

WINTER 2012

# Invention

THE MAGAZINE OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE



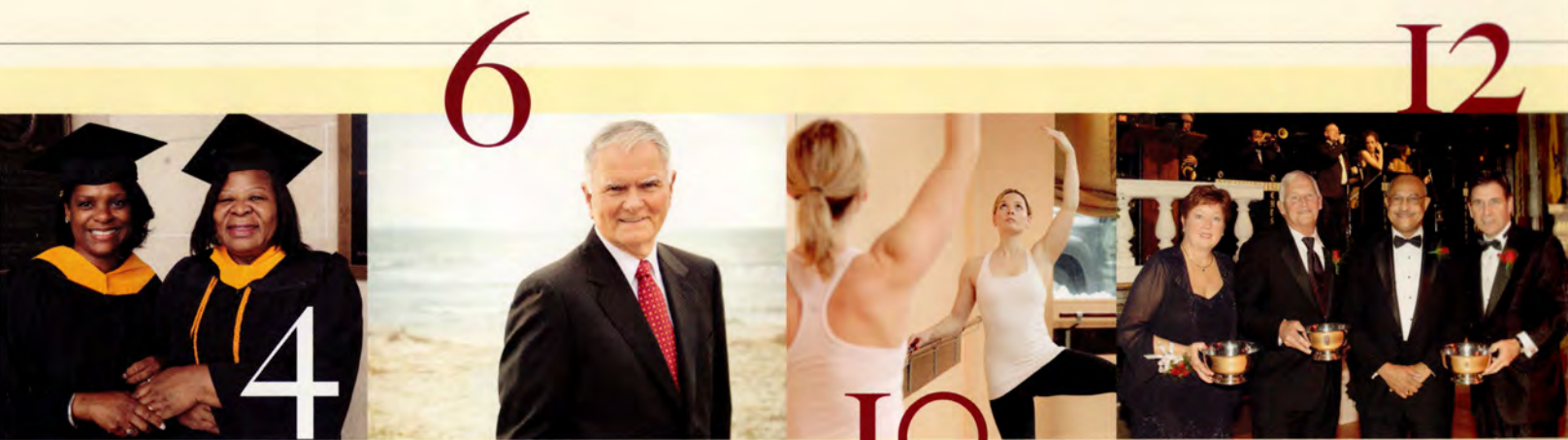
## ROLE MODEL

John J. McCann '90

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- ▶ Alumni Profile: Amanda Rose Long '10
- ▶ The 2011 Fall Commencement
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*Invention* is published by  
Thomas Edison State College

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John J. McCann '90



## Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

Albert Einstein said, "The value of a man resides in what he gives and not in what he is capable of receiving."

This issue of *Invention* celebrates a man whose tireless support of Thomas Edison State College embodies what Einstein is talking about and whose value to the College community is priceless.

The man I am talking about is John J. McCann '90, who has selflessly given to Thomas Edison State College as a dedicated alum, a role model member of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors and a tireless supporter and friend.

In this issue, McCann recalls how he got his start on Wall Street and how Thomas Edison State College enabled him to complete his degree while working long hours and managing commitments to his family and community. McCann was recently named an emeritus member of the Foundation Board of Directors after 12 distinguished years of service.

Also in this issue, we meet Amanda Rose Long '10, who discusses how earning both a degree and a professional certificate in Women's Exercise Training and Wellness has helped her career as a Pilates trainer and ballet instructor.

We are also pleased to share photos from the Thomas Edison State College Foundation's 2011 Grande Ball, which raised approximately \$113,000 to benefit the College and honored three extraordinary people: Kevin Tylus, regional president for PNC Bank in Central New Jersey, recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Edison Community Leader Award; Madeleine Yates '91, director of Marketing, Dow Jones, Inc., recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Edison Distinguished Alumna Award; and Richard J. Gillespie, retired founder and president, Gillespie Advertising, recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Edison Family Award.

Special thanks go out to all of our sponsors, volunteers and guests that made the 2011 Grande Ball such a success.

Lastly, we are also honored to share images and moments from our 2011 Fall Commencement ceremony, which was held in October and attracted more than 300 graduates from across the country.

We are honored to serve and work with individuals like those featured in this issue.

I hope you enjoy this edition of *Invention*.

Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt  
President



## Making Special Deliveries to Deployed Military Students

Most college students enjoy getting a care package from home, but imagine how it feels when you are earning your degree while deployed on a military base in the Middle East away from your spouse and children.

Since April 2011, the staff at Thomas Edison State College has adopted several units in Iraq and Afghanistan where some of the College's active duty military students are deployed and is sending them care packages filled with items the service members have requested. To date, the Support Our Troops Project has sent more than 100 packages to five units filled with items such as coffee, snack food, prepaid phone cards, magazines, DVDs and video games.

"The Support Our Troops project means a great deal to our deployed students and their units," said Charlene Martucci, fiscal administrator in the College's Office of Military and Veteran Education, who is chairing the effort. "Our students have told us that our boxes have meant a lot to them, and



Dr. George A. Pruitt is presented with a flag from the College's deployed military students by Support Our Troops Project members (from left) Charlene Martucci, Diane Stratton, Kathleen Griffis and Jennifer Stark.

that knowing that we support our troops and are thinking about them makes their deployments a little easier."

Martucci, who serves as president of the American Federation of Teachers Local 4277, was inspired to create the Support Our Troops project after attending the funeral of U.S. Army Sgt. Keith Buzinsky, a family friend who was killed in action in Afghanistan on April 7.

