

President's Place



Dr. Gail Carberry

The Quinsigamond Community College mission is to provide a “gateway to advanced educational and employment opportunities in Central Massachusetts...a public, student centered institution of higher learning, providing accessible, affordable, and high quality educational and training programs and services that are relevant and responsive to diverse regional and student needs.”

In his annual State of the Commonwealth address in January, Governor Patrick proposed a plan to reorganize the community college system in Massachusetts. In these tough times, we appreciate that this plan includes a budget increase of \$10 million – albeit less than \$100 per student statewide. However, this plan also calls for all key decision-making to be removed from local boards of trustees and presidents and placed in the hands of centralized state entities. Under the Governor’s proposal, the Board of Higher Education (in Boston) would have the authority to allocate all state funding to community colleges in Massachusetts, consolidating the current fifteen separate funding lines into a single line item within the Department of Higher Education budget (also in Boston). The Governor’s laudable goal is to help community colleges provide residents looking for work with the skills needed to fill what he estimates to be 120,000 job openings in the state. It is unclear actually how many of those jobs truly fit the qualifications of community college graduates. Some databases also contradict the 120,000 figure, indicating that the number is inflated.

Our community college is in a unique position to provide targeted workforce development in our own community. We already ensure that students entering the workforce are well qualified for job opportunities as evidenced by a 90% graduate placement rate. QCC has a strong relationship with local businesses and the community and is constantly working with them to create programming to meet their needs. As a recent example, QCC took the lead and the fifteen community colleges collaborated on and were successful in securing a \$20 million U.S. Dept. of Labor grant that will benefit each campus.

Continued on page 4

Occupiers and Tea Partiers rally together

By Mary Bailey
Open Door Staff

Who would have thought that Occupiers and Tea Partiers would demonstrate together? It happened here, in Worcester Massachusetts, on Friday, February 3rd. Occupy Worcester and the Worcester Tea Party raised their collective voices on a day of national protest against the threat to American civil liberties contained in the newly authorized National Defense Authorization Act of 2012, which allows the indefinite detention of American citizens by the military. One hundred or more protestors, roughly fifty from each group, collaborated to raise the consciousness of the citizens of our local community. With signs, drums, and calls to passersby, they brought attention to an issue important to all Americans.

“In my mind, it was a very successful event,” said Ken Mandile, President of the Worcester Tea Party. “We were able to bring attention to an issue that hasn’t gotten much attention. I think that if either of us had done this separately, it wouldn’t have gotten as much attention.”

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Photos by Mary Bailey

Nuclear stresses, could war arise in the Middle East?

By Joe Mogel
Open Door Editor

With the arrest of two Iranian agents in Thailand, the tensions between the international community, Israel specifically, and Iran are ratcheting up. Iranian agents, Mohammad Kharzei, Saeid Moradi and Masoud Sedaghatzadeh, were apprehended after their rental house accidentally blew up, on February 14th. Several local sex workers helped to identify the agents. However, Thai officials believe there are other Iranian agents, including a 52-year-old man of middle eastern decent believed to be an explosives expert, identified as Javad Nikkhahfard. The men were, allegedly, intending to plant explosives on property of the Israeli ambassador to Thailand.

This is the latest salvo in a shadow war that has been growing in intensity over the last several months. In previous months Iranian nuclear scientists have been assassinated and two Israeli ambassadors were targets. One attempt was a car bomb that was defused in Tblisi, Georgia, and the other a hand thrown bomb in New Delhi that wounded four, including the wife of Israel’s ambassador to India. These attacks, unofficially, were blamed on Iran by Israel. The attacks are believed to be revenge attacks for the deaths of five Iranian scientists in 2010 that Tehran claims was done by Mossad agents.

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in my opinion

We Want You! Your opinion that is. The Open Door welcomes comments and editorials from QCC students in the form of an article or as a Letter to the Editor. All submissions must be accompanied by the full name of the author along with an e-mail address and phone number. Please keep your submissions to no more than 400 words. Email your letter or article to opendoor@qcc.mass.edu and place “editorial” in the subject line.

Lobby Day: advocate for increased budgets for higher ed

Lobby Day will be held on March 8 10:30 a.m. in Gardner Auditorium at the State House to advocate for increases to the operating budgets of our campuses and increases to need-based financial aid. This event is being organized jointly by State Universities, Community Colleges and UMass – and major organizations. Please join students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni for a giant day of advocacy for our public colleges and universities. Buses and vans will be coming from around the state so we can talk to our legislators about the importance of public higher education to students and the state’s economy, and about what we need to improve affordability, quality and access.

See you March 8th!

Register now at: bit.ly/MALobbyDay2012



Middle East continued from page 1

Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak has made comments stating that a solution must be found soon, before Iran’s program is beyond being crippled by a surgical military strike. Despite the aggressiveness of his words, Barak was vague as to the means for ending the situation, saying “no option should be removed from the table.” Further pressure has come from UN secretary general Ban Ki-Moon, who has said that Iran needs to prove that it isn’t making nuclear weapons. Despite this, both Russia and China are blocking a Security Council resolution, both of which import significant volumes of Iranian oil. None the less, China has voiced concerns over a possible nuclear Iran. Currently, England and France both have enacted embargoes on Iranian oil.

While no country is supporting Iran gaining nuclear weapons, only Israel has been saber rattling. In the past Israeli military actions have destroyed or

disabled nuclear facilities in neighboring Syria and Iraq. As hawkish as Barak has been, it is Israel that is under pressure to not take unilateral action. Additionally, Israel’s political hawks are drawing criticisms internally, with opposition leader Tzipi Livni claiming that Netanyahu’s policies are isolating the country. However, much of the criticisms can be accounted for from a political overlap, manly from issues pertaining to the Palestinians. There does, however, seem to be a dove behind the hawks, as Martin Dempsey has said that the international alliance stance is, partially, intended to force tougher sanctions by the rest of the international community.

Iran’s position, though, has been deteriorating since an International Atomic Energy Agency team visited Iran in January. The team was there to determine if Iran’s nuclear program is for peaceful purposes. However, the team was denied access to Iran’s Parchin

military base, where nuclear weapon development is suspected to be taking place. Regarding this IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano has said that “We engaged in a constructive spirit, but no agreement was reached.” Despite not reviewing the base, an IAEA report has stated that many of Iran’s programs are “relevant to producing” nuclear weapons.

Though the next several months will, undoubtedly, involve political jockeying and numerous pressures from various parties, the situation does not seem to be one for instant change. As unstable as the region is, the forces at play are well balanced, meaning that an action, by either side, is unlikely to set off a serious chain reaction. That being said there is no certain way to predict what may occur next.

The Open Door Schedule for Spring 2012

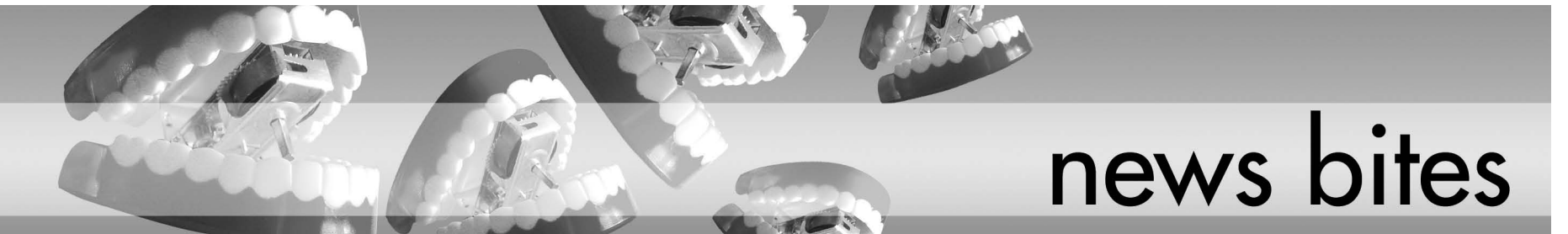
Issue	On Stands	Deadline
<i>Spring 2012</i>		
Issue #7 April	April 5, 2012	March 13
Issue #8 May	May 3, 2012	April 10

The Open Door is the student newspaper of Quinsigamond Community College and is distributed once a month. Students are encouraged to participate in its publication through the submission of articles, article ideas and actual production work. If you are interested in working on *The Open Door*, please see Pat Bisha-Valencia, coordinator. The office is located in the Fuller Student Center in Room 2F. Come visit us, or email opendoor@qcc.mass.edu or phone 508-854-4285.

Coordinator: Pat Bisha-Valencia
Student Editor: Joe Mogel
Layout Designers: Amy Weiss & Kris Thimo
Staff Writers: Mary Bailey, Joshua Biernacki, Averi Hamilton, Caitlyn Lambert, Ross Morin, Beryl Pettiford, Laurinda Ralph, Stephen Shuler

Next Issue: April 5, 2012

Disclaimer: The views expressed in The Open Door do not necessarily reflect the views of its staff, advertisers or Quinsigamond Community College. Editorials and articles deemed libelous to the QCC community by The Open Door Coordinator and Editor will not be published.



