

Fall 2000

# Invention

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE NEWS MAGAZINE



## Highlights in this Issue:

Memorial Room Pays  
Tribute to a Lost Love

New Web Site Launched

Walk of Honor  
Paves the Way with  
Commemorative Bricks

Meet One of Our Best  
(Alumni Profile)



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The Prudence Townsend  
Kelsey Memorial Room  
pays tribute to a lost love  
(see article, p.6).

*Invention* is published by  
Thomas Edison State College.

Dr. George A. Pruitt  
President

John P. Thurber  
Vice President for Public Affairs

Stephanie R. M. Bray  
Director of Development

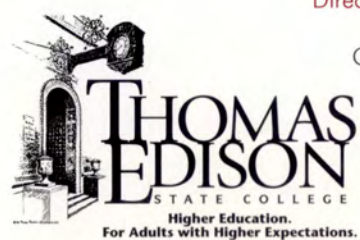
Patricia Memminger  
Acting Director of Alumni Affairs

Marie R. Power-Barnes  
Director of Marketing &  
College Relations

Kristine A. Brown  
Director of Communications

Karen E. Hume  
Director of Publications

Christina M. Young  
Designer



Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

Since *Invention* was last published, Thomas Edison State College has made two very important, very significant strides.

First, the College's new Web site was unveiled to an overwhelming response (see related article on page 3). Alumni, students and friends alike have told us over and over that information that is up to date and easy to access is essential for any successful Web site. With the complete redesign of

our Web site, that's exactly what you'll find. Simply log on to [www.tesc.edu](http://www.tesc.edu) to learn about the College, our programs, services and even a few interesting facts about our campus and our history.

Second, the College has officially launched its second online master's degree program, the Master of Arts in Professional Studies (MAPS). In the MAPS program, students use methods and ideas drawn from the study of the liberal arts to examine and address real-life issues confronting working professionals. The MAPS program joins the College's Master of Science in Management program, a highly sought-after online degree that has been available since 1996.

In this issue of *Invention*, you will read about two of our distinguished graduates—Andrew Kaufman and Margo Fish. At first glance, these two people could not seem more different. Andrew is an attorney with a young son, while Margo is a senior adult with grown children and 10 grandchildren. On the outside, these two individuals may seem dissimilar, but on the inside they share a common bond—the benefit of a Thomas Edison State College education that has helped in both their personal and professional lives.

Margo and Andrew represent only a small fraction of the College's more than 16,000 alumni worldwide, yet their stories have a common thread—their Thomas Edison State College education changed their lives, forever. These inspiring individuals are not alone out there; I'm sure of it. We want to hear how Thomas Edison State College changed your life. Please take a moment to reflect on your experience with the College and then tell us about it. Simply fill out the form found on page 9 of this issue, or go to our new Web site and complete the Alumni Updates form on the Alumni and Friends section of the site. We'll review your submission and, who knows, you might just see yourself profiled in an upcoming issue of *Invention*.

Thomas Edison State College takes great pride in helping so many adult learners achieve their educational goals. As the College continues to evolve and grow, we will continuously seek new and unprecedented ways to provide the highest quality educational opportunities for our adult students—wherever they may be located.

Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt  
President



# There's No *Slowing* Margo Fish...

Sitting on the expansive porch of her summer residence in Lake Placid, N.Y., and looking out over the landscape, Margo E. Fish, a 1978 graduate of Thomas Edison State College, speaks eloquently and humbly of her remarkable life. Her story is anchored by her extreme reverence and appreciation for education.

At age 71 years young, this chaplain's wife, artist, writer, philosopher, marathon-runner, mother of four and grandmother of 10, leads a lifestyle that is busier and more active than most people half her age. Fish defies stereotypes of women of her generation, and continually amazes and intrigues everyone she meets.

From childhood, Fish's self-proclaimed "love of learning" has been a constant and influential force in her life. She met her husband, Howard MacFarland Fish, whom she adoringly refers to as Mac, in kindergarten. She marks milestones in their relationship speaking in terms of education. "We walked home from school

together in seventh grade, and then in ninth grade we had our first date—at a film," she recalls. The two were eventually married, while both in college, in 1951. Fish, at the time a student at Penn State (Pa.), took a leave of absence and did not return because a few months later she became pregnant with the couple's first child.

From that point on, Fish enjoyed her life as a full time mother and supportive wife as her husband (today, a congregational minister and educator who holds a doctorate degree in philosophy) pursued higher education and a multifaceted professional life. During their early years of family life, the couple traveled willingly and freely, eager to take in new landscapes as Mac both studied and taught on campuses around the world. "One of our earliest adventures of that sort was in 1953 when we left the Princeton (New Jersey) area for Scotland. I saw an ad in the local paper about summer classes there, and off we went on the Queen Mary seeking both classroom and cultural

education at the University of Edinburgh," she says.

The unabridged version of the Fish family's travels could fill a novel and would promise the reader page-turning interest. In short, Fish visited numerous states and countries, and at each

place she made the time to pursue academia. One class, one credit at a time, this young mother and chaplain's wife who was often called on to host students and distinguished guests, sought to better herself and to feed her hunger for knowledge.

