

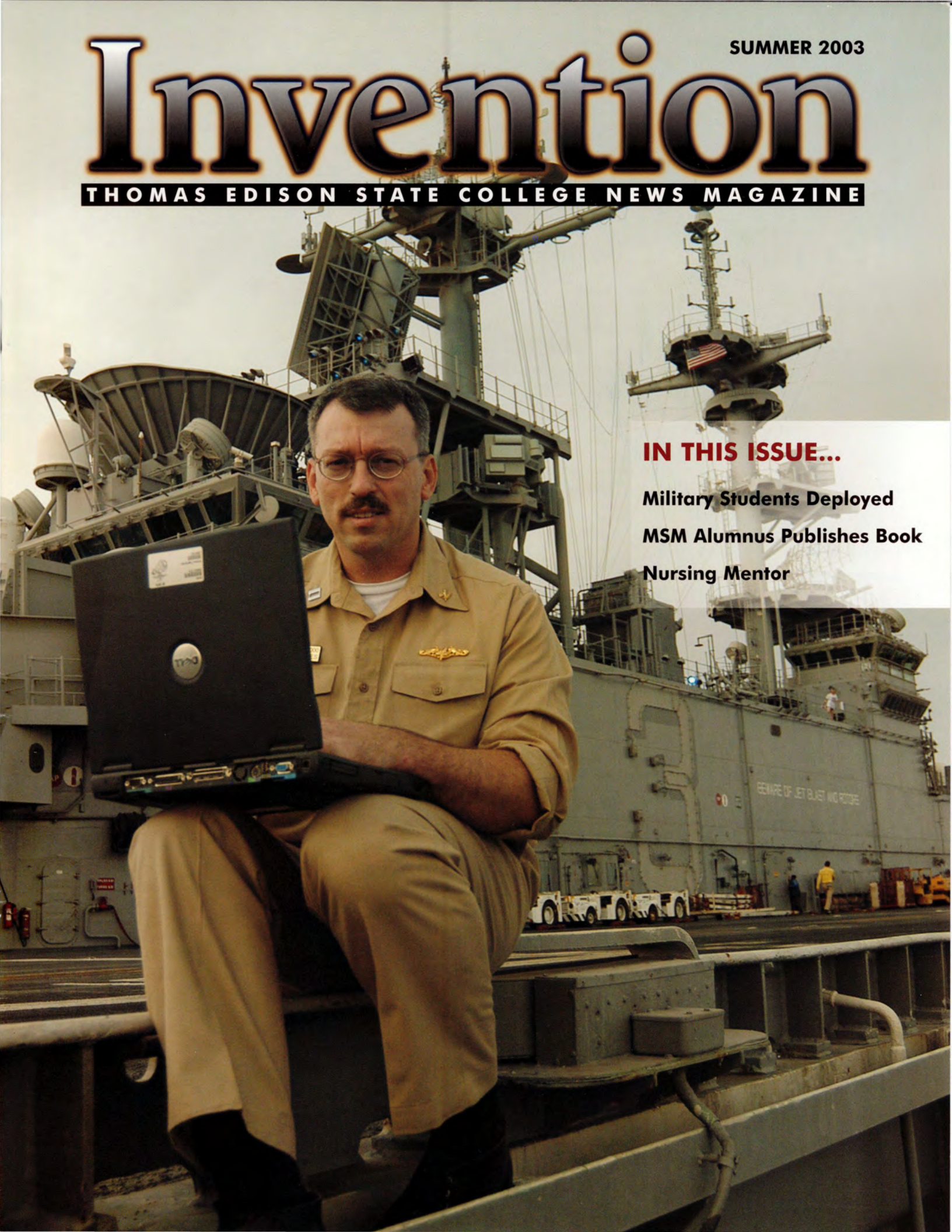
SUMMER 2003

# Invention

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE NEWS MAGAZINE

## IN THIS ISSUE...

**Military Students Deployed**  
**MSM Alumnus Publishes Book**  
**Nursing Mentor**





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MSM Alumnus Publishes Book



Military Students Deployed



Nursing Mentor

Front Cover:  
Photo U.S. Navy by PH3 (AW) Jose Eduardo Ponce

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## A Message from the President



Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

In the introduction to her book, "How to Cook a Wolf," author M.F.K. Fisher wrote, "War is a beastly business, it is true, but one proof that we are human is our ability to learn, even from it, how better to exist."

To learn as a result of war is an unexpected thing. The staff at Thomas Edison State College has recently had to react with agility to meet the dynamic needs of our student population serving in the military. As events unfolded half a world away, many of our students—more than 1,500 men and women in all branches of the service—were required to reorganize their lives in order to serve our country. We are proud of the service of these military students and of their commitment to continue their education even as they became involved in fighting a war. In this issue of *Invention*, you will read about the efforts of many of our College staff to accommodate the needs of our military students. We are extremely pleased to be of service to them.

Also in this issue you will read about Scott Snair, who came up with an innovative idea during his service as a tank commander in Operation Desert Storm. He turned this idea into a master's thesis project here at Thomas Edison State College. Snair's graduate research work was issued by a major publisher after his graduation with an MSM degree in 2000. I hope you will enjoy reading about the accomplishments of one of our most distinguished alumni.

Dr. Sharon Stark is also profiled in this issue of *Invention*. More than ten years ago, she was a nursing student at Thomas Edison State College. Now, she is a mentor in our Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program and an associate professor at Monmouth University. Stark's observations on the differences between teaching in a classroom and mentoring in an online class environment are enlightening. As a former student in our BSN program, she is able to see things from the perspective of her own current students. According to Stark, this makes her a better mentor.

