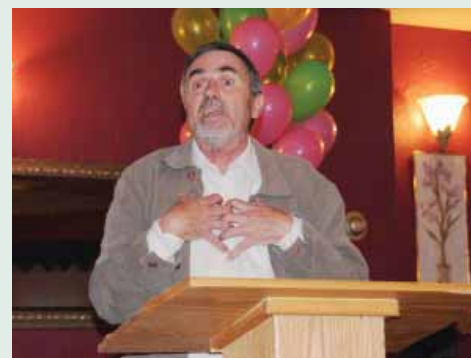
From left: Justine Therrien, James Henault '07 (a speaker at the dinner), Joanne Kostides '96, and Kord Heinemann '94.



HCC Chemistry professor Gerry L'Heureux '92, Library Assistant Claire Wheeler '93, Kathryn Shepardson Carpenter '94, and Rene Forzano '98 were among the many attendees who enjoyed the Alumni Reunion Dinner.



Theater, Electronic Media, and Communication current faculty and retirees in attendance at reunion included: Front: Tim Cochran, Sheryl Stoodley, Keirnan Murphy, and Roy Faudree. Back: Joanne Kostides '96, Dean of Humanities, Fine, and Performing Arts Marcia Morrison, Justin West, and Jay Ducharme '78.



Roy Faudree, retired Theater professor, acknowledged the strong bonds formed among students and between students and faculty members when they produce a play with few financial resources and little time.

**A**s the academic year at Holyoke High School came to a close, Steve Makowski '74, a drama and communication teacher there, asked his students to write eulogies for one another.

It's really just another way of teaching his students to communicate.

But given that Makowski's father was a cemetery caretaker, the last assignment is at once familiar and surprising.

"I allow it to be comedic," he says. "They have amazing ways of killing each other, like drowning in a bowl of chicken."

The oldest of eight children and the only one to go to college, Makowski started his creative career at 13 as a rock musician. Even at that age, he and his pals secured gigs at college frat houses in the Pioneer Valley, where they entertained fans with covers from The Beatles, The Moody Blues and The Doobie Brothers.

As a student at Holyoke High, Makowski gravitated toward drama, and when he entered Holyoke Community College, theater became his world. Professor Leslie Philips—for whom the auditorium is named—had formed a drama club, the HCC Players, and Makowski was among its founding members.

"When I got to HCC," he says, "I really blossomed."

The faculty tapped into his creative energies and inspired in him to one day become a teacher himself.

Today, as a teacher at Holyoke High, situated in one of the Commonwealth's poorest cities, Makowski is wary of politicians who are quick to eliminate arts programs to balance budgets. In

*continues on page 6*

**D**anny Eaton '74 has an easy way to measure success - he looks at his life and sees that everything he ever hoped for came true.

The founder of the Majestic Theater in West Springfield started with an \$80,000 a year budget in 1992, and formally opened the theater five years later. This year's budget topped \$1.3 million.

For a man of the theater, making dreams come true is the ultimate achievement. Every performance is an opportunity to transport the audience into the world made up by the playwright.

As the Majestic's artistic director, Eaton is involved in every detail, from choosing the plays that will make it onstage to casting the actors.

His taste runs the gamut from drama to comedy to musicals.

Eaton selects plays that he likes and that he knows the theater going public will enjoy. He personally thanks the audience for attending. The Majestic also runs an on-premises café that serves light fare. And, later this year, it will raffle off a \$59,500, bright red 1966 Corvette, and a 2003 Harley Davidson motorcycle.

This may not sound like your daddy's theater experience, but the Majestic wasn't built to become a museum. Eaton makes the theater a vibrant, exciting destination by providing more than theatrical experiences.

At the time of this interview, Eaton was preparing for the new season at the Majestic.

In September, the Majestic will present "The Miracle Worker," the tale of teacher Annie Sullivan and one of the world's best-known students, Helen Keller. At the time of the interview, Eaton was looking for a young girl to play Keller.



Danny Eaton '74

"It's not an easy role for a young person," he says.

"The Miracle Worker" runs September 4 through October 12. It is followed by a comedy featuring two longtime widowers, "Jerry and Ed," (October 23 - November 30); the holiday standard "It's a Wonderful Life - A Radio Play," (December 4 - 21); the comic-musical "Lumberjacks in Love," (January 8 - February 15); and the romantic comedy "Bus Stop," (February 26 - April 5). The season will end as it began, with a biography: "John & Paul," the musical biography of a friendship that changed the world (April 16 - May 24).

Eaton genuinely enjoys what he does—to the point that he is hard-pressed to call it work.

"It took me 50 years to get to the point in my life where I was earning my livelihood doing what I think I was put on earth to do," he says.

Always a creative person, Eaton has learned from experience that another way to get to Point B from A is by going to Point C first.

Illustrative of that principle, and a testament to what can happen when creative minds and institutions converge,

*continues on page 17*

## Theater Arts (continued)



**A**s a newscaster with WGGB Channel 40 in Springfield, Kathryn Richardson Carpenter '94 once soared across the skies with the Blue

**Angels, the mesmerizing acrobatic fast planes whose thunderous engines are matched by the applause of onlookers at air shows.**

"I just screamed my head off, but had a blast," she says. "It knocks any rollercoaster you've ever been on."

Carpenter learned to aim high at HCC, where she found professors who expected her to immerse herself in her course work.

"HCC is challenging. You just don't make the grade - you have to earn it," she says.

The small classes assured her the individualized attention she needed to succeed, and enabled students and professors to get to know each other.

HCC Theater Professor Patricia Sandoval introduced her to a world of possibilities.

"In her class, I had my a-ha! moment," she said. She found her true voice, which, for someone in the communications field, is essential.

By the time she arrived at UMass Amherst she was prepared to hold her own in classes with 150 other students. She graduated in 1997 with a double major in journalism and communications.

