



News for and about Macomb Community College's alumni and friends

Helping Warren's roofs go green

If you live or work in Warren or drive by its municipal complex on Van Dyke, take note of the vegetation growing on the tops of its buildings. It's not a mirage. It's a green roof, and Macomb had a hand in making it grow.

Green roofs are flat and partially or completely covered with vegetation, which rests on a waterproof membrane. Also known as living roofs, they absorb rainwater, supply insulation and reduce heating costs, providing an environmentally preferable alternative to traditional roofs.

This summer, Macomb, in conjunction with Michigan Works!, the City of Warren and the Avrie Group, Inc., offered a Green Roof Installer Certification Course at South Campus. The 80-hour program was a combination of classroom and on-the-job training that led to certification in first aid/CPR and LiveRoof® installation. After successfully completing two weeks of coursework and two weeks of on-the-job training, all 14 students in the course were hired by Newton Crane Roofing, Inc. to install green roofs on buildings in Warren's municipal complex, beginning with the police headquarters.

The roof-replacement project was funded by a \$1.2 million federal block grant received by Warren.



Chelona Bates and Augustus Brown work on the roof of the Warren Police Department after completing the Green Roof Installer Certification Course offered at Macomb's South Campus this summer. All 14 students who completed the course were hired by Newton Crane Roofing, Inc. to install green roofs on buildings in Warren's municipal complex.

Macomb awarded \$1.4 m grant to bolster electrification of state's auto industry

The electrification of the automobile is moving into high gear, and Macomb is leveraging a series of grants to position southeast Michigan at the forefront of the electric-drive vehicle industry.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is awarding Macomb a \$1.4 million grant to support the college's work focused on the growing opportunities that relate to the "electrification" of the automobile. The initial grant covers a two-year period, with NSF expecting to provide another \$1.5 million for an additional two years of funding, contingent on the satisfactory progress of the project and availability of funds. The NSF grant is the latest in a series of steps the college began taking more than five years ago to support the auto industry's push into alternative fuels and energy sources.

"We believe that a key to reviving the vitality of southeast Michigan is to build upon our traditional strengths and transition our existing technical expertise to New Economy applications," said James Jacobs, Macomb's president.

The grant will be used to establish the Center for Advanced Automotive Technology (CAAT) at Macomb, creating the region's premier storehouse of advanced automotive technology.

Some crossed the country for this reunion



More than 70 alumni who had competed between 1969–1993 on Macomb's men's and women's cross country teams attended a reunion this summer at Stony Creek Metropark, where they often practiced back in their Macomb days. Contacted by their former coach, Bill Dyer, who retired in 1995, the alumni, many with their families, came from as far as California, Colorado, Georgia, Texas, North Carolina and Idaho. In addition to the potluck picnic, there was also a fun-run course for those who wanted to feel that familiar burn once again. "It was a great day, lasting from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m." said Dyer. "We spent it reminiscing, looking at pictures and talking. It was surprising to find out how many of my former students were still running."

Designers helping designers get jobs

David McRae graduated from Macomb in 1983 with a degree in electrical engineering while moving up the ladder in his 32-year engineering career, which included 17 years as a lead designer with General Motors. Upheavals in the automotive industry, however, cost him his job, and that's when he decided to return to Macomb and take advantage of its "Designers Helping Designers" program.

Launched in January with an idea proposed by the American Society for Body Engineers Foundation, the program, which was repeated this fall and is expected to be offered again next year, provides unemployed engineers and designers an opportunity to practice

"The class gave me... self-confidence," said McRae, hired as a designer at Navistar in July. "This was the shot-in-the-arm for me to get back in the design field."

and hone their skills using the latest technology in preparation for a return to the workforce.

Macomb provides the labs and Michigan Works! funds the 80-hour training program. Approximately 50 engineers and designers have successfully completed the program to date, and, about 65 percent of them have found jobs.

McRae is among that 65 percent, and he credits the program for helping make that happen.

"The class gave me...self-confidence," said McRae, hired as a designer at Navistar in July. "This was the shot-in-the-arm for me to get back in the design field that I'd been a part of since 1978."

