

NORTHSTAR

Celebrating

50 years of Challenging Academics

Wiesel launches anniversary year

*Nobel Peace Prize winner, celebrated author, and
Holocaust survivor speaks on campus*

Extraordinary Faculty

*Five decades of professors with unswerving
commitments to this campus and its students*

Whetstone Boys Ranch

*A desire to impact young lives motivates
alumnus Nathan Dalstrom as he pursues his
dream of opening a ranch*



1959

50

COMMITMENT TO
FAITH & LEARNING

2009

ROCHESTER COLLEGE



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Rochester Hills, MI 48307
800.521.6010
www.rc.edu

Rochester College is an academic community characterized by the fellowship-creating reality of Christ's presence in the world.

The mission of Rochester College is to engage students in a vigorous liberal arts education within a Christian community for a life of study and service. Rochester College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association.

The mission of Northstar is to give glory to God by telling of his mercy, his blessings and his continued provision for Rochester College.

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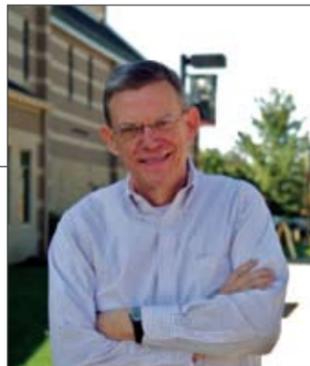
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FROM THE
president's desk

Small private colleges such as Rochester College deal with constant financial challenges. Coupled with the recent deterioration in Michigan's economy, a number of factors combined to threaten our future as a viable Christian college earlier this year. Now things have changed. They have changed dramatically.

First, the college's total debt has been refinanced through a Christian ministry partner. Church Development Fund was founded in 1953 to provide Churches of Christ / Independent Christian Churches in Southern California with funding to obtain meeting places. Since then, CDF has provided loans to more than 500 churches and ministries, thanks to thousands of believers who have invested over \$350 million with CDF.

If you don't know about Church Development Fund, please see the ad on the inside back cover of this Northstar. Dollars you might choose to invest at their attractive 5.5% first-time investor rate will be used to provide more loans for the expansion, building, and growth of churches—while you earn interest—because that's all they do. I count it an honor to serve on the Board of Directors of CDF's parent organization and am grateful for its help to the college.

Second, God has offered us the opportunity for a new program at Rochester College that will expand our community visibility and support, allow us to serve the region in Christ-honoring ways, and enlarge our student recruitment base dramatically. A clinical partnership with Crittenton Hospital has allowed us to begin a pre-nursing program and to apply to the Michigan Board of Community Health to offer a bachelors degree in nursing.

Dr. Michael Westerfield began this initiative for the college. Now we have formed the Institute for Behavioral and Life Sciences under Dr. Brian Stogner to coordinate our energies in this project. We are moving forward aggressively to bring a school of nursing into reality on the campus of Rochester College.

With authoritative studies saying the nursing shortage in America will continue to increase dramatically over the next two decades or more, Rochester College will become a premier provider of academically well-trained, ethically sensitive, and spiritually compassionate health care workers. The time is right. The need is real. We are ideally positioned to step into this arena of training and service to others.

Third, you gave well over ~~\$1 million~~ ^{\$1.3 million} in unrestricted funds during our Summer Fund Campaign that has launched us into the 2008-2009 academic year with confidence not sensed around here lately.

We have turned a critical corner, but we will continue to need your help. So please remember Rochester College as you plan your year-ending giving. We are being good stewards for your sake and for the sake of the God we serve.

I look forward to seeing you on campus during our 50th Anniversary—and to your continued participation in making the dream come true.

Rubel Shelly
President, Rochester College



9-20 | Over a rich and diverse 50-year history, we're reminded that a commitment to challenging academics is a cornerstone of our college



1959 50 COMMITMENT TO FAITH & LEARNING 2009
ROCHESTER COLLEGE

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ON THE COVER

The campus library has undergone several transformations over the years. Originally housed in the east wing basement of the Maxim Estate, it later moved upstairs to the recreation room before finding a home of its own in Muirhead Library from 1966-2003. The state of the art Ham Library has been a landmark in the center of campus since it opened in 2003.

RECAP:

MINISTRY RESOURCE!
SEMINAR

Contact: Teresa Graney
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In the tradition of Sermon Seminar, Drs. John Barton and Rubel Shelly developed a new seminar that would be more practical for modern ministry purposes. On May 19-21, the first annual "Resource!: A Seminar for Christian Leaders and Ministers" was held on the campus of Rochester College. This year's seminar focused on "Reading 1st Corinthians." Keynote speakers included Dr. Gordon Fee, professor emeritus of New Testament at Regent College in Vancouver, British Columbia and Sally Morgenthaler, known best for her book *Worship Evangelism*. Attendees represented over 50 churches, many of those from out of state.

RECAP:

FLETCHER SHINSKY
GOLF CLASSIC

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The annual Fletcher/Shinsky Golf Classic held at Greystone Golf Course in Romeo, Mich. on Monday, August 4 drew nearly 120 golfers plus several volunteers, staff members and guests. The event raised a total of \$28,000. The college received over \$12,000 in sponsorships and just over \$4300 in gift certificates and giveaway items. Some of the major sponsors for this year included Pepsi, Crittenton Hospital, Hantz Group, T&C Federal Credit Union, Rochester Regional Chamber, and WXYZ-7. A special fundraiser was hosted at the 12th hole

with professional golfer and RC alum Taylor Whitt. To view photos from the event log on to <http://photos.rc.edu>.

OCT. 30-NOV. 2, 2008

FALL MUSICAL:
QUILTERS

Contact: David Keller
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The theatre department presents the musical *Quilters* which will be shown at 8pm nightly and at 2pm on Sunday. The musical is based on the book "The Quilters: Women and Domestic Art," a compilation of oral histories of women from West Texas and New Mexico at the turn of the 19th century. The scenes depict life on the frontier: girlhood, marriage, childbirth, spinsterhood, twisters, fires, illness and death. The theatre department is sponsoring a quilting exhibition in the Richardson Center outside the theatre in collaboration with the South Lyon Associates who are creating a pictorial quilt commemorating the college's 50th anniversary. Tickets are \$12 with discounts for students, seniors, alumni, Associates, groups and children.

NOVEMBER 1, 2008

HOMECOMING

Contact: Terrill Hall
248.218.2042 or thall@rc.edu

Homecoming will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2008. It is open to students, alumni, faculty/staff and friends. The all-day event features a tailgate party, games, prizes and food! The highlight of the event will be the Warrior and alumni basketball games in the afternoon. The King and Queen will be crowned during halftime of the varsity game.

NOVEMBER 1, 2008

PRESIDENT'S
CIRCLE OF HONOR
RECEPTION

Contact: Elton Albright
248.218.2022 or ealbright@rc.edu

During the annual reception, to be held at the Royal Park Hotel on November 1 at 10:30am, the Philanthropy Award will be presented to its second recipient. The award was established last year to honor role models for sacrificial service in support of Rochester College. Each year the Circle of Honor reception recognizes donors who contribute \$1000 or more along with scholarship recipients. Honorees will receive two complimentary tickets to attend the luncheon with Max Lucado following the reception at 11:30am.

NOVEMBER 1, 2008

LUNCHEON WITH
MAX LUCADO

Contact: Teresa Graney
248.218.2020 or tgraney@rc.edu

Celebrated Christian author and minister Max Lucado will be the featured speaker during a luncheon at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester on Saturday, November 1. Dubbed "America's Best Preacher" in 2005 by *Reader's Digest*, he is best known for such titles as *In the Grip of Grace* and more recently *Facing Giants*. He received a masters degree in Biblical studies from Abilene Christian University and serves as the senior minister of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Tex. Tickets are \$200 each and may be purchased

online at www.rc.edu/lucado or by calling 248.218.2020.

NOVEMBER 9-11, 2008

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
PRESIDENTS
CONFERENCE

Contact: Karen Hart
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Rochester College will host the annual Presidents Conference for Christian colleges during a 3-day event. College leaders from national institutions affiliated with churches of Christ will present results from research and share ideas and fellowship. The program begins on Sunday with dinner, and will then be filled with meetings until it concludes on Tuesday.

DECEMBER 2, 2008

CHICAGOLAND
DINNER

Contact: Teresa Graney
248.218.2020 or tgraney@rc.edu

This annual dinner reception is designed to generate fellowship and support among Chicago area Rochester college alumni, donors, constituents and friends. It will be held at the Lisle Hilton Hotel, 3003 Corporate Drive, Lisle, Ill. from 7:00-9:00pm. Proceeds will raise funds for the Greater-Chicago Endowed Scholarship. RSVP by November 17.

DECEMBER 18-21, 2008

CHRISTMAS PLAY: IT'S A
WONDERFUL LIFE

Contact: Kelly Brock
kbrock@rc.edu

The theatre department presents a special performance of *It's a Wonderful Life*, dramatized by James W. Rodgers and adapted from the film by Frank Capra starring Jimmy Stewart. The classic

holiday tale follows a man in a desperate situation whose life is turned around when he encounters his guardian angel. An open casting call will take place in early October and is open to the campus and surrounding community. Twelve men, nine women, two girls and two boys are needed. To schedule an audition contact director Kelly Brock.

FEBRUARY 12-15, 2009

WINTER PLAY: THE
IMPORTANCE OF BEING
EARNEST

Contact: Cathie Parker
248.218.2154 or cparker@rc.edu

The theatre department presents *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, directed by Catherine Parker. Set in England during the late Victorian era, the play's humor derives in part from characters maintaining fictitious identities to escape unwelcome social obligations. It is full of witty dialogue and satirizes some of the foibles and hypocrisy of late Victorian society. Tickets are \$12 with discounts for students, seniors, alumni, groups and children.

FEBRUARY 20, 2009

MUSIC DEPARTMENT
SHOWCASE

Contact: Joe Bentley
248.218.2141 or jbentley@rc.edu

The Rochester College Concert Band and A Cappella Chorus along with soloists from the music department will perform at 7pm in the Rochester College theatre. This event is free and open to the public.