Carpenter has taken a break from broadcasting to raise her son, Jack. But she makes time in her busy schedule to serve as a booster to HCC, providing thousands of people with their own moments of self-discovery.

*continued from page 5*

the end, the budget may be balanced but it is a loss for everyone, he says.

"I like the quote from the movie *Mr. Holland's Opus* (1995) which says: "I guess you can cut the arts as much as you want... Sooner or later, these kids aren't going to have anything to read or write about."

"The arts are the foundation of our culture," he says. "They are the how and why."

He laments that even famed playwright Neil Simon has to go to off-Broadway to get his plays onstage, since the appetite of the masses leans toward sensational Disney productions rather than profound dramatic reflections.

"This is not the Golden Age of writing and drama," he says mournfully.

Still, there are writers (Tony Kirshner) and actors (Meryl Streep, Dustin Hoffman,

Laurence Olivier, Marlon Brando) whose spellbinding talents take his breath away, and for those moments, he is grateful.

He is grateful for those moments when a student "gets it"—"That 'eureka moment'," he says, then stops, savoring those moments throughout his career.

"To think that you've actually moved them from one positive moment to another. You do keep lofty goals in the back of your mind," he says, even when, sometimes, the best part of the day is that first cup of coffee.

As much as Makowski thrives in the world of theater and drama, he is rooted in reality.

"I'm doing something to advance creativity and the arts in a population that may not have opportunities for exposure to this particular way of thinking," he says. The politics of the times impose a strict academic diet of teaching so that students pass statewide tests, not so that they

learn to think.

He strives to make his classes pathways to growth, and not just another set of academic hoops to jump through.

He hopes his classes "open up doors for them that they probably didn't know existed."

"Creative thinking is important," he says.

—Natalia Muñoz



# Letter from the Alumni Association president

**D**ear alumni,

I am delighted to welcome 2008 graduates to our Alumni Association. I would like to take a moment to let you know what a difference one person can make. Michael Kittredge, '73, the founder of the Yankee Candle Company, was so grateful to Holyoke Community College that he donated one million dollars to help fund the Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development.

His generosity then inspired our Alumni Association to establish a \$500,000 goal, and that goal inspired thousands of alumni across the country to participate and surpass that goal in record time. In turn, our success has motivated many other community colleges in the nation to improve their alumni efforts.

This is how it all begins—

When you attend Holyoke Community College, you inspire others to seek out new possibilities.

When your goals become a reality,

you encourage others to reach for the impossible.

Every time you go beyond what you imagine, you inspire someone to go above and beyond their perceived abilities.

Now that the presidential election is upon us, I hope that you will become involved, and stay involved, as an active citizen in your community, in this country, and in the world. The world needs your intelligence, your strength, and your unwavering courage.

If you are courageous and willing to be involved, you will be amazed at what one person can do, and that person will be you.

Sincerely,



Gloria G. Lomax '75  
President, Holyoke Community College  
Alumni Association



Alumni Association President  
Gloria G. Lomax '75

**P.S.** The Holyoke Community College alumni family is making a tremendous difference with our generous support. I invite you to become an alumni donor by sending your gift today.

## 2009 HCC Alumni Fund (closes June 30, 2009)

Enclosed is my 2009 contribution of:

\$25     \$35     \$50     \$100\*     \$300     \$500     \$1,000     \$2,500     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Donors of \$100 and above receive an HCC lanyard and keyring

I/we wish to contribute to the following fund:

**Where the need is greatest**

**Alumni scholarship fund**

**Equipment for classrooms & labs**

**Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation year or years attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home/Cell telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

My/our check is enclosed, payable to HCC Foundation, Inc. (2009 fund drive ends June 30, 2009)

My/our gift will be matched by: \_\_\_\_\_ (please submit matching gift form)

**To charge a gift, please call (413) 552-2546 or visit our secure donation page at [hcc.edu/donate](http://hcc.edu/donate)**

**I do not want my name included in the 2009 Annual Giving Report**

Please mail to: HCC Foundation, Inc., 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke, MA 01040. For more information please call (413) 552-2253.

## Around campus



### Ran Duan

Dr. X. Ran Duan, HCC's Dean of Science, Engineering, and Mathematics, presented at the 2007 International Conference on Engineering Education in Portugal in September. His paper,

"A Proposed Model Curriculum for Pre-Engineering Degree Programs" was selected as a chapter in **Innovations 2008: World Innovations in Engineering Education and Research**, published in July 2008.



### HCC Alumni Association Scholarship Awardees

HCC's Alumni Association distributed 29 awards in 2008. Above are some this year's recipients. First row, left to right: Onawa LaBelle, Diane McCray, Julie Beckley, Tasia Williams, Colleen O'Connor, Roderick Klich, Wilma Charmaine Sutton, Carmelina Romano, Cody Herzig, April Grant, Jaime Mersincavage, and Anthony Flores. Inset: Leonid Maklyakov.



This past spring, HCC's Ludlow Area Adult Learning Center awarded certificates to seven students from Chicopee, Ludlow, Springfield, and Wilbraham to become bilingual health care counselors for older citizens. Pictured above (country of origin and current residence are listed after each name) are, from left: Sengnaly Soumphalphakdy (Laos/Springfield); Zofia Orzol (Poland/Chicopee); Serpil Durdu (Turkey/Ludlow); Amy Chan (China, /Wilbraham); Seungwon Kwon (South Korea/Wilbraham); Sandra Pereira (Dominican Republic/Springfield). Not pictured is Aldina Lavaredes (Portugal/Springfield).



Four fortunate students from HCC's Chasing the Dream class enjoyed a day on Nantucket with host Michael Kittredge '73. Students in the class, offered this past spring, developed business concepts and plans, and presented their ideas. Kittredge was a frequent visitor to the class, offering advice and direction. Pictured left to right are students Jeremiah Micka and Rebecca Kellner, Michael Kittredge '73, students Ansel Stein and Jaime Mersincavage, Professor Pam Baran, and Vice President of Institutional Development Erica Broman.



