

Happy Holidays from the Alumni Association!!



The AlumNet

Fall/Winter '08

An informational network of alumni from Flint JC, FCC, GCC and CS MCC.

Alums and retiree recognized for outstanding accomplishments

Five selected to receive prestigious MCC honors



Grayce Scholt

Five renowned community leaders, including the Executive Director of the Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame in Lansing, received Mott Community College's most prestigious recognition as Distinguished Alumni and Outstanding Retiree on Oct. 29th.

Recipients of this year's honor are: Michigan Women's Studies Association President Dr. Gladys Beckwith, Koegel Meats Inc. CEO Albert J. Koegel, Financial Planner Michael

Rachor, retired Genesee County Judge Robert Ransom, and former MCC English Instructor Grayce Scholt. The MCC Jazz Ensemble performed during the dinner program.

According to Lennetta Coney, President of the Foundation for Mott Community College, all five individuals were selected by an outside screening committee based upon their outstanding achievements as role models and their inspiration of excellence in others.

"There is no question that each and

every one of this year's honorees have achieved outstanding success, significant career or personal achievements, and have changed the community for the better," Coney said. "All are visibly committed to the community."

As a Distinguished Alumni, the four selected for the recognition will have their photos hung in the Alumni Room of the Prah Center where
(Continued on Page 6)



Gladys Beckwith



Albert J. Koegel



Michael Rachor



Robert Ransom



MCC President Richard Shaink and the Honorable Thomas Yeotis unveil the new bronzed Bruin Bear, at left, now standing in front of the Ballenger Field House on the main campus. Above, the students who designed the bear pose with their instructor Cate Smith. From left to right, Paul Hauth, Brian Milligan, Sally Miller, Jane Trotter, Ken Donovan, Leo Markel, Rick Kegerer, Claude Miller, Nancy Dash, Gail Bird, Cate Smith.



MOTT COLLEGE

The MCC Alumni Association operates in conjunction with the Foundation for Mott Community College. Its mission is to strengthen friendships and associations formed at Flint JC, FCC, GCC and CS MCC; to promote the purpose and programs of the college; to maintain an informed and interested body of alumni that

continues to support the institution; and to promote an interest in post-secondary education with special emphasis on the MCC experience. To join, please call 810.762.0425 or e-mail us at: foundation@mcc.edu.

Memorial gift sustains nursing retention program

Thanks to a generous donation from the widow of the late James Messmore, a normally grant-funded program was able to continue despite having its financial support cut. Mrs. Beatrice Messmore provided the necessary funds to sustain the Summer Nursing Retention Program in memory of her late husband.

Lennetta Coney, President of the Foundation for MCC, said that Mr. Messmore, a member of the Alumni Association board, always was keenly aware and supportive of MCC's nursing program while he was alive.

"Bea Messmore's financial gift is a beautiful tribute in her late husband's honor,"

Coney said. "James Messmore was an outstanding advocate

for the program. We are grateful that she embraced his commitment and continues to honor it and him."

The State of Michigan discontinued the grant that usually pays for the Summer Nursing Retention Program. Without the generous gift, the program would have been cancelled.

The program is now named the James M. Messmore Summer Nursing Retention Program in his honor. The program is designed to increase confidence and retention among returning nursing students.

Mr. Messmore died Feb. 22 at the age of 80.



Alumni Board builds awareness among students

Alumni Association Board Members Dean Haley and Grace Glass, at right, hosted an awareness table at the fall Student Rally on the Flint campus. Both were available to respond to questions about meetings, activities and purpose of the organization. Hundreds of students participated in the annual rally.



Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Ramona Roberts

Vice President

John Chinonis

Treasurer

Celia Turner

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Betty Lou Campbell

Paul Gadola

Grace Glass

Sandy Glish

Dean Haley

Sally Shaheen Joseph

Suzanne Lossing

Sixto Olivo

Peggy Tozer

Gennois Wiggins

Thomas C. Yeotis

Jim Messmore,

posthumous

Frank DeLorenzo,

posthumous

Fay Joseph, posthumous

William Wolksi, PhD,

posthumous

Encore! Charitable rollover legislation extended

The IRA Charitable Rollover has been renewed and extended to December 31, 2009. The provision offers a wonderful way to support scholarships, research or other MCC

programs that are important to alumni who are 70 and a half year old or older.

