



ADVANCE

The Magazine for Friends and Alumni of Frederick Community College Fall 2014

AFRICAN ART FINDS NEW HOME

Generous donation expands cultural horizons
for students and staff

FCC WELCOMES ELIZABETH BURMASTER

President returns to her roots from Wisconsin

ALUMNI MAKE SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEURS

Former students share their lessons learned

President's Message



It is a great privilege to serve as the tenth president of Frederick Community College. My first months at FCC have been filled with great expectations and opportunities. It is an honor to join the students, faculty, staff, and members of the community as we chart a future characterized by innovations in teaching and learning, academic excellence, and success for all students.

Working "hand in hand" with the FCC Foundation, we proudly serve the educational needs of our students, help develop the workforce and economic vitality of our county and state, and enrich the lives of our residents. We credit our ability to deliver these services to the strength of our college community and its commitment to advancing quality higher education.

I welcome Executive Director Marcelena Holmes, Assistant Director for Donor Relations Robin Rose, and Assistant Director for Corporate and Business Relations Michelle Nusum-Smith, to the Office of Institutional Advancement. It will be a great joy to work with them and all of you as we build upon the outstanding work of the FCC Foundation. Special thanks to George Littrell, Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors, for his leadership and support throughout these months of transition.

Libby Burmaster
President

It is a pleasure to join the Frederick Community College family. Although I have only been on campus a few weeks, I am overwhelmed by the warm and friendly atmosphere. The beauty of Frederick County's landscape also provides a sense of peace and serenity.

During my walks across campus to a meeting or the cafeteria, I have observed students who appear grateful for the opportunity to pursue their education. Many times students will stop, smile, and say hello as they hold the door open for me. Like a breath of fresh air, it has renewed my hope in a generation which some describe as detached and self-absorbed. The older adult student population is living proof that it is never too late to reinvent oneself.

To be sure, I am delighted to work with President Burmaster, whose leadership style is nothing short of inspirational. As the new Executive Director of the Foundation, I would like to thank the members of the Foundation Board of Directors for their confidence in me, and I look forward to working with them to create greater opportunities for students.

Marcelena S. Holmes
Executive Director, FCC Foundation



Frederick Community College Foundation Inc.

ADVANCE Fall, Issue 3

Frederick Community College Board of Trustees

Debra S. Borden, Chair

David F. Bufter, Vice Chair

Nick Diaz

Gary V. Fearnow

Doris J. White

Myrna Whitworth

Roger A. Wilson

C. Paul Smith, Ex-Officio County
Commissioner Liaison

Foundation Board 2014-2015

George Littrell III, Chair

James Racheff, Vice Chair

Stephen J. Schmidt, Secretary

William R. Talley, Jr., Treasurer

Edward C. Prensky, CPA, CGMA,
Assistant Treasurer

Elizabeth Burmaster, Ex-Officio
Member

Tony Checchia

Ed Combs

Tracey A. Culbertson, M.D.

Kathleen M. Davis, CPA

Gary V. Fearnow, Board of Trustees
Liaison

Diane S. Kotkin

L. Richard Haney, Ed.D.

Susan M. Mathurin

Jerome K. Maultsby

Michele R. Mills

Jennie Sue Pearson

Justin Ramsburg

Brian E. Rippeon

Rusty E. Strine

Dale T. Summers

Chad S. Tyler

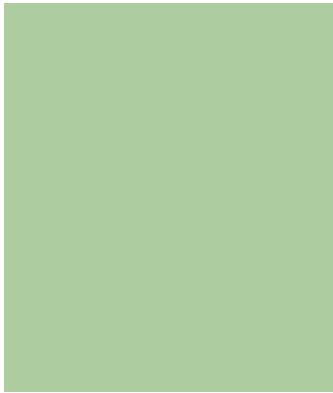
David C. Weaver, Esq.

Marcelena S. Holmes, Executive
Director

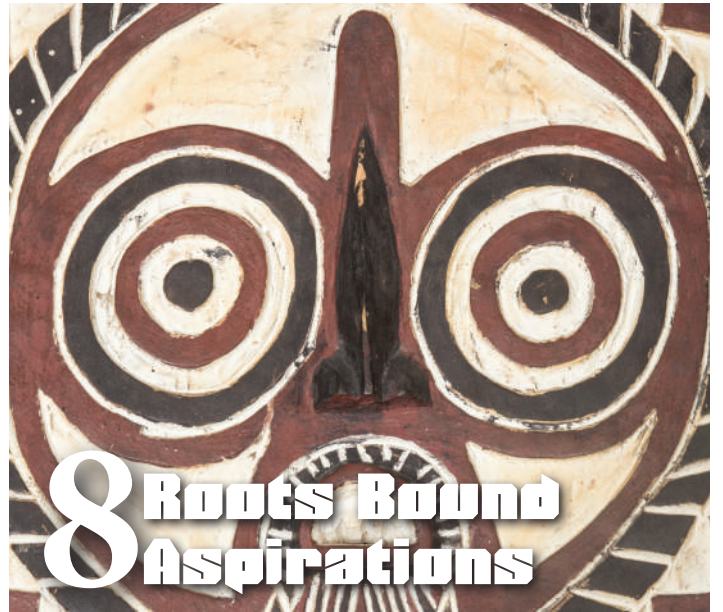


2 President Burmaster

Returning Home



4 Lessons Learned



8 Roots Bound Aspirations



12 FCC is a Family Affair



14 Festival Latino

16

Frederick Community College
Foundation Inc.