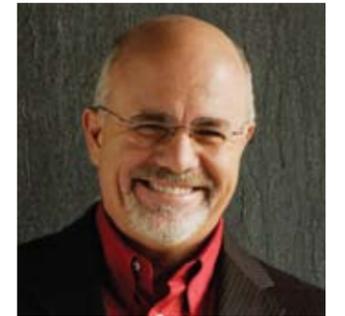
MARCH 26-28, 2009

CELEBRATION 2009

Contact: Stephanie Corp
248.650.3690 or scorp2@rc.edu

Celebration, the annual student-produced, student-directed song and dance extravaganza, returns with four exciting shows in the college theatre. Admission is \$10.

APRIL 4, 2009

PARTNERSHIP DINNER
2009: AN EVENING WITH
DAVE RAMSEY

Contact: Teresa Graney
248.218.2020 or tgraney@rc.edu

Dave Ramsey, a leading financial advisor, entrepreneur and nationally syndicated radio talk show host, is the keynote speaker for the 38th Annual Partnership Dinner at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester. Ramsey has written over 14 books, three of which have been New York Times Best Sellers. His books and broadcast focus on life and money from a Christian perspective. His company, the Lampo Group, is based in Brentwood, Tenn.. This scholarship fundraiser is an opportunity for supporters of the college to fellowship and learn about responsible financial management. Tickets are \$125.

APRIL 24-25, 2009

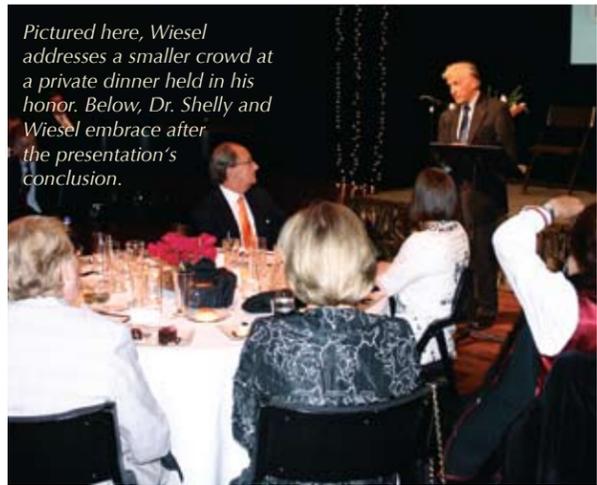
A CAPPELLA CHORUS
REUNION AND
CONCERT

Contact: Larry Stewart
248.218.2023 or lstewart@rc.edu

Former directors Fred Alexander (1959-1964), Paul Downey (1964-1968), Ed Ritchie (1968-1973), Fritz Petrich (1973-1976), Randy Gill (1976-1984), and current director Joe Bentley (1986-present) all plan to participate in this special weekend event which includes a Friday night reception and devotional, Saturday rehearsals and evening concert.

The splendor of fall, now on display at Rochester College

Is there a more beautiful time at Rochester College than autumn, when the abundant signs of nature across campus transform to hues of red and gold? Come for a visit and, possibly with a cup of Yates' cider in hand, remind yourself why this place is such a gem!



Pictured here, Wiesel addresses a smaller crowd at a private dinner held in his honor. Below, Dr. Shelly and Wiesel embrace after the presentation's conclusion.

Elie Wiesel kicks off anniversary year

Nobel Peace Prize winner, Holocaust survivor, and renowned author visits Rochester College to present an original essay on language

“Every human being is worthy of our passion, tenderness and love regardless of nationality, religion or color,” said Elie Wiesel as he brought his lecture on “The Power of Language for Reconciliation” to a close.

Wiesel spoke to a sold out crowd of more than 800 people on Thursday evening, August 21 at the Rochester Church of Christ in Rochester Hills, Mich. The event, which was hosted by Rochester College, marked the launch of the fiftieth anniversary celebration.

“I knew I was making an unusual request,”

said Dr. John Barton, vice president of academic affairs. “I was asking for something beyond his already impressive list of standard lectures. I did not know what the chances were that he would have either the time or the desire to accept such an invitation.”

Wiesel is one of the most distinguished authors and public personalities of our era. A survivor of Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps, he has used his position as author, teacher and storyteller to defend human rights and peace throughout the world. Wiesel has authored more than fifty books

including *Night*, which recounts his personal experience in the Holocaust. He has also received numerous awards including the United States Congressional Gold Medal and the Nobel Peace Prize.

The evening began with a private dinner by Chef Cari Kosher Catering, held inside the Rochester College theatre. Several special guests were present including members of the Board of Trustees, Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett and members of the Oakland University faculty and staff. The attendees were treated to a five-course meal in addition

to excerpts from *Who Returned My Soul...*, a reader-styled production featuring testimonies from several Holocaust survivors. During the dinner Wiesel confided that he was surprised to travel to Michigan and be served a Kosher meal in a Christian setting.

Metro Detroiters Bill and Ellie Kaye sat at Wiesel’s table during the dinner. Bill is also a survivor of Buchenwald and brought in a

“When language fails, it is replaced by violence. Violence becomes the new language.”

—Elie Wiesel

black and white photo that shows both he and Wiesel as young boys in the same concentration camp. Isaak and Shulamit Klein, also Holocaust survivors, flew in from Florida for the special occasion to meet Wiesel. Wiesel acknowledged both couples during the dinner and the lecture.

Wiesel began the public lecture shortly after 7pm with references to Biblical characters such as Joseph, Moses, and Cain and Abel, who struggled with reconciliation between each other, themselves and God. “When language fails, it is replaced by violence. Violence becomes the new language,” explained Wiesel. “That was true then and it is true now. In other words, two brothers rejected reconciliation as a way of life.”

He further elaborated on his personal experiences and the history of international relations between countries in the Middle East, America, and warring countries in Europe and Africa.

“I believe art and literature are here to help us overcome ... to light a holy fire that does not burn and hurt but brings light and healing,” said Wiesel.

At the end of the lecture, Rochester College President Rubel Shelly presented Wiesel with a plaque recognizing him as an Honorary Visiting Professor of Humanities. He also introduced the Rochester College Institute for Cross Cultural Exchange as the college’s recent endeavor to foster multi-cultural relationships throughout the Rochester/Rochester Hills community.

Photos from the event are available at <http://photos.rc.edu>.



Freshman Julie Cory from Tecumseh, Mich. takes her new MacBook out of the box for the very first time.

This fall, Rochester College became the first college in the state of Michigan to provide all incoming freshmen state-of-the-art Apple MacBooks absolutely free. Transfer students who enrolled with less than 30 credit hours also received the free MacBooks. “It is one of the goals on this campus to be sure students are equipped with the latest and greatest technology to aid in the academic experience,” said Scott Cagnet, director of admissions. “As education and technology have developed over the years, Rochester College has worked to stay on pace with the more progressive colleges in the country.” Another goal, which works hand-in-hand with the laptop program, was achieved in 2007 when a campus-wide wireless environment was created. This provides possibilities for laptop use in the classroom, library, grounds, and virtually anywhere on campus. Over time, as the technology becomes more tailored for faculty and student interaction, Rochester College will continue to enhance these and other programs to exceed educational needs.

Stay connected with e-news!

The Rochester College development office continues to produce a monthly e-newsletter to deliver news and information about the latest campus events.

Keep connected by subscribing to the e-newsletter, where you can read about student life, alumni achievements, academic events, and campus activities such as theatrical and musical performances and workshops, seminars and keynote presentations.

If you are not receiving the newsletter, send an email to news@rc.edu and let us know that you would like to be added to the mailing list. You can visit the RC News page at www.rc.edu/news.



New administration leads college this fall

In early May, Dr. Rubel Shelly accepted the assignment from the Board of Trustees to lead Rochester College as its president for the 2008-2009 academic year. Shelly first came to the college in 2005 as a visiting professor of philosophy and religion and began full-time professorship in June 2006. The appointment came following the resignation of Dr. Michael Westerfield who has remained at the college as a tenured professor of English.

Other significant changes include Dr. Brian Stogner's transition from vice president of academic affairs to executive director for the Health and Behavioral Sciences Institute. Dr. John Barton, professor of philosophy and religion, accepted the role of vice president of academic affairs. Dr. Tracey Hebert, a former dean in the Center for Extended Learning, rejoined the Rochester College community as dean of academics. Larry Norman, vice president of marketing and admissions, will maintain his current duties in addition to serving as chair of the School of Business.

"Times of transition create challenges as well as new opportunities. As I have seen the pieces come together for the new administrative team at RC under the leadership of Dr. Shelly, I have become increasingly enthusiastic and confident that this is going to be a season of renewal and growth for our community and mission," says Barton.

Leaving the campus this fall were professors Jennifer and Rex Hamilton and Jeff Simmons, who will all be continuing their teaching careers at colleges near family and friends in California and Oklahoma.

Rex Hamilton's position as director of the Master of Religious Education program has been filled by Adam Hill of Indiana. Hill received a graduate degree from Lipscomb University and is currently working on a Ph.D. in systematic theology from Westminster Theological Seminary.

Additional departmental adjustments include the transition of former executive assistant Cathy Ries, who joined the development office as development coordinator, while Jerry Burns, a class of 1959 alumnus, began serving as a regional development officer. The administrative office appointed Sue Grant, former payroll administrator, to the position of human resources coordinator. New executive assistant Karen Hart provides administrative support for Drs. Shelly, Stogner, and Barton.

FOCUS ON CAMPUS NEWS



Students participate in summer business venture to China

In late May, Jeff Cohu, professor of business at Rochester College, accompanied a group of twelve students, alumni, and friends on a Global Education Opportunities (GEO) tour of China. EF Tours designed the study abroad trip to expose students to the emerging economic power of the local business environment in Beijing's Zhong Guan Cun, Xi'an and Shanghai. To help participants better understand the country's business prowess, they also arranged historical and cultural tours that included the Great Wall, Museum of the Terra-Cotta Army, and a traditional tea house, as well as a rickshaw tour among the hutongs.

"I still can't believe I was in China," says senior Elizabeth Fulton. "I look at a map and can't believe I was half way across the world."