Keeping students' dreams alive

Financial emergencies can force students to defer the dream of a college education for anywhere from a semester to a lifetime. But, recently, Macomb was selected for a national program that will help it help its students stay in their classes when the unexpected occurs.

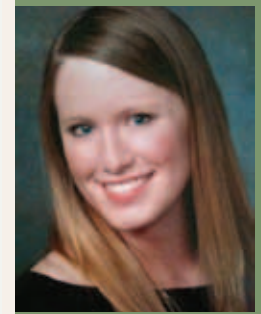
Recognizing both the importance of a college education in the nation's changing economy and the financial difficulties faced by many community college students that can delay or prevent them from acquiring it, DreamkeepersSM, a program by Scholarship America[®], was established by Lumina Foundation for Education and piloted in 2004. The Walmart and Kresge foundations joined as partners in 2008 and 2009, respectively, and the program was expanded to include more than 30 colleges nationwide.

The average Dreamkeepers emergency assistance grant is for \$523. One-time financial emergencies that qualify include those associated with housing, utilities, food, child care, health care and transportation. Through an application and interview process, students are asked to show that the emergency was unforeseen, unlikely to occur again and jeopardizes their ability to continue their college education.

Macomb, along with 12 other colleges, was selected for the program this year and will receive \$75,000 over three years to help establish a self-sustaining Dreamkeepers program at the college. In its first year, the college must raise \$25,000 in matching funds by June to be eligible for the second year's award. Toward that goal, Macomb staff have pledged or donated \$9,000 through the college's annual employee fundraising campaign.

If you would like to contribute to Macomb's Dreamkeepers program, and keep the dream of a college education alive for some Macomb students, just mark the appropriate box on the form to the left, or follow the directions to give online.

Recent Macomb alumna named to national board



Katie Bowe, a recent graduate of Macomb's surgical technology program, has been appointed to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, the largest accreditor of health sciences programs in the country.

The ink had barely dried on Macomb graduate Katie Bowe's diploma when she learned she had been appointed the Recent Graduate Commissioner to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), which is the largest accreditor of health sciences programs in the country.

"Katie exemplifies the type of student every director would be honored to have representing their program in the health care community," wrote Elizabeth Ness, Macomb project coordinator in Macomb's surgical technology program, in her letter nominating Bowe for the appointment.

Indeed, Bowe has had a lifelong desire to work in the health care field, even taking medical career classes while a student at Cousino High School. Initially, her focus was on nursing, but after enrolling at the college, surgical technology caught her attention. She now works as a surgical tech at St. John Macomb Hospital.

"I am very excited to take on this new role and to represent not only recent graduates of CAAHEP, but surgical technology and Macomb Community College as well," Bowe said.

Yes! I would like to support the work of Macomb Community College.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni Scholarship Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Macomb Center for the Performing Arts Annual Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culinary Arts—Team Macomb | <input type="checkbox"/> Macomb Presidential Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dreamkeepers SM | <input type="checkbox"/> Macomb Center for the Performing Arts Endowment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund for the Future | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Technician Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Scholarship Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Endowment | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lorenzo Cultural Center | |

Name _____ Mailing ID# _____
(As you would like it to appear in Macomb publications) (Located above name on mailing label)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (home) _____ (office) _____

E-mail _____

Enclosed is my gift of: check or money order Discover MasterCard VISA
(please make checks or money orders payable to Macomb Community College Foundation)

Card # _____ Security # _____ Expiration Date _____
(3 digit number from back of card)

Signature of Card Holder _____

Mail to: Macomb Community College Foundation
 14500 E. Twelve Mile Road, Warren MI 48088-3896

Online: To donate online, please go to www.macomb.edu and click on "giving" located in the upper right corner of the web page.





Edison inspired alumnus to do it his way

Rich Sheridan was "having too much fun as a programmer" and didn't want to start his studies at the University of Michigan (U-M) as planned after graduating from Chippewa Valley High School in 1975. That's when a bit of serendipity, a phenomenon he also attributes to the life of his hero, Thomas Edison, led him across a patch of concrete off of Garfield Road in Clinton Township.