New Executive Director
Marcelena Holmes



News @ FCC

18



20 Life @ FCC

President Burmaster

Returning to her Roots



Elizabeth “Libby” Burmaster has been on the job as Frederick Community College’s new leader since mid-August, but she is not new to Frederick. She spent the first 18 years of her life less than three miles from the campus.

Growing up on 14th Street, she was in the first seventh-grade class at the brand new Gov. Thomas Johnson Junior High School. She attended St. John the Evangelist grammar school for her elementary education. Her mother was the organist at St. John’s.

“I had a wonderful education in Frederick,” said Burmaster. “I adored my teachers and can still remember them by name. Teachers can influence their students in ways that last a lifetime and mine sure did. That’s a thrilling and humbling responsibility for anyone who becomes a teacher.”

Life changed dramatically for Burmaster the summer after high school as her family moved from Frederick to Madison, Wisconsin.

“My parents were going home, back to where they had grown up,” she said. “I was leaving the place that had always been my home. But the timing worked out well for me. I was able to finish high school here with my childhood friends, and then begin the next chapter as a freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.”

President Burmaster started college that fall and followed in her mother’s footsteps, majoring in music and piano.

The very next summer, just after her freshman year, she returned to Frederick on the first of many “pilgrimages,” as her husband and children would later call the annual treks through Frederick.

“When my children were growing up, we vacationed at South Carolina beaches,” she noted. “On the way, we would visit my sister in Columbia, Md., but first, we always had to drive down 14th Street to see the house where I grew up. I have great memories of my childhood here. Back then, this side of town was still quite rural.”

During Burmaster’s childhood, her junior and senior high schools were being built. In 1970, two years before she graduated from Gov. Thomas Johnson High School, FCC’s present campus opened.

“Every time I have been back to visit, I have seen that Frederick is constantly transforming itself,” she said. “It has continued to evolve in very positive and intentional ways,

while holding on to its rich history and definitive sense of community. It’s been very exciting to watch its progression over the decades since I lived here. It’s great to be back.”

Over the years

Burmater’s pilgrimages also included visits with old friends. She has stayed in contact over the years with high school pal Gregory Powell, co-founder of Frederick Psychology Center.

“We ran for president and vice president of our senior class,” noted Powell. “Neither of us can remember who ran for which office, and neither of us won, but we’ve stayed connected since then. As the cliché says, it’s as if no time has passed when we get together.”

He has always admired Burmaster’s community engagement and professional achievements.

“Despite her many accomplishments, she is very down to earth, easy to talk to, and fun, just a great person,” he said. “She’s so well-read and current; it’s always a delight to speak with her. When I found out she had applied for the position at FCC, I was very pleased. And when I learned that she had been chosen, I thought: she’s a great fit for the job.”

Another of Burmaster’s lifelong Frederick friends was her beloved piano teacher, Millie Trivett. Their special connection brought Burmaster back to Frederick on a different kind of journey in 1978, a trip that included a busload of her own students.

“In my first year of teaching high school music at Madison East High School in 1978, I was in charge of five choirs. I let Millie know, and she was so thrilled for me. I wanted to take my students on a trip, so Millie set it up for me to bring them to Frederick for a concert on the Thomas Johnson High School stage.

“We rode a bus from Madison to Frederick, drove through the night and slept on the bus. The students stayed in homes, all arranged by Millie. It was so much fun and a transformational experience for the students. Most of them had never been on the East Coast. Millie even made cookies for them, iced with a treble staff. I’m still in touch with two of those students, and when they heard I was moving to Frederick, they were not surprised.”

Burmater had planned to pursue a graduate degree in music, but some of her professors talked her into taking a

break to teach music in the Madison, Wis., public schools before continuing her graduate studies.

“I loved it! Needless to say, I decided to keep on teaching. I think I fell in love with teaching because it allowed me to be a lifelong learner,” she said. “It’s not a one-way process; there is always reciprocity. We learn from preparing to teach; we learn during the process of teaching, and we learn from our students.”

Thus began a career in education that has spanned 38 years and counting—from elementary, middle and high school teacher and principal to the Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction to community college president.

Frederick roots

Burmaster’s parents met at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where her father earned his doctorate in biochemistry and her mother majored in music.

“When World War II broke out, Dad was called to Maryland to serve in the military as a biochemist. I grew up with several kids whose dads had gone to the University of Wisconsin-Madison and had been brought to Frederick during the war,” she said.

Her father continued his career at Ft. Detrick after the war as a civilian, as did many of those scientists, staying in Frederick for 30 years. In 1972, Burmaster’s father moved back

to Wisconsin to accept a professorship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

“FCC was very much a part of my family’s understanding of educational opportunity as I was growing up,” she recalled. “We had so many connections to the college. My older brother took classes at the North Market Street location and then transferred to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. When I was a senior in high school, the Opossumtown Pike campus was brand new. I was allowed to take the family car and ‘drive out’ to take a night class, to spread my wings a bit.”

With Burmaster’s middle to high school years spanning 1966-1972, she grew up during the Civil Rights movement and the Vietnam War.