Fulton overcame her fear of flying and endured a day-long trip with her peers from Detroit to Los Angeles. From there the group crossed over the Pacific Ocean and eventually arrived in Beijing. The airline misplaced Fulton's luggage, so she spent the first five days of the trip without it. Fortunately she recuperated from the loss with lots of shopping.

As part of the business curriculum, Cohu says the group specifically toured General Motors Shanghai as well as a steel plant, a brewery and the Hong Kong stock exchange. The students who participated in the course for academic credit were required to write a reflective paper about the trip and a research paper on a business topic related to China, in addition to a book review about China's emerging economy.

A GEO trip to Japan is scheduled for May 2009. Pictures from all GEO excursions are available at <http://photos.rc.edu>.

Pre-Nursing program announced

Rochester College is responding to the emerging need for trained medical professionals with the development of a pre-nursing curriculum to help high-achieving students prepare themselves for application to nursing programs in colleges throughout our region. Developed in consultation with working professionals in nursing, the new program was specifically designed to provide the knowledge base, skills, attitudes, and character that are essential for success in this demanding profession. In addition to a strong liberal arts foundation, specific coursework has been designed in areas including science, technology, ethics, psychology, holistic health and wellness, and cross-cultural communication. Freshmen were admitted into the program this fall.

Ham Library seeks donations

Ham Library invites friends of the college to help students with their research by purchasing reference books off its Amazon wish list. Friends can support the library by buying books and other items through Amazon off the library's website at www.rc.edu/lib. When orders are placed through the site, 4%-10% of purchases are donated back to the library. Some sample titles found on the wish list are *Encyclopedia of African American Women Writers*, *Columbia Encyclopedia of Modern Drama*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein Encyclopedia*, *Encyclopedia of Business and Ethics*, *Encyclopedia of American Journalism*, *Encyclopedia of the Reconstruction Era*, *Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Political Thought*.

Celebration in progress



1959

50

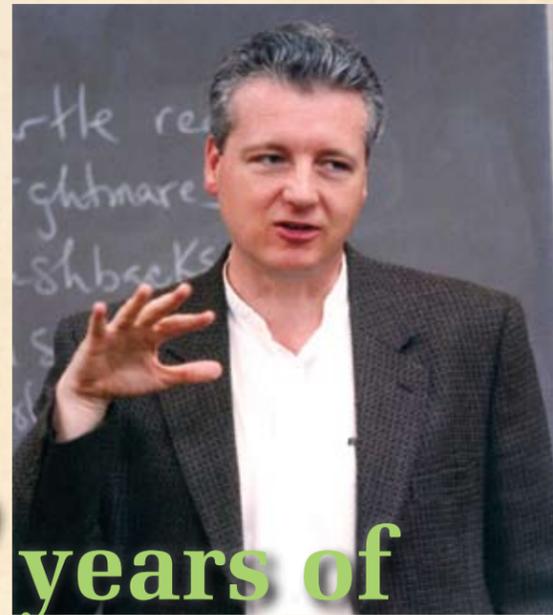
COMMITMENT TO
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ROCHESTER COLLEGE



Our fiftieth anniversary celebration has begun, and evidence is cropping up all over town. Fifty-six new banners are hung across campus, and commemorative discs adorn the lampposts in downtown Rochester [inset]. Pictured full page, student (and later, valedictorian) Michael Davis does reference work in Muirhead Library in 1989.



Celebrating 50 years of excellence in teaching

When Rochester College opened its doors for the first time, the aim of the founders was to create an institution which would enlighten and enliven both those who attend and those in the greater community. Key to achieving these goals was the establishment of a strong, innovative faculty. From the start, the academic community has been served by men and women who are passionate about their fields of study, innovative in their teaching methodology, and rich in diverse cultural and ministerial experiences. Holding to the conviction that education sharpens and completes an individual, faculty exemplify that educated persons revere God and are committed to truth and justice. Such a tradition began with President Otis Gatewood and continues through the current faculty and administration. Today there are faculty members who combine service and missions with academic excellence, evidencing through their lives how learning and service go hand in hand. As you flip through the following pages, take a look at each decade of Rochester College's history and meet faculty who live out its mission and, with their peers, have instilled in students a love of learning. ▶

[Pictured top left] Students Billy Blake and Veronica Cobb study with Kathryn Wilkins in Muirhead Library's new business resource center in 1988. [Top right] Dr. Brian Stogner joined the psychology department faculty in 1998 and quickly became one of the most popular professors on campus. [Bottom] Dean Jeff Simmons assists freshman Miranda Berry in the classroom in 2006.

1960's

As one of the pioneer faculty members who arrived in 1959, Fred Alexander is full of memories and pride from his Warrior days. "The thought of being part of the first Christian college in the 'North Central' area was quite enticing. At that point in my life, I was very altruistic and wanted to make a positive contribution to the church, a new Christian college and our Christian faith in general," says Fred. "I think I realized that goal during the nine years spent at the college."

Fred married his first wife Claudette in 1957. A year later, he received his bachelors degree in music education and administration from Abilene Christian University and went on to obtain a masters degree in educational administration and psychology. At North Central, Fred instructed students in music courses and directed the A Cappella Chorus. He later became director of admissions and registrar. "Those roles kept me in contact with all students in the institution, as well as many prospective students in high schools who were potential recruits to the college. Thus, I had the opportunity to lead many young people to a better life and a deeper faith in God."

Fred and his wife raised three children in Michigan, until Claudette, who also taught part-time as a faculty member, succumbed to a massive cerebral aneurysm in 1995. Fred later married his high school sweetheart, Jan, several months after attending a high school reunion. "Jan is a sweet and Godly woman and in essence we just picked up where we left off in 1953. I call it the ultimate recycling for both and I believe God blessed me twice."

Today, Fred continues to keep in contact with several alumni and faculty members and recently hosted a mini-reunion for his former students at his home in Corpus Christi, Tex. "After leaving Michigan Christian College in 1968, I have had numerous experiences in colleges and universities and educational organizations, and while each employment offered its own unique opportunities and rewards, none exceeded the sense of achievement and worthwhile accomplishment as did those special years in Michigan. Lifelong friendships and fond memories from there are held precious." ▶



fred alexander

Are there any memories you'd like to share from your time at Rochester College? As we focus on a half-century of academic excellence, stories about professors and educational experiences that helped shape your life are especially welcome. Log onto www.rc.edu/anniversary or email Kyle Martin at alumni@rc.edu with your recollections today. We'd love to hear from you!



...50 years of inspirational speakers

Throughout its history, Rochester College has been a place where students connect to the wide world of ideas, cultures, histories and peoples. This happens in the classroom when students are immersed in great pieces of literature and thus swept off to different times and places through the written word. It happens when students span the globe during study abroad programs or on summer mission trips. At other times, we are able to bring the wide world to our doorstep in a very personal way by hosting remarkable and noteworthy people on campus. Students then are able to shake hands with those who have shaped history, meet the personalities behind influential ideas and movements, and interact personally with the world's diversity. Such opportunities enrich the educational experience and motivate students toward their own history-shaping endeavors.

In 1959, pop music sensation Pat Boone (1) attended a rally for the college which attracted 8500 people. In 1968, an aged Marshall Keeble (2), a renowned African American preacher of the American Restoration

movement, visited campus and delivered his last major public speech. And in the 1980's, Gene Stallings, head football coach of the (then) St. Louis Cardinals spoke on campus twice. From the 1970's to the present, the college has also hosted a number of other well known Restoration preachers such as Ira North, Jimmy Allen, Jim Bill McInteer, Batsell Barrett Baxter, Lynn Anderson, Landon Saunders, and Mike Cope.

Beginning in the 1990s, the college has increasingly been able to host a widening array of diverse and notable guests such as former First Lady Barbara Bush, Colin Powell (former National Security Advisor, 1987-1989, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1989-1993, and U.S. Secretary of State, 2001-2005) (3), Stanley Hauerwas (one of the most influential Christian theologians and ethicists of our time), Fred Craddock (author and distinguished professor of preaching and New Testament); Emery King (former White House correspondent for NBC and Detroit news anchor), Teresa Walters (internationally acclaimed pianist), Tony Campolo (sociologist and well known Christian author and speaker), Lauren Winner (well known Christian author

and professor at Duke Divinity School) (4), John Glenn (former NASA astronaut and U.S. Senator), Shane Claiborne (popular Christian author and speaker, author of *The Irresistible Revolution*) (6), Ida Bazonoona (Christian minister and manager of the Source Café, Jinja, Uganda), Imam Qazwini (a prominent Islamic cleric in the Detroit area and former White House consultant on Islamic affairs, who spoke to the campus community in the wake of 9/11), Walter Brueggemann (renowned Old Testament scholar, author of more than 60 books), Robin Roberts (former ESPN sportscaster and current co-anchor of *Good Morning America*, winner of three Emmy awards) (5), Sally Morgenthaler (Christian author, speaker and worship consultant), and Gordon Fee (renowned New Testament scholar and Bible exegete and translator).

Furthermore, during the 2008-2009 academic year, Rochester College continues to host extraordinary people, including two Nobel Prize winners. In August, kicking off the year and our anniversary celebration, Nobel Peace Prize recipient Professor Elie Wiesel gave an original lecture to a sold-out

crowd. Wiesel is one of the most distinguished authors and public personalities of our era. A survivor of Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps, he has authored more than 50 books and has used his position as author, teacher and storyteller to defend human rights and peace throughout the world. In April 2009, Sir Anthony Leggett, a physicist who is widely recognized as a world leader in the theory of low-temperature physics, will speak at the annual Academic Symposium. His pioneering work on superfluidity earned him the 2003 Nobel Prize in Physics. In 2004, he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for his work in the field of physics. In addition, this November Rochester College will host Max Lucado, one of the best selling Christian authors in the world (he has written more than 50 books, with 28 million copies in print). Next spring, the Partnership Dinner featured speaker will be renowned financial advisor Dave Ramsey.