The day after Buzinsky's funeral, Martucci received an e-mail from student

Greg Schaefer, who is stationed in Afghanistan. After speaking with Schaefer, Martucci decided to start the Support Our Troops project in memory of Buzinsky.

Schaefer's Army unit, which is located in a remote area of Afghanistan, was the first to be adopted. To show their appreciation for the Support Our Troops project, Schaefer and his unit flew a United States flag at their base in Afghanistan in the College's honor and sent the flag to the College.

## College Launches New Cyber Security Certificate

The John S. Watson School of Public Service and Continuing Studies has recently launched a noncredit certificate focusing on cyber security built around the unique needs of adult learners.

The new Professional Certificate in Cyber Security enables managers to

gain information security competencies and enhance their ability to work with security analysts within their enterprise. This online program provides the fundamental building blocks to apply a standard security risk assessment methodology, including threat model development, vulnerability as-

essment and resulting security risk analysis.

To learn more about the new Cyber Security certificate or to view all noncredit programs offered at Thomas Edison State College, visit [www.tesc.edu/noncredit](http://www.tesc.edu/noncredit).

## Senior Commander of NJ Army National Guard Tapped to Lead Institutional Planning and Research

Dennis W. Devery has been named as acting vice president for Planning and Research at Thomas Edison State College, where he will play a critical role in the development and implementation of the institution's next strategic plan and lead the Division of Planning and Research.

"Dennis has led a distinguished military career serving our country and advising top military leaders," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. "He brings a unique blend of leadership and operational skills to the College and we are honored to have him on our staff."

During his 30-year military career, Devery earned the rank of colonel and served in a variety of leadership capacities throughout the world.

Most recently, from March 2011 to January 2012, he served as commander of the New Jersey Army National Guard's Joint Training and Training Development Center at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, where he led a team of training experts who provide strategic, operational and tactical instruction to U.S. military forces, state and federal law enforcement professionals and various allied military forces.

In 2010, Devery served as deputy director and chief of staff of the Afghan National Security Forces Development Assistance Bureau for NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan, where he was re-



Dennis W. Devery

sponsible for the development and implementation of strategies to staff, equip and train the Afghan National Security Forces. In this capacity, he advised Gen. David Petraeus, former commander, U.S. Forces Afghanistan, and Lt. Gen. David Rodriguez, commander of International Security Assistance Force Joint Command in Afghanistan, on growth and development issues.

In 2008 and 2009, Devery served as chief of staff for the New Jersey Army National Guard, where he oversaw the daily operation of 1,000 full-time and 5,000 part-time Army National Guard personnel in New Jersey.

"I am thrilled to be at Thomas Edison State College because the school is an innovation leader in higher education," said Devery, who earned a Master of Science in Management degree from the College in 2005. "I was impressed with the personnel at the College, especially their degree of professionalism

>> "Devery" continued on Page 16

## College Named Top School for Military Students & Veterans

Once again, Thomas Edison State College has been recognized as one of the top institutions in the country serving members of the U.S. military and veterans by two publications that have ranked institutions that serve military students.

*Military Times* EDGE magazine has named Thomas Edison State College as the one of the top 20 most popular institutions in the country. The College is ranked 16th on the magazine's latest "Best for Vets" list focusing on online and nontraditional schools. Rankings are based on the polling of more than 500 student veterans on what they consider the most important school services for vets, with a key emphasis on academic accreditation, central veterans' offices and staff knowledgeable on veterans' issues.

"Thomas Edison State College has a long history of serving the educational needs of the United States military and our veterans," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. "We are proud to leverage our unique format and core competencies to support the brave men and women who serve our country by providing flexible, high-quality academic programs that enable them to achieve their personal and professional goals."

>> "Top School" continued on Page 16





*BSN graduate Allison L. Riley recycles her gown at the 2011 Fall Commencement.*

# The 2011 Fall Commencement

Thomas Edison State College's 2011 Fall Commencement took place on Saturday, Oct. 15, in Patriots Theater at the War Memorial in Trenton, N.J.

Approximately 313 graduates from 16 states, including California and Hawaii, attended the 2011 Fall Commencement ceremony. Caryne Adams, of Carteret, N.J., gave the Response for Graduates. Adams, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with a 3.85 grade point average, is a member of the New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association Honor Society, which honors business students that rank in the top one percent of their class.

She challenged her fellow graduates to consider a different way to measure success other than the attainment of wealth.

"The successful person is one that faces challenges and learns a life lesson from each and every gain and loss. The truly successful person is one who is interested in self-improvement and in that which will help us to evolve," said Adams, a legal assistant in the New York office of Jones Day. "That is what Thomas Edison State College has taught us. It taught us to grow, to be more of ourselves, to move to the next level of understanding and compassion."

Adams also encouraged her classmates not to be deterred as they move forward during challenging economic times.



*Caryne Adams, of Carteret, N.J., gave the Response for Graduates.*

"As you leave this auditorium, maintain the same energy, drive, discipline and high standard of personal excellence that has gotten you here to this moment today," she said. "Be committed to lifelong learning in your quest to becoming more of yourself."