### New Directions/Pathways

More than 100 HCC community members attended an Open House on April 23 to celebrate the opening of the Elaine Marieb New Pathways Center. Thanks to a generous donation from Dr. Elaine Marieb, Frost 264 was renovated as a study and lounge space for students in the New Directions and Pathways programs. The center will support non-traditional women students in achieving their educational goals.

Pictured left to right: Coordinator of New Directions Deborah Levenson, Program Assistant for New Directions Elaine Dunlap, Director of Advising and Transitions Gail Indyk '85, Vice President for Institutional Development Erica Broman, Coordinator of Pathways Irma Medina '97, and ENLACE (ENgaging LATino Communities for Education) Director Isolda Ortega-Bustamante.



### HCC Students Honored at Elevator Pitch Competition

An "elevator pitch" competition involves making a business pitch in front of six bankers in 90 seconds, the time it takes to ride a hypothetical elevator and regale an impromptu audience with a proposal. Two HCC students were honored at the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation's Entrepreneurship Initiative 2008 Entrepreneurship Awards and Banquet at The Log Cabin in Holyoke last spring, where more than 50 student entrepreneurs touted their businesses. The second-place award went to Sawna Caradwyn (right) of HCC, who won \$750 for "My Other Mom." Jeremiah Micka (left) of HCC tied for third place and received \$500, with his pitch "Green Machine."

### Ramp It Up!

The HCC Unity Club received the First Place award in the Stavros Center sculpture competition to raise money for its ramp project. Pictured from left to right are: Learning Specialist, OSD, Erin O'Brien '90; Learning Specialist, OSD, and Co-advisor to the UNITY Club Sharon Cenedella; President, Impact Skills Set Inc., Boston, MA (our team's corporate sponsor) James O'Neil; Co-president of UNITY Club, Sarah Riffenberg '09; UNITY Club member Kathleen Scholpp '08; and Voc Ed Program Coordinator and Co-advisor to UNITY Club Dorothy Blair.

Dorothy Blair writes: "This is the first annual *Ramp it Up* event to be held at HCC for Stavros. I hope alumni reading about it might look for it again next spring and perhaps attend. It was fun. Our team received a certificate for first place and helped raise several thousand dollars for the building of accessible ramps."



# An HCC foundation for global success



Jack Desroches '78

## Dear HCC Alumni News,

I am often reminded of how Holyoke Community College and its dedicated staff were instrumental in helping me mold my career.

I decided to attend HCC because of the new co-op program offered in retail management. Elaine Ironfield and Anne Potter knew that I had already started my own business, and they took my future seriously. While the co-op program was perfect for me, retail was not, so Elaine allowed me to do my co-op outside of retail. They encouraged me to put my energy into what I loved to do. I took their advice and turned it into my career.

I am grateful for the solid teaching based on practical experience from my business law,

speech, and economics teachers, to name a few. To this day, when I coach corporate executives for speaking, I give them some of the same great advice that Jeanne Hatch gave to me 30 years ago.

At the time of my graduation, in 1978, I was providing entertainment for corporate events and home parties as Strawberry the clown. But today I am producing events around the world for organizations such as Mattel, Cumberland Farms, Staples, DC Comics, and MGM. Founded in 1976 as Strawberry Productions, my company has now transformed into three separate companies; Milestone Productions, Milestone Events, and Milestone Ministries.

Milestone Events is proud of its reputation for corporate event planning, design, production, and execution. Milestone Productions is licensed to provide live entertainment for such world-renowned brands as Batman, Barbie, Care Bears, and Pink Panther. Milestone Ministries is a non profit corporation dedicated to helping people around the world.

I am grateful to Holyoke Community College and its dedicated faculty and staff for gently putting me on the right path 30 years ago.

Jack Desroches '78  
jack@milestoneevents.org



## We Love Letters!

We welcome hearing from our alumni and enjoy reading the letters we receive, which we publish in the Alumni Connection whenever possible. If you would like your current photo published along with your letter, please send it to us electronically. We are also happy to include a photo of you during the era you attended HCC. We reserve the right to edit letters to conform with space and editorial requirements.

Please direct letters to  
Joanna Brown  
HCC Alumni Office  
303 Homestead Avenue  
Holyoke MA 01040  
FAX: (413) 552-2479  
Email: jbrown@hcc.mass.edu

## HCC Giving Levels

Benefits are accrued in a given fund year. The 2009 fund runs from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

**President's Circle**—\$5,000 or more (Gold) or \$2,500-\$4,999 (Silver)

Benefits: Invitation to the annual President's Dinner prepared by culinary students (and benefits listed below).

**Summit Society**—\$1,000-\$2,499

Benefits: Invitation to Chef's Table Luncheons at the college (and benefits listed below).

**Sheehan Society**—\$500-\$999

Benefits: Invitation to exclusive viewing of city fireworks when hosted by HCC (and benefits listed below).

**Phoenix Society**—\$250-\$499

Benefits: Special invitations to all art gallery

receptions at Taber Art Gallery (and benefits listed below).

**Homestead Society**—\$100-\$249

Benefits: HCC Alumni Association lanyard and key ring (and benefits listed below).

**Emerald Club**—\$50-\$99

Benefits: Name published in HCC Foundation, Inc. *Annual Report* and in *Alumni Giving Report*.

**Cougar Club**—Up to \$49

Benefits: Name published in HCC Foundation, Inc. *Annual Report* and in *Alumni Giving Report*.

## 2008 Giving Report Now Online

Our 2008 *Giving Report* is being posted online this fall, rather than being printed in this issue of the Alumni Connection, to allow us to include additional pictures from alumni events. View it online at: [www.hcc.edu/2008givingreport](http://www.hcc.edu/2008givingreport). If you do not have internet access and you would like a hard copy by mail, please mail your request to Joanna Brown, HCC Alumni Office, 303 Homestead Avenue, Holyoke, MA 01040.