Such a diversity of guests and opportunities is crucial as the college strives to, as our mission states, "engage students in a vigorous liberal arts education within a Christian community for a life of study and service." •

1970's



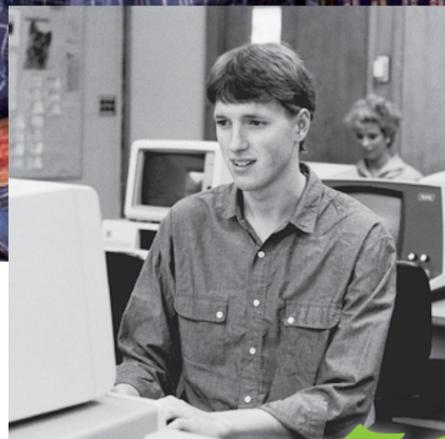
Kent and Debi Hoggatt came to Michigan Christian College as students in the 1970s. Kent, a native of Indiana, was the second of five siblings to earn an associates degree from MCC in 1972. He began working in admissions after graduating and met Debi when she arrived on campus a year later. They married in 1975 following Debi's graduation, and spent six months of their newlywed days living in their car traveling across the Midwest recruiting on behalf of MCC. Their efforts contributed to record enrollment in the fall of 1977.

The Hoggatts moved to Texas for a couple of years while Kent completed his bachelors degree at Abilene Christian University. During this time Debi worked in a local hospital as a respiratory therapist. They returned to MCC in 1978 and Kent spent the next seven years working as the director of financial aid and teaching part-time. He became the director of church relations in 1985. A year later Debi completed her bachelors degree at MCC and went on to earn a masters in human growth and development from Wayne State University.

Debi's graduate degree aided in the foundation of the Rochester College Preschool, located inside the Rochester Church of Christ, and she served as its first director. In 1993, the Hoggatts moved to Iowa after Kent accepted a preaching position. They returned to Michigan just six years later when Kent was asked to lead the Lapeer Church of Christ, where he serves as pulpit minister still today. In 2002 he became a full-time faculty member at Rochester College. "Teaching here is what I've always dreamed of," said Kent. Debi has worked in leadership and teaching roles with the Center for Extended Learning since 2000. She is currently there part-time while working on her Ph.D. in higher education.

The support of the Hoggatt family is permanently etched into the fabric of this campus. Kent's father, a former board member, along with his uncle and two aunts, invested in the construction of Hoggatt Hall, one of three major residential projects that were completed in 1997. "I acknowledge that it takes a lot of work to build a college and this college benefits from hundreds of people who work very hard," said Debi. "We're very happy to be here."

Kent and Debi have two children— Ryan ('02) and Jenny ('06), who both received their degrees at Rochester College. Their daughter-in-law, Misty (Ringle, '02), is also a graduate. ▶



Courtesy of Oakland Press/DOUG BAUMAN

[Pictured top] Bible professor Craig Bowman discusses archeological findings from Israel with students Nora Nasser, Jared Malone, and Adam Southerland in 2007. [Left] Freshman Mark Brackney utilized the new computer lab in 1986. [Right] Students worked towards an associate of applied science degree in a 1978 typing class.

...and 50 years of challenging academics

The fall semester has begun at Rochester College. Students have checked their schedules, bought their textbooks, found their classrooms, met their instructors, and received lists of assignments. Some are excited by the opportunities ahead, and others feel anxious. This scene has been repeated, over and over, for the past 49 years!

Over time, however, the classroom experience has changed in remarkable ways. Some of the changes have been dramatic, and nobody could have envisioned them back in 1959. The most obvious differences, perhaps, can be seen in methods of

presentation. The earliest classrooms were equipped with chalkboards and pull-down maps, and students took notes on paper. Overhead projectors became available during the 1970s, and were then used as standard tools. This made it possible to show slideshows and movies, but the projectors could be cumbersome. Whiteboards were introduced in the 1990s, and PowerPoint projectors began to appear in 1997. Since then, of course, classrooms have been furnished with a full spectrum of audio-visual capabilities, and many students take notes on laptop computers. The classroom has been truly transformed, from the front to the back.

On a deeper level, significant changes in

research have taken place. In the early years, students were taught to use 3x5" index cards to collect and arrange information. Manual typewriters were soon replaced by electric ones, but there was no chance for editing as one typed! Library resources have changed as well; until quite recently, students were limited to printed material, and it was difficult to use materials from other libraries. By contrast, today's Ham Library hosts numerous databases, and provides numerous services through the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET). With so many resources available, research is easier, and also more in depth, sophisticated, and precise.

Most of these changes are inextricably

linked to computer technology, but there have been other, more philosophical, changes. For instance, earlier coursework was typically delivered through lecture, and classes were seldom structured around student discussions. Today however, faculty members use a wide variety of approaches, including small groups, experiential learning, and team teaching. GEO students have studied in Europe, done archaeological excavation in Israel, and toured China. The most significant changes took place in the 1990s, when the college broadened its options for the bachelors degree. With the addition of upper-division coursework and internships, the direction and rigor of overall programs substantially changed.

In spite of all the differences, the fundamentals remain the same. The classroom is still the heart of the academic experience at Rochester College, and students and staff still enjoy the warmth and intimacy that is only available on a small campus. As Larry Stewart ('70) has said, "the personal interaction between teachers and students remains very similar. Hopefully that will never change." •

1980's



Steve and Mildred Eckstein came to Michigan Christian College in 1986. Steve, a native of Dallas, Tex. earned his bachelors degree from Harding University and a masters degree from Texas Tech University, where he met Mildred. He went on to pursue a Ph.D., which he admits took seven years, and with it completed a 396-page dissertation. Steve spent the next 33 years teaching Bible courses in the masters program at Eastern New Mexico University.

Former MCC president Milton Fletcher personally invited Steve on board to help Rochester College initiate a masters Bible program that later hit a road block with the State of Michigan approval process. "I appreciated Milton Fletcher. He was easy to work with and a friendly man," said Steve. Despite the setback, he remained in Michigan and taught Bible courses such as Greek and church history in the undergraduate program while Mildred taught a variety of classes that included reading, math and nutrition. "I did whatever they asked me to do," she says with a chuckle.

Looking back, the Ecksteins' fondest memories are of the Thursday night campus devotionals and the weekend workshops which allowed them to travel all over the Midwest and fellowship with other Christians. "I really liked the workshops on the weekends and I enjoyed morning chapel. There was excellent singing at that time and great participation from the students," Mildred reflects. "It was a refreshing time for me."

Mildred retired from teaching at Rochester College in 2000 and Steve followed suit a year later. They returned to Texas where they continue to live today. Steve stays busy ministering to churches locally and nationally, while Mildred occasionally teaches preschool. Steve has published several articles and books including *The History of the Church of Christ 1824-1950*, *The Purpose of Genesis* and the *Nobody to Somebody* series. They have four children, 11 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and one on the way. ▶

steve & mildred eckstein



life after basketball

In each anniversary issue of Northstar, we profile an outstanding alumnus from one decade. Last issue, we featured Brenda Philips from the 1970s. Representing the '80s is former basketball all-star Marvin Mathis

and wanted to put me in easy classes. But I wanted to get out in two years versus three like everybody else. I didn't have the best grades but I knew I had to be eligible."

Mathis, who played forward for the team, created a schedule for himself that involved studying between practices from sun up until sun down Monday through Saturday. He attended church on Sundays and then returned to his studies. "My life was pretty boring."

The college did, however, open his eyes to a wealth of new experiences, friendships and self discovery. "I had a sense of faith before coming here, but once I got here my faith was really pushed to the forefront. So now everything I do is based on doing the right thing. I don't think there was anything more powerful than the Christian foundation I received here."

Coach Pleasant agrees. "Marvin is one of the more focused, hard working young men that you could meet. The reason he's so successful is that he always followed what I call the "and then some" philosophy. He did what was required, what was expected and then he did some more. He gave you an honest days work and he never cut corners."

The people at Michigan Christian College became a second family to Mathis and supported him through some of the most

joyous and difficult times in his life. "I'm one of the biggest advertisers for the college," says Mathis. "When my mom was passing, it was amazing to witness how everyone prayed for her and my family. My classmates saved my homework for me and my professors were very understanding. It was so intimate...it was like you know them and they know you."

In the two years that Mathis played varsity basketball, the team had a record of 48 wins and only eight losses. By the time he completed his associates degree at MCC, he and Coach Pleasant had developed a close friendship. "He wanted to keep playing basketball and I wanted him to stay in a Christian environment so I talked to the coach at Harding University," Pleasant says as he smiles in reflection. He made a highlight tape for Mathis and Harding subsequently offered him a scholarship.

Mathis attained a business management degree from Harding University in 1987. "When he graduated he sent me a nice note that I still have," says Pleasant. "The note talked about his personal life and expressed his gratitude for my involvement in his collegiate career."

Pleasant continued to remain actively involved in Mathis' life. After returning to Michigan, Mathis secured a job as a manager at a local Blockbuster. Six months later, Pleasant introduced him to a man that eventually hired him at Norrell

Services, a temporary staffing agency. Mathis spent the next ten years climbing the ranks at Norrell before transitioning to Kelly Services, one of the leading human resources staffing solutions companies in the world. Mathis is currently the vice president of operations at the headquarters in Troy, Mich.

"Marvin did what was required and then he did some more. He gave you an honest day's work and never cut corners."

—Garth Pleasant

“Young men like Marvin are why I do what I do,” says Garth Pleasant, men’s varsity basketball coach and head of the athletic department.

Pleasant vividly remembers recruiting Mathis from Avondale High School in Auburn Hills, Mich. in 1983. Mathis was part of a trio of outstanding athletes that included his teammates Henry “Hank” Woodmore ('84) and Tim Morton ('85), who now coaches basketball at Avondale.

“Marvin didn’t initially make a commitment but I remember his dad, who was a police officer at the time and a big guy, came by my office with the [basketball] scholarship letter and said ‘[Marvin’s] coming here.’”

Mathis is the second oldest in a family of five brothers and sisters. He moved from Pontiac to Auburn Hills to live with his father and stepmother upon entering high school. His stepmom, a local educator, was instrumental in advising him to pursue a college education at a time when most of his peers lacked any sense of direction for the future. Although Mathis only played basketball during his senior year, he had dreams of playing for a big name college. It was his father who steered him towards Rochester College because he liked Garth and wanted him to take advantage of a full scholarship offer.