No matter the state of current events, the work of the College continues. We are proud to be able to serve our students by providing the highest quality college education. When world events pose challenges for our students, we see these as opportunities to learn and become more proficient at delivering educational services in ways that are convenient and flexible for our students. This has been a season of learning for both the students and the staff at Thomas Edison State College. We hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Invention*.

Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt  
President



## COLLEGE NEWS

### The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy Receives \$56,850 in Grants to Support Community Projects



Nelida Valentine (left), director of Center for Leadership Development at Thomas Edison State College, Tom O'Neil (right), executive director for the Partnership for New Jersey, accept a check from Herbert K. Ames, Mercer Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey, in support of Leadership Trenton, a program to develop a network of emerging civic leaders.

#### Grant from The Ford Foundation Supporting Research on Public Sector Response to 9/11

Thomas Edison State College has received a grant of \$29,850 from The Ford Foundation in support of a study on the public sector response to 9/11. The project will be conducted through the College's John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy, a nonpartisan research office whose mission is to provide practical policy analysis and other technical assistance to decision makers in the public and private sector.

The grant will fund supplemental research to the College's study of the philanthropic response to the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001. The initial study, which was also made possible by a grant from The Ford Foundation, largely focused on the lessons learned from the efforts by foundations, corpo-

rations and other private sector funding sources. Under the direction of Thomas Seessel, a member of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors, the follow-up study will examine the response by the public sector. The study will compile and analyze the experience of government agencies of all levels so that policy-makers may have a

framework in its planning for future urban emergencies.

The Ford Foundation is an independent, nonprofit grant making organization. For more than half a century it has been a resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide, guided by its goals to strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation and advance human achievement.

"Thomas Edison State College's commitment to public policy and public service is an important part of the College's mission," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. "This grant will help support the work of the Watson Institute and Thomas Seessel."

John P. Thurber, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College, added that "Tom Seessel's

work on this project will provide further insights on how our communities can improve their effectiveness in responding to large scale emergencies." Mr. Seessel's work on the College's prior study, entitled *The Philanthropic Response to 9/11*, was widely hailed for its comprehensive scope.

#### Grants Supporting Leadership Trenton

The Watson Institute has received grants of \$2,000 from the Mercer Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey (CFNJ) and \$25,000 from Children's Futures in support of Leadership Trenton.

Leadership Trenton is a program to develop a network of emerging civic leaders. Fellows participate in series of monthly seminars on issues of importance to the future of the Trenton region. The seminars provide information, increase knowledge and stimulate discussion of critical public policy issues and their impact on the city and the region. Leadership Trenton is a program of The John S. Watson Institute of Public Policy of Thomas Edison State College in conjunction with the Leadership New Jersey Graduate Organization, a program of the Partnership for New Jersey.

CFNJ is one of more than 600 community foundations throughout the United States, which administers funds that make charitable giving easier and more effective. The Mercer Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey, under the auspices of CFNJ, assists nonprofit organizations in Mercer County.

Children's Futures, a public/private partnership primarily supported by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is committed to ensuring that every child in Trenton enters preschool healthy and ready to learn. The Innovative Approaches Fund provides grants for new ideas and innovative projects directly related to the mission and goals of Children's Futures. The initiative has defined four major goals: improving birth outcomes; strengthening effective parenting; improving quality in child care; and strengthening leadership and capacity.

"Commitment to public policy and public service is a key component of the Thomas Edison State College mission," said Pruitt. "These grants will help the College continue its service to the community through the Leadership Trenton program. Thanks to the generous support of the Mercer Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey and Children's Futures, Leadership Trenton will expand and improve the network of civic and community leaders to build a brighter future for Trenton."

"Leadership Trenton is developing the civic leadership network that Trenton needs to sustain its movement toward continuing revitalization," said Dr. Joseph Youngblood, executive director of The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy. "These grants will help the Watson Institute to work together with leaders in government, business and other sectors to accomplish that mission."

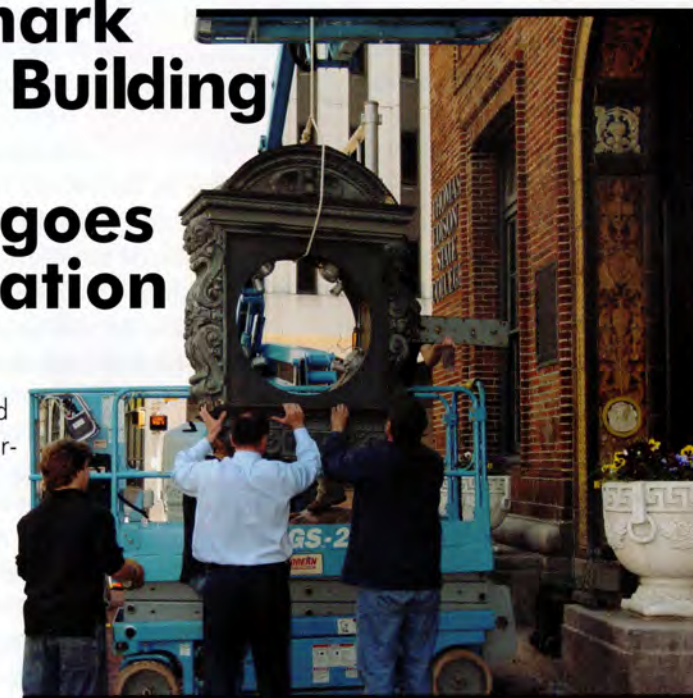
## COLLEGE NEWS

### Thomas Edison State College President Panelist at Council of College and Military Educators Symposium

Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, was one of only four college presidents across the nation invited to participate on the College Presidents Panel at the Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) Symposium held recently in San Antonio, Texas.