By Joe Mogel

Riots in Macedonia over religious festival

January 13th is the Orthodox Christian festival of Vevcani in Macedonia. The festival includes costumes and masks, many of which are insulting to the Muslim Armenian minority. The most common offensive costume in question is men dressing as women in burqas. The riots have included defacing a Macedonian flag, and attacks on buses and a church. Macedonian Muslim leaders are calling for calm and restraint on both sides, while denouncing the festival and its government funding. The festival of Vevcani is said to be 1,400 years old.

Brazilian proposes statue in London for 2016 Olympics

Brazil’s board of tourism has suggested that a 30 foot tall replica of Rio de Janeiro’s famous Christ the redeemer be put on London’s Primrose Hill as an advertisement for the 2016 Rio Olympics. The London locals have found the suggestion amusing. “The neighborhood is not going to accept that,” said America Martinez, a local grandmother. Primrose Hill is a wealthy neighborhood, whose residents include Gwyneth Paltrow and Jude Law.

Rare wolves breeding in captivity

Maned wolves, which are ‘near threatened’ on the endangered species list, have been notoriously difficult to breed in captivity due to the species propensity for gastrointestinal disorders. Despite the difficulty two wolves, 8-year-old mother Salina and 4-year-old father Nopal, have had a litter of four pups at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) in Front Royal, Virginia. The pups are being closely monitored by Zookeepers because of the high infant mortality rate. The litter brings the total Maned wolf population at the SCBI to 12.

Oversized Crustaceans found off New Zealand

A joint British – New Zealand expedition to study deep sea snails has found giant amphipods. The crustaceans, usually approximately 1 inch long, measure around 11 inches in length. The four amphipods were brought up in metal traps attached to deep sea cameras lowered into the Kermadec Trench, north of New

Zealand. The cameras also caught several additional amphipods, some measuring up to 13 inches.

Saudi Blogger arrested for heresy

Hamza Kashgari, age 23, has been deported from Malaysia to Saudi Arabia over a series of Tweets Kashgari made. The former reporter for the Al Bilad newspaper, made a series of twitter posts where he pretended to have a conversation with Mohammad. The twitter posts have led some in the conservative country to call for Kashgari’s execution. He has apologized for his comments, though he’s still likely to spend time in jail. Despite this Kashgari is quoted as saying “I believe I’m just a scapegoat for a larger conflict. There are a lot of people like me in Saudi Arabia who are fighting for their rights.”

Ancient armor plated crocodile fossils discovered in Morocco

At a dig site in Morocco the remains of a 30 foot long, 95 million year old specie of crocodile was identified by University of Missouri anatomy professor Casey Holliday. The crocodile’s most noted feature was its wide, flat, armored head. The thinness of its jaws limited its possible prey; the current speculation is that it hunted fish. The crocodile, nick-named ‘shieldcroc’ for its head, was a contemporary of the Mesozoic dinosaurs.

Major Snowstorm hits Rome

The Coliseum, among other historic sites, was shut down after a snowstorm dropped 2.5 inches of snow on the eternal city. The narrow, cobblestone streets and lack of snow tires led to a spike in accidents. As a result the city ordered all cars without tire chains to remain off the street. Due to energy concerns, Rome has had a policy of limiting home heating hours to between 10 and 12 hours per day. This has lead to further complications as a result of the storm.

Priest arrested in illegal treasure dig in Greece

Locals who complained of loud noises coming from the Church of the Prophet Elijah found that the priest and a church elder were digging for treasure in the church chancel. When police entered the church, near the

village of Fyska north of Thessaloniki, they found a six by three foot hole in the floor of the church. Illegal treasure hunting has been on the rise in Greece as the economy has worsened.

13 year old girl holds 8 power lifting records

Abbey Watson, age 13, of Colorado, holds eight world records in competitive weight lifting. Starting at age eleven, she has advance to weights often lifted by adults. Despite being in the 105 lbs. class she is dead lifting 176 lbs. which is currently the world record. “I think that if someone would have told me at the beginning of sixth grade I’d be lifting this much, I would never believe them,” Watson commented. “I think the reason Abbey is lifting weight that surpasses adults is because she’s never been told she can’t do it,” Said Watson’s head coach Jonathan Sabar.

Prisoners in Kyrgyzstan sew lips together in protest

Between 1,000 and 1,200 prisoners in Kyrgyz prisons have sewn their lips together in a protest of what they say is an abuse of power by wardens. The protest began in a pre-trial detention center run by Mars Zhusupbekov, who says the protest is due to his attempt to break the power of prison gangs who are extorting money for the families of other inmates. Kyrgyzstan is a nation of 5.3 million and houses 7,600 convicts.

Pirate Political Party in Spain filing suit against United States

An international coalition of Internet users are organizing to bring a law suit against the United States for violating laws in Europe. Led by the Pirates of Catalonia, the coalition is attempting to register as many complaints from as many users against the US government. Thus far, however, the department of defense has only said that they were justified in shutting down websites such as Megaupload.com.

Tunisians protest extreme Islamist movement

More than 8,000 Tunisians marched in protest of violence perpetrated by extreme Islamists who have been attacking unveiled women, intellectuals and occupying universities. The extremist members of the Ennahda moderate Islamist party,

known as Salafists, have been reacting to increases secularism. The protestors were counter-protested by several hundred Islamists.

Actor’s photo digitally altered for amputee health ad

Cleo Berry, of Los Angeles, was surprised to find that a photo he posed for several years ago was being used for an ad warning about diabetes; the photo showed Berry missing one of his legs. The ads were a warning against increased portion sizes, which can result in diabetes and possible amputations.

Irish artist builds house out of shredded money

Frank Buckley, a Dublin based artist, has constructed a house out of 50,000 bricks of shredded Irish Euros. His house / exhibit “Expressions of Recession” currently has a bedroom, bathroom and living, with plans for a kitchen, shower and a patio in the future. The total value of the Euros in the bricks, before being shredded, is approximately \$1.82 billion. Buckley is currently living in the house. “Whatever you say about the Euro, it’s a great insulator,” he said.

Scientists create stellar material in lab

Scientists at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory at Stamford University have created a solid mass of plasma, similar to the matter that would be found in the corona of stars. By focusing high intensity X-ray lasers at a one thousandth of a centimeter cubed piece of aluminum the metal was heated to 2 million degrees centigrade. The research is being used to improve understanding of stellar nuclear fusion.

First guided bullet developed

The bullet, which is 4 inches long by a half inch, contains a tiny processor and guidance system. The bullet, in effect, acts like a small guided missile. The US defense department has invested millions in developing a guided bullet. The bullet, like many missiles, contains an optical sensor, allowing the bullet to lock onto a laser aimed at the target. This technology is hoped to reduce collateral damage.

Bomb threats on campus

By Joe Mogel

Most likely you are aware that our campus recently received two bomb threats as of press time. The first was found at 10:30 PM Thursday, February 16th in the Administration Building and indicated that a bomb would be planted on Friday the 17th. State Police and bomb squads cordoned off the campus and swept the buildings. No bomb was found.

A second threat was found six days later, on Wednesday the 22nd, also in the Administration Building. However, since the first threat turned out to

be a bluff, this threat did not result in a cancellation of classes, though campus and state police did sweep the building with a canine unit. Students and faculty were given the option of not coming to classes on Thursday the 23rd.

The bomb threats have resulted in a \$5,000 dollar reward being put out for information leading to the arrest of the perpetrator. Additionally, any suspicious activities can be reported to campus police at 508-854-4221.

As unnerving as these developments are, you do have to wonder about the reason for the threats. Since the threats coincide with the first block of exams, the possibility that a disgruntled student, who wanted to avoid a test, may be the explanation. The only way to know for certain what the reason(s) may be is to catch the responsible party. A task we here hope our security personnel do safely and soon.

Tea Party/Occupier, continued from page 1

“We had a great turnout,” said Jonathan Noble of Occupy Worcester. “Everyone was very much aware that this was the kind of issue that was much bigger than either of us. We can’t let the fact that we disagree on other important things interfere with this. Our hope is that people will realize that there are problems going on and we want to fix them.” Both men agreed that if another issue arose, they would collaborate again.

It was a proud day for Worcester when these two diverse groups came together. This was a grass roots effort at its best. There are many problems in our country today and the solutions to those problems will come from the bottom up. The system is working for the people at the top that reap the benefits. There may be issues that some people may never agree on, but like these two Worcester groups, ordinary people can bring about the change that we all want and need.

It’s the only thing that will.



