“Be strong. Be powerful. But be very wise.”

Lech Walesa advised autoworkers to “Be strong. Be powerful. But be very wise”. Walesa, former Polish president and labor leader, spoke before a packed MCC audience April 5, as guest speaker for the Ballenger Eminent Persons Lecture Series. Walesa spoke through an interpreter to the appreciative audience, many of whom waved Polish flags and other symbols of Polish nationality, about his involvement in the Solidarity movement that

(Continued on page 6)

The AlumNet

A growing network of alumni from Flint Junior College, Genesee Community College and CS Mott Community College.

Local celebrities to lip sync favorite Motown and More to benefit MCC students

The majority of the MCC Board of Trustees including President M. Richard Shaink, Albert J. Koegel and John Snell will be among the Flint area celebrities who will perform “Motown and More” on Sunday, Sept. 17, on behalf of Mott Community College. The unique fundraiser is expected to include up to 25 “stars” impersonating singers from every musical genre. Live performances will include Sally Shaheen Joseph.

“An Evening with the Stars: Motown and More” will be held at 6 pm in the MCC Auditorium. Tickets are $25 and must be purchased by calling 810.762.0425 by Wednesday, Sept. 13. A reception featuring the “stars” will be held prior to the show. All proceeds will go towards the Foundation for Mott Community College for student scholarships.

“We spend so much of our time interacting in official MCC Alumni have participated in communitywide discussions to assist the College in reaching operational excellence, especially in light of the Flint area’s transitioning economy. The ongoing communitywide discussions are part of the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) of the Higher Learning Commission - North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The AlumNet

Academy/Emmy winning producer meets with graphic arts students

Kathleen Glynn, above middle, met with eight students in Art 243-Communication Design Across Cultures following her Women in Education presentation April 12. The advanced graphic design class for “near” graduates addresses social issues using the tools of visual communication. The students have used Glynn’s films, including “Roger and Me,” as a catalyst for discussion on perceptions and propaganda (for/against). Currently the students are studying the challenges and faux pas of transporting American/Western values to a non-western culture through the media of visual communications. See story on page 5.

Alumni add to discussion in MCC planning sessions

MCC Alumni Day” was held in November ‘05 when more than 400 college employees met in the Ballenger Field House to discuss a five-year plan. Four discussions were held to build collective agreement on what are the highest priorities for action now to make a difference in Mott’s future: What do we agree matters most? What do we agree are our strengths—the aspects about MCC that shine vibrantly and make us who we are? Among all the

(Continued on Page 6)
Nominations sought for Board of Directors

Members of the Alumni Association will nominate and elect the officers for the Alumni Association Board of Directors during their annual meeting on Wednesday, May 17, in the Alumni Room of the Prahl Center.

According to the Association bylaws, ratified Nov. 11, 2003, officers may serve two consecutive terms. Officers completing their second terms include President Paul Gadola, Vice President Ramona Roberts and Treasurer John Chinonis. (Their terms began upon ratification of bylaws).

Betty Lou Campbell represents the Honors Constituent Society; Kelly Banks represents Nursing; Jerry Todd, Culinary Arts Program.

The bylaws indicate a minimum of seven can serve on the board. The cap can be determined by the board.

Subcommittees also can be created by board members to accomplish its mission. Advisory committees with non-board members could provide some help for the current board.

The last election of officers occurred in May 04.

Culinary Arts now represented on board

Jerry Todd, grad of MCC and current returning student of the Culinary Arts Program, is the newest addition to the Alumni Association Board of Directors. He joins the Association following the AQIP discussion day in November (see story on page 1). He was moved to join after learning of the need for greater involvement from MCC departments and programs.

Todd said he is glad to be involved with Alumni Association and in the Culinary Arts Program. He added that he believes MCC’s Culinary Arts program is now competitive with Oakland Community College, noting the great instructors at MCC.

During a recent Alumni Association meeting, member Dean Haley noted that the community is not fully aware of MCC’s success with Culinary Arts. Todd agreed but added he thinks that is changing.

Todd also said that the College of Culinary Arts at Johnson & Wales University now recognizes MCC’s credits and, therefore, students take the program more seriously in the marketplace. Johnson and Wales University is a prestigious culinary college in the east. MCC’s credits also transfer to Northwood Institute.