# HCC honors two outstanding alumni

Sheila Donohue and Jerry Levinsky took what they learned and shared the rewards

**B**y the tributes rendered at the Alumni Awards Dinner in June, it was clear that HCC sent out into the world two highly capable students whose individual legacies merit respect.

Many HCC alumni have stayed in touch with the college over the years. They travel from across the country to attend a reunion, volunteer to help organize various events, and donate generously to the college's fund raising efforts.

Their loyalty to HCC is the same kind of commitment one expects of alumni from private colleges with deep endowments.

HCC alumni feel grateful to staff and faculty for guiding and supporting them when they began their academic careers.

Now, they have returned to be honored by HCC for outstanding contributions in their respective fields.

In June, HCC's Annual Alumni Award Dinner honored Sheila Donohue '81 and Jerry Levinsky '73.

"It's really not about me," said Donohue after receiving her award, "it's about getting a good start here at HCC. You can do anything, you just have to start."

Donohue, an IBM executive who is enjoying success, looks back at HCC not only with gratitude but also with purpose. She established an endowed scholarship for HCC students to continue their studies at Mount Holyoke College, the institution from which she received her bachelor's degree.

Dr. Marjorie Kaufman, professor emerita at Mount Holyoke College and former director of the Frances Perkins Program, tendered a moving and at time humorous tribute to Donohue, describing her as a "bright little kid" who, when she sets her mind to something, gets it done, from persuading Mount Holyoke College to dedicate and furnish a house for Frances Perkins scholars, to developing her artistic



Alumni Association President Gloria Lomax presents each honoree with a gift from HCC.

skills in Paris, and learning the joys of interior decorating.

"Her achievements and talents are simply too many to describe neatly," she said.

---

**"YOU CAN DO ANYTHING -  
YOU JUST HAVE TO START."**

**SHEILA DONOHUE**

---

Alumni Award recipient Jerry Levinsky was lauded for his outstanding service to the community. Levinsky, who earned a bachelor's degree from Rutgers, a master's degree in labor studies from UMass, and a juris doctor from Western New England College School of Law, is a vigorous advocate of social justice and civil rights. He has served as deputy general counsel for the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, teaches courses at UMass on civil rights and workers' rights in U.S. law, and is editor of the Journal of Intergroup Relations, a publication of the National Association of Human Rights Workers.

In her tribute to Levinsky, Attorney Cynthia Tucker, a former commissioner with the

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, said Levinsky, a civil rights lawyer, had the dedication, imagination, and vision to be part of the nationwide struggle to form a more perfect union.

HCC, said Levinsky, "was the greatest place I could have come to." Looking at his parents, proudly seated at a nearby table, he added, "My parents knew one thing—that I was going to get an education and accomplish something with my education."

Gloria Lomax '75, Alumni Association president, summarized the spirit of the evening quite simply. After listing Levinsky's many accomplishments, she beamed at the audience and exclaimed, "Isn't that wonderful?!"



# Graduation 2008



Keynote speaker Governor Deval Patrick

**M**ore than 900 proud graduates received their diplomas at HCC's 61st commencement, held Saturday, May 31 in the David M. Bartley Center for Athletics and Recreation. The largest graduating class among Western Massachusetts community colleges was joyfully saluted by family and friends.

Keynote speaker Governor Deval Patrick received the college's Distinguished Service Award, as did former Board of Trustees Chair Dr. Ned Barowsky, and past trustee Pam Murray '95. Student orator, Sarah M. Vázquez, spoke of the

value of an HCC education, and talented student vocalist Shakira Henley-Fernández received a standing ovation for her powerful rendition of "One Moment in Time."

In honor of Governor Patrick's visit and his ongoing commitment to education, HCC trustees planted a maple tree overlooking the college's O'Connell Memorial Soccer field, where outdoor commencement ceremonies are held.



## Two Staff Members Who Make a Difference

**Elaine Madra and Diane Mango-Cahill are part of the college's heart and soul**

Two Holyoke Community College staff members were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the college. They are:

### **2008 Outstanding Classified Staff Member Award**

Elaine Madra '00, of Chicopee

Characterized by the selection committee as "a tireless and capable worker, possessed of unlimited patience and depth of knowledge of HCC," Clerk III, Elaine Madra, has been employed at the college since 1986. Those seeking information at the Student Records Office can depend on Elaine's gracious and professional assistance. She is a generous and dedicated volunteer at HCC and in the community.

### **2008 Outstanding Non Unit Professional Staff Member Award**

Diane Mango-Cahill '73, of Williamsburg

Responsible for securing needed funding for HCC and for launching a number of successful student-centered programs, Grants Manager Diane Mango-Cahill has been making HCC an outstanding place to work and learn since 1993. She was lauded by the selection committee as "the absolute go-to person for accurate, up-to-date information on grants and federal and state regulations."

# How to think things through: spotlight on Kim Hicks

2008 Elaine Marieb Faculty Chair for Teaching Excellence



Kim Hicks, 2008 Elaine Marieb Faculty Chair for Teaching Excellence

**E**stablished in 1990 and named for retired HCC Anatomy and Physiology Professor Elaine Marieb, the Elaine Marieb Faculty Chair for Teaching Excellence is the highest honor bestowed by the college on its faculty. It comes

with a monetary award that enables recipients to further enhance their professional skills.

HCC English Professor Dr. Kim Hicks is, as might be expected of the 2008 recipient of the Marieb award, an extraordinary teacher. For the past decade she has challenged, inspired, and served as a guide for HCC students as they embark on journeys of self-discovery. As Hicks puts it, "The purpose of knowing things is to make something of what you know. And the first thing you make is yourself."

Hicks may nurture self awareness and self discovery, but she frames it within the context of relationship and our responsibility as members of a diverse global village. Dr. Hicks believes that "You don't understand any problem unless you understand it from a variety of perspectives." Her office overflows with

books that address issues of race and ethnicity, power and privilege, and the struggle to make a more equitable society.