President’s Column, continued from page 1

The Governor’s believes that his plan will leverage the community colleges, streamline the system, and align the mission, thereby reversing the economic downturn in Massachusetts by providing our workers with the skills needed to fill jobs of the future in all areas of the Commonwealth. We already do that for Central Massachusetts. What is good for Boston may not be good for Worcester or Springfield. We are a state with a diverse culture and a diverse workforce. Can the community colleges be made into a “one size fits all system?” As budget cuts impact from federal and state levels, will costly central control take even more scarce dollars from our classrooms?

In the last five years, QCC’s annual enrollment has increased 40% by responding to the needs of our community and the economy. We have done this despite a 20% decline in state funding. Today, only 17% of our operating budget is borne by the State. Most of our graduates remain and work in Central Massachusetts. Our current Board of Trustees is comprised of local business leaders who are committed to QCC and its mission. Don’t they deserve a strong voice in running this College?

I say, “If it’s not broken, don’t try to fix it.”

April 2012 is Poetry Month.

In our April edition, The Open Door will feature student poems. Submit your poems to opendoor@qcc.mass.edu

Please include the following:
Subject line: “Poem Submission”
Full Name and Student ID# included in the email

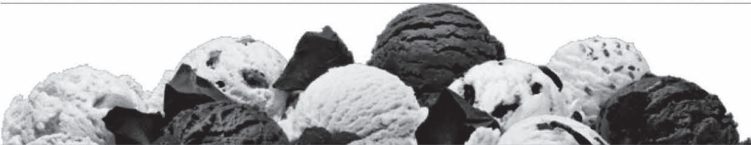


The deadline for submissions is March 16th 2012.

Send us one of your finest for consideration!*

*Limit 2 poems submission per person

student life

MARCH 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Board Game Day	2	3
4	5	6 Soap Factory 	7	8 Women's History Month Event	9 Pre Spring Break Jam	10
11	12 Baseball @ Prince George CC 3PM	13 Baseball @ Finger Lakes CC 12PM Deadline for Open Door March Issue	14 Baseball @ Middlesex County College 1PM	15 Baseball @ Atlantic Cape CC 3PM	16	17
Spring Break						
18 Baseball @ Raritan CC 12PM	19 Wings n Sings 	20	21 Fitness Crunch Event Baseball @ UCONN Avery Point 3:30PM	22 Evening Student Mixer	23	24 Baseball vs NHTI 12PM
25 Baseball vs Springfield College JV 12PM	26	27 Lunchtime Leadership Baseball vs Franklin Pierce JV 3:30PM	28 Softball @ CCRI 3:30PM	29 Baseball @ Naval Academy Prep 4PM	30	31 Baseball vs Mass Bay CC 12PM



Dress To Impress Thursdays

Preparing the YOU for a life after QCC!!

*All Thursdays Starting
February 9th, 2012*

Come into the Fuller Center dressed in business attire on any Thursday, and receive a prize.

**BEST DRESSED
STUDENT WILL
TAKE HOME FREE
MOVIE TICKETS!**

**Raymond Diaz
February 9th winner!**

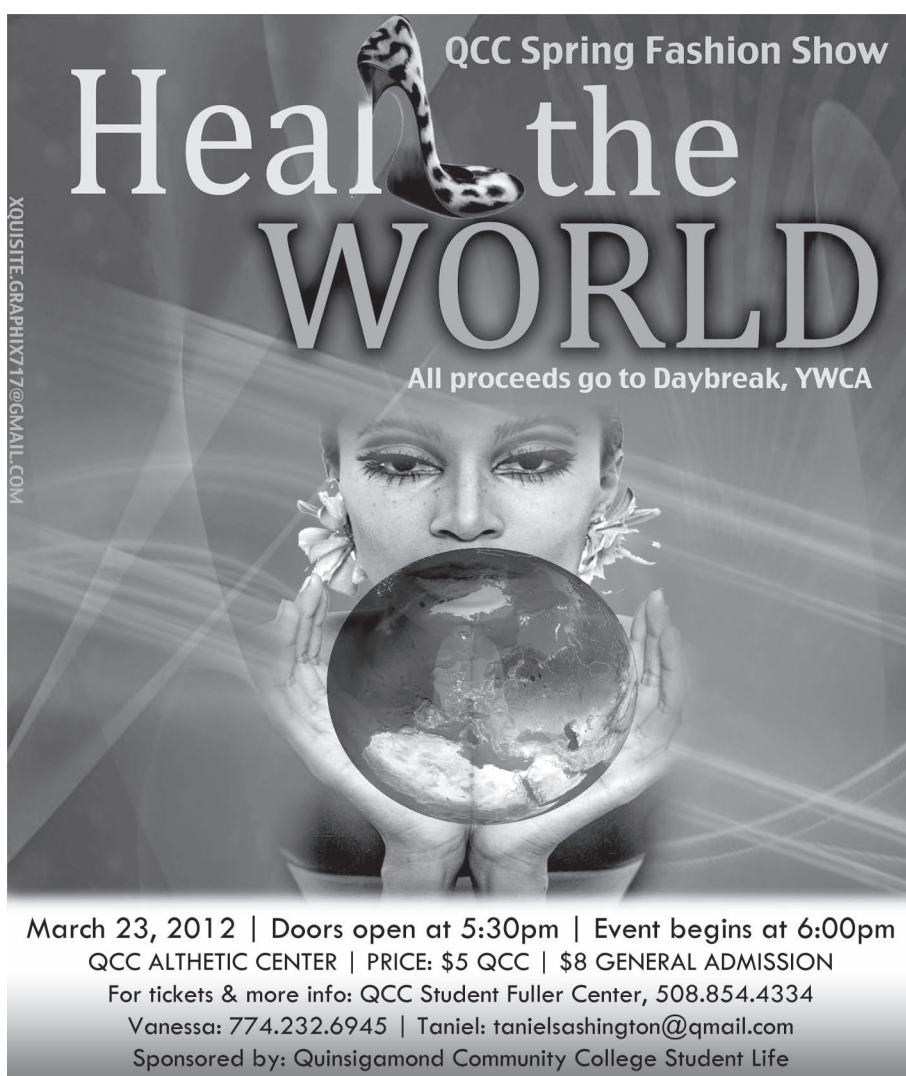


QCC Spring Fashion Show

Hear the WORLD

All proceeds go to Daybreak, YWCA

March 23, 2012 | Doors open at 5:30pm | Event begins at 6:00pm
QCC ALTHETIC CENTER | PRICE: \$5 QCC | \$8 GENERAL ADMISSION
For tickets & more info: QCC Student Fuller Center, 508.854.4334
Vanessa: 774.232.6945 | Taniel: tanielsashington@gmail.com
Sponsored by: Quinsigamond Community College Student Life





clubs and honor societies

Senate Minute

Hello,

How is everyone doing this month? Over the last month your Student Senate has accomplished a lot. We have decided to participate in community service and are looking into building houses with Habitat for Humanity within the Worcester community, and participate in an Earth Day project as well. Anyone who would like to participate we would love you to join us—please contact with me.

Next on the Agenda is Spring Fling which will be held on April 25. This year's event will have a luau theme. I can disclose that there will be a fling at the Southbridge campus and anyone who would like to get involved please stop by and see me in the Fuller Student Center.

Now to talk about spring elections. They will be occurring over the next few weeks. I hope to see a vote from everyone and many nominees. Also coming up will be a listening and learning session for the new government system which was voted on at All College Day by the faculty and administration. Keep a look out for that and stay informed. Also our constitution for Senate is being looked at and we will be informing you more as that goes forward. I hope everyone continues on their quest through QCC. Good Luck!

Thank You for Your Time,

Joshua R. Biernacki

Student Senate President
All College Council
Governance Review Team
Round Table
Student Advisory

PHI THETA KAPPA PRESENTS THE ANNUAL



RAFFLES!

Giveaways!

WHERE: **AMF BOWLING** 101 Southbridge St. Auburn, MA

WHEN: Sunday, APRIL 1ST, 3^{PM}-5^{PM}
(Registration begins at 2:30)

COST: \$25.00 Per Person
Includes: 2 hours of bowling, bowling shoes, pizza, soda, and dessert



Proceeds to Benefit:

&



QCC Pride Alliance

Socialize! Educate! Advocate!



The QCC Pride Alliance is a group
for Gay
Lesbian
Bisexual
Transgender
Intersex and Questioning
students and their student Allies

Meetings: Most Wednesdays from 1-1:45
Fuller Center Conference Room
Feb. 15, 22, 29; Mar. 7, 21, 28; Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2

Can't make a meeting? Participate via the Q!

To join the Pride Alliance:
Log in to **The Q** and then click
Campus Life>Clubs and Organizations>Campus Groups>Browse
Groups>Pride Alliance>Join Group

**We look forward to welcoming you
at our meetings and events!!**

For more information email Prof. Gaelan Lee Benway
gbenway@qcc.mass.edu

The QCC Business and Entrepreneurship Club

The QCC Business and Entrepreneurship Club meets every other Friday at 11:00 AM in the Fuller Center Conference Room.

Spring meeting dates: February 17, March 2 and 23, April 6, 20 and 27.