"I never resented or regretted the path my life had taken," she assures. "My need for education was something that I worked in around my family, always giving them my first attention," she says.

Boston University, Yale and Harvard Divinity are some of the institutions that Fish fondly looks back upon. In the early 70's, the Fish family called the Princeton, N.J. area home, and Fish taught art at Princeton University's museum as a way of satisfying her own curiosity and appreciation of art. Mac, at the time, was the first chaplain at the Lawrenceville School, and he later called upon his wife's expertise and insight to prepare a course syllabus together.

In 1974, as a non-matriculated student with numerous college credits, Fish realized part of her educational goal, earning an Associates degree in Fine Arts from Mercer County Community College in New Jersey. Two years later she attended graduate level art classes at the renowned Leo Marchutz School in France, when Mac accepted a chaplaincy and teaching position at Marlboro College in England.

Throughout her adult life, Fish's art appreciation was complemented by her artistic



Margo Fish and her husband, Mac met in kindergarten and have been married since 1951.

# New Web Site *Launched*

## Enhanced Tools and Expanded Information Now Available

What began as a process of updating and revising the College's Web site approximately nine months ago, has resulted in a brand new Web site, chock full of new and updated information and resources.

The new site was launched in August. The upgraded and totally redesigned site offers prospective students, current students, and alumni and friends a plethora of information pertaining to each group. There are numerous enhancements, tools and information available on the new site which was not available on the existing site.

For example, a tuition and fees calculator allows a potential student to assess the approximate cost of completing a degree; dedicated pages to military service members and community college students outline the benefits of the College's Military Degree

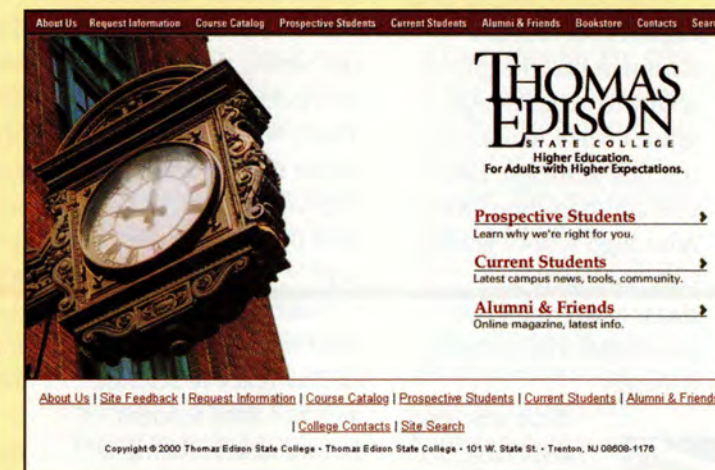
Completion Program and Degree Pathways Program; directions to all College facilities are easily accessible;

At the College, our mission is to provide the highest quality educational opportunities to

decisions." The College worked with NYD2, a leading digital communications management firm, to design and develop the new site.

The launch of the new Web site marks the completion of Phase I of this project. In the coming months, even more enhancements will be added to the site making it a valuable tool for current students, prospective students, as well as alumni and friends of the College.

If you haven't visited the College's Web site in a while, take a moment to see what's new. Visit us at [www.tesc.edu](http://www.tesc.edu).



financial aid information is now available; and expanded alumni and donor information is presented.

In addition, moderated discussion boards are available for current students and alumni to post messages and questions to other students and alum. A "Textbook Swap" message board is available for students looking to purchase or sell textbooks. Information about and photos of the College's campus and historic buildings are presented on the new site, and a searchable College Catalog of courses is now accessible.

Thomas Edison State College President Dr. George A. Pruitt, said,

adults wherever they live or work. Our new Web site supports this mission by offering adult students the specific information they need to make informed



[www.tesc.edu](http://www.tesc.edu)

Continued on page 10



## Meet One of Our Best...

### Andrew R. Kaufman '83 BA

Perhaps in the setting of his law office, surrounded by cherrywood framed diplomas and degrees, Andrew R. Kaufman will certainly have an interesting story to tell his son, Sam, now 6, when it comes time for Sam to begin his college studies.

Kaufman, while exceptionally intelligent, was not a typical student when he graduated at the top of his

high school class in 1975. It was his atypical nature that led him to Thomas Edison State College.

Inarguably bright, as a high school student Kaufman had the gifted ability to achieve high grades while maintaining non-academic interests and part-time jobs. After high school graduation, Kaufman predictably attended two prominent Philadelphia colleges.

What was less predictable, to Kaufman, his parents and those who knew him best, was that Kaufman, unchallenged by the classroom structure of traditional college courses, would not instinctively meet his earliest collegiate opportunities with success. "I always enjoyed working and keeping busy, and so while I attended school I would always maintain a job, not for the money, but for my love

of learning and doing meaningful things," recalls Kaufman of his undergraduate years.

"I thought that I could attend—and do well—in college without sitting through every class and lecture. There was something about the classroom experience that was very difficult for me," he says.