Her respect for the diverse experiences and perspectives of her students makes her classroom one that fosters expression and nurtures intellectual growth. Hers is a pedagogy that makes room for the student as teacher, and the teacher as one who listens to and values the cacophony of voices that fill the classroom with ideas, questions, and varying points of view.

Kim Hicks is one of the reasons why our students thrive—and why they leave HCC prepared to lend their voices to discourse beyond the walls of the classroom.



**"Due to my struggles with illness, I gained gratitude for health and life's blessings. Because of my experience with discrimination, I have learned to promote diversity, and to model an appreciation for differences. At HCC, this positive reception of multiplicity is fostered in all of us."**

*—Sarah M. Vázquez*

## Outstanding 2008 Graduates

### Valedictorians (GPA 4.0):

Jennifer Leigh Leandro of Ludlow  
Kelley J. Niver of West Springfield  
Nichole R. Reynolds of Huntington  
Sarah M. Vázquez of West Springfield  
Danielle M. Woodin of Three Rivers

### Salutatorians (next highest GPA):

Danna J. Niedzwiecki of Williamsburg  
Arkadiusz Czarniecki of Hadley

# Class notes

## 1956

**Arthur W. Brodeur** was nominated and elected Chair of the Board of Directors for Windham Community Memorial Hospital in Willimantic, CT. Brodeur is a long-standing board member at Windham Hospital and chair of the Hospital's Planning Committee. He recently served as a member of the Governor's Strategic Task Force on Hospitals in the state of CT. Brodeur also served as First Selectmen in the town of Eastford from 2003-2005. He retired from the University of Connecticut in 2000, where he served as special assistant to the Chancellor, the culmination of some 40 years of experience in higher education management and public communication.

**Carl Eger, Jr.** received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Massachusetts Economic Development Corporation in December 2007 in Boston, MA. He was a founding member of the Massachusetts Economic Development Corporation in 1963 and has served as its treasurer since 2004.

## 1959

**James L. Izatt** is the director of the subregional library for services to readers with vision impairment or physical disabilities of the Worcester, MA Public Library. This library is part of a national

network of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, headquartered at the Library of Congress. The service distributes Braille books, audio-cassettes (Talking Books), and large-print books, in collaboration with the Braille and Talking Book Library at the Perkins School in Watertown, MA. Persons wishing to use this service may call the Mass Commission for the Blind, or visit the Worcester Public library web site at [www.worcpublib.org/talkingbook](http://www.worcpublib.org/talkingbook).

## 1965

**Karolyn Ali** is a founding member of Theatre Of Hearts, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit corporation. Theatre of Hearts' Youth First/Artist-In-Residence Program addresses the diverse needs of children ages 4-18 through customized, long-term, quality, multidisciplinary, standards-based workshops in visual and performing arts. Every program is a model of inclusion, crossing lines of race and cultural difference. Ali has served as board chair and currently serves as vice chair, with an emphasis on fund raising, board development, and strategic planning. For more information, visit [www.theatreofhearts.org](http://www.theatreofhearts.org) or call (213) 384-6878.

## 1968



Betty J. Cinq-Mars

Photo: Kalamazoo Gazette

**Betty J. Cinq-Mars**, who grew up in Chicopee, MA, and now resides in Kalamazoo, MI, has been recognized as one of the "Top 100 Women Financial Advisors" in the June 9, 2008, issue

of Barron's, a weekly magazine for private investors, money managers, and corporate executives within the financial community. She was chosen for this honor for demonstrating industry best practices on a wide range of qualifications, including revenue produced and customer satisfaction. Cinq-Mars has worked for Merrill-Lynch for 32 years, and is now a senior vice president. She serves corporate and individual investors with sophisticated financial solutions, including concentrated stock management, asset management, estate planning services, and philanthropy.

## 1970

**Wayne L. Vandini** was one of the first HCC music graduates and was the head drummer for the HCC Jazz Band

### Class Notes/Change of Information/Comments

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class year: \_\_\_\_\_

Former name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Class notes contribution to be published in the **Alumni Connection**.  Comments to the director of alumni relations (will not be published).

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to: Alumni Office, HCC, 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke, MA 01040, fax to (413) 552-2479, or email to [jbrown@hcc.mass.edu](mailto:jbrown@hcc.mass.edu) with subject line of "HCC Notes" by December 1, 2008.

### HCC Families

**Please list the other members of your family who have attended HCC.**

Name	Class year	Relationship
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



from 1968-70. He received his BFA in jazz composition from Brockport State University of New York in 1972, and did graduate work while working as a public school teacher. Vandini was a drummer for several bands and trios in upstate New York; he still performs privately in Western MA. Vandini has retired from being a supervisor of customer service and fleet service for US Airways. He is now a federal officer for Homeland Security at Bradley International Airport. Vandini would love to hear from alumni musicians. He can be reached at chvtuf1@aol.com.

## 1973

**Wallace L. Devine** completed his BS in Civil Engineering at UMass Amherst in 1975. He went on to work for the Navy Department in their Oceanographic Office in Washington, DC, where he was a senior scientist on numerous Oceanographic Surveys around the world. He traveled to over 30 countries in the Pacific, the Carribean, Central and South America, and Europe, and lived in the Canal Zone in Panama for seven years and in Korea for one year. In 1997 Wallace returned to full-time study at The Catholic University in Washington DC. He obtained a Master of Architecture degree in 2001 and a Master of Civil Engineering degree in 2002. He is currently an intern architect with Ahmann Architects, which recently was chosen as a top Washington, DC residential design firm. Wallace also works on select residential projects on a freelance basis and has his own firm. Wallace has eight children including two adopted children from Colombia, South America, and three stepchildren from Chile. He and his wife Marlene, also from Chile, live with their children in Annapolis, MD, where they enjoy continued travel and cultural events in the nearby Washington-Baltimore area.