Rich Sheridan, CEO of Menlo Innovations, outside of his firm's headquarters in Ann Arbor.

"I literally looked across the parking lot," remembers Sheridan, who was working at the Macomb Intermediate School District, next door to Macomb's Center Campus, "and thought, 'I can go to school in the evenings and keep my day job.'"

It was a change of plans that Sheridan, founder and CEO of Menlo Innovations, a software design and development firm, has never regretted.

"I had a great time at Macomb," relates Sheridan. "Classes were small and intimate, and I enjoyed the students and the teachers. It was the perfect way of working a college curriculum around a working life."

Sheridan transferred to U-M in 1978, earning a bachelor of science degree in 1981 and a master's degree in engineering in 1982. Hired by Interface Systems, he worked his way to a vice presidency before being laid off after 18 years with the company. That's when he decided to let serendipity guide his actions yet again.

Menlo Park comes to Ann Arbor

"I had always thought I would start my own business some day," reflects Sheridan. "And in 2001 I had nothing to lose, so I started Menlo Innovations with three partners and Edison's Menlo Park lab as the inspiration."

Located in Ann Arbor's Ker-rytown, the office suite of Menlo Innovations, which employs about 40, is anything but. The open floor

plan, with its absence of walls and cubicles, as well as its "eXtreme" approach to programming has drawn attention both locally and nationally, with weekly requests for tours and regular news stories attesting to its founders' architectural and business savvy. Two years after the business was launched, in fact, Sheridan's story made it to the cover of *Forbes* magazine, inside of which he was lauded for choosing entrepreneurship over unemployment. The company has made it to *Inc.* magazine's list of the 500 fastest-growing companies in the country. His clients include many Michigan-based companies including, University of Michigan, Domino's Pizza, Snap-On Tools, and ProQuest.

All of this keeps Menlo's CEO quite busy and, as he will tell you, joyful.

"I'm invited to speak on what we do and how we do it," acknowledges Sheridan, who travels across the country sharing his philosophy and enthusiasm. "My fundamental belief is that what we do as a profession should be joyful. And, the people who work here help make that happen. That's why Menlo has been called one of the world's most democratic workplaces."

The excitement of innovation

It is also known as the Menlo Software Factory, with a nod to Edison's Menlo Invention Factory, and, of course, it reflects the vision of the man Sheridan considers the world's foremost innovator.

"Edison believed in serendipity," relates Sheridan. "He wanted people to overhear each other so that they could springboard off of each other's ideas."

Consequently, Sheridan's desk sits unobtrusively within the space he shares with the rest of the Menlo team, which includes his wife, Carol, software factory floor manager, who he met in high school. The couple has three daughters: Megan, Lauren and Sarah.

Just like his late father, Bernard, who earned an associate degree from Macomb after retiring from General Motors, and late mother Dorothy, Sheridan prefers to share his free time with family. But that doesn't preclude an annual visit to the place where his entrepreneurial spirit first stirred.

"I spend some time at Greenfield Village most every summer," reflects Sheridan. "I feel the excitement of innovation when I stand in Edison's laboratory. It is a tuning fork for my heart."

"I had a great time at Macomb.... It was the perfect way of working a college curriculum around a working life."

Continuing the legacy

The promise of a novel approach to education and training that began in 1916 has come full circle with the recent donation from alumni of the Henry Ford Trade School to Macomb's Lorenzo Cultural Center and its community-focused enrichment and educational programming.

The story began nearly 100 years ago, when half of American schoolchildren dropped out of school before they finished eighth grade. Industrialist Henry Ford, who had a limited formal education himself, recognized the value of education and espoused the philosophy that "knowledge is power." He founded the trade school, which melded formal classroom instruction with practical hands-on training.

"The school gave me the basis, the ground-work for the position I had," said John Graf, president of the trade school's alumni association. "It just made my whole career. I knew what I was doing."

The history of the Henry Ford Trade School, which operated until 1952, was explored and celebrated during the *And Still They Prospered: Living Through the Great Depression* program series held in spring 2010 at the Lorenzo Cultural Center at Macomb's Center Campus.