Kaufman attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy & Science as a full time student before matriculating at Temple University. "While some people, I am sure, might have given up on me, an advisor at Temple said to me, 'you are not a traditional student,'" remembers Kaufman.

It was then that new doors were opened for Kaufman when that same advisor told him about Thomas Edison State College.

"I was immediately interested in what Thomas Edison State College had to offer. It sounded like the kind of atmosphere that I would be able to learn in. I knew I had the ability to do well, and always knew that I would graduate from college and become a successful professional. I was just uncomfort-

able in the traditional route that most academic institutions insisted students follow," says Kaufman.

From the first meeting that Kaufman had with his Thomas Edison State College advisor, he was hooked on the learning experience that the school offered. "I had a good feeling about the school's philosophy and the more creative way students could achieve academic goals."

Kaufman's work experience at Carson Geoscience had always been important to him, and was something that he was proud of. Working at this division of the parent company, Carson Helicopters in Perkasi, Pa., Kaufman was involved in worldwide research that studied oil and uranium deposits. The experience challenged him to utilize highly technical, computerized mapping systems and to perform critical data analysis. "I had learned volumes through my work experience, and through Thomas Edison State College's Portfolio Assessment process, I was able to translate relevant on-the-job knowledge to college credits," he says.

Because Kaufman had

taken courses at two other undergraduate institutions, he was able to transfer some of those college credits to his Thomas Edison State College academic record. "Another valuable option presented to me was the chance to test out of courses which

**"I had a good feeling about the school's philosophy and the more creative way students could achieve academic goals."**

taught material that I had already mastered."

Kaufman was also pleasantly surprised to learn that Thomas Edison State College valued his interest and experience as a volunteer emergency medical technician. "The certification that I earned as an emergency medical tech was counted as credits toward graduation. Looking back, this makes a lot of sense because I had to take some challenging courses to earn that certification," he recalls. (In the years following high school graduation, Kaufman developed a strong interest in the medical field and volunteered with local ambulance squads during his undergraduate

college days.)

Kaufman's interest in medicine, and in helping people, evolved along his course of studies. After graduating from Thomas Edison State College in 1983 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal studies, he pursued and earned a law degree, intent on providing another professional service to those in need.

"Thomas Edison State College was the cornerstone for me, and after graduating, I worked as a law clerk and simultaneously attended law school. I always had a desire to help people, and as an attorney, I maintain that philosophy daily. That is truly the part of practicing law I enjoy most," he says.

While some might be surprised at the path that has led to Kaufman's professional success, those who knew the Kaufman from his high school days would be less surprised to learn that the high school student who graduated eighth in his class of 1,100 later graduated from Villanova University School of Law in Villanova, Pa. and currently enjoys his career as a general practice attorney with offices in Philadelphia, Pa. and Collingswood, N.J.

At home in Cherry Hill, N.J., with Fern, his wife of ten years and their son Sam, Kaufman

values time spent as a family whether at the beach, traveling the United States, or attending services at Congregation Beth El. Among Kaufman's other interests are the Ukrainian American String Band of which he has been on the Board of Directors for the past twelve years, a passion that has been part of his family for generations, and the Masonic Lodge Mizpah-Haddon Heights, where he is a member.

Reflecting on his Thomas Edison State College experience, Kaufman concludes, "I would not be where I

am today." That sentiment is one which Kaufman feels strongly about, and in fact, it is something that has prompted him to support the school with contributions to Thomas Edison State College's annual fund.

"Back then, Thomas Edison State College had something to offer that I truly needed. Now, I have something that I can offer them. And I am honored to be able to give back in the way of donations to the school. What they offer is so important to people, who, for whatever reason, seek a less traditional academic experience."



Andrew Kaufman, pictured with wife Fern and son Sam, says, "I would not be where I am today" without Thomas Edison State College.

**LIFE DOESN'T STAND STILL. WHAT ABOUT YOUR CAREER?**

Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association and Drake Beam Morin—the world's leading provider of career management and transition services—have teamed up to create a dynamic new career management resource for you and your fellow alumni. It's called Drake Beam Morin Alumni Career Services. This comprehensive portfolio of career-enhancing programs and tools includes:

- Networking opportunities
- Job leads
- Professional seminars in key knowledge and skill areas
- Career consultation with world-class business advisors

Find out more by visiting the DBM Alumni Career Services Web Site at [www.dbmalumniservices.com](http://www.dbmalumniservices.com). Or call 1-800-863-8684.

**Drake Beam Morin Alumni Career Services**



# Memorial Room Pays Tribute To a Lost Love



"God bless her soul. O! My darling, darling wife."  
- Excerpt from a note written by Henry Cooper Kelsey about his wife Prudence

It mimics a Victorian valentine. A room filled with treasured souvenirs collected during trips abroad; paintings, porcelains and bronzes; poems and pictures; cherubs, charms and vases. A memorial from a man to the woman he loved and lost.

Dedicated to Prudence Townsend Kelsey, the lavishly decorated Prudence Townsend Kelsey

Memorial Room located on the second floor of Thomas Edison State College's historic Kelsey Building in Trenton, N.J., is a permanent exhibit space for the porcelain and art she collected on her annual trips to Europe with her husband Henry Cooper Kelsey.