The QBrew

is the Club's coffee bar that operates every Saturday morning in the Surprenant lobby. Club members sell beverages and pastries to raise money for the Worcester Animal Rescue League. Join the QCCBEC and volunteer for the QCrew!

The QView

On March 7 the Club will host a FREE showing of The Pursuit of Happyness starring Will Smith! The movie is free, proceeds from the sale of refreshments benefit the WARL. Join fellow students for this fun event at 4:00 PM in the Hebert Auditorium!

QT(r)ip

QCCBEC members are planning a Patriot's Day field trip. Come to a meeting and find out more!

ALANA Conference: Crossing Boundaries

By Beryl Pettiford
Open Door Staff

On February 11th 2012, I attended the A L A N A (African, Latino/ Hispanic, Asian, Native American) Network conference “Crossing Boundaries” at Worcester State University. The purpose of this conference was to meet students of color, while taking an intense look into one’s personal identity. This was done by exercises and workshops. These workshops were not only educational, but very informative. Four workshops were offered: Black Identity, Development Exploring Similarities & differences, Teaching Underrepresented Students: A Latina Perspective, The Student’s Perspective, and the Bi/Multi-Racial Identity: Who am I? I also got to meet students from Anna Maria, Assumption, Becker, Clark, Holy Cross, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine/Tufts, Mass. college of Pharmacy, Nichols, UMASS Medical, WSU and WPI.

The Key Note speaker was the tenth President of Becker College, Dr. Robert E. Johnson, PhD. Becker College currently enrolls 1,750 students between its campuses in Worcester and Leicester. Dr. Johnson has dedicated more than 25 years to a career of transforming lives of young people. He delivered an excellent lecture, explaining The 8 D’s to reaching ones goals: Desire, Direction, Discipline, Dedication, Dependability, Determination, Durability, and what you are willing to defend. I found Dr. Johnson to be a very dignified leader, a powerful speaker, a husband, and role model to 2 children.

The two workshops I chose to attend were the Bi/Multi-Racial and The Student’s Perspective. The Student’s Perspective was conducted by Che Anderson and Jesus Nunez representing Assumption College. This workshop gave students the opportunity to discuss, round table style, their struggles and areas of needed improvement at their prospective institutions. The main issue was the lack of diversity (unlike QCC, which is very well represented in the richness of diversity and culture). One student from WPI expressed that “there are not a lot of people of color

in the field of engineering”. Other concerns were that professors do not feel the need to bond with students on a personal level or get to know the student, thus not forming a relationship. Representing QCC, I did note that I see the diversity here on campus and in the classroom. The discussions and summaries will be distributed to each college for review.

The other workshop, Bi/Multi-Racial Identity: Who Am I? was conducted by Bonnie Hall, Associate Director of Admissions/ Coordinator of Multicultural Recruitment at WPI. Working in groups of four, this was an interactive workshop where we had to answer a host of questions on a Personal Bi/Multi-Racial Identity Wheel. We were asked everything from our favorite music, skin color, parent’s races, to hair texture. We were asked to come up with 3 adjectives to describe ourselves to discuss among our group members. After we compared the similarities and the differences, there was a reflective period to think about how you felt about yourself. We were asked to look inside of ourselves, to see if we accept others as much as we’d like to be accepted. We asked ourselves what influences our social interactions, and where we see ourselves fitting into society. Being multi-racial myself, I was able to share the pro’s and con’s with-in the foursome group and also understand what it’s like to be Asian and white mixed, with a homosexual gender, and attending college here in Massachusetts after being raised in Colorado with cows nearby. The combinations of mixed parents, gender choices, and geographic heritage, made quite the tossed salad. Add a bit of dressing and you have quite the flavorful experience! I truly enjoyed the candid conversations, getting to know one another’s feelings, and thinking about how someone else feels about themselves. Perhaps we would have never met, but this conference made it possible to learn about other’s cultures and ethnic backgrounds.

Dr. Ravi Perry, President of the Worcester Chapter of THE NAACP and a professor at Clark, was

magnificent in hosting some true thought provoking exercises. All of the students had to use body and mind to participate. The first exercise was indoors where participants move from one side of the room to the other to show whether you agreed or disagreed on some very personal opinions. Example, how would you feel if approached by the same gender? How do you feel as a woman or man? What do you think about public displays of affection? It was interesting to observe the hesitation in some strides as they tried to answer sincerely, and not succumb to peer pressure.

Next we stepped outside, stood shoulder to shoulder in a straight line of over 100 students, and Dr. Perry listed an array of situations that either moved us forward toward success, or step us backwards delaying or even bringing our success to a standstill. He shouted “take two steps forward if your parents attended college, and if you had read a novel, take 2 steps backwards if you take public transportation and or receive food stamps.” We all ended up scattered about over the lawn. My conclusion, and comment at the closing was that no matter where we begin, how many steps we take backwards or forward, we have one goal; to not let anything get in the way of our education. We are all here today and we WILL graduate.

Dinner was served just in time, as we had had a full day of events and learning. It was even a little sad to leave friends we had just made over the course of the day. I understand QCC has not been highly represented at past conferences, and hopefully that will change. I felt honored to be in attendance, and I hope to have fellow QCC students sitting with me at the next conference.

QCC Psychology/Psi Beta Clubs

Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each Month 2:00 to 3:00 PM in the Fuller Student Center
2/7, 2/21, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17 & 5/1/12



Like psychology? Interested in how the mind works? Want the opportunity to enrich your understanding of development, personality, cognition, memory, emotions, behavior, etc.? Would you like the opportunity to mentor others? Want to join a psychology honor society? Then we have the clubs for you! Please join us!

Questions? Contact Valarie Clemente, Ed.D., Advisor, Assistant Professor of Psychology, x7506; Rm 422A; vclemente@qcc.mass.edu

Keep up to date with all our activities – join our email list: qccpsychologyclub@gmail.com and join the psychology club on the Q portal!

Coming back to college

By Patricia MacNeil

Coming back to college, for me, has been a huge part of me making change in my life. I had gone to school about fifteen years ago. Though I was a divorced mother of four, I balanced raising my children alone and my studies in Business Administration. While I was not able to finish, leaving only six classes left to obtain that degree, I did have a GPA high enough to become a PTK member. I was very proud of that, even though I was not able to complete the program.

I found myself in the last few years, not happy in jobs or not working at all. Months became years, and before I knew it, I had become what I call “a dent in the couch.” Eventually, not only the appearance on the outside becomes less than pleasant but so did how I felt inside about myself. I thought about going back to school but didn’t think I still had it in me to be a student; I underestimated myself. I found myself, in the middle of last winter, sick and tired of being sick and tired. I got on the computer one day and applied to Quinsigamond Community College. Everything just fell right into place.

It was pretty easy. I found myself both excited and scared. While the idea of being a successful student was exciting, I was scared I would fail. I had moments during many days in the weeks and months before it was time to start the spring semester that I thought, “What the heck did I do? I can’t do this. What was I thinking?” But there was a bigger part of me that knew this was what I needed. I needed to change how I viewed myself. I thought I was too old to go back to college and would not be able to keep up with studies. I was afraid the fear itself would keep me from moving forward.

Instead of letting fear control me, I put one foot in front of the other, held my head up high, and took on this new challenge I have found that I am the happiest I have been in a lot of years. What I have discovered about myself and things I have learned in just the few short months I have been here, is more than I could ever have imagined for myself. I enjoy getting up every morning and coming into school.

I was very happy that almost all of my classes from fifteen years ago in another community college transferred over. Though I changed my degree program to general studies, I need only seven classes to receive my degree. It is because of the help of a great instructor, (Dr. Clemente) that I have been able to look at who I am and what I want to do which led me to this letter. I would like to pursue a career in writing. I am not sure still exactly what I want to do but I know what direction my next steps are. I am forever grateful to have had this opportunity and pleased of the person who stares back at me in the mirror. I made the best decision I could have at the right time.



INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING CENTER - Room 205 HLC

TUTOR SCHEDULE - Spring 2012 SEMESTER

Monday–Thursday: 8 am–9 pm; Friday: 8 am–5 pm; Saturday: 9 am–3 pm

<i>Tutors</i>	<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>
Accounting <i>Paul Albright & Irina Atechian</i>	2-3 pm	10:30—12:30 & 2:30-3:30pm	4-7 pm	10:30 am-12:30	2-3 pm	
Anatomy & Physiology & Biology Paul D’Ambra		11 am- 4 Pm	10 am – 3 pm			
Chemistry <i>Marie Poisson</i>	11:30-12:30 & 1:30-3:30	2-5 pm	3-6 pm	2-5 pm	2-5 pm	
Computer Science (Advanced) <i>Shirley Kube</i>			10 am-4 pm			
Dental Hygiene <i>Jenna & Ginelle</i>			3-5 pm		1-3 pm	
General Science & Physics, also Basic Engineering <i>Mark Bohanan</i>		9am -12 & 1-6 pm	10 am-noon	9am-12 & 1-6 pm		
Nursing <i>Linda Shubert</i>		9:00 am-2:00 pm	9:00 am-2:00 pm			
Spanish <i>Jack Creamer</i>		2-4 pm	4-6 pm			
Psychology& Sociology <i>Ruth McLaughlin</i>		10:00 am-2:00 pm	12:00-3:00 pm			
Microsoft Office & Intro Computers <i>Dana Lauer & Al Tessier</i>	4:00-9:00 pm	4:00-9:00 pm	4:00-9:00 pm	4:00-9:00 pm	ILC closes at 5:00 pm	9 am- 3 pm

Free Online Tutoring with SMARTHINKING

- Every QCC student has an account on SMARTHINKING - a nationally recognized online tutoring service.
- Available 24/7
- Log in from any computer, anywhere and begin to IM with a tutor.