He admits that he wasn’t exactly college material after graduating high school. “When I first met Garth, he looked at my transcript



1990's

turner
gary & vivian

“It really was a God thing,” says Vivian Turner about why she and her husband Gary decided to move their family to Michigan. “The environment where we were was not good for Curtis and it kept making him sick. Then a position opened at Rochester and we were able to move here, become involved in a community, and get our son healthy.” Vivian continues to note how God blessed their family by allowing them to be residence directors in Gatewood Hall. “We wouldn’t have been able to afford to live in the Rochester area when we first moved up here. Being dorm parents allowed us to live very near work,” she says, laughing at the cheerful memory.

The Turners came to Michigan Christian College in 1991. Gary received his bachelors degree in mathematics from Harding University before going on to achieve a masters in applied mathematics from Oakland University. Vivian received her B.S. in health and physical education from Lipscomb University before completing her masters work in HPER at Middle Tennessee State University. While Gary was working in Maryland for a defense contractor, he and Vivian met at the Bel Air Church of Christ and were married soon thereafter.

Gary began his Ph.D. fellowship at Southwest Louisiana University, where the Turner’s oldest son, Curtis, became ill. This sparked their desire to move to a better environment. “I don’t regret for a moment not getting my Ph.D.,” Gary chimes in. “I’d like to finish it one day. In God’s time, you know? But moving my family up here and getting my son healthy was our top priority.” Gary sits back in his chair and thinks for a moment. “You know... I’ve worked a lot of different places with a lot of different people. I’ve worked for the government. I’ve worked in the private sector. But I’d never felt I was part of a team until I got to Rochester College. I have really enjoyed that aspect of being here.”

The Turners have been married 21 years and have two children, Curtis (18) and Steven (15). ▶

Kelly Services, Inc. offers temporary staffing services, outsourcing, vendor on-site and full-time placement. The company operates in 37 countries and territories worldwide and employs more than 750,000 employees. Mathis has overseen clients that include Kraft, Dow Chemical, JP Morgan Chase, and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. His primary account with Nike requires regular business trips to its headquarters in Portland, Ore.

Between this and other business travel, Mathis has racked up quite a few frequent flyer miles and has been to nearly every state in the U.S. He’s also had the opportunity to spend extensive amounts of time in Europe in such countries as Sweden, France and Italy.

When Mathis is not at work or in the air, he’s at home in Dearborn with his wife Ana Maria. In his spare time he spends time with his nieces and nephews, plays basketball with a local recreational league, and tries to catch up on some much needed rest.

When asked if he has any aspirations for the future beyond Kelly he says, “Coaching is my first passion. When I first graduated and was doing well in business, Avondale offered me a job in its program. I might do it when I retire. I would even do it for free. It’s a selfless position because you give up everything. I love working with kids and I love sports. That’s why I love Nike. They have a whole sports mentality. I love it out there. Their whole mindset and meetings are about sports.”

Pleasant continues to maintain a close bond with Mathis and describes him as a very kind and giving man. “Three years ago when I was recovering from a heart problem, Marvin came to my house and sat in my living room just to visit. He’s helped the basketball program financially and more importantly he’s talked to the younger players about values and shared his personal story. He will always be a very special young man and I’m proud of him... very proud of him.” •

2000's



john & sara barton

When asked about their fondest Rochester College memories, Sara and John Barton are quick to provide an answer close to their hearts. "When we've taken students back to Uganda," Sara answers for both of them. "Having been there for so many years, part of us will always remain. Rochester College allows our ministry here to connect with our ministry over there. We have been able to take students from RC to Uganda, and now with Pricilla Batamuliza, Sarah Ageno, and Ngobi Tom on campus, we've been able to bring students and dear friends from Uganda here. It's wonderful."

The Bartons arrived at Rochester College in 2002 after serving as missionaries in Jinja, Uganda for eight years. Prior to that time of service, Sara received her bachelors degree in English from Harding University. She is currently pursuing her masters degree in spiritual formation and leadership from Spring Arbor University. John received his bachelors degree in Bible from Harding, his M.Div. from the Harding Graduate School of Religion, and his doctorate in philosophy from Makere University in Uganda, Africa. When they arrived at Rochester College, John took a position as professor of philosophy and religion while Sara took the position of associate campus minister. Sara officially became the campus minister in 2004, and in 2008, John was named vice president of academic affairs.

Sara and John were married in Searcy, Ark. in 1991. They have two children, Nate (15) and Brynn (12).



50 years... and counting

As we embark on the next half-century, plans are being made to continue a tradition of excellence through the expansion of our campus and academic programs

The commitment of Rochester College to grow and change has sparked two revolutionary endeavors for the 2008-09 academic year. The Institute for Cross-Cultural Exchange and the Health and Behavioral Sciences Institute have been established to forge key relationships with the surrounding community and its leaders. It is the hope of RC leadership that the institution will become a major resource for people looking to serve and be served.

The college launched the Institute for Cross-Cultural Exchange in an effort to provide a specific vehicle for initiating and enhancing communication among varied ethnic, religious, and social communities. The driving force of this proposal is that racism, ethnic divisions and cultural isolation can be addressed most effectively through basic friendship.

"Although we have no 'agenda' for the Institute, my hope is that it will make a positive contribution to awareness, understanding, and improved relationships among diverse groups who live in our community but who do not know or appreciate one another as they could," said Rubel Shelly, Rochester College president.

A group of 50 to 80 influential community leaders will be selected from the larger Rochester Hills area and required to foster personal relationships through the Institute in two major ways: first, by participating in one-on-one monthly meetings that are at the heart of the project, and second, through semi-annual public seminars, lectures and group events designed to promote cross-cultural communication.

The first public seminar, which marked

the inauguration of the Institute, was held in August when Elie Wiesel came to campus. John Barton, vice president of academic affairs, was instrumental in arranging the event with Wiesel as well as the presentation of the lecture topic, "The Power of Language for Reconciliation." Barton believes that the Institute for Cross-Cultural Exchange is vital to Rochester College fulfilling its mission as a Christian institution.

"From a Christian point of view, I do not consider these kinds of initiatives as merely important, I consider them essential. The message of Jesus Christ is a message that affirms the dignity of all people and calls for us to be bridge builders and peace-makers as far as it is possible," said Barton. "I am excited that Rochester College continues to look for these kind of opportunities."

In an interview with the *Observer & Eccentric*, Linda Davis-Kirksey, long-time college supporter and chairwoman of the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce board of directors, said her organization has been proactively seeking a way to address diversity. "Partnership with Rochester College in support of this endeavor achieves mutual goals and objectives of both organizations," she said. "The Cross-Cultural Exchange will have tremendous regional and statewide impact. Successful implementation of such a program could provide the business and residential community of the area a rich tapestry of mutual knowledge and understanding."

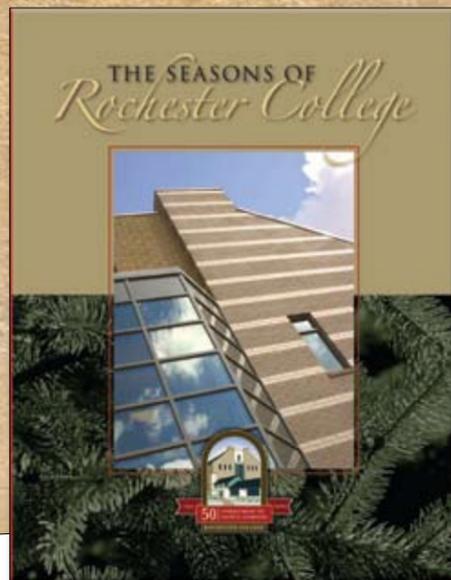
The partnership with Crittenton will be the focal point for community outreach by offering exercise and stress management programming, sponsoring health screenings at churches and community centers, immunization clinics, seminars in mental/

emotional health, substance abuse, marriage, parenting and family, crisis and trauma and continuing medical education for health professionals.

The Health and Behavioral Sciences Institute is being led by Dr. Brian Stogner, who will serve as the executive director. An Advisory Board will be developed to help guide the work of the institute and assist in community and professional networking, public relations and fundraising. •

The mission of the Health and Behavioral Sciences Institute is to foster physical, psychological and spiritual health and well-being for the community. The institute will accomplish this mission using several strategies, including:

- *Fostering excellence in teaching in the health and behavioral sciences;*
- *Conducting and sponsoring research;*
- *Partnering with Crittenton Hospital Medical Center and other healthcare providers, churches, para-church organizations, schools and community agencies in outreach efforts that promote holistic wellness;*
- *Growing and developing the Rochester College School of Nursing;*
- *Developing new academic programs and disciplines for undergraduate training and pre-professional training in the allied health professions at Rochester College;*
- *Growing and developing the Psychology and Counseling Center;*
- *Strengthening the development of the psychology and social work programs.*



Now Available!

Relive the exciting history of North Central Christian College, Michigan Christian College, and Rochester College. *The Seasons of Rochester College* recreates the institution's story in a beautiful 9x12" hardbound coffee table book. Memories will flood your mind as you view over 300 photographs and read the stories in this colorful 144-page keepsake!



Introductions provide an overview of each decade, including a detailed timeline of significant events.

Profiles on each of the presidents, Coach Shinsky, and Garth Pleasant feature some of the heroes in the institution's history.

Stories and photographs recall such topics as student life, academic growth, campus development, enrollment growth, volunteer support groups, and fundraising activities.

How to Obtain Your Copy

Individuals donating \$300 or more during the anniversary year (June 2008-September 2009) will receive a complimentary copy of the book. Donations can be sent to the development office or made online at www.rc.edu/development.

The book is available for purchase in the college bookstore for \$39.99, plus tax and shipping. Call the store at 800.521.6010 (option 5) to place your order today! The book makes a great gift for alumni and friends of the college!

alumni news

FALL 2008

once a
WARRIOR
always a
WARRIOR

1979

JULIE (SUMMERHAYES) HARPER graduated with her masters degree in public administration from Oakland University in December 2007. She recently became registrar for Rochester College. Julie and her husband Steve live in Leonard, Mich. and have two children—Lauren, an Abilene University alumnus and Dan, a senior at Rochester College. She can be reached at jharper@rc.edu.