“Clearly, any class time spent at MCC is now foundational in culinary arts studies,” he said. “If a student desires to continue in a culinary arts program, they can take what is required and eventually come out with a degree. MCC is taking a career in culinary arts out of the ‘dream field.’ ”

Alumni Association seeks more support from MCC graduates, former students

The Board of Directors are reviewing the best approach to keep alumni active with MCC and planning for the future for its respective campuses. Several alumni have volunteered to make phone calls to some 65,000 graduates.

James Messmore, one such volunteer, noted that most of the former students he spoke with were not aware of changes at MCC and, unfortunately, did not feel a big allegiance to MCC. He added that many did not know there was an Alumni Association.

Sally Shaheen Joseph said she doesn’t believe telephoning is the way to go. D Haley agreed.

Betty Lou Campbell suggested an outreach at the Genesee County Fair. She said she helped staff such an outreach several years ago and was pleasantly surprised by the large number of people who stopped by the MCC table excited about their education and experience at MCC.

Lennetta Coney, President of FMCC, indicated that her office has attempted to contact all former students representing the past 80-plus years. She is open to the most effective way of reaching MCC alumni.
Coffee Beanery founder/president delivers commencement address

MCC Alum JoAnne Shaw, founder/president of The Coffee Beanery, delivered the May 6 commencement address to approximately 400 graduates gathered for commencement at the Perani Sports Arena in Flint. Shaw is considered a key player in both the coffee and franchising worlds.

In 1985, The Coffee Beanery had eight retail stores and began offering franchise opportunities. Since then, the company has expanded to nearly 200 locations in 24 states and Guam. The company became international in 2001 with the opening of a master franchise in Seoul, Korea. In 2002, Coffee Beanery opened in Chengdu, Shanghai, and Beijing, China, and in UAE, Bahrain and Dubai. Shaw was a featured speaker at the World Coffee Symposium in Vienna in 1994 and 1997, a panelist at the same annual conference in Venice in 1995 and featured speaker at the first Franchise Exposition in China in 2000. She has received a number of honors and awards for her work on behalf of The Coffee Beanery and as a trailblazing female entrepreneur:

- First woman to chair the International Franchise Association Board of Directors
- First recipient of the Bonny Levine Award, given by the International Franchise Association to an individual who has served as a mentor to women
- Entrepreneur of the Year in Michigan, 1991
- Finalist, Inc. magazine’s Entrepreneur of the Year, 1989 and 1990
- Lifetime Member, Entrepreneurial Institute
- Honorary doctoral degree in management, Kettering University, Flint, Mich.

“We are so pleased that Mrs. Shaw has agreed to deliver the commencement address to the 2006 graduating class,” said Lennetta Coney, President of the Foundation for MCC. “Her success will provide certain inspiration to our students entering a new phase of their careers and lives.”

Michigan area tours being planned for alumni and friends

Looking for a little getaway with friends? Leave the driving to MCC.

Five affordable day trips currently are being considered by the Alumni Association, each within a day’s drive and at an affordable cost: the Dearborn/Ford River Rouge Plant Tour, Greenfield Village, Henry Ford Museum; Canada/ Niagara Falls and Fort George with the wine district and Oneida Factory; Tour of the Michigan Lighthouses; Traverse City/Cherry Festival and Wine Country; and East Lansing Wharton Center and dinner at the Kellogg Center. A golf trip also is being considered. Costs and selection will be decided at the May 12 Alumni Association meeting.

Board Member James Messmore indicated that such day trips are very popular in the community, noting that he recently participated in a getaway to the Fox Theatre in Detroit for the Rockettes. Messmore said he hopes more affordable trips will be planned for MCC alumni with a focus on cultural places rather than more costly cruises and long trips.

Ramona Roberts suggested invitations be extended to friends and associates beyond MCC.

In Thanks of Support

Karla Ragland, friend of the late Kokona Vaughn, recently expressed appreciation for the MCC Alumni Association for contributions toward the funeral of Ms. Vaughn and her daughter, both whom died in a Sept. 9 fire. “Because of the donation and others like it, we were able to give her a proper funeral and send them home in style,” she said.

Bios Highlight Accomplishments

Biographical information on MCC’s Outstanding Alumni is now found underneath their photos in the Alumni Room in the Prahl Center.