Log in to your SMARTHINKING Account

Username	QCC987654
Password	4321
<input type="button" value="Login"/>	

Log in at: <http://services.smarthinking.com>
Your username is QCC and your student ID
Your password is the last 4 digits of your social security number

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news & more in
The Open Door.
On stands and The Q
the first Thursday of
each month.

QCC Spring Fashion Show

Heal the WORLD

All proceeds go to Daybreak, YWCA

XQUISITE:GRAPHIX717@GMAIL.COM

March 23, 2012 | Doors open at 5:30pm | Event begins at 6:00pm
QCC ALTHETIC CENTER | PRICE: \$5 QCC | \$8 GENERAL ADMISSION
For tickets & more info: QCC Student Fuller Center, 508.854.4334
Vanessa: 774.232.6945 | Taniel: tanielsashington@gmail.com
Sponsored by: Quinsigamond Community College Student Life



Harrington Learning Center Hours - Fall 2011 and Spring 2012

Monday through Thursday	8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

Asthma Management: Are You Getting the Most From Your Inhaler?

Written by Meghan LaFlamme, Second Year QCC Respiratory Care Program Student

Are you one of the 20 million Americans suffering from asthma? If so, there is a good chance that at one point you have made a trip to the emergency room for an asthma attack. Such visits account for approximately 25% of annual hospital visits, totaling around 2 million. Asthma attacks range in severity and can often be fatal if not treated properly. Every day, 11 Americans die from this cause. By knowing your personal asthma triggers and how to properly use your inhaler, you can avoid a needless visit.

If your doctor handed you a plastic tube with your pressurized inhaler, you probably tossed it aside, thinking, “What do I need this for? The inhaler already has a mouthpiece on it.” That plastic tube, called a spacer, is the key to getting the most out of your medicine. Using a spacer helps get the

medication directly to your lungs and helps reduce irritation and mild related infections of the mouth. Without a spacer, much of the medicine ends up in the air, on the tongue, or in the back of the throat. A spacer also makes the timing of aerosol delivery much easier. The only downside of using a spacer is that it slightly decreases the portability of your inhaler.

Spacers are incredibly easy to use. First, shake your inhaler 3 or 4 times. Next, remove caps from both your inhaler and spacer. Put your inhaler into your spacer. Exhale away from the spacer. Bring your spacer to your mouth, between your teeth, and create a tight-lip seal around the mouthpiece. Press the inhaler once. Very slowly breathe in until you have a full breath. If a whistling sound is heard, it is too fast. Hold your breath for 10 seconds, and then

breathe out. With a little practice, it will become easy and you will soon find that less medication is needed when your inhaler is properly used with a spacer.

If you do not have one, do not hesitate to ask your doctor. Not sure if you are using yours correctly? Visit the Respiratory Care department in the Administration building, or visit the websites of the Asthma Society of Canada (www.asthma.ca/adults) and the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (www.aafa.org). A wealth of asthma information can also be gained from the Massachusetts General Hospital Asthma Program: (<http://www.massgeneral.org/allergy/services/treatmentprograms.aspx?id=1528>). MGH can also be contacted at 617-726-3850. Become informed, medicate properly, and start breathing better today!

Worcester **Earned Income Tax Credit** Coalition

Free tax preparation and education for qualified individuals and families

You deserve your tax refund.

Claim it!

✓ **FREE** Income Tax Preparation

✓ **FREE** E-File

✓ **FAST** Refund

Maximize your refund by getting all the tax credits you are eligible for

Free tax preparation for qualifying households with income less than \$50,000

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance “VITA” sites open in January, 2012.

To make an appointment, call one of these sites after January 1, 2012:

Main South CDC

875 Main St.
Worcester, MA
(508) 752-6181

Spanish and Vietnamese translation available

Plumley Village Resident Services Office

16 Laurel St.
Worcester, MA
(508) 770-0508

Spanish translation available

Worcester Community Action Council

484 Main St, 2nd floor
Worcester, MA
(508) 754-1176 ext. 234

Spanish translation available

Worcester State University Center for Service Learning Sullivan Building

486 Chandler St.
2nd floor, room 220
Worcester, MA
(508) 929-8424

Albanian and Twa (Ghana) translation available

✓ **Requirements to claim your Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)**

Must have earned income (wages from employment or self employment) or taxable pension or disability retirement payments

Must have valid Social Security number

If married, must file jointly

Must be U.S. citizen or resident alien all year or a nonresident alien married to a U.S. citizen or resident alien filing a joint return

Must be 25-64 years of age (if single with no children) at the end of the year, live in the United States for more than half the year, and not qualify as a dependent of another person

You cannot be the qualifying child of another person

Investment income limited to \$3,100

✓ **What to bring to your appointment:**

Photo ID & Social Security card or ITIN # for you, your spouse (if married), your children

All W-2 Forms (earning statements) for every employer during 2011

All 1099 forms (including 1099G for any government payments, such as unemployment payments and 1099R for any pension payments received)

Child care expenses-total of payments made, the name, address, Employer Identification Number (EIN) or Social Security number of provider

Form 1098 (tuition payment statement) for each household member who attended college in 2011 and the total amount of student loan interest paid

Total rent paid in 2011, landlord or rental agent's name and address

Your checkbook or bank statement if you want to direct deposit your refund

Copy of last year's income tax return

Proof of medical Insurance (for Massachusetts state return):1099HC for private insurance, or health card for government sponsored plans

ig of this promotional material is generously underwritten by Bank of America.

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Have You Heard About the Transition Center?

If you are new to campus, or haven't explored the 2nd floor in the HLC, you may not be aware of the Transition Center. The Transition Center is the tutoring center that teaches learning strategies, study skills, and test-taking tips, in addition to supporting students in their coursework. If you have 30 or less college credits, the Transition Center will help you obtain the skills you need for college-level courses.

Many students come to QCC straight from high school, and struggle with scheduling and making good use of their time. The Transition Center tutors will assist students with time management skills, and maintaining those skills throughout the semester. Other students return to QCC and realize they need to study more efficiently – the Transition Center tutors will help with strategy instruction as well! The Transition Center offers 11 different transition skills:

- Learning Styles
- Time Management
- Note Taking
- Reading
- Writing Strategies
- Organization
- Self Advocacy
- Test-Taking Strategies
- Introduction to Assistive Technology
- Introduction to Other Tutoring Centers in HLC

During the first visit to the Transition Center, a tutor will introduce you to the center, and begin a “Student Success Plan” based on your learning needs. The tutor will review the Transition Center’s hours of operation, so you may schedule a one-on-one tutoring appointment, or use the drop-in sessions. In addition, the Transition Center will notify your instructor(s) that you have visited the center. A weekly email message is sent to instructors with your name and course registration code.

By teaching the skills within these tutoring sessions, the Transition Center aims to increase students' persistence in college and beyond. Please stop in and visit the center before mid-term examinations!

