

THE MCC AlumNet

An Informational Newsletter of Alumni From Flint JC, FJCC, GCC and CS MCC.

Beloved MCC Trustee Lenore Croudy honored at March 30 Tribute

A devoted group of “lifetime friends” joined the Mott Community College family on March 30 to pay tribute to the college’s biggest cheerleader and raised roughly \$25,000.

Hundreds gathered to attend “A Tribute to the Life and Legacy of Lenore Croudy,” held March 30, 2017 at the Genesys Conference and Banquet Center.

Lenore Croudy, the longest serving member and Chairperson of the MCC Board of Trustees in the College’s history, passed away on Jan. 19, 2017. She was 81. MCC faculty, staff and students, elected officials, business leaders, and community members were all on hand to celebrate the life and legacy of Mrs. Croudy, who affectionately referred to numerous members of her inner circle as lifetime friends.

“No one could top the immense pride and unbridled enthusiasm Lenore Croudy showed for this college,” said Foundation for Mott Community College President Lennetta Coney. “Throughout the years, during countless programs and events, you would hear her say that ‘Mott Community College is the best college in the city, the state, the nation, and beyond!’”

An avid supporter of MCC students, she was often spotted in her favorite place on the bleachers in the Ballenger Field House, cheering on the MCC men’s and women’s basketball teams at nearly every home game. Although she relished the important position as the college’s board of trustees chair, she also enjoyed playing a major role as the college’s chief advocate and staunchest supporter. She worked with six College presidents during her tenure as Chair, witnessing perhaps the highlight of her efforts culminate in MCC’s designation by the Aspen Institute as one of the 10 best community colleges in the nation in 2010.

“Lenore Croudy made us believe that MCC was the best college in the world; she made us believe in ourselves as well,” Coney continued. “She inspired Mott employees and students to achieve their highest level of their potential. The college made tremendous strides under her leadership, and the entire community has reaped the benefits.”



Lenore at the grand opening of the Regional Technology Center.

First elected to the MCC Board of Trustees in 1987, Mrs. Croudy was appointed Vice-Chair in 1989, maintaining this role until her selection as Board Chair in 1995 through 2015, when health issues factored in her inability to attend the Board meetings. She resigned from the Board at the end of 2016. Originally from Atlantic City, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia State College, a Masters of Arts degree from Eastern Michigan University. She was an educator in the Flint Community Schools for more than 40 years, holding several positions including classroom teacher, instructional specialist, assistant principal, assistant dean, coordinator and director of the Reading, Language Arts and Humanities department. Upon her retirement, she served as Steward for

Resource and Information. Mrs. Croudy also served as President of the Congress of Flint School Administrators.

She received numerous awards highlighting her career of public service. In 2015 she was named Trustee of the Year by the American Association for Women in Community Colleges. In 2007 she received the George Romney Lifetime Achievement Award from then-Governor Jennifer Granholm. In 2004, she received the Don Riegler Community Service Award from the Flint Jewish Federation. She has also been honored by the United Teachers of Flint, Flint Rotary Club, and the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA).



Join us in making a difference!

The MCC Alumni Association meets bi-monthly to strengthen friendships and associations formed at Flint Junior College, Flint Junior Community College, Genesee Community College and Mott Community College. Members help promote the programs at MCC and seek to maintain and inform interested alumni that continue to support the institution. Board members also lend a hand in promoting the importance of post-secondary education with special emphasis on the MCC experience. Whether you've gone to one class or graduated with several degrees, the MCC Alumni Association invites you to join us as we improve the campus, the community and reconnect with friends, faculty and staff. To join, please call (810) 762-0425 or email us at alumassoc@mcc.edu.

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MCC Alumni Association plays major role in support of college's enrollment initiative

On Friday September 23, 2016, MCC faculty/staff members gathered in the Ballenger Field House for an All College Conversation Day as part of MCC President Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea's college enrollment management plan. Enrollment has been on a steady decline at MCC and a concerted effort to boost enrollment is underway. Discussion centered on enacting major institutional change needed to enhance enrollment at the college. Groups were charged with crafting plans for how each college area would support increasing enrollment by focusing on the overarching theme of customer service and how this focus will support and increase enrollment through recruitment, retention and completion.

College managers and supervisors were charged with submitting proposals designed to support the goal of getting more students enrolled at Mott by initiating a project, and our area (Institutional Advancement/The Foundation for MCC) chose to create ways to encourage alumni involvement with the enrollment initiative.

As a result, a number of events and programs in support of the college's enrollment initiative were organized and carried out. On Jan. 17, 2017, the day after the MLK holiday, alumni were recruited to visit the campus to welcome and interact with students as they arrive for the start of winter semester. An Alumni Speed Mentoring event happened on March 2, where alumni and business leaders participated. With this event, fashioned after speed dating, a host of alumni, entrepreneurs and business professionals were on hand to answer students' questions, give career advice and simply mentor.



Featured above: alumni and business leaders who participated in the Speed Mentoring program pictured with Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea, Lennetta Coney, Dale Weighill and others.

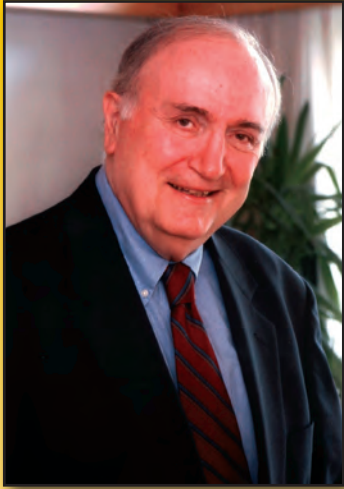
We've also launched a few fun projects to connect with students in an effort to build recognition with the MCC Alumni Association, while keeping in line with college-wide initiatives designed to improve student enrollment.