A banker, who served as New Jersey's secretary of state for 27 years, Henry Cooper Kelsey married Prudence Townsend, the daughter of a judge, on May 15, 1861. Kelsey, who began his business career as a clerk in a country store in 1851, also became postmaster of

Newton, N.J., judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Sussex County, N.J., and publisher of the *New Jersey Herald*, a Newton newspaper.

Following his wife's death on Jan. 3, 1904, Kelsey decided to erect a building as a lasting tribute to her memory and to donate it to the School of Industrial Arts. He hired Cass Gilbert, one of America's most famous architects, to design the building, which was modeled after the most famous palace of the Florentine Renaissance—the Palazzo Strozzi. This palace, a favorite of Prudence Townsend Kelsey, was built in Florence, Italy, in 1489.

Kelsey asked Gilbert, a past president of the American Institute of Architects and designer of the prominent Woolworth Building in New York City, to design a room on the building's second floor to house the special tribute to Prudence. The Kelsey Building cost \$130,000 to construct in 1909, \$12,000 of which was spent specifically on the Memorial Room.

Kelsey, who never ceased to mourn his wife, created the feeling of the Victorian valentine by having the room's collection of clocks stopped at



11:49 p.m., and a number of small calendars, permanently turned to Sunday, Jan. 3, 1904, the time and date of her death, as well as scattering small pictures of her among her possessions.

To enter the Prudence Townsend Kelsey Memorial Room, one must step through a set of double doors—the outer mahogany, the inner one inlaid satinwood, and underneath a marble archway. The floor inside the room is inlaid marble, the walls and ceiling decorated with plaster ornamentation. There are four



small oval paintings in the ceiling and three stained glass windows. The display cases within the room were built specifically to hold Prudence's treasures. Some of the items housed in the room include an asparagus shaped porcelain vial, a jewel Demitasse cup and saucer, charms, vases and several pieces of porcelain and crystal from Austria, England, Germany, France and Ireland. Outside the room, suspended from the building's façade is a large clock. Attached to its face are two bronze markers which



permanently mark 11:49 p.m., Prudence Townsend Kelsey's time of death.

Dedicated as the School of Industrial Arts on June 11, 1911, the Kelsey Building has always housed educational institutions. On April 8, 1947, the name was changed to Trenton Junior College and School of Industrial Arts. On July 1, 1967, the latter merged with and took the name of Mercer County Community College (MCCC). In 1972, when MCCC moved to its new, larger campus located in portions of West Windsor and Hamilton townships in New Jersey, the Kelsey Building was purchased by the state of New Jersey, remaining vacant for a number of years.

In 1974, prompted by the

state of New Jersey's desire to demolish the building and replace it with a bicentennial visitor's center, state Sen. Joseph P. Merlino successfully sponsored a bill to preserve the building as a state landmark. The Kelsey Building became home to Thomas Edison State College in 1979.

The New Jersey State Museum has acted as custodian of the contents of the Prudence Townsend Kelsey Memorial Room since the state acquired the building and installed the current display.

In accordance with Henry Cooper Kelsey's will, the Memorial Room is open to the public several times a year. The College invites visitors in to experience this touching piece of history.



# "Applause, Applause"



**James J. Carter**  
AA 1973, BA 1975

James earned his Masters in Psychology in 1977, and a Doctor of Psychology degree in 1990. He sat for his exam as a licensed psychologist in 1992 and is currently a licensed psychologist in Pennsylvania. James is a candidate in pharmacology sanctioned by the American Psychological Association (APA), and he is certified by the APA Board of Governors in

Substance Abuse Treatment. He is also a Diplomat in Forensic Psychology. James wrote a best-selling book, "Nasty People", and currently does speaking engagements across the country. He has done seminars for United Way, Union Carbide, IBM, Human Resources Consultants, the Association of University Women, and various universities including Temple University, Loyola University and Penn State. Seminar topics included, among others, "Leadership and Charisma", "Dealing with Nasty People" and "Communications". James has also appeared in over 100 radio and television shows, including "Larry King", the BBC in Liverpool and "How-to Authors" in Hollywood. James also consulted with *Reader's Digest* and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*.

**Carl T. Buscher**  
AA 1976, BA 1980

Carl has been re-elected president of the board of health in Norwood, N.J. He was the 1980 president of the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association and is a retired certified association executive.

**Ryan James**  
BA 1979

Ryan graduated with a Doctorate of Education from the University of San Francisco in May 2000.

**Lucille Russo Russell**  
BST 1980

After Lucille graduated from Thomas Edison State College, she became a professional pilot. In her 20-year career as a pilot she has flown for Allegheny Airlines, Allied Signal, Hicks Muse and the New Jersey Devils. She also volunteers for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

**Nia Abuwi**  
BSBA 1989

Nia earned her master's degree in liberal studies from Rutgers University in Camden, N.J.

**Carolyn Melanie Burke**  
AA 1989

Carolyn is an ordained minister and store department manager. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education as well as a graduate level certificate as substance awareness coordinator and a guidance certificate. Carolyn is a master's candidate for a Social Studies, K-8th, teacher certificate.