Transition Center

Room 222 HLC
Phone: 508.854.7552
Email: transitioncenter@qcc.mass.edu

Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Tuesday, Thursday	8:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Tuesday & Wednesday evenings	6:00 – 8:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 – 1:00 PM (appointment only)

<h1>COMMUNICATION SKILLS CENTER</h1> <p><i>A Tutoring and Resource Center for Writing and Reading</i></p> <h2>Writing Workshops Spring 2012</h2>		
<h3>Punctuation & Grammar</h3> <p>The Apostrophe Tuesday, January 24 at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 21 at 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Italics and Quotation Marks Monday, January 30 at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 10 at 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Capitalization Tuesday, February 21 at 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Commas Wednesday, February 15 at 4:00 p.m. Thursday, April 5 at 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Colons, Semi-Colons, Hyphens, and Dashes Thursday, February 9 at 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Subject-Verb Agreement Thursday, March 1 at 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 26 at 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Commonly Confused Words Tuesday, March 6 at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 18 at 4:00 p.m.</p>	<h3>Research Papers & Essays</h3> <p>Write Winning Introductions and Conclusions A workshop to help you plan, draft, and improve your paper's introductory and concluding paragraphs. Tuesday, February 14 at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Planning and Writing Your Research Paper A step-by-step guide to planning and writing your research paper. Tuesday, March 21 at 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Integrating Sources into Your Research Paper An introduction to integrating, formatting, and citing your sources in MLA and APA styles. Thursday, April 19 at 9:00 a.m.</p>	<h3>Application Essay</h3> <p>Writing Your College Transfer Application Essay A three-part workshop to guide you through the process of writing your transfer application essay. Students are expected to attend all three one-hour sessions.</p> <p>Part I: Elements of the Application Essay, Brainstorming, Outlining Wednesday, February 8 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Part II: First Drafts, Individual Reflection, and Peer Critique Wednesday, February 15 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Part III: Proofreading and Editing Wednesday, February 22 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Workshops take place in the COMMUNICATION SKILLS CENTER, 208 HLC</p> <p>To register: 508-854-7488 or cscinfo@qcc.mass.edu</p>		



Athletic Center

All offerings are free for QCC students. Fall and spring hours are:

Monday – Friday: 7:30am – 9:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am – 2:00pm

The Athletic Center is closed on Sunday

AC equipment/facility offerings:

- Two Exercise Areas, including cardio, free weights, strength machines, cycling bikes, and much more
- Basketball Court
- Locker Rooms – restrooms, showers, sauna, lockers
- Ping Pong Table
- Program Room

Programs:

- Circuit Training: M, W, F - 12:30pm – 1:15pm, Tu & Th - 4:15pm – 5pm
- Kung Fu: M & W - 11:30am – 12:15pm
- Indoor Cycling: M - 6pm - 6:45pm, W - 5:30pm - 6:15pm, Tu & Th - 12:15pm-1pm
- Yoga - Tu & Th - 12pm - 1pm & 5:15pm - 6:15pm,
- Zumba - M - 6:15pm - 7:15, W - 6:15pm – 7:15pm

All programs are FREE for QCC students, staff, & faculty! Check The Q and posted signs for fall schedule.

Intramural Sports

- Indoor Soccer
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Flag Football
- Frisbee Golf

Check The Q and posted signs for fall schedule.

Intercollegiate Sports

- Men’s Basketball ~ Coach Hadley Camilus 508-854-4211
- Women’s Basketball ~ Coach Lars Farnham 508-854-4492
- Baseball - Coach ~ Mike Fusaro 508-854-4316
- Softball - Coach ~ Cherie Comeau 508-854-4317

If you are interested in playing an Intercollegiate Sport at QCC, please contact or stop by the Athletic Center.

We want your suggestions!

If you have any suggestions about program classes or intramural sports that you would like offered, please stop by or contact the Athletic Center. We love to hear the opinions of our students, staff, and faculty. We want the Athletic Center to be a great place to spend some of your free time! Call us at 508-854-4317.



Photos provided by QCC Institutional Communications





**QCC ATHLETICS is Hosting the 2012 NJCAA
Region XXI Women’s Basketball Tournament**

**Semi-Finals: Saturday March 3rd
2 games @ 12pm & 2pm**

**Championship: Sunday March 4th
1 game @ 1pm**

**Quinsigamond Community College Wyverns
2012 Baseball Schedule**

**Quinsigamond Community College
2012 Softball Schedule**

March							
12	Monday	3:00	1 Game	vs	Prince George CC	Largo, MD	Away
13	Tuesday	12:00	1 Game	vs	Finger Lakes CC	Bel Air, MD	Away
14	Wednesday	1:00	1 Game	vs	Middlesex CC	Edison, NJ	Away
15	Thursday	3:00	1 Game	vs	Atlantic Cape CC	Margate, NJ	Away
18	Sunday	Noon	Dbhd	vs	Raritan Valley CC	New Jersey	Away
21	Wednesday	3:30	1 Game	vs	Uconn Avery Point*	Groton, CT	Away
24	Saturday	Noon	Dbhd	vs	New Hampshire Tech	QCC	Home
25	Sunday	Noon	Dbhd	vs	Springfield College JV	QCC	Home
27	Tuesday	3:30	1 Game	vs	Franklin Pierce JV	QCC	Home
29	Thursday	4:00	1 Game	vs	Naval Academy Prep	Newport, RI	Away
30	Saturday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Mass Bay CC***	QCC	Home
April							
1	Sunday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Mt Ida College	QCC	Home
4	Wednesday	4:00	1 Game	vs	Holyoke CC	QCC	Home
7	Saturday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Northern Essex CC***	Haverhill, MA	Away
9	Monday	3:30	1 Game	vs	Tufts University JV	Medford, MA	Away
11	Wednesday	3:30	1 Game	vs	Springfield College JV	QCC	Home
12	Thursday	3:30	1 Game	vs	Dean College*	QCC	Home
14	Saturday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Roxbury CC***	Roxbury Crossing, MA	Away
16	Monday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Massasoit CC	QCC	Home
18	Wednesday	4:00	1 Game	vs	Dean College*	Franklin, MA	Away
21	Saturday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Bunker Hill CC***	Charlestown, MA	Away
22	Sunday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Bridgton Academy	QCC	Home
25	Wednesday	4:00	1 Game	vs	Holyoke CC	Holyoke , MA	Away
27	Friday	3:00	1 Game	vs	Southern Nh Univ JV	QCC	Home
28	Saturday	12:00	Dbhd	vs	Naval Academy Prep	QCC	Home
30	Monday	3:00	1 Game	vs	Southern Nh Univ JV	Manchester, NH	Away
May							
2	Wednesday	4:00	1 Game	vs	CC Rhode Island*	Warwick, RI	Away
4,5,6	Fri, Sat,Sun		Region 21 - New England Regional Tournament				

* New England Region 21 - Division II opponents
** New England Region 21 - Division III opponents
*** New England Region 21 - Division III opponents and Mass Community College Athletic Conference opponent
Head Coach: Mike Fusaro, Office: 508-854-4316, Cell:508-736-6708

March					
Wednesday	28	3:30	Dbhd	CC Rhode Island	Away
April					
Saturday	1	12:00	Dbhd	Massasoit CC	Away
Thursday	5	3:00	Dbhd	Dean College	Away
Thursday	12	3:00	Dbhd	Dean College	Home
Tuesday	17	3:30	Dbhd	CC Rhode Island	Home
Thursday	19	4:00	1 Game	Bunker Hill CC	Away
Saturday	21	12:00	Dbhd	Massasoit CC	Home
Thursday	26	4:00	1 Game	Bunker Hill CC	Home

Head Coach: Cherie Comeau





Movie Review

Sherlock Holmes A Game of Shadows

Reviewed by Joe Mogel



The opening sequences of the movie are a segue from the first film to this one. Several characters are reprised, briefly. Irene Adler, as forgettably played by Rachel McAdams, lasts for about five minutes of screen time, before being poisoned by the newly introduced Professor Moriarty, played more than ably by Jared Harris.

The plot quickly, and somewhat abruptly, departs from the first film. Moriarty, it is discovered, has been making backroom deals for financial control of numerous weapon factories, and assassinating the owners. Holmes (Robert Downey Jr.) and Watson (Jude Law) follow the Professor. This is against Watson's will, since he has just been married and wants, simply, to go on his honeymoon. In

the process, a gypsy fortune teller Sizma (Noomi Rapace), who is also being targeted by Moriarty, is saved by Holmes from a Cossack assassin.

After proceeding to Paris the trio head to Switzerland, where Moriarty's plan is supposed to unfold. They, naturally foil his devious plot, in large part by Holmes seemingly sacrificing himself to pull Moriarty over a railing and down a waterfall.

Despite the tight dialogue and well done acting, there were several issues with the story. First, the previous movie would lead one to believe that the Professor was planning to build some dastardly weapon, given that he stole the radio transmitter in that movie's climatic scene. Second, this movie's reliance on flashbacks to previous scenes creates a forced feeling to the ending. In these flashbacks you discover that things were happening that the camera couldn't see, such as a pocket being picked. Third, is the slightly rushed feeling of the film. Many parts of the movie could have benefited greatly from expansion. Fourth, and finally, the over-reliance on slow motion shots didn't help the film at all, better use of the time would have been to flesh out the some of the more spare scenes.

To its credit, the movie does do an excellent job with the new characters, not the least of whom is Holmes' quirky, and at times nudist, older brother, Mycroft, played wonderfully by Stephen Fry. The action and fighting sequences were up to the same level as the original, and at times surpass it. As an added bonus the steampunk elements have been enhanced. Now brass plated assault rifles, semi-automatic handguns, and sub-machine guns have been added to the Holmes-ian world.

Altogether the movie is one I would recommend, but with some explaining. For being a rare worthy sequel, Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows gets four out of five.