During the panel discussion, Pruitt outlined the challenges facing colleges as they provide education for an increasingly mobile military population and stressed the need for institutions of higher learning to keep current with the latest advances in technology. Thomas Edison State College is one of the country's largest providers of education to active members of the armed services.

### Landmark Kelsey Building Clock Undergoes Restoration



College staff and passers-by were startled to see work crews dismantling the historic Kelsey Building clock that has served the downtown Trenton state house district

for 93 years. The reason for the removal is that it is undergoing a comprehensive restoration. The project is a final phase of the \$14.2 million Townhouse renovation project funded by the New Jersey Building Authority (NJBA). According to Carl Costantino, project manager with the NJBA, the cost of the clock's restoration will be \$23,000. He expects the landmark timepiece to be returned to the exterior of the Kelsey Building in a few month's time. Expert horologist Alexander Horn will repair the inner workings of the clock and artist Ion Tilica will restore the outer cabinetry, including the intricate wood carvings. Look for further details on the clock restoration project in a future issue of *Invention*.



# MSM Alumnus



Scott Snair

## Transforms Master's Thesis Project into Newly Published Book

As a Field Artillery Commander in the Gulf War, 1st Lt. Scott Snair had made a career in the military. He had always been interested in the concept of leadership. During his six month deployment in Saudi Arabia, Snair took advantage of the opportunity to observe the activities of the superior officers. He was interested in learning what qualities made a good leader. One key area that Snair targeted was determining what management style was utilized most often by effective leaders. What Snair learned was a surprise. His findings suggested that good leaders tended to avoid holding the ubiquitous staff meeting.

Little did Snair know that his initial musings would lead to a major career shift and the publication of a book on the topic in several foreign languages. After retiring from the military, Snair became a manufacturing and logistics manager, earned his master's degree in management at Thomas Edison State College, and is now a project manager at Seton Hall University's Stillman School of Business. His original musings out in the Saudi Arabian desert were turned into a master's thesis and were the seminal research in his new book "Stop the Meeting, I Want to Get Off!"

Meeting, I Want To Get Off!" The book, which is being published by McGraw Hill in the U.S. and Canada, is being printed in seven languages.



The original idea for the book came to me in the service," said Snair, who completed his undergraduate degree at West Point. "During the down times, I would jot down examples of transformational leadership." Snair spent his time looking at the different management styles of high ranking officers. "Some of them had daily briefings and others could have meetings just walking down the line." In Snair's case, his superior officer held only one meeting during the entire time he was deployed in the Gulf. "This struck me as strong leadership," he said. "Once I got out of the military and began my career in business, I was struck by how civilian organizations have common threads with the military and started to see many parallels." Snair learned that the better managers in the military and in business did not hold many meetings.

A native of Baltimore, Snair left the military in 1995 and

began working for International Paper as a manufacturing logistics manager at the company's Oswego, N.Y. plant. As the manager in charge of the paper crew, he was in charge of the manufacture of recycled cardboard and bag paper for clients such as McDonald's, Burger King and JC Penney. While there, he was able to test out his management theories and was excited to see that his ideas were being validated.

Snair was interested in taking his research work to the next level. He started looking for a graduate degree program that was compatible with his goals and still afford him the ability to meet the demands of work and family. "I located a headhunter and started looking for a job that was near a college or university that had the right program," said Snair.

One day, while surfing the World Wide Web, Snair read about Thomas Edison State College's Master of Science in Management (MSM) degree program. He applied. Shortly thereafter, he started a new position at Schweitzer-Maudit, a U.S. - French paper firm with an office in Spottswood, N.J. "I think I'm the only person who ever relocated to be closer to a distance learning degree program," laughed Snair. "But I have to admit that my wife

was tired of the cold winters in Oswego and the commute was much better here in New Jersey."

By the time Snair began his master's program at Thomas Edison State College, the work for his Thesis/Applied Project (TAP) was half completed. As a member of cohort seven in the MSM Leadership degree program, Snair parlayed his research on organizational channeling and managing without meetings into a well-received thesis project.

After his graduation from Thomas Edison State College in 2000, Snair decided to take his ideas out to the masses. He went out and purchased a "how-to" guide to get published and started writing proposal letters to literary agents. "The first line in my pitch letter was, 'The World is

Going to Hell in a Business Meeting,'" said Snair. "I hoped that I could get someone's attention."

Snair approached 36 agents with his book

proposal idea. Remarkably, of the group, six agents called in response and three made him an offer of representation. Soon, Snair's work at Thomas Edison State College found its way into his newly published



Thomas Edison State College MSM alumnus Scott Snair prepares holiday festivities during down time during his service as a tank commander during Operation Desert Storm. Snair's observations during his deployment were the basis for his master's thesis at the College. (Photos courtesy Scott Snair).

book. "The work of my TAP project is found in chapters five and seven of the book," said Snair. "Originally, I wasn't sure how everything would fit together in a book, but the editors at McGraw Hill helped pull my TAP work on organizational channeling and alternative communication into the project."

Just as Snair was completing work on his manuscript, he began a new position at Seton Hall University.