The College also awarded two honorary degrees during the ceremony: John L. McGoldrick, chairman of Zimmer Holdings, Inc., a worldwide leader in orthopedic reconstructive products, and special advisor to the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, a global nonprofit corporation devoted to finding a vaccine to prevent HIV/AIDS; and Ida B. Hammond, '77, '79, a Thomas Edison State College trustee who has served with distinction since 1995 and is stepping down. She served as chair of the board from 2004 – 2006 and served as a planning associate for the N.J. Department of Education prior to her retirement in 1991.

The College awarded more than 1,686 degrees as part of the 2011 Fall Commencement and has awarded more than 40,000 degrees since it began providing flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults in 1972.

Visit [www.tesc.edu/commencement](http://www.tesc.edu/commencement) to watch a video of the 2011 Fall Commencement.



Thomas Edison State College graduates made a different kind of fashion statement at the 2011 Fall Commencement by wearing gowns made from recycled plastic bottles.

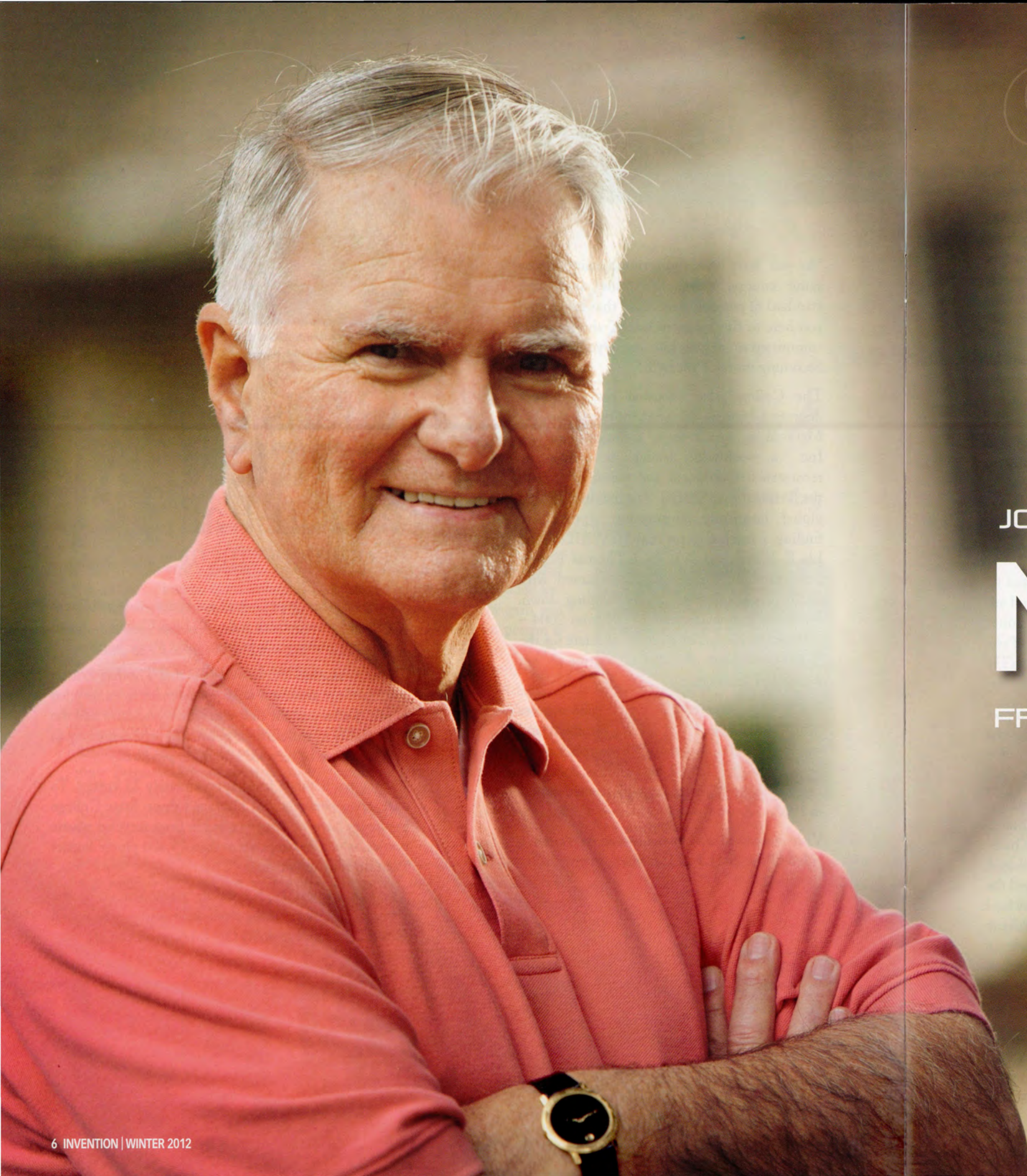
This year marked the second year that Thomas Edison State College graduates wore gowns made from recycled plastic bottles and the first year where graduates had the opportunity to recycle their gowns after the ceremony so the gowns can be recycled into other products.

Each gown is made from approximately 23 bottles. To date, approximately 950 Thomas Edison State College graduates have worn gowns made from recycled plastic bottles, which has kept more than 21,800 plastic bottles from landfills and oceans.

The College was lauded for its green actions by the *Trenton Times*, one of the city's daily newspapers, which featured the College on its Op-Ed page on Oct. 21.







“I got many things out of finishing my degree. It helped set an example for the people who worked for me. They were able to see that that this was something they could also do.”