In addition to an exhibit displayed for the entire series, alumni, community members and Macomb faculty, staff and students gathered for a special program in April that provided current Macomb students with the opportunity to interview trade school alumni, an overview of the school's history and a video showcasing the reflections of alumni. The program was recognized by the Historical Society of Michigan with a 2010 State History Award for Special Programs and Events.



Different paths, same destination

Julie Durak and Christianna Stempnik share more than the job title of co-creative director at the Farbman Group/NAI Farbman, a commercial real estate firm. They share the fact that both attended graphic design classes at Macomb Community College, and both believe their Macomb education has prepared them well for their careers.

Where they differ, though, is the path they took to end up at the same position. Stempnik's education was career-changing, while Durak's was career-establishing.

Stempnik was a realtor for nearly 20 years and held a marketing position for a few years before joining Farbman Group as a marketing coordinator.

"During the slow times as a realtor, I experimented with website designs for the company I worked for," explained Stempnik. "A friend who was taking graphic design classes at Macomb at the time mentioned that I would probably enjoy the classes. I initially signed up for classes based on my friend's encouragement."

Stempnik continued working while taking classes that caught her interest. She initially focused on graphic arts software courses because she wanted to draw on a computer. Along the way, she dis-



Chris Stempnik and Julie Durak share creative director responsibilities at Farbman Group/NAI Farbman, a commercial real estate firm—along with a Macomb education.

covered an interest in drawing and painting, so she took basic classes in those disciplines as well.

Durak's education was more traditional, entering college after graduation from Cousino High School. The scholarship she received from a poster-design contest she entered while in high school was added incentive to enroll in college.

"Macomb was a good starting point for me," explained Durak. "The tuition rates are cheaper, and the graphic arts program is just phenomenal."

Durak earned associate of applied science degrees in digital design and layout, and photography and digital imaging.

"Macomb taught me my software skills," Durak said.

This is the point where Stempnik's and Durak's paths converged. Both joined Farbman Group about the same time, working in the same area. When their boss left the company, both women assumed additional responsibilities. The fact that the department was run efficiently

and effectively was not lost on upper management. The company opted to name the women co-creative directors, responsible for the company's marketing needs, including designing marketing brochures and flyers, database creation and management, advertising, video presentations, market reports, website design and maintenance and e-mail marketing.

"We found we worked well together," notes Stempnik. "We have a good team focus."

Extra credit in chemistry and then some

David Tramontozzi, science instructor, offers his advanced chemistry students an opportunity each winter semester to tutor high school students struggling in chemistry in exchange for 50 points of extra credit. What two recent alumni gained, however, proved much more valuable than that.

"Since I had never tutored before, I felt it would give me

some insight into what it was like to teach and would help me determine if this was something I would be interested in doing later," says Jeremy Burgess, who is one semester away from a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Oakland University, with plans for graduate school and a career in biomedical research. "The program confirmed to me that I would enjoy teaching, as well as taught me that if someone isn't

driven to succeed, it is still possible to help them by finding something they can use as motivation. It was a great feeling knowing that I helped these students."

Crystal Schellhammer is now in the pharmacy program at Wayne State University, but has been undecided about whether she wants to pursue a career in retail, clinical or academia. After volunteering as a tutor while a student in Tramon-

tozzi's class last year, however, she is inclined toward the latter.

"Initially, I signed up for the service learning project for two main reasons—the extra credit that was offered and the opportunity to assess my teaching abilities," relates Schellhammer. "The project not only helps the students being tutored, but also the people that are tutoring, in that they can learn about themselves and their abilities in the process."