“My teachers were focused on what was happening in our country, at home and with the war. Everybody was. I felt smack in the middle of what was going on. I had watched my older siblings and teachers react to the events in the news. We talked about and grappled with the times in which we lived,” she said.

Those experiences as a student later influenced Burmaster as a teacher and as a leader in education.

“I’ve never lost the heart, mind, and calling of a teacher who is engaged with what’s going on in the world, and conveying that to students—striving to meet students where they are, right now, in this place and time.”

Visiting FCC during the interview process, Burmaster was impressed with the changes on the campus since her “days” as an evening student.

“I love how FCC has grown over the past 40 years to meet the needs of the community—with both the expansion of the campus and the diversity of its students and programs. FCC has an outstanding reputation.”

Burmaster said she observed an inspiring community-wide commitment to the college during her interview process, an attitude of energy and dedication that impressed her and reminded her of what she had experienced as a student in Frederick.



“Just when I think I’ve learned all there is to know about something, I discover more. And this is why I’ve never left education. There’s always more to learn and to share, always a new challenge to embrace.”

“It was clear to me that this community loves this college. I want to be around people who feel this way about their school and their community,” she said. “I feel right at home in Frederick, not only because I grew up here, but because, to me, Frederick is a creative place. People here are involved in what’s happening and in trying to make things better.”

Burmaster believes FCC is going to play a pivotal role in the next wave of history for

Frederick County, especially in entrepreneurship and economic development.

“There’s just something lasting about this area and its rich history, combined with the hope and promise of opportunity,” she said.

Moving east

While Burmaster is excited about reconnecting with Frederick and exploring all that has changed since her student days, she will miss her children and grandchildren in Wisconsin. But she will not miss the sub-zero winters.

Her husband John is a retired elementary, middle and high school teacher and principal. Libby and John raised three children near her parents in Madison, and the kids often heard stories about Frederick.

Their son John works at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Daughter Danielle is a first-grade teacher and mother to an 8-year-old son in Sacramento, Calif. Daughter Judy teaches high school social studies in Madison and works with a program for first generation college-bound students. She has two sons, ages 5 and 3.

Lessons Learned:

Young Entrepreneurs Succeed
in the Classroom and Beyond



Follow Your Passion

When Mandy Huffer-Rhinecker's family transitioned part of their multi-generational farm operation from dairy to agriculture entertainment 20 years ago, she was just a pre-teen. But even then, Huffer-Rhinecker knew she wanted to have a role in the business.

"I started walking ponies for pony rides when I was 12 or 13 and I thought, 'Wait a minute. I could be making a lot more money if I owned the pony,'" Huffer-Rhinecker said. With the purchase of her first pony, she also had her first taste of entrepreneurship.

Since that time, the Huffer family has grown Jumbo's Pumpkin Patch off Holter Road between Jefferson and Middletown into one of the area's best-known fall attractions. Huffer-Rhinecker has had a hand in the expansion of the enterprise, named one of the country's top 10 pumpkin patches in 2012 by MSN.

"There are 13 of us involved, and we each oversee a different aspect of the operation," she noted.

Huffer-Rhinecker came to FCC and received an associate degree in general studies ('08). As part of her coursework, she took an entrepreneurship class taught by FCC faculty member Mike Boyd.

"The business plan I wrote in the class helped me plan for the areas I oversaw at the pumpkin patch and added additional structure to what I was already doing to take it to the next level," she said.

Huffer-Rhinecker works full time as an HR professional for a manufacturing company in Frederick County and came back to FCC to prepare for her Senior Professional in Human Resources certification.

"Being an HR manager and getting my SPHR really helps at the farm," Huffer-Rhinecker said, adding that Jumbo's employs up to 60 people each season.

Her experiences in the classroom, in the workforce, and on the family farm also helped prepare Huffer-Rhinecker for her latest business venture, Homestead Performance Horses. A competitive barrel racer on the rodeo circuit, she says that, like the purchase of her first pony, Homestead Performance Horses is a way to combine her passion for horses and her interest in small business.

Huffer-Rhinecker started the breeding business in 2011 with the purchase of her stallion, Firewater Jet Moon. Running the breeding business is a year-round operation, with Huffer-Rhinecker focused not only on the equine science aspects of breeding, but also on promoting, marketing, and advertising her business.

"Firewater Jet Moon is currently running barrels at American Professional Rodeo Association and Southern Extreme Bull Rising Association rodeos. He travels up and down the East Coast, and we're getting our name out there and creating exposure," Huffer-Rhinecker said.

Eventually, she'd like to grow the stallion service business into more than a part-time venture, but for Huffer-Rhinecker, the best way to grow a business is to learn from others, know your customer, and be better than your competitor.

"For me, being successful means taking the best of what you've learned on the job and from watching others and combining it with your passion," she said.



JUMBO'S
PUMPKIN PATCH



CONTINUE LEARNING

Rollie Belles knew from a young age that he wanted to be a business owner.

“When I was a kid, a friend of my parents asked me what baseball team I wanted to play for when I grew up. I told him I didn’t want to play baseball, I wanted to own the team,” Belles laughs.

The entrepreneurship “bug” was passed down to Belles from his parents, who have owned and operated Belles’ Sports Bar on East Patrick Street for more than 20 years.

“Fear holds a lot of people back from being business owners. Being from a family where my parents were self-employed and seeing that example made me never doubt that I could do it,” Belles said.