Advertising Our Success

The Board of Directors currently is looking for graduates to appear in a series of ads promoting successful careers due to MCC education. Graduates who are currently functioning in trades, such as nursing, auto repair or robotics are especially invited to call 810.762.0425. The ads should give credibility to those classes/programs that are certain to provide an immediate paycheck and target the average person on the street.

If necessary, Deans will be polled for successful graduates. Current MCC students also may be featured based upon their community service.

Bruin Bear Fully Funded

Fundraising for MCC’s Bruin Bear is complete thanks to a final gift from Thomas Yeotis and the Ruth Mott Foundation.

The bronze life-size Bear is expected to stand in the court of Ballenger Field House in the Spring of 2007. The bear is being sculpted by students in Visual Arts and Design.
Carrie Drops ('04 Elem Educ) lives in Columbiaville and works at Lakeville Community Schools.

Annette Niedzielski ('98 Gen / Elem Ed) lives in Davison. She fondly remembers Algebra and Elementary math instructor Lynn Sutton as “so patient” - she explained everything in such a way that it was easy to comprehend. “She is by far the best instructor I’ve had, especially for one challenged in math.”

Gary Newberry ('95 Elec Tech) is an MCC sports fan. His favorite instructor was Geoffrey Geisz.

Patricia Gearhart ('02 Paralegal Tech) is employed at Linda A. Polaly, P.C.

Jennifer Muma ('02 Nursing) is employed at McLaren Regional Medical Center.

Patrick Ryals ('67 Music Theory) remembers Mr. Fast, his music theory teacher. “He was a great man - nervous, but lots of fun. I miss the old Dort Music Building. It was Flint Community Jr. College when I attended.”

Kara Goetz ('96 Nursing) is Operations Manager of Genesys Health Personnel - Private Duty Home Care.

Jamie Cavenaugh was former Student Government President, LERN Club President and involved in other student groups. Jamie is now a Social Worker at Crestmont Healthcare Center in Fenton.

Rebecca Bales ('02 Nursing) is employed at Genesys Regional Medical Center.

Dieshawn Webb works at Delphi Automotive Systems.

Tammy Hamilton ('02 Early Childhood Education) is employed at C-M Ambulance Service.

Robert Morrow continues to be an MCC sports fan. His favorite instructor and mentor is auto tech instructor John Sharpe.

Sherrie Hutchinson ('02 Child Development) is employed at Head Start of Genesee County.

Mandi Bright ('02 Dental Hygiene) is an MCC sports fan. “The dental hygiene program provided me with an education in a great field, making great money. All of my instructors are partially responsible for that.”

Alexandra Nassar ('96 Paralegal) works at the American Arab Heritage Council.

Kimberly Tannehill ('02 Food Service Management / Culinary Arts) is employed at Meijer.

Kellie Brandon ('03 Respiratory Therapy) works at McLaren Regional Medical Center.

Phyllis Bower ('70 - '96) took Accounting 1 & 2 in the '70s and started taking classes again in '96. “I am still taking them, possibly working toward a two-year degree. I am having fun and trying to keep my brain alive. Rachel Langille was my favorite instructor.”

Judith Kingen ('02 Elementary Education and Art) said she really enjoyed printmaking class with Mary Birkmeier and 2-D Art with Kathy Smith. “Izzy Franklin made ASL-1 fun to learn. Sign language is great!”

Lorraine Boynton ('00 Criminal Justice) remains an MCC sports fan. Her favorite instructor was Dr. Avon L. Burns.

Raymond Joubran ('96 Studio Art) is a freelance artist and owner of RJ Graphics, Inc.

Suzanne Thayer ('01 Nursing) has fond memories of good teachers.

Jennifer Combs ('02 Business) is employed at Ford Motor Co.

Crystal Whitcomb ('02 Business) works at Genesys Regional Medical Center.

Richard Woodruff ('02 Associate of Science) received a full academic scholarship to The University of Michigan-Flint as a transfer student from MCC.

Steven Carter ('95 Corrections) is an MCC sports fan. He fondly remembers winning a scholarship of $1,800 from ASIS and having a ceremony from the Criminal Justice Club.

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Oscar winning producer shares insights

The path to filmmaking success

By Sue Frownfelter

A lot has changed since Kathleen Glynn and her husband, Michael Moore, produced Roger and Me in 1989. Glynn, who spoke to more than 90 people during a Women in Education luncheon April 12, has since won two Oscars (for Bowling for Columbine and Fahrenheit 9/11), an Emmy (for TV Nation) and coauthored a national best-seller Adventures in a TV Nation.