## 1975

**Carol Bright** has been "selling Western MA" since 1993. She is a realtor with Keller Williams Realty in Northampton, MA. She serves on the Agent Leadership Council and the Pioneer Valley Association of Realtors, and has been a President



Carol Bright

Award recipient for more than 10 years. Bright will host an alumni reception and give a presentation "Selling Your Home in Any Market" on October 16. (see page 19 for more information)

## 1978

**Holly Maciolek** is the acute pain service coordinator for the Department of Anesthesia at Baystate Medical, where she has worked for over 11 years. Maciolek has taught nursing courses at various local colleges and has published papers and presented her papers in Europe. In May 2007, she completed the RNBSN online program at the University of MA. She and her daughter, Brittany, graduated together, both receiving their BS in Nursing. Maciolek stated that she has worked very hard to get where she is. "All my expectations were met in the world because of HCC. You can do anything you want, if you put your mind to it."

## 1979

**Carol Dietrich** is the eating disorder nurse specialist and program director for the Intensive Eating Disorders Outpatient Treatment Program in the outpatient psychiatry department of the El Camino Hospital in Mountain View, CA. She received her marriage and family therapist license in 2005 and also has her own private practice. Dietrich stated, "You never know where an HCC education will take you..."

## 1980

**Peter Hicks** shared an interesting story with Alumni Director Joanna Brown: when he was at HCC, he was excited about auditioning for "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," and he knew that he wanted to be Snoopy. He didn't get the part, and instead he was asked to play the part of Linus. Peter was upset and didn't

want to accept the role of Linus, but Professor Judy Oberholtzer took a motherly role and told him that he **would be** Linus. Snoopy (**Laura Adzima Hicks '81**)



Peter & Laura Hicks

and Linus (Peter Hicks '80) fell in love and married, and they have lived happily ever after. They have five children, and Peter is still working at Eddie's Furniture in Holyoke on Hampden Street. Their home-schooled son, Sam, just completed an online course (English 101) at HCC, for which he received dual (high school and college) credit.

## 1983

**Glenda Mandeville-Guthrie** retired from a thirty-year career in human resources in 1999. Now living in Florida, she is on the board of Barnabas, Inc., a non-profit organization providing assistance to individuals and families in need throughout Nassau County, FL. She is also on the medical advisory board for the free medical clinic for indigent people through Barnabas. She would welcome hearing from alumni from area code (904). Her number is (904) 583-0945.

## 1985

**Sandra Kosko** left her job as a systems consultant with MassMutual to focus all her energy on growing the Soupy for Loopy Foundation. This foundation formed in memory of her 11-year old niece, Laura, who lost her battle with neuroblastoma, a form of childhood cancer, in June 2006. As a tribute to Laura, Sandra worked with a local restaurateur, Paul B'Shara, and organized the first Soupy for Loopy fundraiser at B'Shara's Restaurant in October 2006. Since that time Kosko has worked hard to form a nonprofit, 501(c) (3) charitable organization called the Soupy for Loopy Foundation. Please visit the website, [www.soupyforloopy.org](http://www.soupyforloopy.org), where you can read about Laura and learn more

*continues on page 16*

# Class notes

continued from page 11

about neuroblastoma.

## 1986

**Belinda S. Hayden** used her HCC degree in Early Childhood Education to experience a variety of different childcare settings. She was inspired by working with young children and began writing her first children's book, *Pete's Potty*, which was published in January. Hayden hopes to publish new versions of the story for different ethnic groups and family units. She resides in Wells, ME with her husband and three young children.

## 1987

**Stacy F. Santiago, RN**, pinned daughter, Maura Santiago '08 at the Practical Nurse pinning ceremony which was held on June 27 (see page 18).

## 1990

**Erin Doyle-Gallerani** has been the chief financial officer/office manager/co-owner of Gallerani Electric Co., Inc., since graduating from HCC. The company offers residential, commercial, and industrial electrical services.



Erin Doyle-Gallerani

She has volunteered for the Greater Springfield Senior Services as a money manager since 2004, assisting low-income older adults with their daily money matters. She also has been a volunteer for Stavros Center for Independent Living since 1998, where she assists individuals with illnesses and disabilities in finding and hiring personal care attendants. Erin has been married to Michael Gallerani for 22 years and has a 19-year old son, Zachary, who now attends HCC. He will be going into the Air National Guard this fall.

## 1994

**Gina M. Barry** has been named a partner in the law firm of Bacon & Wilson, P.C., in Springfield, MA. Barry's area of expertise is in the estate planning/elder law department, which includes sophisticated estate planning, conservatorship, planning for long-term care, and pet estate planning.



Gina M. Barry

## 1994



Christina A. Dever

**Christina A. Dever** has been appointed client relations manager at Convergent Solutions Inc. (CSI) in Wilbraham, MA.

## In memoriam:

We are saddened to learn of the passing of the following members of the HCC community:

- Ann Marie Graziano Bishop '66
- John P. Moriarty '68
- Donald R. Musante '70
- Steven E. Olesiak, Jr. '71
- Sandra L. Barry '75
- Gary K. Wojcik '77
- Mavis H. Ward '82
- Teresa M. Woods '82
- Marykate Ducharme '85
- Jean G. Fernandes '86
- Leah Ryan '89
- Lynne E. Miles '90
- Jane (Janie) Cournoyer '94
- Kimberlee A. Shoup '96
- Rose Champagne-Superneau '99
- Barbara E. (Towsley) Luchini '00
- Cindy (Mildred) Scavone, Staff, Division of Continuing Education

## Study Areas Proposed



Study area with new furniture

Twenty four areas in Donahue, Frost, Marieb, and C buildings have been designated as possible study areas, to be funded by (and named for) alumni and community donors. The cost of furnishing each area ranges from \$8,000-\$26,000, with half the funds being set aside to clean, repair, or replace the furniture, as needed, for twenty years.



Space to be furnished as a study area

If you might be interested in funding and "naming" a study area, please call Director of Alumni Relations Joanna Brown (413) 552-2253, or Annual Fund Coordinator Joyce Desorcy (413) 552-2704.