# ROLE MODEL

JOHN J. McCANN '90 AND HIS JOURNEY

FROM WALL STREET TO STATE STREET

John J. McCann has always been attracted to islands. Growing up in a working-class family in Brooklyn's Bay Ridge neighborhood, McCann developed a solid work ethic that took him from Manhattan to Hilton Head. Along the way, he maintained a dedication to self-improvement, lifelong learning and sharing the lessons he had learned.

“Success is a byproduct of hard work,” said McCann. “You can only attain success if you reach for it.”





After graduating from LaSalle Academy in Manhattan, he enrolled at Fordham University in the Bronx, but left after one year. In 1959, at the age of 19, McCann joined Merrill Lynch in New York as a clerk, where he kept track of the transactions of buyers and sellers – by hand.

McCann had no experience and no college degree, but he possessed a desire to achieve and succeed. That ambition fueled a 44-year career in finance that took him to the top of his field.

“Wall Street was a place where hardscrabble kids from Brooklyn and other parts of the city could go and take their shot,” recalled McCann. “On Wall Street, I found an industry where the harder you worked, the further you could go and I took advantage of every opportunity.”

He left Merrill Lynch in 1961 and held several positions of increasing responsibility with New York Stock Exchange member firms. In 1973, he joined Becker Paribas, where he rose to senior vice president. In 1984, he left New York to run operations at Bankers Trust of South Carolina and returned to New York a year later to join Integrated Resources.

In the early 1990s, McCann served in a variety executive management roles at Wall Street firms before joining Lynch, Jones & Ryan in 1994. At Lynch, Jones & Ryan, he served as managing director and chief operating officer and supervised construction of the firm’s headquarters. In 2001, McCann was appointed chairman

and CEO of Bridge Trading, a Reuters Company, and retired from the company in 2003.

It was in the middle of his successful career, amid family responsibilities, long days at work and several volunteer commitments, that McCann started thinking about completing his degree. He started taking courses at Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, N.J., where a professor told him about Thomas Edison State College.

“I really enjoyed taking courses,” said McCann, who completed a

In addition to taking courses, McCann realized he liked teaching.

During his tenure at Becker Paribas, he started teaching courses at the New York Institute of Finance, where he ultimately served as an adjunct instructor for 11 years. He also served as a volunteer for Abraham Lincoln High School in New York, where he taught an innovative program on the fundamentals of the financial services industry and helped students invest a hypothetical \$100,000 and create their own portfolios.

“*Thomas Edison State College didn’t put up any extra hurdles. It is a lot like Wall Street. Anyone who wants to work really hard will be rewarded.*”

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in 1990. “Thomas Edison State College didn’t put up any extra hurdles. It is a lot like Wall Street. Anyone who wants to work really hard will be rewarded.”

McCann said he did not complete his degree for professional advancement but rather for personal fulfillment and to better position himself to help others.

“I got many things out of finishing my degree,” he said. “It helped set an example for the people who worked for me. They were able to see that this was something they could also do.”

McCann has also made an impact in his community outside the classroom.

He and his colleagues from Wall Street became volunteers with the Stapleton Athletic Club in Staten Island, where they served as baseball coaches for underprivileged, at-risk children. They enjoyed the experience so much that they later volunteered with the Children’s Aid Society Goodhue Center in Staten Island as basketball coaches for children with physical and mental disabilities.

“You work so hard to get what you have, but it is very important to give something back,” said McCann, an avid New York Yankees

fan. “We enjoyed coaching as much as the kids enjoyed playing.”

McCann has also been an active supporter of his alma mater, serving as a member of the College’s Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors. During his tenure on the Foundation Board, McCann chaired the Foundation’s “Investing in Performance” campaign, which raised \$2.5 million to fund academic and technological advancements at the College.

In 2012, after 12 years of service to the Foundation, McCann was named an emeritus member of the Foundation Board of Directors.

“It has been an honor to serve on the board and to watch the institution grow,” said McCann, who was honored with the 1999 Spirit of Edison Distinguished Alumnus Award. “It was amazing to see the vision become a reality.”

Since 2003, McCann and his wife, Valerie, have been active, year-round residents of Hilton Head Island, S.C. They discovered the area during McCann’s time at Bankers Trust.

McCann has served as a member of the Port Royal Plantation Landowner’s Association Board of Directors for five years, including three years as board president; and as a Hilton Head Island Parks and Recreation commissioner for six years, including two years as chairman.

Last year, he was appointed chair of the Technical College of the

Lowcountry Foundation, which establishes private sector support through grants, scholarships and gifts to benefit the Technical College of the Lowcountry, one of South Carolina’s 16 public, two-year technical colleges.

McCann is also a candidate for Hilton Head Island’s town council and looks forward to the election in November 2012. He said the island is challenged with preserving its environment, managing residential development and