The university's Stillman School of Business was launching a new online MBA program. As program director, Snair has brought the Thomas Edison State College graduate programs model to Seton Hall. Since beginning work there in October 2002, Snair has laid the groundwork and hopes to have the first graduates in 2005. "We've already laid down

two courses on Blackboard," said Snair. "I'm incorporating many of the elements of the master's program at Thomas Edison State College into the program here," he said. For example, Snair instituted weekend residencies and persuaded the university to grant students two credits for the residency work.

Snair has plans to pursue a doctoral degree beginning this summer. His book is now being published in seven foreign countries and McGraw Hill has invited Snair to publish a second book on career planning in the global market place. He is also mentoring in the MSM program at Thomas Edison State College. "I guess I don't know what spare time is," said Snair.



# Deployed Military Students Maneuver Toward Educational Goals

As a veteran mentor at Thomas Edison State College, Elizabeth Wilson has had a bird's eye view into the lives of her students. During the past seven years, she had assisted them as they met the challenges of obtaining their college education and still attend to the demands of work and family.

Wilson—affectionately called “Dr. Betty” by some students—is a compassionate and flexible mentor. Throughout the years, she has shared news of births, deaths, job losses, weddings—all of life's milestones. When necessary, she has had to extend an assignment deadline to help a student during a time of personal crisis. However, when Wilson opened her e-mail in March of this year, she found a sobering note that transcended anything she had ever heard before from one of her students.

“It was from one of my eArmyU students,” explained Wilson. “All the e-mail said was, ‘Sorry my assignment is late but a war broke out.’”

The onset of hostilities in Operation Iraqi Freedom have offered an additional challenge to active duty military personnel who are students at Thomas Edison State College. In an effort to anticipate the needs of these students, several new initiatives and processes have been developed by College staff. The result: many of these students are able to continue their studies despite deployment to areas in the Middle East.

One student who was suddenly deployed was Lt. Santo McAdoo, a 38-year-old Supply Corps officer pursuing a second baccalaureate degree—the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology degree in nuclear engineering technology. In charge of all aviation

**“SORRY MY  
ASSIGNMENT IS LATE  
BUT A WAR  
BROKE OUT.”**

supplies aboard his ship—the USS Kearsarge—McAdoo had finished the required work in his Survey of Chemistry class but had found himself shipping out to sea without having the time to make alternate arrangements to take his final exam.

“One day I got a call from Santo by satellite phone,” said Cheryl Dienes, testing coordinator in the Office of Test Administration. “We were able to talk him through the process and arrange to have his test sent to an approved proctor onboard his ship.”

McAdoo has taken his final and is looking forward to completing his degree requirements when he returns from deployment. “I have one class left—Calculus II,” he wrote via e-mail from his ship. “I should be done by the end of the year.”

According to Louis Martini, director of Military Education at Thomas Edison State College, staff has seen an increase in

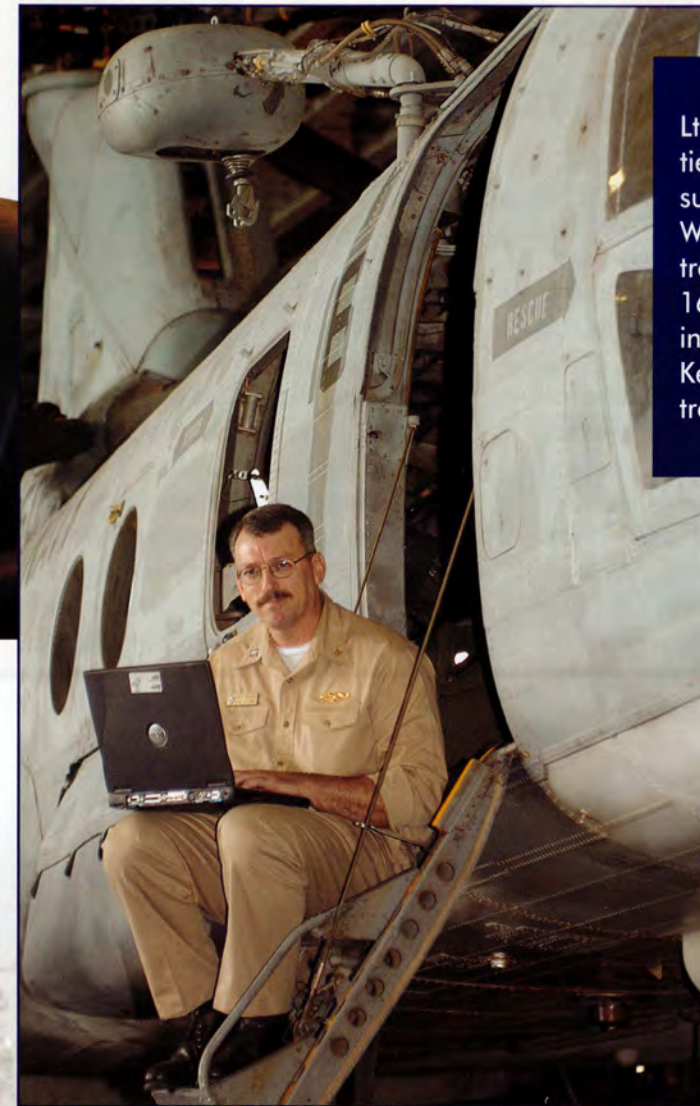


*Dr. Elizabeth Wilson*

administrative activity with regard to this student population, particularly during the time period leading up to March 17, the day bombs first dropped in the conflict.