**Karen Lee Jamison**  
BSBA 1989

Karen earned a promotional transfer in the N.J. Department of Personnel from Banking and Insurance, to Manager of Test Administration in Selection Services. She earned her Master of Science degree in public administration from Rutgers University in 1996.

**Judith Lasch**  
BA 1982

Judith was recently awarded the Trustee Fellowship by the Union Institute to pursue her doctorate on the historic and economic impact of women's work. She is an entrepreneur, and recently had the chance to meet first lady Hillary Clinton at a technology summit in New York City.



**Steve Richards**  
BSAST 1991

Steve completed his JD from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, Ill. and is currently employed as a business representative for Teamsters Local 200 in Fond du Lac, Wis.

**Ltc. (P) William Landon**  
BSBA 1992

William graduated from Shippensburg University in Pa. with a master's degree in Public Administration in 1998. He also graduated from the U.S. Army War College and was recently promoted to Director of the U.S. Army Communications Security Logistics Activity, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.

**Kevin M. Maher**  
BSBA 1993

Kevin earned his Master of Business Administration degree from Monmouth University, West Long Branch, N.J. in May 2000.

**Charles Jack**  
BSBA 1989, BA 1995

Charles has been appointed vice president general for New Jersey and New York by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The society is made up of descendants of George Washington's army and other Revolutionary patriots. His mother and father had ancestors in the American forces during the Battle of Monmouth in 1777. Charles is the owner of Pilot Realty Agency in Point Pleasant Beach, N.J.



**Mary Ann O'Beirne**  
BA 1994

Mary Ann graduated from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas in 1997 with a Master of Science degree in Medicine and Physician Assistant certification.

**Beth Rotchford**  
BSBA 1994

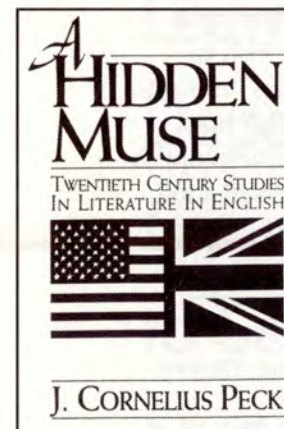
In May 2000, Beth completed her Master of Arts in Corporate and Public Communication degree from Monmouth University in West Long Branch, N.J.

**Catherine Lewis**  
BSN 1995

Catherine earned her Master of Science degree in Health Education from Montclair State University, Montclair, N.J. in May 2000. She also earned her New Jersey real estate license in August 2000.

**J. Cornelius Peck**  
BA 1995

Cornelius earned his master's and Ph.D. degrees at Eastern University, Albuquerque, N.M. He recently published his first book, "A Hidden Muse", which is a study of literary criticism of twentieth century American and British authors. This book has found its way into college and university



libraries throughout the United States and the British Isles. Cornelius has taught at Bucks County Community College in Pa., and is taking time off to write his second book, a study of the architecture of Stanford White.

**Peter J. Malara**  
BA 1997

Peter is the owner of *Microsourcing*, an electronic distributor that makes and sells high-tech components to manufacturers. He was recently engaged to Dana Lyn Fabrocino. The couple will be married on January 13, 2001.

**John Robert Schunder**  
BS 1997

John is currently employed by Dupont in Richmond, Va. He will graduate in May 2001 with his Master in Business Administration degree from the University of Richmond. He was also an Arnold Fletcher award recipient from Thomas Edison State College.

**Jayne Ulmer**  
BA 1997

Jayne graduated with a Master of Arts degree in liberal studies from Rutgers University, Camden, N.J. in May 2000.

**Raymond E. Goshert**  
BSAST 1998

Raymond recently completed his Master in Business Administration degree from the University of West Florida in

Pensacola, Fl. He will be working for CSX Corporation. Raymond and his wife are expecting a baby boy.

**James J. Holloway**  
BA 1998

James graduated in February 2000 from Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. with his Master of Science degree in organizational leadership. At present he is pursuing a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Capella University.

**John O'Rourke**  
BSHS 1999

John has been promoted to Sergeant in the New Jersey State Police.

**Timothy D. Storey**  
BSHS 1999

Timothy and his wife welcomed the birth of their first child, Madison Paige, on June 2, 2000.

**Christina Thomas-Fraser**  
BA 1999

Christina is currently pursuing her goal by being enrolled in a master's degree in Spiritual Psychology at the University of Santa Monica in California.



**Mark Alan Morrison**  
BSHS 2000

Mark has been accepted to Kean University and New York University (NYU) for graduate school. He is currently a graduate student at NYU in Deafness Rehabilitation. Mark also completed two graduate level courses at the University of Colorado, and he expects to graduate from NYU in spring 2001.

**Delicia Dawn Guillory (Lewis)**

BA (currently enrolled)

Delicia earned her Associate in Applied Science degree in Human Services with emphasis on family and youth from the University of Alaska Anchorage. She is currently enrolled at Thomas Edison State College to complete her Bachelor of Science in Human Service and/or Bachelor of Arts degree. Delicia recently got married to Michael Shawn Guillory of San Antonio, Texas.