Charitable IRA distributions are limited to a total of

\$100,000 per year and taxable income is not affected.

To find out more, please email Lennetta.Coney@MCC.edu or call 810.762.0425.

MCC offers basic affordable dental services to general public

A number of dental hygiene services are available to the general public at MCC's Dental Hygiene Clinic. These include cleanings, fluoride treatment, x-rays, and other services. Dental Hygiene students, under the close supervision of licensed dental hygiene faculty and dentists, perform the

above services in the dental clinic, Room 2042 of the Mott Memorial Building on the MCC main campus. There is a broad range of services available to adults and children, at a minimal cost.

The clinical services are available for people who do not have insurance or the ability to

pay the cost of private dental care.

Please call (810) 762-0493 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

"Things that were hard to bear are sweet to remember."
~Seneca

The Alumni Association shall not forget the outstanding leadership and vision of those that have gone on before us. May our dear friends be forever remembered in our hearts.

MCC tells donors thanks for support of students



Lennetta Coney, President of the Foundation for Mott Community College, above, greets donors at the annual Donor Recipient Reception. The reception provides donors the opportunity to meet with students as well as receive an update regarding campus developments and needs. Above, Wanda and Harry Piper talk with Foundation President Lennetta Coney. Foundation Chair Richard Shick is in the background. At right, the Rachor Family Foundation Board Members discuss plans.



Ballenger Lecture Series hosts Mothers of Invention

It was standing room only as the community and students converged at the Regional Technology Center for Mothers of Invention: Women in Science, the latest program sponsored by the Ballenger Lecture Series. Speakers included Dorceta Taylor, PhD, Associate Professor of Environmental Sociology and Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan; Tammy Chang, MD, Founder/Director of Health in Action in Ann Arbor; Jennifer Fillion, MA, Professor of Anthropology and Forensics at MCC; Terri Lynch-Caris, PhD, Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering, Kettering University; and Amy Cheng Vollmer, PhD, Professor of Biology, Swarthmore College.



AlumNotes *Memories, shout outs and where are they now?*

Dennis Brookshire ('90 Associate in Science) transferred to the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering. He is now working as an Energy Manager for Honeywell Int. "If it weren't for MCC, none of this success would have been possible."

Gregory Gibson ('70 - '96 Fine Arts) said "The very open minded instructors in the Fine Arts program were life changing!"

Michael Fox ('78 GM Apprentice) remembers that his physics teacher was a philosopher and "a great guy." He was informative, funny, easy-going and a good teacher.

Rebecca McLogan ('76 Community Education and Art) said she thinks the MCC Art Program is great! She remains an MCC sports fan.

Joyce Vansickle, MLPN ('92 Nursing) was 43-years old when she started the nursing program. "I was so afraid that I couldn't do it. But, thanks to my nursing clinical instructor, Mrs. Balinger, I graduated with high honors at 45 yrs old!" She also worked part-time while going to school.

Sherry Brackins ('02 Criminal Justice) was employed with Federal Express after her graduation.

Patricia Karrick ('74-'91 General Education) said it was a struggle to further her education due to various interruptions including work, military and being a single mother. "MCC gave me the opportunity to keep coming back. And I plan to return again soon and never quit."

Gregory Schliter ('91 Business) remains an MCC sports fan. "The greatest thing about MCC was the ability to work and attend classes. You were able to set the pace based upon your schedule. MCC made it possible to get a higher education while maintaining a full-time job."

Sandra Thurau ('75 Medical Nursing Assistant) enjoyed all her classes and instructors, especially Psychology and P&A. "I really wanted to be a nurse, but MCC had a waiting list, so I took a lot of pre-classes, and became a certified medical assistant."

Sharon Duso ('72 Nursing) said Dr. Schleg was the "best of the best."

Marjorie Gorelon ('77 LPN) said she is "so grateful to MCC. It enabled me to have a very fruitful life after the age of 57, including nursing for 13 months in Jerusalem, Israel. God Bless you!"