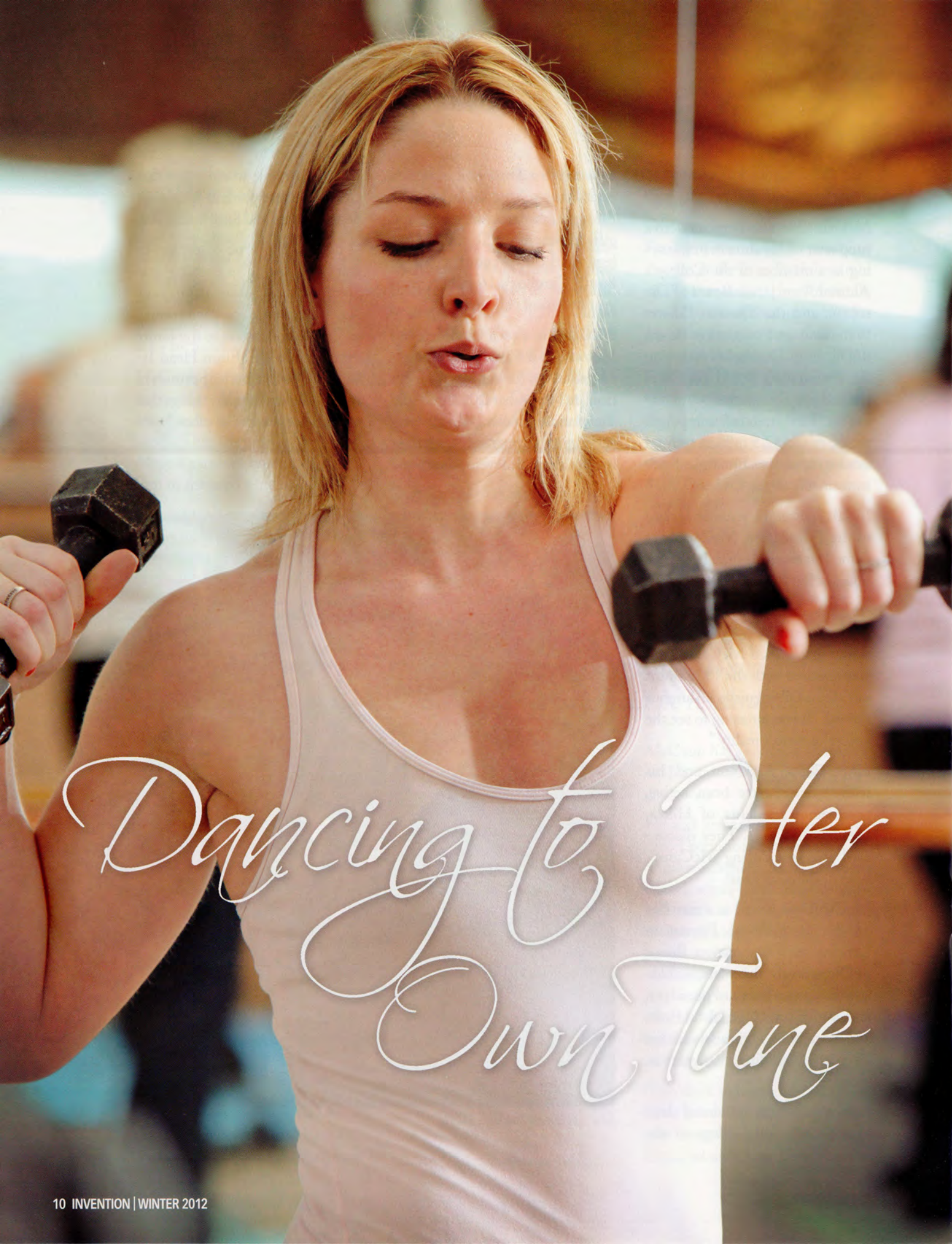
creating a viable town center that creates balance for full-time residents, visitors and local businesses.

“I am not the type of person to complain about something and not do anything about it,” he said. “I decided to run for town council so I could contribute to the future development of Hilton Head Island and be in a better position to help preserve the many things that make it such a special place.”



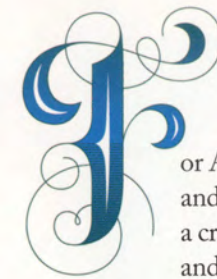
John McCann and his wife, Valerie





*Dancing to Her Own Tune*

## Alumni Profile



or Amanda Rose Long, art and exercise intermingle in a creative sculpture of body and mind.

A Pilates and ballet barre instructor and personal trainer at Commit to Change Yoga & Pilates Studio in Morristown, N.J., Long blends her artistic spirit with her dedication to physical and mental well-being.

"I started my college education as a visual arts major, but I was also always engaged in exercise," she said. "I felt similar sensations after completing a work of art as I did when I exercised: relaxed and focused, and I had a sense of accomplishment."

Long started ballet as a young girl and discovered Pilates in her early teens.

"When I was 13 years old, my mother bought me Pilates DVDs and I have been hooked ever since," she said. "Pilates is a mind-body modality. Even though you are engaging in a hard workout, where you become more toned and flexible, you are also left with a sense of peace and relaxation."

Long's journey to earn her degree was an exercise in futility until she discovered Thomas Edison State College.

She began her education pursuing a degree in the visual arts; however, the school she was attending made significant cuts to its program, so she decided to try to finish her degree elsewhere. Unfortunately, most of her credits did not transfer to the new college.

"Feeling frustrated, I started researching and found Thomas Edison State College," said Long. "Through online

research and after communicating with the admissions staff, I knew that the College would be a good fit for me. I realized that I would be able to not only transfer all of my credits, but also receive an amazing education in liberal studies."

Long earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2010 and a Professional Certificate in Women's Exercise Training and Wellness in 2011.

Long said completing both her degree and certificate have helped in her career and noted that the certificate in Women's Exercise Training and Wellness has been especially helpful in her career as a Pilates instructor and personal trainer.

*"I realized that I would be able to not only transfer all of my credits, but also receive an amazing education in liberal studies."*

"I entered the certificate program wanting to get a better feel for what it might be like working in the fitness and wellness industry," she said. "But I ended up feeling so empowered by the program that I went on to pursue earning a living in the fitness industry. I enter classes that I now teach feeling prepared to work with women who have special bodily needs where I can provide modifications and moral support."