## "Applause, Applause" Information for *Invention*

**New Job? Promotion? New Job?  
Award? Marriage? Baby?**  
*If it's news to you, it's news to us!*

To better serve 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 and we'll include your updates in a future issue of *Invention*. Please tell us how your experience at Thomas Edison State College changed your life. To make it easy for you to contact us, please fill out the form below and mail it to: Thomas Edison State College, *Invention* Editor, 101. W. State Street, Trenton, N.J. 08608; fax it to (609) 984-1376; or e-mail your good news to kbrown@tesc.edu. Feel free to send us photos to accompany your news. We'll publish them as space permits.

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Former Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Day Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Evening Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
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Class Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree \_\_\_\_\_  
Information for *Invention*:  
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talents. With all of her children in college, she decided that it was the perfect time to pursue a career. So, while living at the Lawrenceville School campus, she opened a small art studio in New York and began to show her works to the world.

"After opening my studio in New York, I heard that NYU (New York University) offered a non-traditional education route, so I called them, still eager to complete my degree. The person I spoke to there listened to my story of past varied educational achievements and immediately told me about Thomas Edison State College, knowing that the school was much more convenient to my home and family," she says.

Eagerly, Fish investigated the suggestion. "Thomas Edison State College freed me and offered me the opportunity to grasp something that I had so dearly wanted and so persistently worked toward. After all of these years, I knew that my college degree was in reach," she remembers.

Fish recalls meeting with an advisor who guided her to complete a Portfolio Assessment that examined her past experiences. She found it remarkable that Thomas Edison State College valued her previous college credits as much as she valued them herself. "The school portrays a model in which structure follows creativity, making it a dynamic place, not a dogmatic one, which is how I had begun to view many of the institutions that refused to accept my varied credits and would only consider me if I could commit to full-time college residence and attendance."

Fish happily took complementary college courses in poetry at The New School in New York to fulfill her Thomas Edison State College requirements.

Calling on her natural bent for philosophy and theology, Fish refers to Thomas Edison State College as an institution with a soul, "They put the person first."

"If a person's concern or goal is to graduate with a degree, then Thomas Edison State College is the answer. They offer flexibility, still with a thoughtful and rigorous requirement formula, in a way that is non-threatening and accommodating to non-traditional ways of learning," she explains.

"When a person has the motivation, and they call on their instinct for learning, Thomas Edison State College provides the tools that can make the goal a



reality." Fish earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College in 1978.

Fish credits Thomas Edison State College with opening new doors for her, referring specifically to her pursuit of a graduate degree, which she earned in 1996 from the Union Theological Seminary. (Rooted to a home that undeniably values and promotes education, each of Fish's children earned graduate college degrees in the years prior to her own accomplishment.)

The realization of her educational goals has not caused Fish to settle into a more sedentary or retired lifestyle. Quite the contrary, Fish is deeply philosophical and continues her studies. Original Margo E. Fish artwork now graces walls worldwide, a proud accomplishment for Fish who considers herself a full time artist these days. She maintains her New York studio and has had over 20 one-person art shows in the United States. She's also shown her work at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland, Oxford University and in Hydra, Greece.

She is also in the process of publishing her graduate theology thesis as a book. And she is illustrating a book written by the Dr. Reverend James Forbes.

Fish believes adamantly in exercising the body as well as the mind. She began running as a hobby in 1960, and ran in her first Boston Marathon in 1968. The experience agreed with her, and to date, Fish has completed 31 Boston Marathons and five New York Marathons. She notes that she took one year off from marathon running, slowed down but not stopped by a diagnosis of breast cancer that eventually required a mastectomy. Fish is still running, and has no plans of crossing her last finish line any time soon.

More recent endeavors for Fish include the study of ballet (she started two years ago and has been dancing since). She is currently involved in raising money to restore an ancient nunnery in Scotland which she and her husband discovered in their early travels there.

The Fish family maintains and directs Paraclete—Tapawings, a center for art, religion and education at their Adirondack Mountain residence.

It is no surprise if one has difficulty keeping pace, or even tracking Fish down. And for the record, if you can't reach her in September, you might do well to check France's Mount Blanc, where Fish will be spending eight hours a day with friends on a meditative hike around the mountain's base.

## Distance and Independent Adult Learning Department Expands to Serve Students

Since its inception in 1972, Thomas Edison State College has been offering adult students the opportunity to earn a college degree without the constraints of time and location. For the past two decades, Thomas Edison State College has worked to provide one of the best mixes of traditional distance learning and technology-based courses available today. As a result, more than 16,000 adults around the world have had the opportunity to reach their educational goals with the help of Thomas Edison State College.

Many years ago, when the College began thinking of ways to help the adult learner work even more independently, the Adult Learning Service of the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) was offering college courses on television. Thomas Edison State College began to

explore how tapes of the PBS courses could be useful to its students. What resulted has become a lasting and beneficial relationship. The College is currently one of only 60 colleges nationwide selected by PBS as a partner in its "Going the Distance" program. Through this program, the College offers PBS courses on New Jersey Network (NJN) public television. Students can earn an Associate in Arts degree by completing this program. Videocassettes of the courses are also available as an alternative to the PBS televised option.