After attending FCC and receiving his associate degree in business with honors (‘99), Belles transferred to Towson University and obtained his bachelor’s in business (‘01).

As a young twenty-something, he was living in Manhattan when friend Rebeccah Barlett brought up a wild idea: that Belles join her in purchasing a salon in their hometown of Frederick.

The next day, Belles was in touch with the salon owner and, shortly after, became part owner of Structures Salon and Spa on South Market Street in downtown Frederick. The bold leap into self-employment was not without risk.

“I was 22, had no money, and put my share of the business on credit cards,” Belles said. Since that time, he and his business partner have continued to grow Structures by expanding the salon’s services and number of clients served.

Several years later, Belles also became part owner of the Roast House Pub on Route 355. The restaurant, which

specializes in slow-cooked foods and craft beer, was an opportunity to go into business with his father and dive into the familiar restaurant industry.

But it was Belles’ growing interest in solar energy that put him on a path toward his real passion. Belles, who is now a master electrician, also found himself back at FCC, taking classes in HVAC, electrical, and AutoCAD at the college’s Monroe Center.

“I slowly started learning solar by volunteering for projects and traveling to see what others were doing,” Belles said. His volunteer work and time spent back in the classroom helped give him the foundation he needed to become a partner in his third business, Sustainable Energy Systems, in 2010.

The business, started by Zayn Bradley in 2008, provides renewable energy design and installation and operates throughout the mid-Atlantic area.

“I just feel like solar energy is the right thing for our country to do and is definitely where we are headed,” Belles said. While still involved with Structures Salon and Spa and the Roast House Pub, he devotes most of his time to growing Sustainable Energy Systems.

Belles jokes that he has “taken all available classes” at FCC and is a big proponent of lifelong learning. His experience came full circle several years ago when he also taught a contract training course for the college on green energy.

“FCC gave me a lot of the background I needed to be successful, and having FCC as a resource to continue my education has been really valuable,” Belles said.

Don't Give Up on Your Dream

When Jason Lee came to FCC in the fall of 1994, he had no idea what the future held but knew he wanted to make money.

"FCC really started to open my mind to the possibilities," Lee said of the time he spent at the college.

Lee says the courses he took, including Sociology and Business, gave him the tools he needed in business and served as a good starting point. The rest—to be successful—was sheer willpower.

Lee started cleaning windows part time in 1999 with just one employee—himself. A few years later he expanded his business to include office cleaning, and by 2004, the business—which he named "Quality First"—was his full-time enterprise. Throughout this time Lee took classes off and on, and the first CPA he hired for his business was Don Butt, his Business instructor at FCC.

By 2008, Lee was ready to take the business to the next level, and he merged with business partner John Giles to create Top Quality Janitorial Services. Today, Top Quality employs more than 70 people and offers commercial cleaning and janitorial services, custom cleaning services and on-site day porter services.

Their 50 clients, Lee says, run the gamut from retail stores, law offices, and restaurants to office complexes, adding that the company's largest client has more than 200,000 square feet of office space.

When the business was just getting started, Lee says, the lessons he learned outside of the classroom were invaluable.

"A lot of the learning I did as the business grew was through trial and error. If something didn't work, I just needed to try something different," Lee said, adding that he also sought out apprentice relationships in the industry and traveled to see how others ran their operations.

Today, Lee is a hands-on business owner who, along with his business partner, does a little bit of everything to keep Top Quality running smoothly.