“The College has processed a number of course extensions that is higher than usual for our military students,” said Martini. “News of deployments forces our students to settle their affairs rather quickly. The staff here at the College has been able to accommodate the needs of our military students during this rather unusual time.”

Wilson is one mentor at the College who is assigned class sections with a large percentage of military students. “I find that our military students are very determined and can be very resourceful,” she said. Wilson is proud to relate an instance where a deployed student, who had limited access to e-mail, delivered his assignments through a trusted third party—his wife.



*U.S. Navy photo by PH1 Jose Eduardo Ponce.*

Setting time aside for study can be a challenge for a typical student, but is compounded for deployed military students who may find it difficult to concentrate aboard an aircraft carrier that is launching combat sorties every 90 seconds. “These students are able to handle all the demands that are placed on them,” said Wilson.

According to Martini, the College serves approximately 4,500 active military students at varying stages of enrollment. These students come from all branches of the armed forces and are participating in the Military Degree Completion Program, the Navy College

Lt. Santo McAdoo juggles his college studies with responsibilities as the officer in charge of a division that provides logistical support on the USS Kearsarge and its assigned helicopters. When he is not concentrating on his course work, McAdoo controls all aviation supplies on board the ship; approximately 16,000 different line items, or 2.8 million total items. “If it goes in, on, or supports a helicopter, I have it,” said McAdoo. The USS Kearsarge is an amphibious warfare vessel supporting ground troops during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Program Distance Learning Partnership and the eArmyU program. Of these, Martini estimates that approximately 1,500 students are deployed in the Iraq theater of operations.

“With an enrollment of 3,000 eArmyU students, Thomas Edison State College is the third largest provider of higher education to Soldier Students seeking graduate and undergraduate degrees through this program, according to Martini.”

In addition, the College plays host to many other military students taking advantage of online courses that they will transfer to their home institutions. “The eArmyU program is adding students at a rapid pace. We will have more than 500 new military students beginning coursework at the start of the May semester,” said Martini.

Wilson, who mentors undergraduate business and psychology

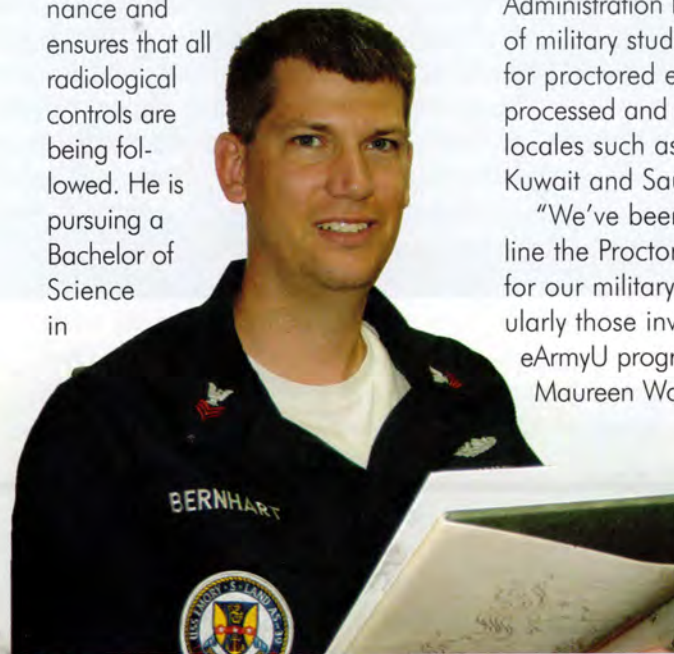
courses at the College, specializes in research. She is in a unique position to mentor a cohort of military students in the Master of Science in Management degree program at Thomas Edison State College. “In my Organizational Management course, I show the students the similarities of managing in a military environment and in the civilian setting. At the end of the course the students will often tell me they had no idea of the many commonalities between the two. They are pleasantly surprised,” said Wilson.

Machinist Mate First Class Timothy Bernhart is another military student who learned he was being transferred to duty on the USS Emory S. Land. His new assignment would take him to La Maddalena, Italy. At about the same time, he had a death in his family and needed help. “I needed to file for a course extension due to the family emergency,” he wrote via e-mail. “The staff at the College was very considerate of my situation.”

Keeping up with course work has been a challenge for deployed students. Aboard the



USS Emory S. Land, Bernhart oversees the nuclear maintenance and ensures that all radiological controls are being followed. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in



Aboard the USS Emory S. Land, Machinist Mate First Class Timothy Bernhart takes time from his duties to study his Statistics course work. Bernhart is pursuing a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering technology at the College. U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Linda Pepka.

Applied Science and Technology degree in nuclear engineering technology. "The challenge for me has been to ensure that on my free time, I spend the appropriate amount of time studying," wrote the 34-year-old.

"I really enjoyed taking the online chemistry class at Thomas Edison State College. The mentor was very organized and had a very detailed syllabus that made studying easier than I would have expected." Bernhart takes courses every chance he gets. His goal is to complete his degree requirements and graduate in the summer of 2003. "I really appreciate the flexibility of the staff and mentors in making arrangements for service members," he wrote.

With the advent of the war in Iraq, the Office of Test Administration has met the needs of military students as requests for proctored exams have been processed and mailed to remote locales such as Afghanistan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

"We've been able to streamline the Proctor Request process for our military students, particularly those involved in the eArmyU program," said Maureen Woodruff, director of the Office of Test Administration. "Many of our active duty military students, for security reasons, are unable to tell us exactly where they are. With the new system, we are able to

send proctored examinations to land and sea installations all around the world."