Long said she enjoyed the online structure of both the degree program and the certificate and appreciated that mentors in the certificate program were professional trainers working in

the field who were able to share real-life lessons that she might be able to apply in her own work as a trainer.

"It is exciting to experiment with different Pilates, ballet and yoga exercises to create unique classes and private client sessions," she said. "It really is an art to be able to create a dynamic workout drawing from the principles of these exercise modalities. My clients are always getting new workouts, and are always seeing results. I love knowing that I am improving the health of others. When people feel good about themselves it can transfer into all areas of their lives."

Long is certified in the Method Pilates through the Physical Mind Institute

and specializing in mat work and standing work and possesses a certification in Group Fitness through the Aerobics and Fitness Association of American (AFAA). She continues to pursue her artistic endeavors through painting, ceramics and jewelry making.

Living in Morristown with her fiancé, Greg Kraft, and their dog, Georgia, Long is still very close to her parents, Anne and Del Long, and her three siblings, Sarah, 27; Thomas, 21; and Mary, 17.

Visit [www.rosebudswellness.com](http://www.rosebudswellness.com) to learn more about Long and view her artwork.

## Amanda Rose Long



# Grande Ball 2011

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION HONORS  
KEVIN TYLUS, MADELEINE YATES '91 AND RICHARD J. GILLESPIE

**M**ore than 200 guests helped the Thomas Edison State College Foundation honor three outstanding individuals and raise money for Thomas Edison State College at its annual Grande Ball, which was held in the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial in Trenton, N.J., on Nov. 5.

The black tie gala event raised more than \$113,000 for Thomas Edison State College. The Foundation honored three distinguished individuals for their accomplishments and support of the College. This year's honorees included:

► **Kevin Tylus**, regional president for PNC Bank in Central New Jersey, recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Edison Community Leader Award

► **Madeleine Yates '91**, director of Marketing, Dow Jones, Inc., recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Edison Distinguished Alumna Award

► **Richard J. Gillespie**, retired founder and president, Gillespie Advertising, recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Edison Family Award

Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, said this year's honorees exemplify the commitment to innovation, concern for the public good and spirit associated with the mission of Thomas Edison State College and the inventor for whom the school is named.

"We are honored to recognize such extraordinary individuals," said Pruitt. "Kevin, Madeleine and Dick illustrate

the commitment to innovation, concern for public good and spirit of excellence associated with Thomas Edison State College and our namesake."

Sponsors of the Grande Ball 2011 include: PNC Bank (Platinum Sponsor); Bank of America, St. Francis Medical Center, NJM Insurance Group (Journal Sponsors); The Bank of Princeton, Bunker Hill Consultation Center, Capital Health, Lear & Pannepacker, LLP, Mercer County Community College, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton, Roma Bank, Stark & Stark (Corporate Sponsors); Sun National Bank (Valet Parking Sponsor); TD Bank (Photo Station Sponsor); and PSE&G (Dessert Sponsor).

## KEVIN TYLUS

### 2011 SPIRIT OF EDISON COMMUNITY LEADER AWARD

**K**evin Tylus is the regional president for PNC Bank in Central New Jersey, an area rich in PNC's history and key to the company's future. In this role, he leads the company's regional organization and interfaces regularly with corporate and individual clients.

Tylus actively promotes PNC's strong commitment of community support and development, which includes the company's "Grow Up Great" program. In addition to his PNC experience, Tylus has held senior executive positions with two Fortune 100 companies and was a partner in a leading international consulting and accounting firm. His notable business career has spanned banking and financial services, insurance and healthcare, earning a reputation for expanding businesses and developing teams of employees into vibrant organizations.

Recent public service includes co-chairing New Jersey's statewide commemoration of the 10th anniversary of September 11th sponsored by the governor's office. He serves as a trustee of the Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Boys and Girls Club of Trenton and Mercer County, and co-chairs the American Heart Association's Heart Walk. Tylus is chairman of the Board of The Hun

School of Princeton, which awarded him the Distinguished Alumnus designation and also a position in the school's athletic hall of fame. He also is a past trustee of the New Jersey Bankers Association and other organizations.

Tylus has been recognized for his support of the greater community by the Boys and Girls Club, the American Cancer Society, the Red Cross of Central New Jersey, the American Repertory Ballet and Princeton Ballet School, the Mercer County CYO and was a Spirit of America recipient by the Boy Scouts. His involvement with professional baseball helped established the "Tickets for Kids" and "Corporate Cares" programs which provides opportunities for youths of lesser means.

Tylus earned his undergraduate degree from Gettysburg College and his MBA from LaSalle College and has been a lecturer at the Wharton School and Princeton University. He is a member of the Leadership Council of Franklin & Marshall College, which honored his wife, Ginger, as an honorary alumna for her support of education and youth development. Each of their four children values community service, having volunteered for numerous organizations during their school and professional years.





## MADELEINE YATES '91 2011 SPIRIT OF EDISON DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA



**M**adeleine Yates directs the global marketing strategy for Wealth, Private Banking and Online Trading at Dow Jones. In her current role, she is actively engaged in developing prospect- and customer-focused strategies to provide premier Dow Jones news and insight in multiple languages to financial advisors, online currency/equity traders, private bankers and investors.