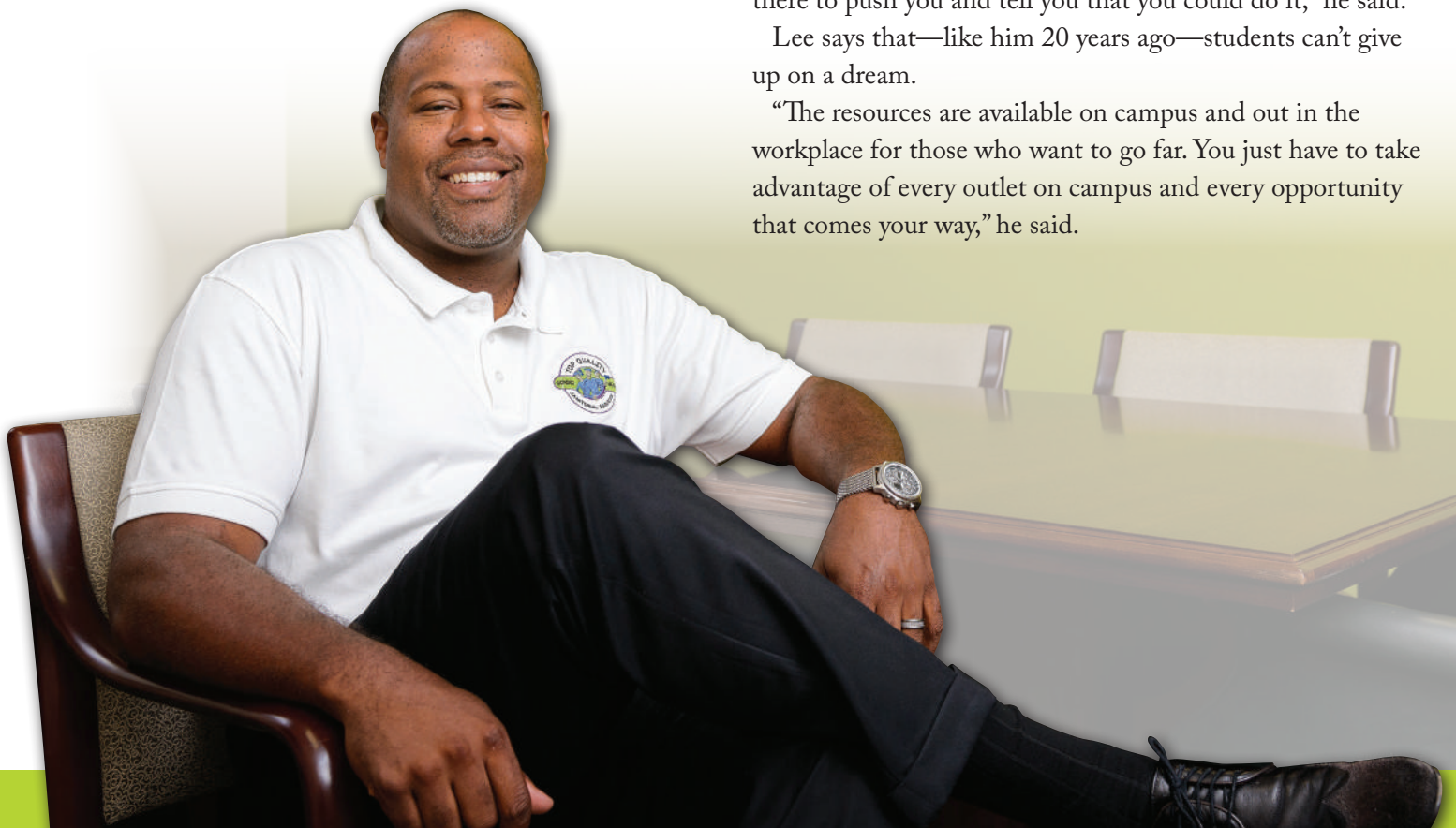
"You can't stop. As a business owner, you have employees' livelihoods on the line and they are counting on you," Lee said.

That "can't stop" outlook is something Lee often absorbed during his time at FCC from Jeanni Winston-Muir, FCC's director of the Center for Student Engagement.

"She really tried to reach out to the student body and connect you to student life, and that was one of the things I liked best about my time at FCC. Jeanni Winston-Muir was there to push you and tell you that you could do it," he said.

Lee says that—like him 20 years ago—students can't give up on a dream.

"The resources are available on campus and out in the workplace for those who want to go far. You just have to take advantage of every outlet on campus and every opportunity that comes your way," he said.





Roots Bound Aspirations

New African Art Collection Mends History and Community

Janice Laster recently moved to Concord, N.C., to be near relatives, but she left an important part of herself in Frederick. Her African art collection, Root Bound Aspirations, was recently donated to Frederick Community College by Frederick businessman Tracy Bush. The relationships that brought the collection to FCC weave a story with intertwining connections, motives, and aspirations.

Family Connections

Laster grew up in Cedartown, Ga., northwest of Atlanta. She moved to Washington, D.C. in 1965, then to Silver Spring, then Gaithersburg, and in 1993 to Frederick. The move to Frederick was actually a return to her ancestor's home. Her great-great-great-great-grandfather was a slave brought from Africa to work at the Catoctin Furnace. Her great-great-grandfather was a minister in Frederick until moving to Georgia after the Civil War.

She first visited Frederick in 1982 when her family drove "out" to Frederick with a cousin who had moved to the area for a job. They were in search of 3rd Street and the site of her great-great-grandfather's church. Laster's grandmother had a bulletin from Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church that listed Richard A. Hall as the minister. The family was surprised and pleased to find the church still standing and operational.

Her great-great-great-grandfather, Richard B. Hall, was born in Frederick in 1777 and manumitted in 1819, the first in that line of her family born in America. Laster's genealogical research indicates that he worked at the Catoctin Furnace, as did his father, a slave from the Igbo tribe. Laster said the tribe included skilled iron workers who were brought from Africa to work at the furnace, which was built by Thomas Johnson, Maryland's first governor.



When Laster traveled to Gambia and Senegal in 2002, she carried a photo of Richard A. Hall (the minister, Richard B.'s son), probably taken between 1870 and 1890. She had been told there were Africans who could identify tribal ancestry from facial features. This is when she learned that her ancestor could have been from the Igbo tribe, which was confirmed in 2006 by DNA analysis.

Pastor Richard A. Hall's son, Lewis Emory Hall (Mrs. Laster's great-grandfather, born in 1856), was a teacher at Quinn Chapel after the Civil War in 1875. He went to Howard University and founded public schools in Baltimore and Kent County, Maryland.

The family moved to Georgia in 1877 when Richard A. Hall was transferred by his denomination to Bethel AME Church in Atlanta. The AME church founded Morris Brown College in Atlanta in 1881. It opened in 1885, just 20 years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Richard A. Hall was one of the founding trustees.

Lewis Emory Hall was principal of schools in Sparta and Cedartown, Ga.

Laster followed in her great-grandfather's and two great-grandmothers' footsteps in becoming an educator. She taught high school social studies in Georgia and later taught adult education in Washington, D.C., retiring in 1975.