Thomas Edison State College has long had special ties to the

military and is proud to have been providing military students with flexible educational options since 1972. With the onset of war, many policies and procedures had to be adjusted and in some cases reinvented. "At the end of the day, we've been able to meet the dynamic and ever changing needs of this student population," said Martini. "Our ability to help our military students keep their educational commitments during war time is a testament to their tenacity and of the innovative thinking that is a hallmark of this College."



Cheryl Dienes, Testing Coordinator at Thomas Edison State College.



Sharon Wallace Stark, DNSc, RN

she can always tell them that she's been in their shoes. Now an assistant professor of nursing at Monmouth University in Long Branch, N.J. with a doctoral degree in nursing, Stark remembers the time when she was just starting down the educational path. Like her students, she was busy juggling work and family responsibilities wondering how she was going to fit a college education into her life.

"When I started my college studies it was truly part time," said Stark. "At the time there were no online courses and we did everything by mail with our mentors. It took me six years to finish my bachelor's degree." Stark, like many of her current students, started her studies in 1985 with the idea that getting a bachelor's degree was a good way to advance her career. She worked in a hospital setting in a surgical ICU. Even though she had the practical nursing experience, she needed the college degree if she wanted to move into management. "The job opportunities were limited without that degree."

"I had to start shopping for a school," said Stark. "I took a look at the system and decided that it was not going to change for me—I was going to have to change to fit into the system." Stark said she looked at several different options. "As an adult learner, I had a difficult time making school fit in to my life. I worked evenings and could not attend classes." Stark heard about Thomas Edison State College and the rest is history. After earning her bachelor's degree in 1991, Stark took a year off from academic studies. "I was really proud of that accomplishment. Earning my degree was very, very important to me." Bolstered by her experience at

## Nursing Mentor Began Education as Student at Thomas Edison State College

When Thomas Edison State College alumna and nursing mentor Sharon W. Stark introduces herself to students in her courses

Thomas Edison State College, Stark applied for, and was accepted into the graduate program at Rutgers University, where she completed her MS degree in 1996. She completed her doctoral studies at Widener University in Philadelphia, Pa. in 2002.

### "I FIND THAT THE ONLINE DISCUSSIONS ARE LIVELY WITH MY STUDENTS AT THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE"

"I began to grow out of hospital nursing," said Stark. "I had always enjoyed teaching and decided to pursue a career in this area. There are not many nurse practitioners who are teaching." Stark soon joined the faculty at Monmouth University, where she is an assistant professor in the nursing program. Around this time, Stark received a phone call from Dr. Susan O'Brien, associate dean and director of Thomas Edison State College's nursing program. Would she be interested in being a mentor for her alma mater? Stark jumped at the chance.

"I really like the mentoring," said Stark. "I find the work very interesting and satisfying. I interact with my students and see myself the same way as I was 10 years ago."

Stark finds several contrasts between her experiences teaching in a traditional setting and in an online course. "One of the most interesting differences that I see is the way the students interact in the online courses. I find that the online discussions are lively with my students at Thomas Edison State College," she said. Stark attributes this dynamic to the fact that students in the online setting have some sort of anonymity and there is no peer pressure to conform. "They are less concerned with what others think about their opinions and feel free to speak their minds. As a teacher, this is wonderful."

Stark's experience as an adult student makes her an ideal mentor for her students. "I feel that I can support my students better because I've been in the same position that they are now in," she said. "In nursing, we have a saying, 'see one—do one.' It not only applies to learning how to give injections, but I think that having been a student helps me be a better mentor to my students."



### Nursing Student Honored with Excellence in Clinical Practice Award

Thomas Edison State College nursing student Margaret Estelle, RN, CWS, (pictured left) was honored by the New Jersey State Nurses Association with a C.A.R.E. Award during the organization's annual conference on April 2, 2003. The C.A.R.E. Awards are given in recognition of nursing excellence in four categories; clinical practice, administration, research and education. A certified wound care specialist at Kimball Medical Center in Lakewood, N.J., Estelle was recognized for her work in clinical practice. "I take a very holistic approach to nursing," said Estelle. "The most important thing is the patient." Estelle is joined by Susan O'Brien (right), associate dean and director of the Thomas Edison State College nursing program and plans on completing her BSN degree program requirements during the next year.



# Alumni & Foundation News

## THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION BOARD ELECT THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Allen G. Braithwaite III of Princeton, N.J., president, CEO and chief investment officer of Merrill Lynch Bank & Trust Co. in Plainsboro, N.J.; Raman Kapur, of Princeton, president of Warrick Pharmaceuticals in Union, N.J.; and Marjorie Smith of Princeton, a nonprofit consultant, have been elected to the Board of Directors of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation. A nonprofit corporation affiliated with Thomas Edison State College, the Foundation raises funds to support higher education for adults and other initiatives of the College.

Braithwaite has held various executive and management positions with Merrill Lynch Bank & Trust Co., Merrill Lynch Bank USA (MLBUSA) and Merrill Lynch & Co. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Merrill Lynch Bank & Trust Co., oversees the treasury activities of MLBUSA and chairs MLBUSA's Asset Liability Management Committee.

Kapur is a board member of the New Jersey Institute of Technology Board of Overseers and The International Supervisory Board of the Center for Advanced Study of India at the University of Pennsylvania, and is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Princeton Day School. He is also a board member of the World-India Diabetes Foundation and the Indian American Civic Forum. He



**Braithwaite**



**Kapur**



**Smith**

holds a membership in the U.S. Generic Pharmaceutical Association.