Heidi Dowd (Nursing) said Lilly McCain was one of her "favorite" instructors. "She was very interesting and really knew how to present material. Mr. Rozycki was also a great instructor."

Alan Houtaling ('68 Education/ Anthropology) remembers being in class with Don Brewer, drummer of Grand Funk Railroad and William Johnson of Political Science went on to be head of Urban League. Wise B. Joseph was his favorite instructor. He remains an MCC sports fan.

Reginald Simmons ('81 Psychology - Pre Med) is self employed.

Janette Blake ('80 Nursing) said, "I enjoyed the year I had as a ward conference nurse in my clinicals of nursing. My teacher had a sense of humor. We did a fruit roll-up - she nearly climbed the blackboard. I think her name was Ruby Thomas."

Marquita Coleman ('65 French) said she remembers playing cards in the Union Hall when President Kennedy was shot. "I was a cheerleader, but we couldn't travel to away games."

Gina Laajala ('06 Associate of Arts) said her favorite instructor was Chet Wilson of Geology.

Kerie Kachel ('84 Nursing) said her best memories of MCC were Mrs. Pauline Barr and Mrs. Janice Haupt.

Susanne Boyd ('02 Child Development) is employed at Head Start.

John O'Brien ('03 General Studies) said, "I took classes to improve my abilities and to enjoy my special interests. I still enjoy scuba diving, piano,

computer, spanish and the rest of the subjects I took at MCC. Thank you so much. It was great."

Trina Stewart ('87 General Studies) said Eva Fizette was very helpful in helping her to graduate. "She always told me that I could be the best and I held on to that dream." She also remembers the Game Room as "most exciting."

William Chatterson ('82 Fine Arts) said, "Bob Caskey has had a lifelong influence on my career and helped shape my personal values. He gave everything to his students - he will be missed."

Kathi Scruggs ('90 ADN) said "The entire nursing program and staff were great for my educational learning."

Marilyn Kennedy ('70 - '90 Business) said her voice/music teacher was her favorite instructor. "He said I sing like Ella Fitzgerald - Mr. Bumbgard - he's deceased."

David Wilson ('80 Associate of Science) remains an MCC sports fan. He reports that Cy Leder of Eng 102 and Dr Wilson of Geology were his favorite instructors.

Kathy Flowers ('90 Deaf Studies) said Fairy Hayes-Scott was the best teacher she had. I loved MCC! I wish it was a 4-yr college. Campus was nice, teachers were great, people were friendly & I refer many people to MCC.

Have something to say? We want to hear from you!

We love to hear from our graduates. Please email us at foundation@mcc.edu or fill out this form and send it to: AlumNotes, The Foundation for Mott Community College, 1401 E. Court Street, Flint, MI 48503. We will share your information with other alumni in an upcoming AlumNet.

Name: _____ Year of Graduation: _____
 Degree: _____
 Current Job: _____
 Address _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 E-mail Address: _____
 Comments: _____

Officials hope bronzed mascot to become rallying point for students

Cheers and laughter permeated the area outside Ballenger Field House this fall as the long-awaited Bruin Bear made his first public appearance to a crowd of loyal MCC sports fans, donors, college faculty and staff, and the artists who created the \$35,000 bronzed mascot.

Lennetta Coney, President of the Foundation for Mott Community College, told the crowd that the Bear embodies the MCC spirit and hopes it will become a rallying point for students and, as a work of art, draw visitors to the campus.

The Bruin Bear motif was chosen based upon MCC's superior athletic program that has been a constant at MCC for more than 60 years.

The total budget for producing the



Bruin Bear statue was provided by generous donations from the Ruth Mott Foundation, the Bruin Club, and the Honorable Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Yeotis.

"We are so pleased with the outstanding work of our students who designed and then created this wonderful work of art," Coney said. "We expect the Bear will be a rallying point for students as well as a work of art that the community will enjoy while visiting campus."

MCC's Fine Arts Department is recognized as one of the best in the state and is renowned for its outstanding faculty and students.