Although much of her genealogical research has offered information about her grandfathers, her grandmother inspired her passion for history and genealogy.

"My grandmother kept documents, pictures, and furniture that belonged to her parents, my great-grandparents (Lewis Emory Hall). When she moved to Maryland from Georgia in 1976 to be with us, I became even more interested in our family history," Laster said.

Passion for Art

Her interest in African art, inspired by her mother, was an extension of her interest in history and her ancestors.

"My mother brought me a piece of Nigerian art from her trip to Africa in 1970. That piece started my collection," she said. "I look at the tribal art and just see the beauty of it.

I've done research to learn the meaning of some of the pieces. When you understand the meaning behind them, they're not scary at all. They are simply expressions of feelings. The artists are so talented!

I'm amazed at how it's all made by hand."

All of the Shona stone sculptures are from Zimbabwe. The Shona people are one of two primary tribes in Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia). The masks came from West Africa—Ghana, Nigeria, Mali, Cameroon, and Benin.

Laster acquired a few of the pieces on her own trip to Africa, but working with vendors who knew the artists and handled shipping and customs requirements was the simplest way to build her collection.

In following her passions—history, art, education, Africa, genealogy, family—Janice Laster has created a legacy. Keeping this art together—in Frederick, at an educational institution—is like completing a genealogical circle, like following in the footsteps of her ancestors.

"I am very pleased that the collection has been kept intact and will stay in Frederick for the community to enjoy, a community that I love and a community where my ancestors go way back," she said.

"I feel like I've had angels on my shoulder helping me with this transition. Our real estate agent and the auction house that handled our estate and Mr. Bush, all have understood my passion for this art collection. They've been wonderful in creating a future for it."



Path to FCC

Tracy Bush is a financial planner and owner of Legacy Financial Associates in Frederick. He is the serendipitous intermediary who bought Laster's art collection and donated it to Frederick Community College.

Bush learned about the art collection through one of his contacts who had helped the Lasters downsize for their move.

"I'm not an expert in African art, but I could tell the collection was special. When I bought it, I had in mind finding a way to use it to benefit others. I knew there would be people who would enjoy it, and I thought the college would be a good place for making it available to a lot of people," Bush said.

"Making a gift of the collection for educational use allowed me to write off the value of the collection on my taxes. By donating it, I could also keep the collection together, which has made Mrs. Laster very happy.

"I wish I had known her earlier, so she could have made the donation herself and received the tax benefit, but I called her about my idea, and she was glad to hear the collection would stay together."

Originally from a small town in New York, Bush has been in Frederick for 20 years.

"I love this community. People in Frederick are so willing to care and to share, but people need education about the benefits they can receive through making gifts and donations," he said. "Sometimes donating is better than selling in downsizing, depending on the tax incentives. My job is to help find those win-win situations where everybody benefits."

Thanks to the generosity of Laster and Bush, future generations of students, employees, and community members will be able to tap the rich history of a distant culture and savor it in their backyard.

Gifts of personal property or "gifts-in-kind" must be items that can be used by the college; for example, books, musical instruments, art, etc. Gifts-in-kind should be evaluated by the Office of Institutional Advancement to determine their usefulness to the college and to explore potential tax benefits for the donor. Some gifts-in-kind can be donated for a tax credit to the donor, but the college may sell the gift and use proceeds to address needs of the college, including creating scholarships.

For more information, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 301.846.2438 or foundation@frederick.edu.



FCC is a Family Affair for the Julians

Jody Julian smiles as she recalls the day last August when she ran into the mother of her son's friend while waiting to register in FCC's Enrollment Services Building.

"What are you doing here?" the woman asked Jody, assuming she was there to register one of her kids.

Jody proudly explained that she was "taking a class for me." But that doesn't tell the complete story: Jody, husband Jim, and their twin children, son Josiah and daughter Joy, are also taking classes at FCC this fall. While Jody and Jim have advanced degrees, Josiah and Joy are recent graduates of Catoctin High School.

"We are all at FCC for different reasons," explained Jody. "Frederick Community College is a great school with a quality education. As a resident of Frederick County it was a natural for our kids to go here."

With a master's degree in Human Services, Jody has worked in her field for 25 years and manages eight employees and a grant project that serves adolescents at Way Station, Inc. in Frederick. Jody is the area supervisor for a program called Maryland PROMISE, part of a statewide initiative of a

federally-funded research grant to develop work experiences and educational opportunities for adolescents who have disabilities.

To maintain her professional certification, Jody was required to take a refresher course related to ethics, with an emphasis on addictions. She discovered the hybrid course at Frederick Community College.

"I wanted to be a role model for my kids. Of course they were about 10 years old when I got my master's degree," Jody said. "Thirty years ago I got my bachelor's degree and I thought about getting certified as a teacher, and took three classes at FCC. When I returned this summer I was surprised that my ID was still in the system."

Daughter Joy is contemplating following in her mother's footsteps by pursuing human services. For now, she works full time at a Nissan dealership in Hagerstown; in her spare time, she fits in online classes in sociology and psychology.



“The classes are going fine. At first it was a very hard adjustment because of my work schedule. But I like the online format because it’s more flexible, and I am often up late at night,” said Joy. “I often take tests and do homework during my lunch breaks.”