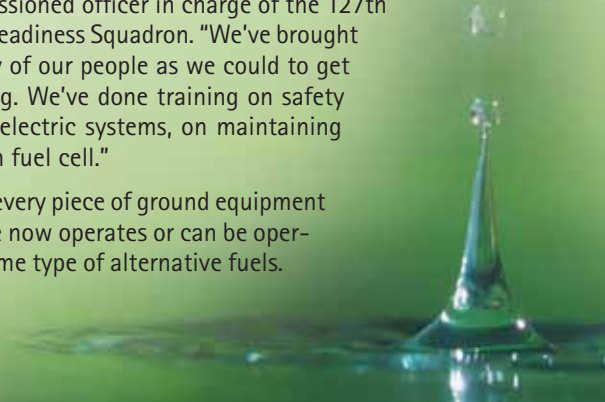
Alternative fuels training captures military attention

With a campaign to have every piece of ground equipment—from trucks to generators—be operational on alternative fuels, Selfridge Air National Guard Base turned to Macomb Community College for training in alternative fuels technology.

The 127th Wing of the National Guard created a partnership with Macomb in which the college provided several daylong training programs at the base in various advanced technologies. While the guard benefited with a team of trained Airmen in alternative fuel technologies, the college benefited from the Airmen's feedback, fine-tuning its own alternative fuels curriculum.

"The college has been out here several times, working with us on a number of issues," said Technical Sgt. Jerry Byrdo, a vehicle maintenance specialist and alternative fuels noncommissioned officer in charge of the 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron. "We've brought in as many of our people as we could to get the training. We've done training on safety issues, on electric systems, on maintaining a hydrogen fuel cell."

Almost every piece of ground equipment at the base now operates or can be operated on some type of alternative fuels.



News about alumni

Send us a note, and let us know what you've been doing since you graduated from Macomb. Please include the year you graduated (or last year attended), advanced degrees earned, job history since leaving Macomb and any other items of professional or personal interest.

E-mail to: alumni@macomb.edu

Mail to:
Alumni Macomb
Macomb Community
College Foundation
14500 E. 12 Mile Road
Warren, MI 48088-3896

What's new with you!

NAME	MAILING ID# (located above name on mailing label)	
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
HOME PHONE	WORK PHONE	
FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL	

Check if this is a new address, and please attach mailing label from this newsletter.

Alumni notes

Larry Bucci, 1971, worked for the City of Sterling Heights for 18 years before retiring in 2009. He lives in Nevada, just outside of Las Vegas.

Terry Andrzejewski, 1974, has been employed in the heating, ventilating and air conditioning field since graduating from Macomb with an associate degree in climate control technology. He is currently the owner/operator of T.J. Air Heating and Cooling L.L.C., a company he started in 1988 during his 33-year career with General Motors at the Tech Center in Warren. He retired from GM in 2009.

Robert Mann, 1981, earned a bachelor of science degree in computer science and master's degrees in computer science and computer engineering from Wayne State University. He has worked for several Detroit-area firms including Burroughs, Campbell-Ewald, General Dynamics and, for the past 18 years, Ford Motor Co. He is the captain of his own sailboat, 18 years after taking sailing classes at Macomb, and crewed on a boat during this year's Port Huron to Mackinac race.

Steve Crampton, 1982, earned a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona. He is employed as a Boeing 737 captain for Continental Airlines, flying out of Newark and residing in Pennsylvania.

Steve Hennel, 1990s, earned bachelor of business administration and master of business administration degrees from Walsh College, from which he took first place in 2002 in its research and report competition. He is a certified Six-Sigma Green Belt, working on Master Black Belt certification, and has spent his career to date managing automom-

otive suppliers, most recently with DeWolff, Boberg and Associates.

Jeanette Locher, 1994, is also a 1985 graduate of Kirtland Community College, where she earned an associate degree in drafting and design before earning one in auto body design from Macomb. She also earned a bachelor of arts degree in art education from Wayne State University and a master of arts degree in humanities from Central Michigan University. She has taught AutoCAD for Clintondale Community Education, mechanical/architectural drafting for Our Lady of the Lakes High School and after-school arts classes for Detroit Public Schools and Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. She is a professional artist and a humanities professor at Wayne County Community College.

Sara Penn-Guertin, 2005, earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology/sociology from Oakland University and a master of arts degree in psychology, with a concentration in children and adolescents, from the University of Detroit Mercy. She is employed as an outpatient therapist at New Oakland Child, Adolescent and Family Center. The granddaughter of Christine Bonkowski, Macomb trustee, Penn-Guertin married Robert Guertin, a Detroit police officer, last year.