Restaurant Review

Pho Dakao

By the Dean of Cuisine



Pho Dakao, located at 593 Park Ave, is an upscale Vietnamese restaurant and bar. Started in 2002, the menu features Vietnamese classics with a mild French twist. Featured entrees include vermicelli bowls and sautéed vegetable / meat dishes. The bar includes a full selection of mixed drinks and beers. Bar foods are also available and include Crabs Rangoon and Nachos.

Our dinner started with drinks, jasmine limeade and a durian smoothie with giant tapioca pearls. Much fuss has been made over the durian, which is known as the world's smelliest fruit. It is the opinion of this reviewer that the reputation of durian is bunk. In fact the smoothie was one of the stars of the meal. The unique flavor straddled the line between sweet and savory. The giant tapioca pearls didn't add anything

to the smoothie; rather they took up space that would have been better filled by more smoothie. None of this should suggest that I'm neglecting the jasmine limeade, which was crisp and refreshing.

While we were still enjoying the drinks, the appetizer arrived. The vegetarian summer rolls are distinct to Vietnamese cuisine and are comprised of a transparent wrap filled with vermicelli, mint and/or basil leaves, and fried tofu stripes. The summer roll is both refreshing and filling at the same time. The delicate dish was served with three kinds of dipping sauces, which ranged in heat level.

The entrees were served just as we finished the appetizer. The vermicelli bowl with grilled beef tenderloin and spring rolls was imposing. A huge bowl was placed in front of us filled with stretchy, springy noodles, topped with tender grilled beef and a medley of crisp vegetables and a side of crunchy Vietnamese spring rolls. This entree would be a complete meal on its own. The caramelized salmon was equally impressive, though rather different. An

entire salmon fillet, caramelized in a thick, salty/sweet sauce, was served in the pan it was cooked in with a side of white rice.

For desert we had a red bean shake, Mochi mango and the tri-color. The red bean shake was a smooth shake of sweet Asian red beans. The shake was a perfect complement to the Mochi mango, mango ice cream filled sweet rice flour balls. Like small, cold desert dumplings, the Mochi are traditionally a Japanese desert, however they were a perfect finish to the saltier entrees that came before. The tri-color was the only minor disappointment of the meal. An odd blend of crushed ice, red beans and flavorless, gelatinous strands, the dish was more confusing than anything else.

The service was excellent, friendly and knowledgeable. The food was served promptly and to perfection. Finally the deals offered are quite good, notably the 10% discount for students (with a valid ID) which only helps to finalize the true goodness of Pho Dakao.



Up & Coming in the Community

By Caitlyn Lambert

Belly Dancing, Book Signing

This Saint Patrick's Day, Annie's Book Stop of Worcester is hosting a belly dancing and book signing event with author Jennifer Pelland. Pelland is a local author who has written several collections of short stories, and will be promoting the release of her new book, *Machine*. This story centers around a woman named Celia who lives life as a bioandroid, due to a rare genetic disorder that affects her physical body. Being in this state should allow Celia to live a normal life while waiting for a cure, but many protesters, and loved ones, believe that these copies are not real people. Now Celia must wage war within herself in an attempt to decide if she should embrace her new life, or return back to the one she knows. Pelland will also be celebrating this holiday by belly dancing to Irish music in her new green outfit.

This event takes place from 3 pm to 5 pm at the Annie's Book Stop located at 65 James Street, in Worcester, on March 17th. To find out more about Jennifer Pelland and her other works please visit her website at: www.jenniferpelland.com

You can also join the event on Facebook located on Annie's Book Stop page at:

www.facebook.com/anniesbookstopworcester

Exhibits at the Worcester Art Museum

Hymn to the Earth: Photographs by Ron Rosenstock
December 15, 2011 – March 18, 2012

This exhibit displays some of Rosenstock's choice black-and-white photographs that he has taken over the forty years of his career. Besides doing photograph, Rosenstock spends his time teach and traveling with his students. He has also made multiple books and DVD displaying his photos.



Interstellar: by Carrie Moyer
February 11 – August 19, 2012

Moyer uses her experience with painting and computer graphic design to create deep, abstract paintings that speak about human experiences. She has been working as an artist for the past twenty years, and her art is also shaped by the radicalism on the 1960s thought 1970s.

For more information go to:

<http://www.worcesterart.org/>

Student and Faculty Show: Opening Reception



The Worcester Center of Crafts will be hosting an open exhibition for their Student and Faculty show; which highlights work that has been made by the faculty and students at the studios. This will be taking place Thursday, March 8th, from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The event will be located at the Krikorian Gallery, on 25 Sagamore Road, in Worcester.

For more information go to:

<http://www.worcester.edu/WCC/default.aspx>

Have you heard the music?

By Professor Jose Castillo

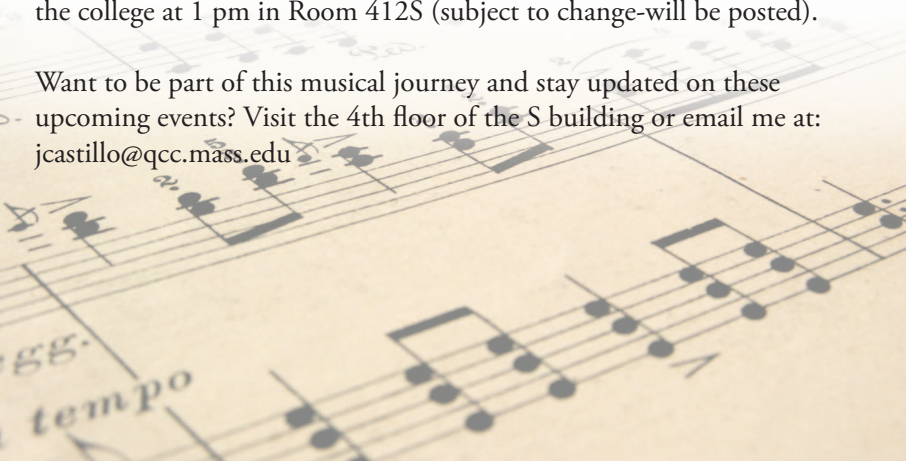
The walls and hallways of the 4th floor of the Surprenant Building are the musical echo of what is happening within the music program here at QCC. Each week 15 hours are devoted to the enrichment of musical knowledge. Walking through the 4th floor of the S Building one is greeted by the music of Bach, Mozart, Dixieland, Luis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and John Coltrane. Students sight read and clap their hands to groovy rhythm exercises as well. The QCC Music Program encourages students to listen, analyze, create, and most importantly, to enjoy music. Each week the student is empowered with listening to creative tools that can be used outside of the classroom. One of the purposes of the music curriculum is to guide the student, who already enjoys listening to music, to a deeper understanding of what is going on musically. This approach grants the student with a higher level of music enjoyment.


Jazz on campus

Students, faculty and staff can enjoy live music by The QCC Jazz Project on March 23 from 12-2 pm, location to be announced. The Quartet consists of QCC Professors Jose Castillo on bass and Marty Gilman on piano and guest artists Tom Herbert on sax, Mike Agbay on drums, and Jonathan LaTorre on percussion.


Want to learn more about jazz? On April 20, Manager Gerry Weston and Jazz Show Host Joe Zupan from Worcester radio station WICN will visit the college at 1 pm in Room 412S (subject to change-will be posted).

Want to be part of this musical journey and stay updated on these upcoming events? Visit the 4th floor of the S building or email me at: jcastillo@qcc.mass.edu





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WWW.PROVIDENCE.EDU/SCE

Bill’s BS...Bill’s BrainStorm

By Bill Jellesma

Photos were released recently of the New England Patriot’s tight end Rob Gronkowski and lineman Matt Light dancing shirtless at the Patriot’s postgame party. While I do think that this is proof that the Patriot’s can still have a good time even after such a heartbreaking defeat, I think it also deserves a re-wording of the song to Pats just wanna have Fun.

• • •

M.I.A started much controversy at the Super Bowl half time show when she flipped over cameras and swore in her part of the song. Apologies were issued by both the NFL and NBC for the obscene gesture. While I feel like MIA was acting stupid, you can’t blame her for doing what comes natural and the networks should have expected this considering her most notable song has three gunshots for a chorus. Victims of the Costa Concordia shipwreck are being offered 30% off their next cruise with Carnival.

Smiles

By: Susan T. Johnson RN, C MSN
Professor of Nursing

“You have to get up every morning with a smile on your face”- Carol King

This quote is taken from an oldie but goodie of a song. Words to live by for sure! Not always an easy thing to do but what a difference a smile can make, not only to yourself but also to others around you. As a nurse I have seen the benefits of smiling with some of my patients. I have found that a smile not only displays our kindness and sincerity to relate to another person, but also reflects our caring and compassion to others.

Bet you didn’t know that:

1. The word smiles is the longest word in the Webster’s dictionary. That’s actually true in a matter of semantics because the word mile is between the S’s.