1980

DOLLI (JOHNSON) GIRDHAM graduated summa cum laude from American Intercontinental University in July 2007 with a BS in criminal justice. She and her husband adopted Jessica, 14 years old, on March 26 of this year.

1998

EDWIN CAHILL has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Malibu

Community ServiceVolunteers, also known as the Artific Tree Thrift Shop, effective in January 2008. Edwin can be reached at edwincc@yahoo.com. To learn more visit www.artifactree.org.

PHIL AND VANESSA (MOSELY, '99) CLAYBROOKE were blessed with a daughter, Willow Nicole, on July 6, 2007. Phil left his job as a chemistry teacher after four years and entered nursing school this fall. Vanessa resigned after two years as a teacher for children with special needs to stay at home with Willow. They live in Midland, Tex. and would love to hear from their friends. Vanessa can be reached at vcly2@suddenlink.net.

WILLIAM LACKOWSKI and his wife welcomed their fourth child, Jane Elizabeth, on June 18, 2008. She joins big brothers Cole (9), Owen (6) and Noah (4). The family lives in Bruce Township, Mich. William can be reached at william.lackowski@us.bosch.com.

2000

BRIAN HERCULES was appointed athletic director of Bellevue High School in Washington state last year. Brian completed his bachelors degree in business administration as a student in the Center for Extended Learning.

RACHEL (MOUCH) KEISER and her husband Jeremy would like to announce the additions of their children, Zachary, age 3, and Samantha, age 1. Rachel is a teacher at Johannesburg-Lewiston Elementary School and Jeremy is an office manager for Wagar Motors.

2001

CYNTHIA BECHILL was appointed president of International Academy of Design and Technology in Troy, Mich. To learn about this school visit www.iadtetroit.com.



Say hello to Kyle!

New director of alumni relations is excited about his role

Earlier this year, Kyle Martin was appointed director of alumni relations at Rochester College. Martin grew up in Owosso, Mich. where he attended Corunna High School. He enrolled as a full time student at Rochester College in 1998 after learning about the institution through his church. As a student, Martin was actively involved in the social club Tau as a vice president and president for one year each. He also participated in a mission trip to Brazil led by professor Jeff Simmons and studied abroad in Scotland with the Global Educational Opportunities program. Martin married Megan (Graham, '03) in 2003, and they recently had their first child, a boy named Jackson Graham.

After receiving a degree in marketing in 2002, Martin went to work at M&O Marketing in Southfield as a senior marketing consultant. He was employed at M&O for almost six years before accepting his new role at Rochester College. He and his wife Megan were both excited about returning to the college, since it would allow Kyle to play an instrumental role in the growth and development of the institution. "I want to bring more opportunities for alumni such as continuing education, job searches, and more effective communication. I also want to create more ways for alumni to participate in events on a national level," says Martin.

For more information on alumni relations or other events, visit www.rc.edu/alumni or email Martin at alumni@rc.edu.

Home on the Range

Nathan Dalstrom finds solace in fulfilling his dream

Nathan Dahlstrom graduated in 2001 with a bachelors degree in religious education and is currently working to open the Whetstone Boys Ranch in Missouri—a dream that precedes his time at Rochester College. Today, after working with several boys' ranches and children's homes and finishing a masters degree in management, Dahlstrom and his business partners are on the verge of realizing this dream, through buying land in Missouri and enrolling their first participants.

After being expelled from Lubbock Christian University for drinking and partying, Dahlstrom says, "I eventually made my way to a ranch in Montana where I got to 'cowboy up' and live the life I'd always wanted." It was during this time that God grasped Dahlstrom's heart, bringing an end to his bad behavior and redirecting his life. "While I was working at the ranch an abused child came into my life and I suddenly became aware of the kind of hurt and pain that exists in the world. That is when I believe God laid it on my heart to open a ranch that speaks to that kind of pain."

Then only 19 years old, Dahlstrom realized finishing his college education would be integral to accomplishing his mission. His father, who had been taught by Dr. Steve Eckstein before Eckstein relocated to Rochester College, recommended his teaching, and so Dahlstrom made the move north to Michigan. Today he believes his education at RC has served him well in seeing his vision come to fruition, and he remains in contact both with Eckstein and Dr. David Fleer, two of his primary professors.

A self-confessed "Bible geek," Dahlstrom took 21 credit

hours a semester, devoured three years of Greek studies, and worked full-time to pay his way through school. He married Melissa Milam during his first year at RC. They have three girls, Soren Heart (5), Liv Faith (3), and Annabelle Good (9 months), and reside in Lubbock, Tex., where Dahlstrom serves as campus minister for the Children's Home of Lubbock. Simultaneously, he continues to work tirelessly setting up Whetstone's foundation.

During his time in Montana, Dahlstrom specifically saw a need to minister to young men whose experiences and behavior made them susceptible to lifetimes of poverty, crime, and unfulfillment. Thus, his vision for Whetstone is to serve young men ages 12-18. The program is designed to target boys who have been in trouble in their communities, schools, and families. These individuals are generally labeled "at-risk" at some point during their adolescent years. While at-risk carries no specific



diagnosis, it commonly refers to those who are under a great deal of stress and have chosen unhealthy coping mechanisms. Many of the young men who possess one or more of the listed variables will also use prescription medication to counteract them. Under clinical supervision, Whetstone will seek to replace these medications with natural alternatives. Generally, candidates will be physically able to participate in all areas of the prescribed outdoor adventure programming and have at least an average IQ. There will be no formal quota system for background demographics, but the Whetstone team plans to provide services to a diverse group based on ethnicity, family history and socio-economic history.

"My years at Rochester College were a blessing, and the Biblical foundation I received has enabled me to pursue my vision at Whetstone and lead my family in a relationship with Christ. I really miss chapel and the intense Bible study, and I hope to inject some of that into the lives of young men through my work at Whetstone." To learn more about this project or to offer support, visit www.whetstoneboysranch.com.



2004

JIM JACKS and his wife Mary welcomed the birth of their second son, Benjamin Gregory, on April 16, 2008. Benjamin was born at 11:51am and weighed in at 8lbs 7oz. His older brother Matthew is two years old. Jim can be reached at jamesjjacks@comcast.net.

JUSTIN SHERLOCK recently accepted the job of assistant men's basketball coach at Northwood University in Midland, Mich. Visit www.northwood.edu/fl to learn more about that school.

TRISHA (HENSLEY) WARING welcomed Sophia Alice Eileen Waring on December 14, 2007. Sophia weighed in at 8lbs 6oz. Trisha can be reached at trishahensley1@comcast.net.

2005

LUKE FLEER and his wife Marianne (Lackowski) welcomed their first child, Levi David Fleer on May 28, 2008. Levi weighed in at 8lbs. Luke is the coordinator of the Alumni Admissions Ambassador Program at Oakland University and Marianne works as a medical assistant at Somerset Plastic Surgery in Troy. The couple can be reached at mlackowski@yahoo.com.

2006

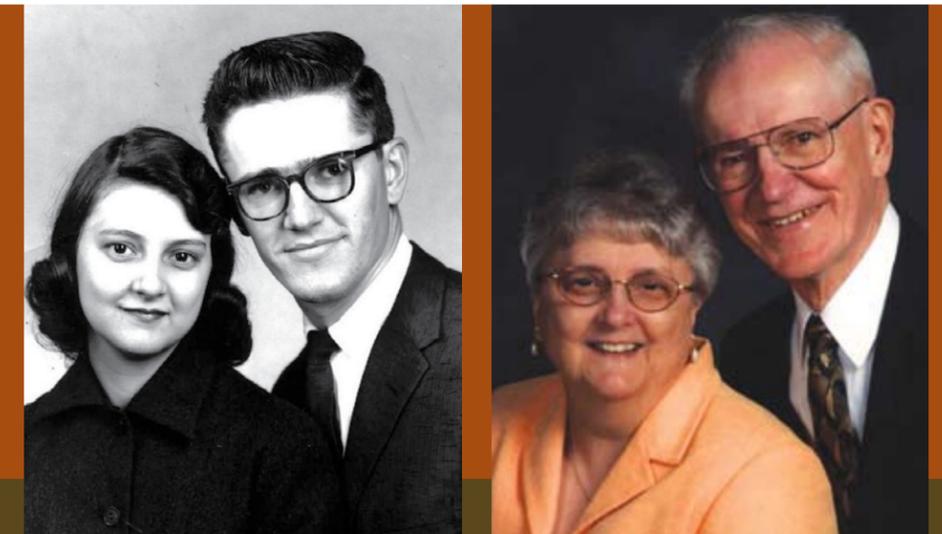
KELLY TANCEUSZ is a third-year medical student at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. Kelly grew up in Sterling Heights, Mich. She transferred to Rochester College from Michigan State University and completed her degree in general and behavioral science.

PAUL DZIEPAK married Katrina (Gomez) on June 7, 2008. The couple lives in Clarkston, Mich. Paul can be reached at goes.to.paul@gmail.com.

2007

JONATHON MILLS accepted employment as a firefighter/paramedic for the city of Rochester Hills in Michigan. He received a bachelors degree from Rochester College, then completed training for firefighting and paramedics at Oakland Community College. He is married to **TAYLOR (BEENE, '06)**.

SOPHIA (DAFFIN) BRADDOCK and her husband recently welcomed a new baby. The family lives in Warren, Mich.



50 years of marital bliss

Wallice Mays reflects on love and life after North Central

C. Wallice Mays was born in Winfield, Ala. and raised in southeast Missouri, where he met and fell in love with Virginia at a church service in August 1957. The couple married one year later on June 17, 1958 in Sikeston, Mo.

"She was so enthusiastic, supportive of her family (mom, dad and siblings) and had a deep interest in spiritual matters," says Wallice about what drew him to Virginia. "What keeps us together is a commitment to each other and mutual respect, as well as our devotion to God."