Josiah, who was accepted into four-year colleges and universities, chose FCC to save money on tuition and fees and is pursuing mechanical engineering. For now he is focusing on his general education credits and plans to transfer to the University of Maryland College Park. Like his sister and classmates, Josiah balances a part-time job—at the Shamrock Restaurant in Thurmont—with a challenging class load and other life pursuits such as training for the Baltimore Marathon, his first.

“I like the college routine and doing classes at your own pace,” noted Josiah, who is paying his own tuition and fees. “It’s a lot different from high school.” Josiah is looking ahead

to a challenging academic load of calculus, physics, and chemistry.

Jim Julian is retired and wanted to stretch his mind and be a role model for his children. So he enrolled in a gerontology class on Thursday evenings. “When Joy asked me why I was taking that class, I told her in 20 years when I’m 92, I need to know what it’s like to be old.”

While on campus, the Julians rarely run into each other because of their academic schedules—“We have an unwritten rule that I’m supposed to ignore them,” noted Judy—on the home front, they often cross paths when studying and using the computer.

“I enjoy the kids being at home,” said Jody. “When we looked at all the benefits of Frederick Community College and the money we were saving, there were too many reasons for Josiah and Joy to stay here and get an education at FCC.”

Festival Latino

9th Annual





The Annual Latino Festival, a Family and Community Celebration

Frederick Community College was proud to host the 9th Annual Latino Festival on a remarkably beautiful afternoon in September as members of the community came together to celebrate Hispanic culture. The celebration featured amazing cuisine, exhibits from community partners, live music and dancing, artisans, a soccer tournament, pony rides, and activities for children. The Latino Festival was founded by Buena Gente Magazine, Frederick Community College, and the Hispanic Business Foundation of Maryland. Proceeds from the festival benefited the Progreso Latino Scholarship Fund that provides scholarships to Frederick County high school and college students.





Foundation has new Executive Director Marcelena Holmes

Marcelena Holmes was recently hired as the Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Advancement and the FCC Foundation. Holmes has more than 20 years of experience in advancement, including marketing, fundraising, and governmental relations. She has completed three capital campaigns and raised more than \$40 million for the University of Maryland's School of Dentistry. In addition to her administrative duties at the University of Maryland, Holmes taught and assisted with developing a dental ethics curriculum for first and second year students. Prior to her experience at the School of Dentistry, she was the Executive Director for Doctors Community Hospital Foundation and founder of the Holmes Group Inc., a marketing and fundraising consulting business. She has a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Baltimore, a master's degree in Theology from Saint Mary's Seminary and University, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Northeastern University.

"I am excited about working with the Foundation Board and President Burmaster to expand FCC support."



Robin Rose joins the Office of Institutional Advancement as Assistant Director for Donor Relations. She worked most recently at Washington County Public Schools, where she was Coordinator of Development and Community Partnerships. Prior to that, Rose served as Development Director at Heartly House in Frederick and was the Baltimore Regional Director for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In addition, she worked as a sales manager in the pharmaceutical industry for 20 years. Rose earned a bachelor's degree in Journalism at Marshall University.

"I am thrilled to join the Foundation and look forward to working with our friends and donors to support FCC students, faculty, and staff."



Michelle Nusum-Smith joins the staff as Assistant Director for Corporate and Business Relations. She has more than 15 years of nonprofit experience, most recently as Development Manager with the International Rescue Committee. Nusum-Smith served previously as Director of Development and Strategic Partnerships with Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Maryland and Delaware, President of Healthy Housing Solutions in Columbia, and Executive Director of a community development corporation affiliated with Coppin State University. Nusum-Smith was appointed to the Frederick County Commission for Women in 2013 and currently serves on the Executive Committee. She holds a bachelor's degree in Management Science from Coppin State.

"I feel blessed to use my skills and talents to build support for the programs and services provided by a community of dedicated professionals, committed to the success of every FCC student."



FCC's Mid-Atlantic Center for Emergency Management Receives \$1.2 Million Training Grant

The Mid-Atlantic Center for Emergency Management (MACEM) at Frederick Community College received a \$1,172,276.00 training grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Continuing Training Grant Program. The grant is one of the largest in FCC's history.

With the grant, MACEM will develop and deliver a training course over the next three years for up to 750 emergency management professionals in each of the ten FEMA districts nationwide. The course will bring professionals in the public and private sectors together to train and better prepare for emergencies.

"We are incredibly thrilled to receive this award from the federal government," said FCC President Burmaster.

"It reaffirms our commitment to innovative practices and establishing Frederick Community College as a training leader regionally and nationally. I want to recognize the efforts of our staff and the support of our community partners who worked extremely hard to secure this important grant that will serve our students locally and nationwide."

While the training will be held in FEMA's ten regions, six courses will be offered to emergency professionals locally and in the Washington, D.C. area. The grant will support development of the course and the training. Two temporary positions will be added, one for administrative support and one for an instructional coordinator.

FCC INSTALLS TURF ON BASEBALL INFIELD

Frederick Community College is one of only two community colleges in Maryland to have an artificial turf baseball field. While FCC's nationally ranked baseball team takes scheduling precedence year round, outside groups can use the facility for a fee when there are vacancies. Athletic Director Rodney Bennett said there is already plenty of interest from outside organizations. Since artificial turf was installed on the infield, baseball clubs and teams throughout the region have been booking it for summer leagues and tournaments. "I knew this field would put Frederick Community College on the baseball map, but I'm surprised how popular it already has become," said Bennett.