*continued from page 5*

is the fact that Eaton actually received his bachelor's degree from Amherst College a year before he earned his associate degree from HCC.

The three semesters at HCC were instrumental in his development.

He discovered that the theater world was one he could inhabit comfortably—and passionately—for the rest of his life.

"You're simply compelled to do it," he relates. "Some people are right-handed, some people are left-handed. I consider myself a storyteller."

When asked who his heroes are, Eaton pauses, not for lack of candidates but because the one person who makes the grade is so dear to him that the words are measured in love.

"My dad. He was a great storyteller. He used to just enthrall us with his stories and he'd make them up on the fly."

---

**"It took me 50 years to get to the point in my life where I was earning my livelihood doing what I think I was put on earth to do."**

---

What he learned from his father, Richard, Eaton brings to a bigger arena. What he strives to do is place actors onstage who will sweep audiences off their feet, even if for just one moment. After all, it only takes a moment to turn a dream into reality, or render reality a dream.

Asked what makes an actor extraordinary, what compels an audience to focus exclusively on that actor and be moved to tears or laughter, and he replies, "The honesty of the actor and the honesty of the moment in the play." That's what Eaton has always looked for in theater: real responses.

He will never retire.

"Molière died on stage during rehearsal," he said. "That's cool with me."

Another, less dramatic possibility, is to buy a camp in the mountains, and come down every once in a while with a play in hand, and an empty stage to fill.

*—Natalia Muñoz*

## The Bartley Center is your wellness center

If you graduated from HCC or accrued at least nine credits before leaving, you can join the David M. Bartley Center for Athletics and Recreation for a very affordable fee.

This 45,000-square-foot facility features a three-court gymnasium, full locker rooms, steam baths, saunas, and a fitness/wellness room with more than 60 pieces of aerobic and weight-training equipment.

### Join today!

You can receive an alumni membership to the Bartley Center for \$230/year, \$110/semester, or \$100/summer. For an application call Mary Shelasky at (413) 552-2161.





# A student speaks, and a campus listens

Comment sparks campus conversation about accessibility



**S**ometimes, the best way to understand another person's struggles is to experience the world as he does. Last March, HCC student James Sliski, who uses a wheelchair to get around, suggested just that to President Bill Messner.

Though the college boasts an outstanding Office for Students with Disabilities and has

invested hundreds of thousands of dollars to improve accessibility, challenges remain. So when Sliski heard Messner praise the new Frost-Donahue student lounge, he spoke up.

"Not all the new furniture was accessible" he explained. "[several] tables were too narrow for my wheelchair to slide close enough to be usable..."

The lounge wasn't the only problem. Parking lot G had 37 spots reserved for disabled people. But in Sliski's experience, "...the spaces are too narrow to park the car [and] get out the wheelchair or walker without banging into a car in the next spot."

So Sliski asked Messner "if he would be willing to walk a mile in my shoes." Messner agreed, and a few weeks later spent two mornings experiencing the campus, first in

a wheelchair, then as a person with impaired vision.

It was a valuable experience for Messner, who quickly moved to address several problems, including redesign of the parking lot with wider spaces and more accommodating pickup and drop off areas. In April he led a campus conversation on accessibility, attended by more than 100 people. "We are working to live up to not only what is required," said Messner, "but also what is right."

The response was gratifying for Sliski. "I thought that the challenge to the president would come and go and nothing would come of it. But instead, it has resulted in top college officials becoming more aware of the spaces where we all live and work and play—and park."

## A.S. Nursing & Practical Nurse Pinning Ceremonies and Nursing Supper



April Bowers '02, Nursing faculty member Leona Florek, and retired Nursing professor Carole D'Amato at the 2008 Alumni/Student Nursing Supper on April 24.



The Practical Nursing class of 2008 (pictured here with several faculty members) had a chance to network with HCC alumni nurses attending the 2008 Alumni/Student Nursing Supper.



Enjoying the Alumni/Student Nursing supper: left to right: Angie Belisle, R.N. '77, Pamela Quirk, A.P.R.N. '76, JeanAnn Armitage '76, and Margaret DeJesus '90.



Three decades of HCC nurses in one family celebrated on June 27, at the Practical Nurse pinning ceremony: Stacy Santiago, R.N. '87 pinned her daughter Maura Santiago '08. Also in attendance was Maura's aunt, Kelly Fitzpatrick, R.N. '97.



Lin Patterson, R.N. pinned Ruth Flores '08 at the 2008 Practical Nurse pinning ceremony. Lin has supervised Ruth in her current employment as a certified nursing assistant. Patterson received the Dean Nursing School Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence.

# Fall 2008 Events

**NOTE: An updated HCC events listing is online at [www.hcc.edu](http://www.hcc.edu)**



To request ASL interpretation for any alumni event listed below, please send an email to Carol Ann Smalley or Debbie Geoffroy (with 2 weeks advance notice, when feasible) to: [csmalley@hcc.mass.edu](mailto:csmalley@hcc.mass.edu) or [dgeoffroy@hcc.mass.edu](mailto:dgeoffroy@hcc.mass.edu) with a subject of "HCC-ASL request" Please put your full name, your graduation year (or last year attended), and the event title and event date in the body of your email message.

## Wednesday, October 15, 5-8 p.m.

**HCC Career Center Open House.** Are you considering changing careers? Do you need help re-writing your resume, searching for a job online, or preparing for an interview? The HCC Career professionals are available to assist you. Free and open to the public. Space is limited and registration is required by calling (413) 559-2597. Kittredge Center 322.

## Thursday, October 16

**Alumni Reception** (Northampton, MA) 4:30-5:45p.m. (Hot and cold hors d'oeuvre and beverages) and **Presentation "Selling Your Home in Any Market"** 5:45 p.m.