Dawn Jeffery, 2007, will graduate magna cum laude this December from Rochester College with a bachelor of science degree in organizational leadership. She is employed as an account manager for a local staffing firm.

"Thanks to MCC and its professors I was able to keep the momentum going for reaching my educational goals."—Dawn Jeffery

Sights and sounds for the holidays

From a graceful ballet to majestic sounds of trumpets and trombones, the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts has the events that will put you in a festive mood just in time for the holidays.

The Nutcracker—Dec. 3 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., and Dec. 4 at 2 p.m., and 7 p.m.
\$15 adult, \$12 student/senior

Point of Grace—Dec. 5, 3 p.m. \$52 for pit, \$42 for gold circle, \$37 for house, \$15 children 12 and under.

Nutcracker and More—Featuring the Michigan Ballet and presented by the Macomb Symphony Orchestra—Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. \$24 adult, \$20 student/senior.

The Sounds of Christmas starring Elisabeth von Trapp—Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. \$52 pit, \$42 gold circle, \$37 house, \$15 children 12 and under.

Holiday Brass—Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m. \$42 gold circle, \$37 house, \$15 children 12 and under.

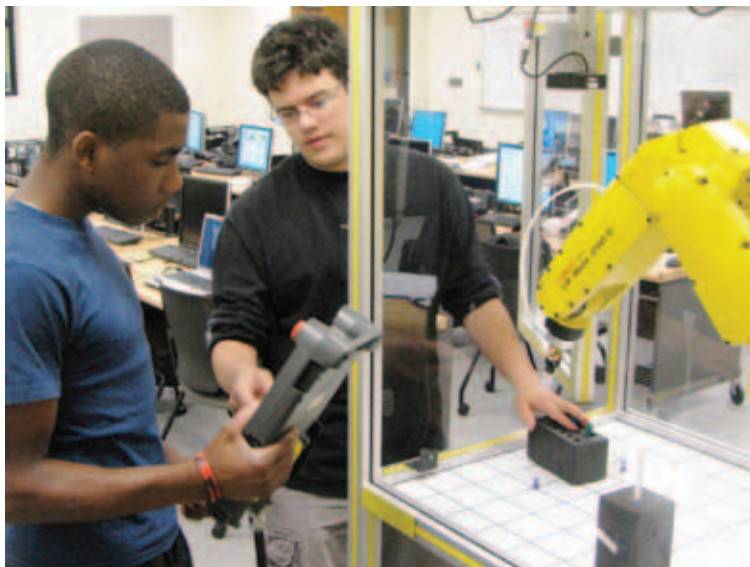


Interested in caregiving as an encore career?

Borrowing its name from that which usually involves applause and a return to the stage, an Encore Career Grant will soon help some local baby boomers train for second careers in a growing health care field.

The grant will be used to add an online learning component, including a mentoring program, to Macomb's eldercare specialist program offered through Macomb's Workforce and Continuing Education division, and to fund a webinar in December for health care employers that offers compelling reasons for hiring caregivers age 50 and over.

Macomb is one of 15 community colleges in the nation to receive an Encore Career Grant to retrain experienced adults for health care, education and service jobs that make a difference in their communities. The grant program is a joint project of The Deerbrook Charitable Trust, a private foundation, and Civic Ventures, a think tank focused on baby boomers, work and social purpose.



Robot training includes certification

Macomb students Trey Meeks (left) and Marshall Wethy work on a lab exercise during a robotics class on South Campus. Macomb recently introduced a robotics curriculum and created a new robotics lab where students can learn how to program robots for a variety of applications, including automotive work, medical parts manufacturing or food preparation. As part of the robotics course work, students can earn certification in robotics programming from FANUC Robotics, a leading supplier of robots and related systems.

MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Nancy Falcone, Chairperson; Roseanne DiMaria, Vice Chairperson;
Connie Bolanowski, Secretary; James F. Kelly, Treasurer;
Christine Bonkowski, Trustee; Frank DeSantis, Trustee; Joseph DeSantis, Trustee
James Jacobs, Ph.D., College President



Designed & Printed
in Macomb County