FCC Awarded \$731,000 for New Cybersecurity Degree Program

Frederick Community College has been awarded a \$731,614 training grant to create a cybersecurity degree program in partnership with other Maryland community colleges. With the grant, FCC will develop a cybersecurity degree program and enhance its offerings in Information Technology – with an emphasis on providing high-end training, internships, and IT jobs to Marylanders including veterans and their families, low-skilled workers, and underrepresented groups. The program will lead to cyber-related careers including Computer Repair Technicians, Computer Network Support Specialists, Computer User Support Specialists, and Information Security Analysts. Students will receive specialized academic and career planning and job search support. Many employers in Frederick County have already committed to offering student internships. The four-year grant program is slated to begin in fall 2015.

Students in the Digital Media/TV academic department produced a video, “Introducing Clara Barton,” in collaboration with the National Museum of Civil War Medicine and FCC’s History/Digital Media departments.

Frederick Community College supported Hood College to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act. Employees and students joined Hood College and community organizations as part of a March on Frederick event Sept. 26. The March was patterned after the historic March on Washington in August of 1963.

Frederick Community College and Frederick County Workforce Services hosted a Workforce Forum: Making Connections that Work, Sept. 18. The forum brought together

leading organizations that represent a broad range of workforce, training, and support services that serve jobseekers from all backgrounds.

For the fifth straight year, the Early Childhood Development program received a grant from the Maryland State Department of Education – \$89,000 of the Child Care Development Fund through the Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund Award. The grant provides scholarship funding to local childcare providers who want to pursue a degree in early childhood education, child development, family studies, or related disciplines.

The Carl and Norma Miller Children’s Center and Director Teri Bickel were the recipients of a \$55,644 state grant to provide support for students and families wanting to enroll in preschool at the center. The grant program is made possible by the state’s Prekindergarten Expansion Act of 2014.

FCC was pleased to host the **annual meeting of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce** on Aug. 12, arranged by FCC’s Michael Boyd, business development manager and adjunct faculty member. The event, in addition to recognizing long time Chamber members, was the first meeting to be presided over by incoming Chamber President Elizabeth Cromwell.

Surgical technology program manager Nancy Dankanich reports that all 20 of the recent graduates passed the national certification examination. Passing the exam is not a requirement for employment in Maryland, but certification provides greater employment and salary opportunities. Participation in the exam is also a requirement for the program's accreditation.

Alumni of Note

Judith Whims-McGraw, (1998)

has been a Health and Physical Educator for Frederick County Public Schools since 2004. After earning an associate degree in Human Services and Adult and Family Traumas from FCC, she graduated from Shepherd University in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education (Health and Physical Education). She then completed the M.Ed. program from West Alabama University in 2010.

Justin Saltzman (2006) has been selected as one of 30 Rotarians from across the country to participate in the Rotary International Young Professionals Summit this fall. A member of the Rotary Club of Frederick, Justin spent 10 years in the banking industry before becoming a personal sales agent for Liberty Mutual Insurance in 2011. Justin enjoys coaching soccer and is involved with the Frederick Adult Coed Kickball Association. He also participates in various community groups and charity events.

Jenn Moxley (2009) has been named Admissions Advisor/Recruiter for Frederick Community College. Jenn was captain of FCC’s basketball team and earned her associate degree in General Studies. She earned a bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science from Shenandoah University, and a master’s in Human Sciences from Hood College. Jenn is also the assistant women’s basketball coach at Hood.

Alex Huseman (2011) spent one year serving with AmeriCorps as a construction crew leader for Habitat for Humanity in Charlotte, NC. Alex attends the University of Maryland and studies Philosophy on a full scholarship. While at FCC, Alex was active in student government leadership and the Honors College.

FCC Foundation Inducts Business Donors as Part of New Dr. Carol W. Eaton Business Society



Clockwise from left: former President Dr. Carol Eaton with Tracy Racheff; special recognition to Scott M. Springmann, Senior Vice President, Regional Corporate Banking Manager at BB&T Bank; and Thomas Kleinhanzl, President and CEO of Frederick Memorial Hospital.

More than 50 business leaders and guests joined the FCC Foundation at the first event to recognize members of the new Dr. Carol W. Eaton Business Society. The Society is named in honor of former President Dr. Carol Eaton in recognition of her commitment to ensuring that FCC and the business community work hand-in-hand to prepare and strengthen the area workforce. Businesses that gave more than \$1,000 in 2013-2014 were invited to the event, held at the home of Jim and Tracy Racheff. Additionally, more than 30 businesses that have given more than \$25,000 cumulatively to the FCC Foundation were honored as members of the Eaton Business Leadership Society. The Foundation was also pleased to recognize The Plamondon Companies and the Plamondon family as the 2014 recipients of the Eagle Award—presented annually to recognize unique and innovative support for FCC students and programs.





FCC Quick Facts

- More than 6,000 credit students this fall
- 1,500 taking online classes
- Average age is about 25
- Fiscal year '15 operating budget of \$48 million
- Funding sources: 39% from tuition and fees; 29% county; 23% state; 9% other
- FCC serves more than 17,000 credit and Continuing Education students annually





A group of FCC cheerleaders gathers at the sign near the college entrance.
Do you recognize the students in the photo? If so, e-mail us at alumni@frederick.edu.