Prior to joining Dow Jones in 2009, Yates was the senior marketing strategist at Addison, a design agency in New York, where she enjoyed developing new business and go-to-market strategy for the Simplification practice.

Prior to joining Addison in 2008, Yates was director of Client Experience and Marketing Infrastructure at Merrill Lynch. During her 18-year career at Merrill Lynch, she managed successful client-focused enterprise-wide initiatives that continue to be viewed as Best-in-Industry, including e-Delivery at ML OnLine, Client Reporting and the Owner's Manual (new client welcome kit).

Prior to joining Merrill Lynch in 1991, Yates led product and quality engineering in the solar industry, focusing on product development and reliability. She gained a unique global perspective with assignments at solar installations and plant start-ups in China, Australia, France, Holland, Switzerland, Taiwan and Malaysia.

Yates earned an MBA in executive management from St. Johns University and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Thomas Edison State College. She had the privilege of attending Wharton's Security Industry Institute, Harvard Business School's Women's Leadership Development Program and the University of Notre Dame's School of Marketing Research. She holds several licenses and designations, including American Society for Quality Control Certified Quality Engineer, Six Sigma Black Belt and is a General Securities Registered Representative (Series 7).

## RICHARD J. GILLESPIE 2011 SPIRIT OF EDISON FAMILY AWARD



**R**ichard Gillespie is the retired founder and longtime president of Gillespie Advertising, now MRM Princeton Worldwide. Starting the agency in 1973 with no clients and just \$1,500, he grew the company into one of the 75 largest advertising agencies in the United States with capitalized billings in excess of \$250,000,000.

He sold the agency to McCann Erickson/The Interpublic Group of Companies (IPG) in 1998 and continued as president through 2005. Following the purchase, he served on both the North American and Worldwide Boards of MRM, IPG's direct marketing unit. A copywriter by training, Gillespie and his agency won hundreds of regional, national and international awards for creativity. He was elected to the New Jersey Advertising Hall of Fame in 1997.

Gillespie is currently a founder and board of directors member of The Bank of Princeton and is a partner/vice chairman of MediGuide America, a Delaware-based company providing medical

second opinions through insurance firms all over the globe.

He has been active in community service for more than 40 years serving on the boards of various nonprofit organizations as well as coaching, both boys and girls, for more than a quarter century. Gillespie founded the New Jersey Communication, Marketing & Advertising Association (CAMA) and the Princeton Christian Businessmen's Association.

Gillespie is a longtime supporter of Catholic Charities and has been awarded both the Light of Hope Award and the Richard Hughes Humanitarian Award by the organization.

He has been involved with Thomas Edison State College for more than 25 years serving as both board member and chairman of the College's Foundation Board. He was the recipient of the Foundation's Spirit of Edison Award in 1996.

Gillespie lives in Hopewell, N.J., with his wife Donna and is the father of six children.





## Devery

(continued from Page 3)

and focus on meeting the needs of the adult learners."

Devery earned a Bachelor of Science in Management from Rutgers University; a Master of Science in Management from Thomas Edison State College and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. He serves as a part-time lecturer for Rutgers University and is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership from Rowan University in Glassboro, N.J.

## Top School

(continued from Page 3)

The College is also featured in the *2012 Guide to Military Friendly Schools* and its "2012 Military Friendly Schools® List", published by Victory Media and G.I. Jobs. The list cites the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country based on their efforts to embrace America's veterans as students. Criteria for making the list include institutional efforts to recruit and retain military and veteran students, results in recruiting military and veteran students and academic accreditations.

In addition to being recognized by *Military Times EDGE* magazine and the *2012 Guide to Military Friendly Schools*, Thomas Edison State College has been named one of the top schools in the country for military personnel by *Military Advanced Education* magazine for the past four years.

## APPLAUSE

## APPLAUSE

### Ronald Catania BSHS '81

Ronald Catania was recently inducted into the 2011 Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame. Catania was a member of the United States Air Force and served with a Special Intelligence Communication Unit at Da Nang Air Base in Vietnam during the Tet Offensive of 1968. He is a recipient of the Air Force Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and National Defense Service Medal. Disabled in the line of duty, Catania used the opportunity of the VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program to earn several degrees in law and retail security and, ultimately, earned a MBA from University of New Haven. Catania has been employed as the vice president of both Sage Allen and BOB's clothing stores. He is a well-known champion of the disabled and challenged workers, and the return to work program for military veterans.

### Irving A. Cintron AAS '10

Irving A. Cintron, following completion of his Thomas Edison State College degree, was accepted in the U.S. Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in New London, Conn. Upon completion of the 17-week program, he received a commission as an ensign/O-1E and was reassigned to San Juan, Puerto Rico, as a marine safety/port state control inspector. Cintron noted, "Military degree programs like the ones offered at Thomas Edison State College allow service members to achieve goals while serving on active duty."

### Abelardo Conesa BSBA '10

Abelardo Conesa, not long after completing his BSBA in accounting from College, was promoted to accounting manager. Conesa noted, "This has been a longtime dream of mine to move my career forward. Thank you Thomas Edison State College for making it possible."

### Ronald Edward Deyton AA '90

Ronald Edward Deyton, who was founder and CEO of First Western Bank in Burnsville, N.C., has retired.

### Nancy Dick BA '05

Nancy Dick recently had her book *Amanda Goes to Las Vegas* published through Xlibris Corporation. A romance novel, the book is also available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com).