Tolteca Elder conducts sacred ceremony on campus

A Native American religious leader from Mexico conducted the 16th Annual Peace & Dignity Ceremony celebrating Cultural Harmony and Hispanic Heritage Month in October. The ceremony is designed to promote cultural and racial harmony.



Francisco Jimenez Sanches serves as an advisor to the Council of Anahuak. He is a Mexica/Tolteca elder who teaches and serves as heir and guardian of oral traditions. Directly descended from Native American rituals, the program features the People of the Four Colors ceremony, honoring people of all colors (red, yellow, black and white) and rededication of the Peace and Dignity Tree. The celebration also includes the beating of drums and ceremonial dancing.

The ceremony is an effort to promote cross-cultural understanding. MCC's ceremony involves participation of four people,

each representing a color. Each individual makes a statement and commitment for his or her race and then drapes a ribbon of the appropriate color around the tree.

Distinguished Alumni , Outstanding Retiree provide inspiration to community

(Continued from Page 1)

all of MCC's honorees are featured. Faces and bios of Academy Award winners, international CEOs and community activists create an air of success and legacy for the popular meeting room, located in the hub of the Flint campus.

Distinguished Alumni Gladys Beckwith

Dr. Beckwith is a visionary who has dedicated her adult life to making sure women are more than a footnote in the history of Michigan. At an age when most people are slowing down, the 77-year-old retired Michigan State University professor works long hours as president of the Michigan Women's Studies Association and as Executive Director of the Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame in Lansing. She receives no pay in either job.

In her early teaching days, she grew increasingly frustrated by the glaring lack of course materials for and about women. In 1973, she and a small cadre of colleagues formed the Michigan Women's Studies Association, the first of its kind in the nation, to bring more visibility to the role of women in history and to push for the development of women's studies programs at all of the state's colleges and universities. At 77, Dr. Beckwith still has an active role in preserving women's history in Michigan. She still serves as the President of the Michigan Women's Studies Association and Director of the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame.

In 2005, the Detroit News named her one of 12 "Michiganians of the Year."

Albert J. Koegel

Albert J. Koegel has successfully guided Koegel Meats to become a respectable, state-renowned enterprise with 35 different meat products sold throughout the region. His father began Koegel Meats in 1916. By the mid 1930s, Mr. Koegel had built up enough business to construct a plant to produce his meat products.

According to his nomination, when his father retired, Albert J. Koegel became the CEO of Koegel Meats. In 1972, he built a new manufacturing plant just off Bristol Road, near Bishop Airport in Flint. The business continues to grow as new stores and territories are added. The company employs more than 120 people. He is an enthusiastic snow skier,

an avid fly fisherman and former duck hunter. He also has donated 198 pints of blood.

Michael Rachor

Michael G. Rachor has been a well-known businessman in the Flint area for the past 43 years. He obtained an Associates Degree from Flint Junior College in 1959, a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1961 and a Masters of Business Administration in 1962 from Michigan State University.

In 1962, Michael began his accounting career with Arthur Andersen in San Francisco, California, while attending Golden Gate College. He went on to partner in other accounting firms in the Flint area, before establishing Rachor, Purman & Tucker, CPA's in 1978. Michael later founded Rachor Investment Advisory Services, LLC, in 1984, where he currently serves clients as an independent investment management consultant.

In 1996 he founded the Rachor Family Foundation, Ltd., to assist students seeking higher education. Michael understands what it means to struggle financially through college from firsthand experience. He takes special pride in watching scholarship recipients receive their degrees, as he knows success will soon follow. As Michael has said, "You can lose everything, but you can never lose the value of your education."

Robert Ransom

Judge Robert M. Ransom has devoted his professional career to law. He commenced the practice of law in 1962 with his father, Marvin W. Ransom. He joined the first full-time faculty of Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 1973, serving as law professor until his appointment to the Genesee County Circuit Court by Governor William G. Milliken in 1977. He was re-elected five times to the Circuit Court retiring after 28 years. Judge Ransom served for 16 years as Genesee County Chief Circuit Judge and sat by assignment on the Michigan Court of Appeals. He continues to take visiting judge assignments.