One might think she would arrive at MCC’s Applewood Cafe with an entourage and security. Instead, Glynn drove up in a Suburban, parked in the adjoining lot, and carried her life’s “balance” in her arms. The balance, as she described her crazy-quilt art work, provided a colorful backdrop to life beyond her hometown of Flint. Her pieces have been featured in calendars and galleries, including a quilted art bra, in honor of a friend who died of breast cancer.

Moore has said publicly that he never made more than $15,000 a year until he released 1989’s Roger & Me. Suddenly, at age 35, they had more than $2-million in the bank. Glynn said they purchased her daughter’s lunch box for school the following day, Glynn said. “I couldn’t get it out of my mind.”

And it was Glynn who flew back to Flint to film the funeral of Kayla Roland, the first grader accidentally shot to death by her classmate. “I have never done anything more painful than to stand outside Brown Funeral Home and film the people attending that funeral,” she said. “However, we were in the midst of filming Bowling for Columbine and it completely underscored the whole point of the film. It was tragic.”

Glynn had other difficult moments as well. She vividly described following Moore to San Francisco in the summer of ’86, elated over her new position as editor of “a national magazine” (she did not name Mother Jones). Returning home after purchasing her daughter’s lunch box for school the following day, Glynn discovered her husband had been fired. She said she was completely at a loss as to how to respond or prepare for her family’s future.

A few weeks later, Moore heard about a round of layoffs at General Motors. He called Kathleen and told her he wanted to make a movie about them. Moore later told his wife he wanted her to be the producer.

“We didn’t know anything about making movies,” she said. “All I wanted to be was a good wife and mother. Now, here he was telling me I was going to be a producer. I remember going in the house and crying. My parents thought something horrible had happened.”

With a lot of hard work balancing schedules, budgets, film crews, and writing, Glynn became a world renowned producer, using the same skills she said she uses to put together a Thanksgiving dinner.

“If you have ever had to get the kids to school on time in the morning, you have the multitasking skills needed to make a movie,” she said. “That’s producing.”

“Part of education and life is just ‘doing it,’ she said later. “Make things happen. Don’t just take an art class — make Art. Don’t just take a film appreciation class — make a Movie. Don’t just take a Shakespeare class — write a Sonnet. Participate in the community at Mott, and give back to it.”

“(Education) is necessary,” she said. “Although we have followed an alternative path for our educations ... we are avid readers, involved in culture, curious and open to learning. I prefer the idea that education comes from within — as opposed to an imposition of education.”

Glynn currently is working on Sicko, a look at America’s malfunctioning health-care system, due this year.

She concluded by asking attendees to use their cellphone address books on Election Day to get people to the polls. “Drive them to the polls if necessary. Do it for Rosa Parks,” she said.
Be strong. Be powerful. But be very wise.

The Endowment Growth Initiative (EGI) is a comprehensive partnership campaign to generate endowments and provide a fiscally-responsible private-sector resource development on behalf of MCC.

Such partnerships are not new to MCC. Throughout the years, individuals like CS Mott and William Ballenger stepped forward time and time again to support the low cost, exceptional educational opportunities for Genesee County students.

The EGI, with a goal of $3-million over the next three years will provide the necessary financial means to sustain the future of MCC. Since MCC can no longer rely upon millions of dollars in state aid to keep it viable, the campaign is the most fiscally responsible path MCC can take at this time. Tuition and tax revenue simply do not offset the expenses necessary to provide an advanced education to 10,200 students. Endowments will provide the necessary long-term support for MCC, regardless of the economic conditions in the months and years to come.

Q. What is the initiative’s primary area focus?
A. The campaign provides support for student financial assistance, professional development for faculty and staff, and quality academic programming.

Q. How will my contribution be used?
A. Unrestricted contributions to the Major Gifts Campaign support the MCC’s mission to provide high quality, accessible and affordable educational opportunities and services that promote individual development and improve the overall quality of life in our community. A contribution may be targeted as a gift for a specific purpose, such as scholarships, or funding for a special project or program.

Q. Is a contribution to the campaign tax deductible?
A. Yes. The Foundation for MCC maintains a 501C-3 status. A gift to the campaign is considered a charitable income tax deduction under current U.S. tax laws.