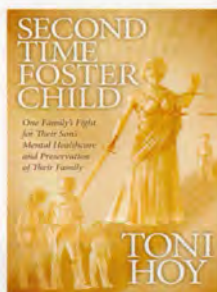


### Michael J Dunlea III BA '03

Michael J Dunlea III, who earned a master's degree in educational technology from New Jersey City University in 2008, was selected as the 2011-2012 Ocean County Teacher of the Year. Dunlea went on to be one of the five finalists for New Jersey State Teacher of the Year.

### Toni Hoy BA '10

Toni Hoy has authored a book about her experiences as an adoptive mother of a son with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Her odyssey in regaining custody of her son from the state and advocating for his treatment is documented in her book *Second Time Foster Child*. The book is available via preorder through [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). Hoy's



book has been an *Amazon.com* pre-order best seller since it was listed just after Christmas. Safeco Insurance gave Hoy it's "Community Hero" award for her work as a child advocate.

### Aeyanna Juste BA '05

After completing her Thomas Edison State College BA, Aeyanna Juste continued with her studies to earn a master's degree in transpersonal psychology from Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center and entered into a PhD program for psychology. She plans to obtain licensure after completing her doctorate degree.

### Raymond Libby BSAST '97

Raymond Libby recently was awarded the University of Phoenix AMVETS scholarship, which will afford him the opportunity to obtain an MBA. Libby

joined the U.S. Navy right out of high school and set his sights on a career in healthcare by gaining experience analyzing blood samples in clinical laboratories. He discovered his passion for mentoring employees who are responsible for collecting the specimens that he is responsible for analyzing. "It doesn't matter what we do or how good our machines are if the sample is not taken properly," said Libby. "Physicians depend on accurate results." A husband and the father of two teenage sons, Libby works for Naval Hospital Jacksonville in a middle management position.

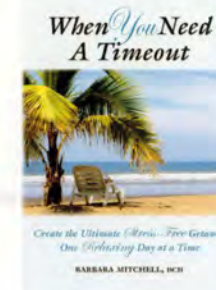


### Janice Kovach BSBA '01

Janice Kovach was elected mayor of the town of Clinton, N.J., in November 2011.

### Barbara Mitchell AA '79, BA '82

Dr. Barbara Mitchell (DCH) recently received Dan Poynter's Global eBook Award for her book, *When You Need a Timeout*, the busy girl's guide to real stress relief. The ebook, available on Amazon's Kindle, includes numerous exercises, diet tips and motivational examples based on true life stories. The book shows women how to recapture the joy of living and being a more vibrant person, with relaxation techniques that undo years of damage caused by stress. Mitchell is a retired college administrator who has added "author" to her present activities.



### Fred Moyle BS '06

Fred Moyle, a current Master of Science in Management student, was named vice president and general manager for healthcare markets at Monterey-based Language Line Services. He is responsible for the acquisition, account management, face-to-face interpreting and market strategies teams. Prior to Language Line, Moyle served in the U.S. Air Force, and worked for Bell Atlantic, GE Healthcare and, most recently, as executive director of healthcare solutions at Siemens Enterprise Communications.

## APPLAUSE

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### Mary Lukes Stamoulis BA '97

Mary Lukes Stamoulis recently had her work *Pericles and the Acropolis* published by PublishAmerica. Stamoulis has also published: *Lost in Atlantis*, *Knights in Rhodes*, *The Last Emperor of Constantinople*, *Liberated in the Valley of the Kings* and *Shadow War in Crete*.

### Cynthia Spears-Collins BA '09

Cynthia Spears-Collins completed her MA in psychology in October 2011 from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology (TCSPP). She is currently pursuing a doctorate in international psychology from TCSPP.

### Anthony Tulino BSBA '09

Anthony Tulino, who is currently working on his MBA, recently became sales manager of Commitment Fitness in Easton, Md. Tulino has worked in the fitness industry for many years at country clubs, the parks department and the Y.

### Matthew Watkins BSBA '07

Matthew Watkins is a senior financial analyst at Verizon Wireless in Basking Ridge, N.J. In May 2011, he received an MS degree in management from College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown, N.J. In June, his band, The Handful, released its third album, *Wooden Indian*, and in July, he was elected Grand Knight of Knights of Columbus Msgr. Burke Council 5015 in River Edge, N.J.

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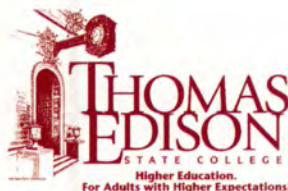
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### APPLAUSE APPLAUSE

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#### **Ryan S. Yoder** BSBA '11, BA '11

Ryan S. Yoder, who completed a BSBA in computer information systems and a BA natural sciences/mathematics at the College, also completed an MBA in applied computer science at North-central University in 2011, where he is currently pursuing doctoral studies.

#### **Michael T. Young** BA '06

Michael T. Young has had his latest poetry collection, *Living in the Counterpoint*, published by Finishing Line Press in January 2012. In 2013, Black Coffee Press is planning to publish his next collection, *The Beautiful Moment of Being Lost*. Anyone interested in viewing Young's work or in reading more about his writing, can visit his website at [www.michaelyoung.com](http://www.michaelyoung.com).

## Keep Us Posted!

Please send your news to [invention@tesc.edu](mailto:invention@tesc.edu) and be sure to include your first and last name, your address, your preferred phone, the year you graduated and what degree you earned. Updates can also be sent to:

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