His most rewarding judicial achievements include establishment of a Drug Court in Genesee County and restoration/addition to the Genesee County Courthouse. The Drug Court has proven extremely successful in assisting defendants in overcoming addictions.

Judge Ransom developed the first Judicial Council in Michigan; a representative body of the counties' courts to encourage a coordinated judiciary. He also was instrumental in implementing the county's Family Court.

He is past President of the Michigan Judges Association and President-elect of the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals, currently serving as Vice President.

Outstanding Retiree Grace Scholt

Poet, artist, art reviewer, essayist and editor, Ms. Scholt was born in 1925 in Oak Harbor, Ohio. A recipient of the Mott Community College Golden Apple Outstanding Staff Member Award in 1985 and the Outstanding Teaching Award in 1989, she served on the MCC English faculty from 1955 until her retirement in 1990.

A graduate of Bowling Green State University, where she taught in the English Department, she did graduate work at the University of Wisconsin, the University of Michigan, Oakland University and the University of Vienna. In 2004 she exhibited her ceramics at MCC's Fine Arts Gallery, and in 2008, published a book of poems followed by a public reading at the college in September.

She has been an art reviewer for The Flint Journal since 1993. She has edited newsletters for St. Paul's Episcopal Church and the Christ Enrichment Center and is currently editing the memoir of Allan McNab, former director of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Applications for the 2009 Distinguished Alumni and Outstanding Retiree are available at the Foundation for Mott Community College, foundation@mcc.edu, www.mcc.edu/foundation, or stop by The Presidential Conference Center on the main campus, located across from Public Safety. For more information, please call 810.762.0425.

State Civil Rights Director to keynote citywide observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., birthday

Linda V. Parker, Director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, will continue the 30-year tradition of providing meaningful insight to some 300 Genesee County residents during the Martin Luther King, Jr., Communitywide Tribute Dinner on Thursday, Jan. 15, 2009, at 6 pm at the Sarvis Center.

The presentation will kick off the community's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., observances. According to Lennetta Coney, President of the Foundation for Mott Community College, the communitywide event has traditionally drawn the largest cross section of races, religion and socio-economic representatives from throughout the community. Parker will help broaden the scope by addressing issues that are impacting the entire state of Michigan.

"Linda Parker is considered the expert on Civil Rights in our state," Coney said. "She works daily with cases that bring to light how well - or not so well - we are tackling the issues for which Dr. King gave his life. We anticipate her presentation will have a lasting impact on us all."

Parker, appointed in 2003, is a native Detroit and a former partner for the Detroit-based law firm, Dickinson Wright, PLC. She served as the first Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan under the leadership of former U.S. Attorney Saul A. Green, from 1994-2000.

Parker graduated from the University of Michigan and earned a Juris Doctorate from the National Law Center at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. During the nearly 10 years that she lived in D.C. she committed her time to serving and advocating for the disenfranchised, focusing specifically on homeless families and teenage mothers.

Upon returning to Detroit, she continued her advocacy for social justice by serving as Chair of New Steps, an organization committed to providing services for economically disadvantaged new mothers in substance abuse recovery. Parker also served as a volunteer attorney with the Women's Justice Center, where she provided legal counseling for women who were being physically and/or emotionally abused.

Since taking office, Parker's top priorities have included efforts to combat housing discrimination, residential and school segregation, and vigorously promoting equal opportunity for all Michiganders.

She also has tackled the issue of affirmative action in Michigan - head on. While acknowledging new restrictions on affirmative action as a result of the passage of Proposal 2 in the November 2006 election, Parker remains an outspoken advocate for diversity at every level of both the public and private sector. Citing Michigan's rapidly changing demographics, she calls the promotion of diversity in our state both a moral and economic imperative.

Parker has been recognized and rewarded for her advocacy for social and racial justice since joining the Granholm Administration.

She is the recipient of the 2005 Damon J. Keith Community Spirit Award. This award, named for the Honorable Damon J. Keith of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, recognizes lawyers who demonstrate an exemplary commitment to community service and champion the rights of others in the battle for social equality. In addition, Parker was one of six recipients of the 2006 Women of Achievement Award awarded by the Michigan Anti-Defamation League. In April 2007, Parker was awarded "Professional Woman of the Year" by the Detroit Club National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.