The charitable arm of the 80-year-old academic institution supports more than 80 scholarships and nearly 30 endowment funds.

If you have any questions, please call or write:
Lennetta Coney, President,
The Foundation for MCC
1401 E. Court Street
Flint, MI 48503-2089
810.762.0425
email: lconey@mcc.edu
Alumni invited to ‘conversation’ on MCC improvement plans

(Continued from page 1)

possibilities, what matters most to do now to make the greatest difference to Mott, its employees, its students, and its communities? Conversation Four: What are the Immediate Action Items that we should “just do”?

As a result of the four conversations, Mott Community College employees identified 76 recommendations for making a significant difference in the near future and 88 potential immediate action issues to address to improve college operations.

The facilitators for Mott’s Conversation Day, Jim Honan of Harvard University and Lynn Priddy of The Higher Learning Commission of NCA, said they felt privileged to be part of the college’s creation of its future. Both noted the spirit, engagement, pride, and commitment of all staff in the work of the institution and in students and their learning. The facilitators noted several observations about Mott and its people throughout the day:
- A prevailing sense that Mott is poised for the future, on the verge of taking next steps into the future and clearly ready to take those steps.
- Longevity of administrators, faculty, and staff at Mott Community College coupled with the deep knowledge the employees have of the work of the institution, the community, and each other.
- Strength of the college’s labor groups (faculty and staff) and their willingness to work collaboratively in the common interests of Mott, its students, and the community.
- Strong alignment of priorities with performance; eight of the top 10 most important items are also identified in the best performed and greatest strengths lists.
- Consistency in areas for focus right now: advising, planning, relationship with administration, involvement, vision for Mott in the future, decision-making processes).
- High professional satisfaction with work at Mott (84% satisfied or very satisfied).
- Readiness of the college to pursue AQIP higher than most colleges; 65% enthusiastic or highly enthusiastic.
- Solid, exemplary work of the college and follow-through on priorities and commitments.

The facilitators noted several times how hard the institution has been on itself when in comparison to many institutions, Mott is a standard others might seek.

- Pride in the college facilities and technology and appreciation for work of facilities and technology that makes that pride possible.
- Recognition of the work accomplished in assessment of student learning and use of information in decision-making.
- Recognition of the tremendous support provided by staff to students, faculty, and administration.
- Pride in the work of those who directly serve students, in the professionalism and expertise of faculty—both in their disciplines and in their ability to teach so students learn.
- Appreciation for the openness and leadership of administrators in moving the college toward AQIP and toward common priorities, collectively agreed on by all staff.

The results/plan will be presented at up to 15 sites for community comment.

Distinguished Alumni/Outstanding Retiree nominations should be based on the following criteria:
- Role Model
  Inspire excellence in others.
- Outstanding Success
  Significant career achievements.
- Impact
  Accomplishments that have long-lasting affect on business/community.
- Community Service
  Demonstrate a visible commitment to community.

Call 810.762.0425 for your form to nominate someone today!
Calendar of Events

MCC
Commencement / Alum Reception
May 6 - 4 pm
Perani’s Sports Arena

Jerome O’Rourke
Mock Trial
Noon May 11
Alumni Room

Sphere Unveiling
EGL Initiative
5:30 pm May 25
Regional Technology Center

Art Exhibit/Reception
featuring Artist
Pauline Angle
May/June
Details TBA

FMCC
Heritage Society Dinner
June
Details TBA

Book Signing/Concert
featuring Author Philip J. Braun
MCC Alum
Fall
Details TBA

Annual MCC Lapeer Golf Outing
September 8
Devil’s Ridge Golf Course

Alumni Association
Celebrity Talent Show
September 16 - 6 pm
MMB Auditorium

Art Exhibit/Reception
featuring Artist
Indy Bacon
Fall
Details TBA

MCC
Dental Hygiene Reunion Benefiting the Dr. Hiscock Scholarship Fund
Fall
Details TBA

50th Anniversary – MCC Nursing Program
Fall
Details TBA

5th Annual MCC Distinguished Alumni & Outstanding Retiree Awards Dinner
October 17
MCC Ballroom

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Vera Jenkins, Administrative Assistant
Lynn Smith, Special Projects Consultant
Ernelle Taylor, Special Projects Coordinator
Mary Yarbrough, Development Associate

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An Affirmative Action Organization