The Name the Bear event, preceding a Find the Bear event where a wooden MCC bear mascot designed by MCC's Fab Lab is hidden throughout the MCC main campus, was kicked off earlier this month. With Name the Bear, current students were encouraged to go online to namethebear.mcc.edu to submit suggestions. The name chosen for the bear was Roary.



The Find the Bear event, where the same bear is hidden throughout the MCC main campus, was kicked off in April. With the Find the Bear contest, students are encouraged to find the bear hidden in a campus location during the month. Students are given clues to find the bear hidden somewhere on campus. They are then instructed to go to findthebear.mcc.edu to submit their name and location guess. All of the names of students who participated are included in a drawing for a prize. This contest will be held in the Fall, Winter, and Spring semesters going forward.

Tribute to Judge Yeotis a rousing success



You can add the Tribute to Judge Thomas Yeotis, “MCC’s Favorite Son,” to the list of The Foundation for MCC’s highly successful fundraising events.

The Nov. 17, 2016 program, featuring the MCC Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and major longtime donor to the Foundation, was held in the MCC Event Center. A host of family and friends, dignitaries, judges, attorneys, community leaders and college officials comprised a capacity crowd to honor him. The 87-year-old retired judge was overcome with emotion as he spoke during the event.

“I’m absolutely overwhelmed,” he said. “This was a wonderful evening. This was an unforgettable journey for me.”

The program featured presentations and recognitions, in courtroom-style, with Judge Joseph Farah of the 7th Circuit Court, “presiding” or serving as the emcee. Jimmy King,

Chair of the Yeotis Tribute Planning Committee, served as the “bailiff” for the evening. “Witnesses” aired testimony to various elements of Yeotis’ life and legacy, and included Craig Coney, President, Michigan Works; Judge Duncan Beagle, 7th Circuit Court and Steve Schmidt, Head Coach, MCC Men’s Basketball Team. A “Presentation of Evidence” included proclamations from Rep. Dan Kildee and Flint Mayor Karen Weaver and presentation of a bronze Mott bear from Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea. Attorney Dean Yeotis (Judge Yeotis’ son), delivered the “closing argument,” followed by honoree remarks and a “verdict” rendered by Claude High, Chair, Foundation for Mott Community College board of directors.



With decades of service and philanthropic efforts under his belt, from the athletics arena to college programs to various community pursuits, the Yeotis legacy has been laid down for others to follow.

“Judge Yeotis has demonstrated a strong commitment to Mott Community College through his ongoing support, and the college has benefitted substantially from that generosity,” stated Foundation for MCC President Lennetta Coney. “This great legacy of philanthropy has been established as a standard for others to follow.”

Distinguished Alumni Awards set for Oct. 12

Do you know an MCC alum who deserves to be recognized? Why not nominate them to receive an MCC Distinguished Alumni Award!

The Mott Community College’s Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 12, 2017 in the MCC Event Center.

MCC’s Distinguished Alumni Awards was established in 2002 for the purpose of recognizing outstanding women and men who have provided an inspirational impact to students and/or the community and for their significant contributions to career achievement and community service. By honoring our former students, we hope to inspire today’s student to strive for both personal and professional success.

MCC Distinguished Alumni Nomination Criteria:

Nominees should be individuals who have attended Flint Junior College, Flint Community College, Genesee Community College, and/or Mott Community College. The Distinguished Alumni nominees will be judged on the following criteria:

Role Model -- Inspiring excellence in others.

Outstanding Success -- Significant career or personal achievement.

Impact -- Accomplishments which have changed the community for the better.

Community Service -- Demonstration of a visible commitment to the community.

Selection of MCC’s 2017 honorees will be made by a committee representing the greater Flint community. For a nomination form, call 762-0425. The deadline for nomination submissions is 5 pm, July 15, 2017. Forms are also available online at: www.mcc.edu/alumni/alumni_award.shtml.





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 Haven't been to campus lately? There's a lot going on! Take a look here.

 Update your email address for the Alumni Registry by contacting us at alumassoc@mcc.edu.

 Check us out at facebook.com/MCCAlumniAssociation

Support The Foundation for MCC while shopping online with AmazonSmile

The Foundation for MCC is offering an exciting, new option for our cherished alumni and friends to give back.

Amazon, recognized as one of the most popular, most widely used websites in the world, created an opportunity in 2013 that would allow their customers to donate a small portion of their purchase to a charity of their choice – and they named it AmazonSmile.

AmazonSmile, a website operated by Amazon, carries the same products, prices and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will automatically donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable foundation of your choice. Why not make The Foundation for MCC your choice? It's easy!

Instead of going to amazon.com, you can shop through smile.amazon.com. The Smile site is basically the same as the regular Amazon site. So, start shopping, and giving to The Foundation for MCC today!

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Mrs. Croudy was instrumental in creating the Youth Leadership Institute, focused on teaching African-American students the fundamentals of community leadership. She worked extensively with the Flint Branch of the NAACP and was a lifetime member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Mrs. Croudy also served on the National Board of Directors and as the Central Region Chairperson for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). She also served as a member of the MCCA's Board of Directors and was the first African-American elected as the Board's Chair.



Sean Croudy (center) and "Lenore's Lifetime Friends" attend the tribute dinner for his mother at the Genesys Banquet & Event Center.