Wallice attended Freed-Hardeman and Harding College, where he received a bachelors degree before entering North Central Christian College in 1959. He and Virginia were preparing to go into the mission field when Otis Gatewood suggested they enroll in the graduate missions program at NCCC. Wallice was the only student in five of the six post graduate classes he took at North Central.

"My favorite memory is of professor Hugh Mingle walking from the parking area in his bare feet through the mud carrying his shoes. The landscaping had not been done and the area around the multi-purpose building was a sea of mud."

Wallice had little time for extracurricular activities as he was busy helping to raise their first child, preaching on the weekends in River Rouge, and soliciting monetary support for their mission work. While Wallice was in school, Virginia worked as a secretary for

President Otis Gatewood and Lucien Palmer, who was a dean at the time.

After leaving Rochester Hills in 1960, the Mays moved to Finland as missionaries. They returned to the states in 1967 so Wallice could complete his masters degree at Harding Graduate School in Memphis. Shortly thereafter, they returned to Finland, then finally came home in 1972. Wallice served as preacher at a church in Wayne, Mich. from 1973-1986 and currently serves as a shepherd at the Livonia Church of Christ.

"We last visited the college campus in the fall of 2007. It has changed so much since the first year with all the buildings, added number of students and courses for study. Now students can finish their undergraduate work without transferring and can do graduate studies as well."

Concerning the most important lesson he's learned about life Wallice says, "I don't have to always be right! I can learn something from every situation." Regarding his marriage he says "compromise is necessary!" He calls his greatest challenge and greatest fulfillment learning Finnish, along with seeing his children faithfully serve Christ.

The Mays have three children: a daughter, Lisa Stewart, and two sons who attended Michigan Christian College—Paul Mays ('81) and Tim Mays ('89). They also have four grandsons. The couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this summer with a party surrounded by friends and family. •

Summer in the Ivy Leagues

Kanette Worlds recounts spending her summer vacation at Yale University

Kanette Worlds is a firm believer and supporter of continuing education. The summer after graduating from Rochester College in 2003 with a bachelors degree in business communication and a minor in marketing, she enrolled in a six-week publishing program at New York University. While attending NYU she studied magazine and book publishing, preparing her for

While in New York, she began exploring educational programs that would allow her to immerse herself in international studies. "I didn't necessarily want to go back to school but I wanted a learning experience that was effective and intensive. I discovered the Yale program by Googling different institutions online." Yale University offers several programs through their PIER Institute for International Studies covering Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, and Latin and South America. "I chose Africa because I have a lot of friends that were born there as well as American friends who have visited. Plus my husband is from Tanzania in East Africa—I haven't been yet, but I wanted to learn more about it before my first visit."

The African Studies program was designed for educators and media professionals interested in learning how to effectively teach others about the vast richness of the 54 countries that comprise the continent. For two weeks in July, Worlds and 24 other students from various disciplines participated in lectures, discussions and film screenings from 9am until 9:30pm. Professors from Yale, Boston University, University of Michigan and other institutions served as guest speakers. "We covered a whole range of topics including politics, art and literature, music, geography, cultural traditions and language, the slave trade, and pre-colonial and post-colonial history. It was a lot of information but the more I learned the more I realized how little I knew about the continent. There were a lot of things I was never taught



during my K-12 and college education."

Worlds says that some of the most surprising revelations were the many stereotypes that exist about Africa, which were created during colonialism and are still maintained through inaccuracies and generalizations made through mainstream media. The class also participated in art projects, a music session with djembe drums, and even learned how to play several Ghanaian children's games.

Worlds, who has worked as the public information officer at Rochester College for the past three years and is the editor of the Northstar magazine, was blessed to receive a tuition waiver and travel grant from the PIER Institute. "It was a unique experience and I was very fortunate to be able to take part in the program. I absorbed a tremendous amount of information while studying at Yale. My next task is to find a way to share my knowledge with others, especially younger people who don't have the opportunity to learn about Africa through the standard curriculum taught in most schools." •

"My next task is to find a way to share my knowledge with others, especially younger people who don't have this opportunity..."

—Kanette Worlds

future opportunities to work in media and public relations. "Living in New York City is probably the most influential experience that I've ever had," said Worlds. "I loved the hustle and bustle and being surrounded by a large international community. There were a number of things to do and opportunities to learn about people from other countries without leaving the States."

Upcoming Alumni Events

NOVEMBER 1, 2008

Homecoming

JULY 2009

Class of 1979

20-Year Reunion

For more information about this and other alumni events visit www.rc.edu/alumni.

We want to hear from you!

Share your news! Log on to www.rc.edu/alumni or clip and return this form to: Rochester College Alumni Office, 800 West Avon Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48307

NAME (maiden if applicable): _____ YEARS: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

SPOUSE'S NAME (maiden if applicable): _____ YEARS: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____ EMAIL: _____

Note children's names, recent births, job changes, marriages, promotions, etc. on a separate sheet of paper and remit with this form.

Honor and Memorial Gifts

Received since February 1, 2008

HONOR GIFTS

Troy Butler
Mary Ann Butler

James A. Cawood
Marion Cawood

Isabella Mary Ann Cross
John & Karen Loshier

Harrison & Robbie Davis
Bill & Neika Stephens

Bruce & Judy Foulk
Wallace & Virginia Mays

Walt & Benny Ann Gilfilen
Ron Loshier

Robert Howell
Ed & Maggie Howell

Ron & Rena Jones
John & Julie Boag

Robert & Kim Martin
Joanie Iaco

Wallace & Virginia Mays
Mona Griffin

Rubel & Myra Shelly
Kenneth & Ginger Burress

John & Joyce Todd
Marc & Lacey Renner

Greer Hendon

Zearl & Betty Watson

Charlene Herndon
Bill & Phyllis Tansil

Heidi Hoffman
Roger & Sherry Bousho

John Ireland
Joe & Sara Reddick

Roy & Sue Westerfield

Roger Jewett
Mel & Diane Storm

Arlie Johnson
Frances Anderson

Fred Johnson
Art & Marge Pope

Fred Keesee
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Betty Loshier
Ron Loshier

Kathryn Messaris
John & Karen Ropotos

Carletta Miller
Nelson & Jan Eddy

Sophia Nanos
Art & Marge Pope

Elaine Passage
Lorene Temple

Betty Porter
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Joanne Shinsky

Mary Prestridge
Chuck & Joyce Duvall

Jerry & Virginia Ebeling
Ron & Catherine Englehart

John & Sue Grant
Duane & Pat Harrison

Joey & Trudy Kessler
Jim & Caye Randolph

Kim & Martha Rice
Woody & Donna Woodward

Ana Pribanic
Joe & Sarah Reddick

Cheryl Riley
Joan Rogin

Alan Sadurski
Elton & Rita Albright

Doris Dunn
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Lorene McDonald
Joanne Shinsky

Jamie Stowe
Patricia Jacobs

Ruby Swarm
Joe & Sarah Reddick

Joanne Shinsky
Roy & Sue Westerfield

Jess Temple
Lorene Temple

J. P. Tucker
Lavon Tucker

William & Henrietta Wheeler

Sylvia Turner
Rose Ellen Belman

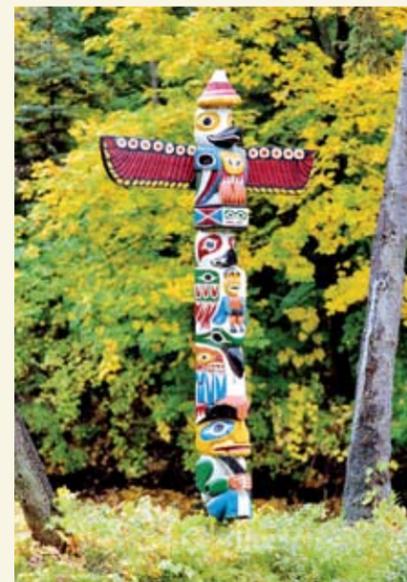
Mona Griffin
Bob & LoAnn Kirks

Nora Wooten
Katherine Cameron

Mary Lindeman
Fayetta Murray

L. B. & Laura Work
Zearl & Betty Watson

Zearl & Betty Watson



Totem Pole fundraiser a great success

The class of 1962 raised nearly \$25,000 in less than a year to restore the landmark totem pole, which graced the island in the center of Lake Norcentra from 1959 until 1997. During that four-decade span the totem pole was severely damaged by the elements, but upon completion of the restoration it will be housed in a historical showcase on display in the future Health and Life Science Center. To view photos of the restoration visit photos.rc.edu and click on the folders titled 2008-09 > Alumni > Totem Pole Restoration.

Announcing Project 12Baskets

The development office recently partnered with Project12Baskets, a local organization that provides a marketplace exchange where charitable people can make donations to their favorite nonprofits without actually giving any money. Similar to e-bay, Project12Baskets hosts web-based auctions that enable friends and supporters to turn gently used items into bountiful fundraising.

People interested in donating can complete a registration form online at www.project12baskets.com or simply drop off their new and used items to one of the depots. With collection centers in Rochester Hills, Novi and Saginaw, as well as in Illinois and Minnesota, Project12Baskets is creating a new way for people to give from their hearts and basements. P12B receives a transaction fee only when items are sold, with close to 70% of the net proceeds going to Rochester College. The program is a great way for local churches interested in supporting the college to organize a large-scale virtual garage sale. The most valuable items include cameras, power tools, computer equipment, video games, personal electronics, sporting goods, jewelry, antiques, toys and dolls, event tickets, handbags, musical instruments, vehicles, artwork and more.

To learn more visit project12baskets.com or contact Dennis Veara, director of estate planning, at 248.218.2106 or dveara@rc.edu.

Foundation for the future

The development office is pleased to announce the establishment of the Rochester College Foundation. The purpose of the foundation is to receive and administer funds exclusively for the benefit and support of Rochester College.

The articles of incorporation were filed with the State of Michigan on May 27, 2008 to establish the foundation as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity. The mission of the RC Foundation is to promote quality educational programs, innovative academic initiatives, and scholarships and awards for students. Dennis Veara, director of estate planning, will serve as the foundation's executive director. The foundation will be controlled by a Board of Directors that includes RC Trustees, employees and community leaders.