Smith, in addition to her consulting work in the non-profit sector, is the chair of the Human Services Commission in Princeton and is a board member of the Childcare Connection, Princeton Rotary Club and Hands on Helpers. She designed and teaches the certificate program in non-profit management at Mercer County Community College. She is a former director of the Princeton YWCA.

"Allen Braithwaite, Marge Smith and Raman Kapur have made very significant contributions both in the business world and in the community," said John P. Thurber, vice president at Thomas Edison State College. "They will be invaluable additions to the College family as members of the Foundation Board."

### Time to Tee It Up

The Alumni Association is hosting its Second Annual Alumni and Student Golf Outing. Last year's outing was a great success and the committee hopes to have more alumni and their friends participate in this year's event.



Thursday, July 24, 2003  
Gamblers Ridge Golf Club  
Cream Ridge, New Jersey  
Individual golfer: \$65

For more details, you may log on to the "Alumni and Friends" section of the College's Web site at [www.tesc.edu](http://www.tesc.edu), or call (609) 633-8592.

### And the Alumni Award Goes To...

Nominations are being accepted for the Annual Alumni Awards. The awards will be presented at the Alumni Association Annual meeting on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2003. Three awards are given by the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association each year. These are, Outstanding Professional Achievement, Outstanding Service to Society and Outstanding Service to the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association.

You may nominate a fellow alumni member or yourself. If you would like more information on these awards or to make a nomination, please call the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (609) 633-8592. You may also visit the "Alumni and Friends" section of the College's Web site at [www.tesc.edu](http://www.tesc.edu) for a printable application.



## Alumni Phonathon A Success

The Office of Development and Alumni Affairs would like to thank all those who pledged their support during this year's Alumni Phonathon. The event took place between May 5 and June 11 and raised



funds to support new course development, student support and technological advances at Thomas

Edison State College. Phonathon co-chairs Thomas Kosdemba '97 and Michael Smilack '95 thank the many volunteers



who helped make this year's event a success.



## "Applause, Applause"

### Kristine Davison Allcroft '89, BA

Kristine Allcroft was awarded a PhD in clinical psychology with a specialization in health psychology from the Fielding Graduate Institute in Santa Barbara, Calif.

### Rita Diana Benasutti, PhD '90, AA

'94, BA Social Sciences/History After completing her undergraduate degrees with Thomas Edison State College, Dr. Rita Benasutti completed a master's degree in counseling in 1996 and most recently earned her PhD in family therapy from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She is now in private practice in Boca Raton, Fla.

### Sonja M. Bianchi '78, BA Social Sciences/History

Sonja M. Bianchi has recently graduated with honors and was awarded a Master of Medical Science (MMS) degree in advanced clinical practice in public health from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Bianchi, who is currently employed at Bristol-Myers Squibb as a manager, does medical writing for oncology clinical trials.

### C. Ray Bartee '03, BA Art

C. Ray Bartee has been accepted to Oklahoma City University School of Law and plans to attend in the fall of 2003.



### Lisa Marie Carlucci MSM '01

You may have noticed alumna Lisa Carlucci and her husband Franco Paoletti, a DIAL mentor, modeling the College's apparel on the back cover of this magazine. When the photo for the advertisement was shot in March 2003, Carlucci was nine months pregnant with the couple's first child. Carlucci and Paoletti are happy to announce the birth of their daughter Livia Chiara Paoletti on March 19, 2003. Both mother and baby are reported to be in good health.

### Dr. Jay (James) Carter '74, AA

### '75, BA Social Sciences/History

Dr. Jay Carter is currently conducting seminars for psychologists, social workers, counselors, and marriage and family therapist across the country. He has just completed a book on relationships to be published by McGraw Hill, which will be available in June 2003. An article about the book is scheduled for the June issue of O, The Oprah Magazine.



# "Applause, Applause"

**Harold A. Coghlan**  
**'85, BSAST**

After finishing his undergraduate degree with Thomas Edison State College, Harold Coghlan left the military and began flying for the airlines. Coghlan currently owns and operates a charter aviation company with his wife. They fly throughout the United States, Mexico and the Caribbean, often doing medical (organ) flights. The proud father of two children, Coghlan noted that he is very happy to be a Thomas Edison State College graduate.

**William L. Croft**  
**'94, BSAST**

In December 2002, William L. Croft was appointed as chair of the Health Science Department at Sandhills Community College in Pinehurst, N.C. December proved to be a busy month for Croft. In addition to the aforementioned appointment, Croft received a legislative appointment to serve on the North Carolina Board of Respiratory Care (NCRCB) and won his third straight World Deadlifting title, while competing in the American Athletic Union World Push-Pull Championships in Laughlin, Nev. Croft set three world records in the 40-45 age group class.

**Esther L. DeEugenio**  
**'96, AA Liberal Arts**

Esther L. DeEugenio has been employed with Rowan University in Glassboro, N.J., since 1990 and currently manages the Rowan University Senate office.

**Barbara Doll**  
**'92, BA Social Science/History**

Barbara Doll will be receiving a master's degree in early childhood education from New Jersey City University in Jersey City, N.J., in May 2003.

**Hubert "Wayne" Dukes**  
**'99, BSAST**  
**Fire Protection Science**

Wayne Dukes has accepted a transfer to the United Kingdom where he will be the fire chief at a U.S. Air Force base for the next three years. He will be accompanied by his wife, Silvia, who is also a graduate of Thomas Edison State College ('01, BSBA).