Recently, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights was awarded a 2007 Victims of Crime Act grant from the Crime Victim Service Commission to enhance victim support through its cultural competency programs.

A Detroit resident, Parker remains active in both the community at large, through board and other volunteer service, and within the legal community in Michigan.

The dinner also will include the unveiling of the 2009 Black History month stamp by the Flint Post Office.

The dinner is co-sponsored by Baker College of Flint, Davenport University, Kettering University, Mott Community College, The University of Michigan-Flint and The Flint Journal.

Due to limited seating, reservations are required to attend the Citywide Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please make corporate sponsorship and individual reservations [\$240 for corporate table

of eight; \$30 for individual] by Thursday, Jan. 8, by calling 810.762.0425.

The MLK Tribute Committee includes Lennetta Coney, Nora Gillespie, Baker College; Mary Coleman, formerly of AXA Equitable; Crystal Flynn, The University of Michigan-Flint Educational Outreach Programs; Adrienne Wells, The Flint Journal; Dwight Tavada, Kettering University; Lindsey Younger, Resource Center; Gary Alter, Flint Jewish Federation; Cleora Magee, formerly of the Human Relations Commission-City of Flint; Lorie Hulker and Paul Hebert, Davenport University-Flint Campus; Tammy Deming, United States Postal Service; Sue Frownfelter, MCC; and Vera Jenkins, MCC.



Linda V. Parker

Calendar of Events

December

17 Men's Basketball
Game vs. Oakland
7:30 PM

January

5 Men's Basketball
Game vs. Schoolcraft
7:30 PM

10 Men's Basketball
Game vs. Delta 3 PM

15 **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute Dinner** featuring Civil Rights Director of Michigan Linda V. Parker, 6 pm, Sarvis Center, \$30. Please call 810.762.0425 for reservations.

17 Men's Basketball
Game vs. Macomb 3 PM

24 Men's Basketball
Game vs. St. Clair 3 PM

31 Men's Basketball
Game vs. Kirtland 3 PM

February

4 Black History Month
at Applewood Cafe, 11:30-1 pm, Ginger Spiced Chicken. Entertainment provided by Creative Expressions Dance Studio, Directors Bruce Bradley and Sheila Miller Graham

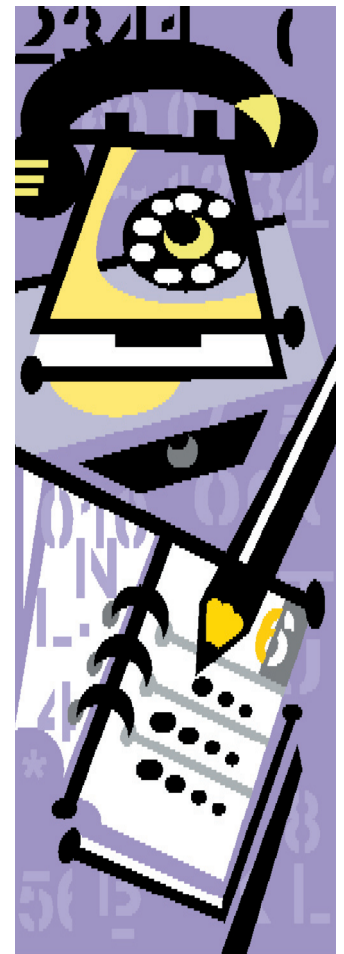
7 Men's Basketball
Game vs. Alpena
3 PM

11 Black History Month
at Applewood Cafe, 11:30-1 pm, S African Lamb Sositias. Entertainment provided by Velma Allen, Jazz & Blues.

14 Men's Basketball
Game vs. Henry Ford,
3:00 PM

18 Black History Month
at Applewood Cafe, 11:30-1 pm, Chutney Chicken (E Africa)

25 Black History Month
at Applewood Cafe, 11:30-1 pm, Sambusa (Somalia)



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MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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