"The establishment of this foundation is a real blessing for Rochester College. It will provide the proper layer of accountability as we as manage and protect restricted gifts made to the foundation," explained Clint Pleasant, vice president of development. "I believe this will instill an extra measure of confidence in our donors since their gifts will no longer be co-mingled with the general fund."

In addition, the RC Foundation will accomplish several goals including:

- Engage the community in the life and growth of Rochester College
- Attract additional funds, grants, and other available resources
- Build a new audience of ambassadors and monetary supporters

For more details contact Dennis Veara at 248.218.2106 or dveara@rc.edu.

Turn your donations into vacations!

Book your personal and business travel through www.travelrc.com and find the same low rates on airlines, hotels and rental cars offered by other travel websites. Every time you book, Rochester College will receive a generous portion of the commission. This is a great way to help the college while taking advantage of prime vacation deals and other travel services at no additional cost to you. Log on today—it's that simple!

travelrc.com



College highlighted in special edition community poster

The Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce has released artwork featuring significant and historic landmarks and individuals that have made special contributions to the Rochester community. Rochester College is focused on immersing itself in the Rochester area. In the past few years the college has partnered with numerous groups for events such as the Chamber's Annual Rochester Hometown Christmas Parade. The college is also proud to have two alumni, Kelly (Coleman, '00) Bennett and Jennifer Fulton ('07), employed with the Rochester Chamber.

In 1971, former President Lucien Palmer was quoted in the Rochester Clarion as saying, "MCC [Michigan Christian College] is fortunate to be located in a city as fine as Rochester." It is important for the college to earn the community's high regard in return. Thirty-seven years later, we are still committed to that as a priority. Recently, Rochester Hills was voted the 39th best place to live in the country, and the Rochester College community is excited to be a part of that distinction. Moreover, several significant leaders in this area have been or are currently involved with our campus community in some capacity, including Bill Potere, Roger Knapp, Frank and Roy Rewold, Brad Upton, Bill Fox, Mayor Bryan Barnett and his wife Corrin, and Linda Davis-Kirksey. Rochester College continues

to seek ways in which it can be a blessing to the community.

In addition to a replica of Gallaher Center, Coach Garth Pleasant is featured in the drawing. Garth has been an integral part of the Rochester community since the late 1960s when he was a student at MCC. He worked for the Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA) and for 37 years has directed a summer basketball camp that brings hundreds of campers and parents to this beautiful campus every summer. Recently, Michigan Senate majority leader Mike Bishop noted how his positive experience at Coach Pleasant's summer basketball camp helped shape him into who he is today. On top of his responsibilities at Rochester College as head men's basketball coach, director of athletics and senior faculty member, Pleasant has served as the preaching minister at the Lake Orion Church of Christ since 1980. He also presides at countless weddings and funerals and is a highly sought-after speaker for area dinners, retreats, seminars and lectures.

We are proud of both Rochester College's involvement and commitment to the community as well as Garth Pleasant's tireless service to the area. Copies of the poster are available for \$15 through the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce by calling 248.651.6700.

50 Year Endowment Project underway

Fifty years in any endeavor is a milestone, but our anniversary marks something truly significant—a half-century *Commitment to Faith and Learning*. Building an endowment at Rochester College will ensure that we move forward with the strength to endure for another 50 years and beyond.

"We understand that any institution our size needs to have an endowment to fortify and strengthen the institution to offset operational expenses, fund creative projects, and provide scholarships to students. Our desire is that the fiftieth anniversary will provide the momentum needed to bolster this important endeavor," said Klint Pleasant, vice president of development.

The college will raise \$2.5 million in endowment by generating **50 Thousand Dollars** from **50 Donors or Donor Groups** for another **50 Years of Commitment to Faith and Learning**. So far, advance gifts for the project have exceeded 40% of the overall goal. The Associates Board has committed to a challenge gift of \$50,000 over the next three years for the Associates Permanent Scholarship Endowment. The Board is challenging past and present Associates to match their gift and raise another \$100,000.

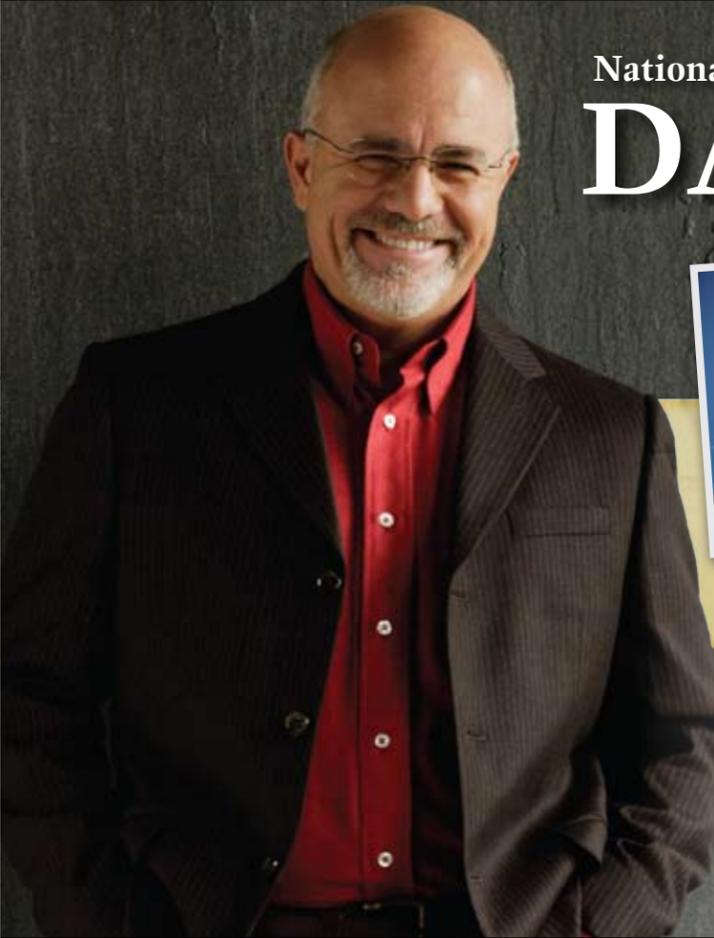
The Decades Endowment is another unique way for alumni to participate in the 50 Year Project. Alumni from each decade are being asked to create an endowment of \$50,000 for each of the five decades. The Decades Endowment will secure cash and pledges over the next three years creating a \$250,000 scholarship endowment. Current commitments total about \$65,000, with alumni from the 1960s in the lead for total amount raised from their decade.

Other ways to participate in the project include estate gifts, pledges, cash gifts, gifts of marketable securities, and life insurance. For more information visit development@rc.edu.

PARTNERSHIP DINNER XXXVIII

National Christian Radio Host and Financial Advisor

DAVE RAMSEY



Join us at the
Royal Park Hotel
Rochester, MI
Saturday, April 4, 2009 at 5:30pm

Proceeds from this event fund student scholarships. Tickets go on sale in January and can be purchased for \$125 online at www.rc.edu/news or by contacting the development office at 248.218.2020 or development@rc.edu.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

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2009

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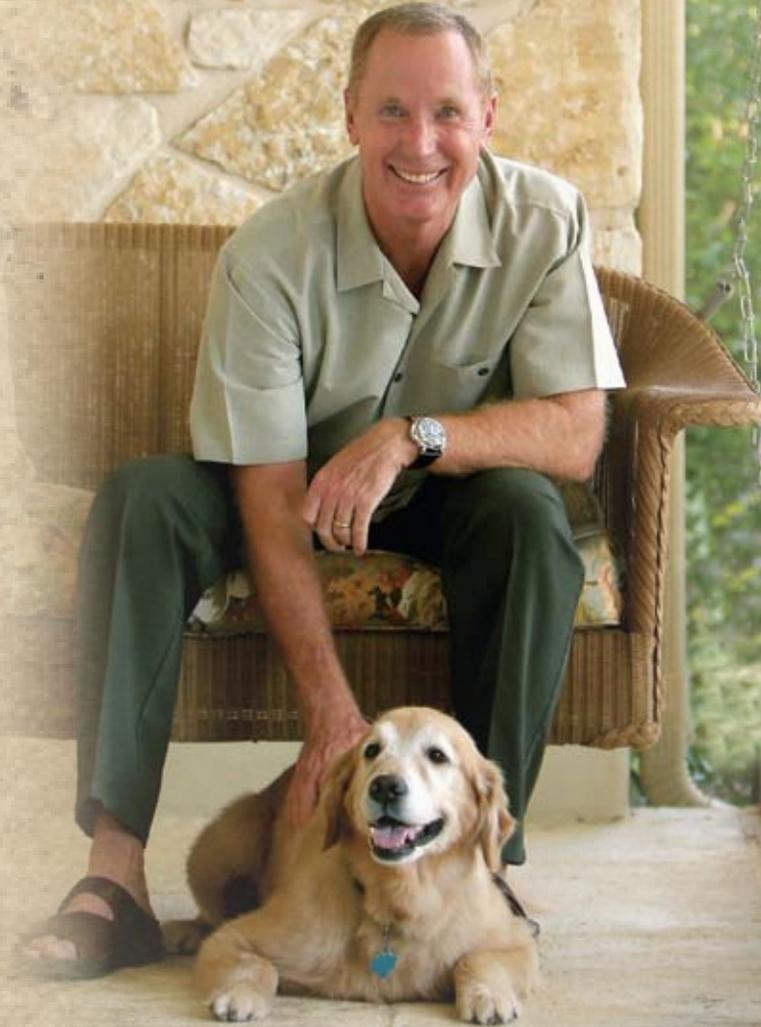
NOVEMBER 1, 2008 • 11:30AM

ROYAL PARK HOTEL
ROCHESTER, MI

Celebrated Christian author and minister Max Lucado will be the featured speaker during a luncheon at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester. Lucado is one of the most recognized authors in the United States with more than 50 titles published in 20 languages worldwide. Lucado is currently the senior minister at the Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas.

Tickets to the luncheon are \$200 and may be purchased online at www.rc.edu/lucado, or by calling the event hotline at 248.218.2020.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available.



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