But the expansion of the College's goal of using technology to provide education did not stop with PBS. In 1986, the College was recognized by the State of New Jersey for its innovation and awarded a Challenge Grant to launch

Guided Study, the College's initial venture into distance learning. The program has grown continuously since then. Guided Study courses are structured around weekly readings, video and/or audiotapes and written assignments. Students work on their own using texts, study guides and other course materials. Faculty mentors answer course-related questions and grade assignments and exams.

With the growing popularity of the Internet, the development of online college courses has been a natural progression in how the College uses technology to deliver courses. In the past few years, the College has begun to develop its own online courses through its Distance and Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) department. Instructional designers

Continued on next page



The team in place in the Center for Distance and Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) to create Thomas Edison State College courses that are in high demand by students includes (left to right), Susan Garver, academic editor; Cynthia Mooney, instructional designer; Dr. Henry van Zyl, director of Instructional Design and Development; Kenneth Lightfoot, instructional designer; Aaron Appelstein, instructional designer; and Peggy Bodnar, examination project manager.



have been creating a variety of online courses for students to take.

This team, under the direction of Dr. Henry van Zyl, director of Instructional Design and Development, has recently expanded to include three instructional designers, an academic editor, an examination project manager, a professional services assistant and a clerk typist. There is also an assistant director who is charged with developing an online certification course for faculty teaching online classes.

William J. Seaton, associate vice president for DIAL, said, "This expansion is in response to students who have had difficulty in the past finding courses to meet degree requirements. Often, we have had to help them find the courses elsewhere. Now, if the demand is there for a particular course, we have the staff and resources to meet the demand." Recent courses that have been developed due to high student demand have been Intermediate Algebra and Calculus I and II.

A large part of future expansion at the College will include an increase in the number of courses that are available on the World Wide Web. Plans call for these courses to be multimedia with streaming audio and video components and full interactivity. Specifically, three degree programs have been identified for which all upper-division requirements will be offered totally online: Bachelor of Arts in Social Science/History, Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and Bachelor of

Science in Business Administration/General Management.

Additional plans for DIAL growth call for the College to significantly expand and improve its distance-education programming, emphasizing diversity in its means of delivery as appropriate to the course/program content and the audience. Current projections call for a significant increase in distance learning offerings available to students within the next five years.

A newly appointed, multi-disciplinary advisory team, composed of representatives from various departments within the College including associate deans, program advisors and instructional designers, will help identify courses for future development. As courses are added, plans call for the College to establish an advising team specifically for students taking DIAL courses. Because of the nature of the program, students are literally working around the clock on courses, and plans also include expanding advising services so that students can seek help any time of the day or night.

The College's DIAL office has been relocated recently to

accommodate the department's expansion. DIAL is now located in the recently restored townhouses adjacent to the College's historic Kelsey Building at 101 West State Street in Trenton, N.J. The new quarters house the College's new electronic classrooms, computer labs and educational conference and training rooms, and newly designed distance learning support, development and delivery facilities. The new space is wired for modern data and communications transmissions including a master control room allowing the College to connect electronically worldwide.

For more information on courses available at a distance, please visit the College's Web site at [www.tesc.edu](http://www.tesc.edu).



# Golf Classic Round Up

The Thomas C. Streckewald Memorial Golf Classic is held annually in memory of the former director at Thomas Edison State College who passed away as the result of an automobile accident in 1994. Catherine Streckewald, Tom's wife, serves as Honorary Chair of the Golf Classic. The tournament is open to both men and women. This year's event was held June 19 at the Cherry Valley Country Club in Skillman, New Jersey and was co-chaired by Jim Carnes, vice chair of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors and Eric Lear, member of the Foundation Board of Directors.



This year's 1st Place Team (net score) hailed from the Sarnoff Corporation. Pictured from left to right are Vince Boccanfuso, John Doskoczynski, Ansley Jessup, Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College and Jim Carnes, President & CEO of Sarnoff Corporation. Dr. Pruitt presented the winning team with their trophies.



(Above) Catherine Streckewald and her two sons, Daniel and Kevin were on hand for the Golf Classic, as well as John Thurber, vice president of Public Affairs and Stephanie Bray, Director of Development (right).