Come for the reception, or come for the talk, or stay for both! Realtor (and Alumni Council member) Carol Bright '75 will tell us how simple, inexpensive preparation will make your property STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD and sell for more money! The reception and talk are free to HCC alumni, employees and retirees, and their guests. Preregistration is requested by Friday, October 10 by calling Joyce Desorcy (413) 552-2704. Keller Williams Realty, 300 Pleasant St, Northampton, MA.

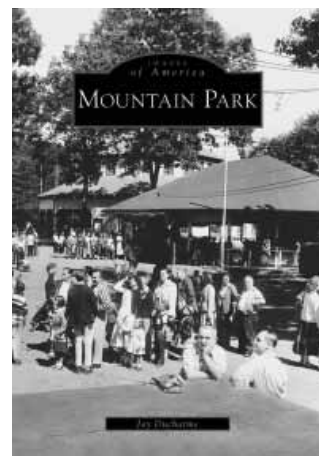
## Wednesday, October 22, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Tracy Kidder**, author of *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, *The Soul of a New Machine*, and other works will speak about his writing at the HCC Forum. Admission is free. No registration is necessary.

## Wednesday, October 22 7:00 p.m.

### Remembering Mountain Park

Jay Ducharme '78, Electronic Media faculty member, has just published a book, *Mountain Park*, about the amusement park in Holyoke that was a national destination in its heyday. In this trip down Memory Lane, Jay will offer a multi-media presentation of images from Mountain Park and talk about writing his book. Copies will be available for sale and will be signed by the author. Refreshments provided. Free and open to the public, but registration requested by calling Joyce Desorcy (413) 552-2704. Kittredge Center 301-303. A daytime presentation will be sponsored by HCC's Library on Wednesday, November 19, 3 p.m., in KC 301. To register, call Camille Close (413) 552-2277.



## Wednesday, October 29, 6:30 p.m.

### Going Solar?

Mike Kocsmiersky, general manager of SolarWrights' Springfield office, will inform us about solar electric and solar hot water installations for homes in New England. Find out if you could reduce your home's dependence on fossil fuel and become part of the "greening of New England." (for information about solarwrights, visit [solarwrights.com](http://solarwrights.com)) Free. Registration requested by calling Joyce Desorcy at (413) 552-2704. Kittredge Center 301.

## Thursday, November 13. (Two sessions: 5:00 p.m & 7:00 p.m.)

**Legal Document Workshop** with Attorney Bill St. James

In this fee-based workshop, attendees will create their "Simple Will" and "Power of Attorney" documents. The "Homestead Declaration" will also be provided to owners/mortgage-holders of primary residences, and the health care proxy document will be explained. NOTE: Attendees (individuals and couples) must send their fee and their confidential registration forms to the attorney by November 7. For information about the fee and to receive the registration forms for this workshop, call Joyce Desorcy at (413) 552-2704 by October 20.

## Thursday through Saturday, November 20-22, 8:00 p.m. and Sunday November 23, 2:30 p.m.

**Fuddy Meers**, a theater production by David Lindsay Abair, directed by Tim Cochran and performed by the HCC Players. Touted as a "comic genius" by the New York Observer, "[Abair] has written a wacky, yet poignant, comedy, which proves that no family dysfunction is insurmountable." Ticket Price: \$7.00 General Admission, \$5.00 seniors and students. Leslie Phillips Theater (C-building). To reserve tickets, please call the Box Office: (413) 552-2528.



ASL interpreted Friday, November 21, with advance reservation. Email [csmalley@hcc.mass.edu](mailto:csmalley@hcc.mass.edu) with subject "HCC Theater ASL" to confirm interpreter availability.

# ALUMNI CONNECTION

Holyoke Community College Alumni Office  
303 Homestead Avenue  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
[www.hcc.edu](http://www.hcc.edu)

---

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 820  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101

---

For an updated list of events,  
visit [hcc.edu](http://hcc.edu) or call  
(413) 533-7188

## 2008 Events

To see a complete listing of musical performances and campus events, please go to [www.hcc.edu](http://www.hcc.edu). A voice mail listing of alumni events is also available at (413) 533-7188. To register for events, call (413) 552-2704.

**Fall Silent Pizza Gatherings** for ASL and Deaf Studies students, deaf students, interpreters, captionists, and members of the Deaf community.

Wednesdays, September 24, 5 p.m.; October 8, 11 a.m.; and December 10, 11 a.m., in G217. Also Friday, November 21, 6 p.m. Please RSVP to [csmalley@hcc.mass.edu](mailto:csmalley@hcc.mass.edu) (subject "Silent Pizza Nights") to ensure enough pizza!

**Wednesday, October 15**  
**HCC Career Center Open House** 5-8 p.m.  
Kittredge Center Room 322 (See page 19).

**Thursday, October 16**  
**Alumni Reception** (Northampton, MA) 4:30-5:45 p.m. (Hot and cold hors d'oeuvre and beverages) and **Presentation "Selling Your Home in Any Market"** 5:45 p.m. (See page 19).

**Wednesday, October 22, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
**Tracy Kidder**, author of *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, *The Soul of a New Machine*, and other works, will speak about his writing at the HCC Forum. Admission is free. No registration necessary.

**Wednesday, October 22, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Remembering Mountain Park**

Talk and slide show by author Jay Ducharme '78, Electronic Media faculty (See page 19).


**Wednesday, October 29, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Going Solar?**

Presentation on solar electric and thermal for homes in New England (see page 19).

**Thursday, November 13.**  
**(Two sessions: 5:00 p.m or 7:00 p.m.)**  
**Legal Document Workshop** with Attorney Bill St. James

This fee-based workshop will allow participants to create their "simple will" and "Power of Attorney" documents (See page 19).

**November 20-22, 8:00 p.m.**  
**and November 23, 2:30 p.m.**  
**Fuddy Meers** a theater production by David Lindsay Abair, directed by Tim Cochran and performed by the HCC Players.

 The Friday, November 21 performance will be ASL interpreted w/ advance reservation (See page 19).