**Dr. Richard L. Field**  
**'80, BA Humanities**

After 20 years at Lockheed-Martin Corp., Dr. Richard L. Field retired his position as a senior software engineer. Most recently Field worked on the Space Station Solar arrays and batteries software development. He also has obtained BSME, MSME and PhD degrees in mechanical engineering. Field is enjoying retirement by writing a daily column on the stock market, and reading and writing.

**Deborah Hamilton**  
**'99, BA**

Since completing her undergraduate degree at Thomas Edison State College, Deborah Hamilton completed her Master of Science degree at Alabama's Troy State University in 2002. She is a probation officer for Okaloosa County in Fla.

**Rev. Philip F. Healy**  
**'77 BA, '79 BS**

Rev. Philip F. Healy recently celebrated the release of his first book, entitled "Ascent of the Simple Soul to the Sublime State of Divine Union" (Essence Publishing).

**Steven L. Herman**  
**'93, BA Communications**

Steven L. Herman, a Tokyo-based foreign correspondent for the AP Radio and Canada's CBC, has begun a weekly column for the South China Morning Post, the largest circulation English language newspaper in Hong Kong. Herman is finishing up his fifth consecutive term as the chairman of the Foreign Press in Japan.

**Susan A. Mills**  
**'99, BSBA**

Susan Mills is currently a student in the Master of Science in Management degree program at Thomas Edison State College. She is scientist at Playtex Products in Allendale, N.J., and was recently awarded two patents.

**Charles McGuigan**  
**'83 BA**

Charles McGuigan received a master of education leadership from the University of Maine and is currently working on a master's and a PhD in special education. McGuigan is working part-time with special education students while he works toward the completion of his two degrees.



**Laura E. Morris**  
**'01, BA Psychology**

Laura E. Morris obtained her New Jersey Real Estate License in February 2002 and has joined Weidel Realtors in Hopewell, N.J. Morris, who specializes in residential real estate, noted that she is using many of the valuable skills she developed at Thomas Edison State College to serve her clients and propel her real estate career forward.

**Raymond E. Murphy**  
**'93, BSAST**

Raymond E. Murphy is director of Operations for American Jet International, Corp., the largest air charter operator in the state of Texas. In this position, Murphy manages 21 aircraft and 168 employees, including 50 pilots.

**Mary-Ellen Piche'**  
**'80, ASAST, '94, BSAST**  
**Radiologic Science**

Mary-Ellen Piche', director of Stratton VA Medical Center in Albany, N.Y., has advanced to fellow status in the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), an international professional society representing nearly 30,000 healthcare executives. Fellow is the highest level of professional achievement in ACHE, which works toward its goal of improving the health status of society by advancing healthcare leadership and management excellence.

**Jessie F. Quichocho**  
**'00, BSAST**  
**Nuclear Engineering Technology**

Jessie F. Quichocho will be graduating from the University of Missouri-Columbia with an MS in nuclear engineering. Quichocho has also been accepted to work for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Intern Program in Rockville, Md., starting in September 2003.

**Jeffery T. Steward**  
**'97 BSAST**

**Nuclear Engineering Technology**  
Jeffery T. Steward graduated from Troy State University, Troy Ala., with a Master of Science in Management degree in Organizational Effectiveness and Leadership.

**Richard A. Vera II**  
**'96, BSBA Accounting**

Since graduating from Thomas Edison State College, Richard A. Vera II has obtained his CPA license in New Jersey and Maryland and earned his MBA from Monmouth University in West Long Branch, N.J. Vera is presently working as a forensic auditor for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in New Jersey. In addition, Vera is CEO of CPA & Financial Services, LLC in Atlantic Highlands, N.J., and a contributing author to the newly released book "Tips from the Top--Targeted Advice from America's Top Money Minds." Vera cites his educational experience through the College as invaluable.

**Joan Wielgus**  
**'79, BSHuS**

Joan Wielgus is a volunteer with 12-step programs in the Lehigh Valley, Pa., area.

# "Applause, Applause"

## Information for *Invention*

### New Job? Promotion? Award? Marriage? Baby?

*If it's news to you, it's news to us!*

As a member of our family of Thomas Edison State College alumni, we invite you to tell us about the exciting things happening in your life. Let us know what's new with you since you graduated from Thomas Edison State College and we may include your updates in a future issue of *Invention*. Please tell us how your experience at the College changed your life. To contact us, please fill out the form below and mail it to:

Thomas Edison State College, *Invention* Editor,  
101 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608;  
fax it to (609) 984-1376;

or e-mail your good news to [Invention@tesc.edu](mailto:Invention@tesc.edu).

You may include photos to accompany your news. All items will be published as space permits.

Thank you for this opportunity to better serve our valued Thomas Edison State College alumni family.

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Former Name \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year \_\_\_\_\_ Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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# SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT



*Lisa Marie Carlucci, MSM '01  
Franco Paoletti, Pb.D., DIAL Mentor*

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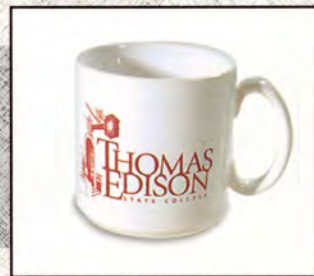
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**B:** Denim shirt with embroidered burgundy logo. (S-XXL) \$35.00



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**D:** Porcelain mug in burgundy or white. \$7.50