## 2000 Tournament Results

### 1st Place Team-Gross Score

**PNC Bank**

*Douglas Moxham, Bill Schofield, Jay Farabaugh, Scott Vasbinder*

### 1st Place Team-Net Score

**Sarnoff Corporation**

*Jim Carnes, Vincent Boccanfuso, John Doskoczynski, Ansley Jessup*

### 2nd Place Team-Net Score

**Johnson and Johnson**

*Chris Kjeldsen, Jim Jenkins, Dick Tither, Tony Armenti*

### 3rd Place Team-Net Score

**The Times**

*Bill Granville, Bill Gubl, Brian Malone, Tony Watson*

### Men's Longest Drive

**AT&T Solutions**

*Adam Peters*

### Women's Longest Drive

**Thomas Edison State College**

*Carron Albert*

### Closest-to-the-Pins

**Lynch, Jones & Ryan, Inc.**

*Rosemarie Burns*

**Thomas Edison State College**

*Patricia Sparks*

**Little Mill Country Club**

*Scott Vasbinder*





# Walk of Honor Paves the Way with Commemorative Bricks

For 28 years, Thomas Edison State College has provided higher education opportunities unlike those available at many other institutions across the nation. The College's students and alumni have walked to the beat of a different drummer, so to say, when it comes to the ways in which they have earned their college degrees. The momentous steps Thomas Edison State College has taken to help adult learners achieve their education has been immortalized in the College's Walk of Honor.

In the courtyard of the College's new historic townhouses lies the Walk of Honor—a walkway paved with commemorative bricks, each bearing the name of a member of the Thomas Edison State College family who has purchased a place in history—alumni, students, staff and friends of the College.

The College began to offer the bricks for purchase in 1996. A total of 190 bricks were sold for \$125 each.

What has resulted is a touching and poignant symbol for all to visit and see. For example, a brick was purchased by Alma Kaylor in "loving memory" of her husband Bill because he "was very proud of his Thomas Edison State College degree."

Another brick purchased by Calder Martin for his grandmother Elizabeth Martin included a note which read, "Thank you for letting me honor my grandmother this way."

Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Pascale purchased a brick for their son Jeffrey because he was so happy to have been a Thomas Edison State College Student. Jeffrey received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the College in 1995. Sadly, Jeffrey passed away prematurely at the age of 42, after his parents purchased this memento for him.

The College itself also purchased bricks for deceased staff members who will always be a part of the Thomas Edison State College family. They include Thomas J. Streckewald, Thomas Eklund, James D. Brown (Thomas Edison State College President 1972-1979), Natale S. Caliendo, James Humphrey, Leon Benciana and Thomas Donlon.

In appreciation of all of those who supported the Walk of Honor, a reception was held on Thursday, September 12, 2000 at 5:30 p.m. at the College. For more information, please contact the College's Foundation Office at (609) 984-1588 or e-mail [pmemminger@tesc.edu](mailto:pmemminger@tesc.edu).

## Thank you to all who purchased a brick on the *Walk of Honor*

Carron Albert  
Richard W. Arndt  
Craig Badura  
Robert Baer  
Dorothy Bailey-Dornstein  
Barbara L. Beard  
Judith W. Beck  
Ann Bielawski  
John K. Blossom  
Philip Bohning  
James David Bolling  
Elizabeth Breedlove  
Rose M. Breining  
Dr. Rebecca Butler  
Stephen L. Campbell  
Philip Cantor  
Carl Carabelli  
Dr. James E. Carnes  
Nicholas Carnevale  
Emily Carone  
Gerri Chanti  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Colburn  
George Cole  
Donald K. Conover  
Thomas Coppolecchia  
D. Lincoln Cory  
Gregory Cream  
Elmer L. Curran  
Marjorie Davenport  
Steve Deats  
Harry Delgado  
Philip DeSalvo  
Thomas Dettling  
Lee Doric-Henry  
David Marc Drukaroff  
Gregory Dye  
Linda Eckel  
Joan Enright  
Thomas J. Fash  
Suzanne Forshey  
George Fricke  
Deborah Ann Gates  
Rene Gayol  
Sandra L. Geise  
David Gibson  
Oliver P. Gillock  
Charlene Glascock  
Charles D. Goebel  
Christopher W. Goffigan  
George M. Gottheimer, Jr.  
Ricky Greene  
Ida B. Hammond  
George H. Hanford  
Farouk Hassieb  
Frank Hawrylo  
Mary-Kate Heffern

Steven Herman  
Donna M. Higgins  
Patricia Holloway  
Scott C. Holtzclaw  
Helen Huebl  
Dr. Jerry Ice  
Dr. Jerry Icenhower  
Maria Imbalzano  
Senator Peter Inverso  
Alma Kaylor  
Morris Keeton  
Darlene Kline  
Fred Koernig  
John Kroll  
Dr. Arthur Krosnick  
Eric R. Lear  
Eileen Lehman  
Evelyn V. Lewis  
Melinda J. Lewis  
Eunice Lewis  
Jack Livingstone  
Artea Lombardi  
Mariann Lucas  
Audrey Lusaitis  
Brian Maloney  
Steve Mandala  
Barbara B. Mann  
Phyllis Mariotti  
Antonia Marotta  
Calder Martin  
James Martinelli  
Steve Mastro  
Edwin Matlack  
Dr. Lorraine Matusak  
John McCann  
Thomas P. McCarthy  
Maureen McGuire  
Dr. Ruth M. McKeefery  
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Rita Novitt  
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Thomas M. O'Neill  
Gail Ann Palatine  
Elmo Pascale  
Marilyn R. Pearson  
Maurice Perilli  
John D. Polt

Dr. George A. Pruitt  
Margaret Pyles  
Margaret Pyles  
S. John Quattrone  
Lea Rapp  
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