Wow, is it just me or has the world lost some of its sensitivity over the years? That’s like the people in Saw actually coming back voluntarily for Saw II. You could have offered the victims literally anything else and it would have been better than a chance to go back and face their worst fear; and they would still pay 70% full price. You could have offered the survivors a private screening of the upcoming Ghost Rider 2 and they would have been happier than they are now.

• • •

There’s a viral video floating on the internet of some strange, vaguely paranormal sounds being heard in the Canadian wilderness, which some attribute it to coming from a sasquatch-like creature. This isn’t the first video with these strange noises either, but the noises did all come from Canada. While some skeptics may think these prove the existence of yetis,

only I know the true story. It’s the work of Canadian director, James Cameron, working on his next movie!

• • •

Snoop Dogg was arrested January 7th arrested for marijuana possession near El Paso, Texas. Border patrol smelled marijuana in the back of the rapper’s tour bus. I, for one, am shocked! I mean Snoop Dogg raps about marijuana usage, but that doesn’t mean he actually uses marijuana right? Well, this news blew my mind. Snoop also got fined about \$500, which is a lot of money for a guy who has been nominated for a Grammy only thirteen times. It’s not like the rapper actually won those thirteen Grammys. I think it’ll be awhile until the rapper ever gets fined for marijuana possession.

Oh, this just in, Snoop Dogg got out of jail and then got arrested for marijuana possession again.

- 2. When someone smiles it is universally known as an expression of happiness that is recognized by almost all cultures.
- 3. We are born with the ability to smile, it is not something that we copy.
- 4. Smiling makes us attractive.
- 5. Smiling changes our mood- smiling releases endorphins and makes us feel better, even when you fake a smile you can feel better.
- 6. Smiling is a natural drug.
- 7. Smiling is transmittable.
- 8. Smiling reduces stress.
- 9. Smiling improves your immune system.
- 10. Smiling reduces your blood pressure.
- 11. A smile uses fewer muscles to contract and expand then a frowns does.

- 12. Smiling helps you stay positive.
- 13. Smiling is welcoming- newborns tend to have more preference for a person with a smile then a person that is not smiling.
- 14. Smiling makes you beautiful and you look younger.
- 15. Smiling makes you seem successful.

So go that extra mile- get up tomorrow morning with a smile on your face!

Interesting facts taken from the resources cited:

<http://idreesfarooq.hubpages.com/hub/Why-Smile-15-Interesting-Facts-About-Smiling>

http://www.infobarrel.com/10_Facts_about_Smiling#ixzz1k7wQkOMx

March 2012 Workshop Series

Sponsored by The Department of Enrollment and Student Services

Goal Setting Workshop

March 7 • 11 a.m. /Room 107A—Administration Building
March 8 • 11 a.m. /Room 107A—Administration Building

Goal setting is a process used to plan what to accomplish in life. It also includes motivating factors that guide a person to turn those dreams about the future into a reality.

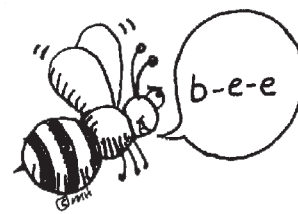
Jumpstart Your Spring Enrollment Workshop

March 22 • 11 a.m. /Room 107A—Administration Building
March 23 • 11 a.m. /Room 107A—Administration Building

Learn some tips and tricks to prepare for the Fall 2012 enrollment

Individuals requesting accommodations should contact Disability Services.
Phone: 508-854-4471 or Email: disabilityservices@qcc.mass.edu

The April edition of
the Open Door
will be on stands
April 5th.



14th Annual
**Quinsigamond
Community College
Spelling Bee**

When: Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 7 pm
in Hebert Auditorium.

Snow Date: Thursday, April 12, 2012

The Quinsigamond Community College Spelling Bee is a charitable event designed to raise money for the QCC Foundation to support programs and student scholarships. This event is sponsored by the QCC Foundation, QCC Alumni Association and Worcester Telegram & Gazette.

The current reigning champion is the QCC team Bee Me Up.

For more information, call: 508-854-4385;
e-mail: nancyc@qcc.mass.edu

This event is sponsored by:
The QCC Foundation,
QCC Alumni Association, and
Worcester Telegram & Gazette

Earn \$75

Become a Notetaker



**Disability Services
wants to pay you**

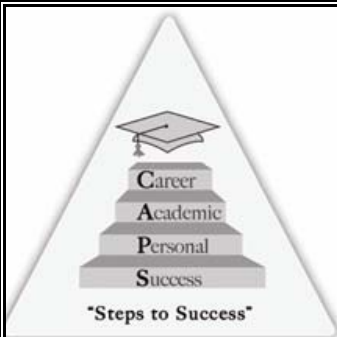
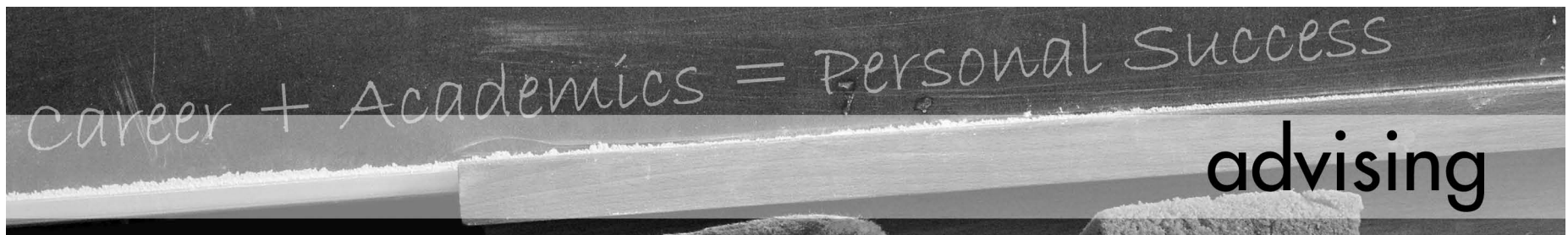
\$75

for a copy of notes you
take in your classes for
**Spring Semester
2012**

**For more information on
becoming an
“In-Class” Notetaker
contact:**

Disability Services
508-854-4471
Room 246 A
disabilityservices@qcc.mass.edu





Career, Academic, & Personal Success

From the Office of Career and Academic Planning (Advising Offices)

General Advising & Health Career Advising: Room 61A advising@qcc.mass.edu (508) 854-4308

CAPS Staff (Advising & Testing)

Maria Addison, Director
Liza Smith, Coordinator
Diane Levinson, Coordinator
Henry Ritter, CAPS Advisor
Martin Muysenberg, CAPS Advisor
Tenisha Mincey, CAPS Advisor
Jennifer Guzman-Gayflor, CAPS Advisor
Ray Lawless, CAPS Advisor

Lamont Slater, Assessment Specialist
John Mitchell, Assessment Specialist
Ruth Cole, Front Desk Staff
Linda Brunell, Front Desk Staff

In addition to the full-time staff listed above, over 25 part-time advisors, testing proctors, and clerical staff also assist students with advising and testing needs.

Computer Information Systems: Programming Option

Do you have strong problem-solving, analytical, and communication skills? Do you enjoy troubleshooting issues and helping others? Do you like working with computers? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions then a career in Programming may be for you. The **Programming Option** provides students with a thorough understanding of computer programming through proficiency with both an operating language (C++) and a visual object-oriented language (Java or Visual Basic). The program curriculum also provides students with hands-on computer experience in Web page development, spreadsheets, database concepts, network operations, data communication, and systems analysis and design.

Mean Wage in Massachusetts

Computer Support Specialist - \$43,450 (annually)
Computer User Support Specialist - \$46,260 (annually)
Help Desk Specialists - \$46,260 (annually)

For more career information visit the following websites.

- Bureau of Labor Statistics: www.bls.gov
- Massachusetts Career Information System: www.masscis.intocareers.org
- O*net Online: www.onetonline.org

Did You Know...?

- Employment of computer support specialists is expected to increase by 14% from 2008 to 2018, which is faster than the average for all occupations.
- Computer support specialists held about 565,700 jobs in 2008. Although they worked in a wide range of industries, about 18% were employed in the computer systems design and related services industry.

Professional Organizations

- International Association for Computer Information Systems: <http://www.iacis.org>
- The IEEE Computer Society: <http://www.ieee.org>
- Information Systems security Association: <http://www.issa.org>

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-11 Edition*, Computer Support Specialists, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos306.htm> (visited February 14, 2012). Quinsigamond Community College at <http://www.qcc.edu>. O*NET Online, on the Internet at www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-1151.030 (visited February 14, 2012).

Important Information for Students

“The college uses Qmail as an official means of communication with students. *All students are expected to read their college email regularly and respond appropriately.*”

Source: QCC 2011-2012 Catalog

Dates to Remember:

Sat. Mar. 10th – Progress grades available for students to view on The Q.

Sun. Mar. 11th to Sat. Mar. 17 – Spring Recess – No Classes.

Mon. Mar. 26th – Fri. April 6th – Priority registration for returning students.

Remember to contact your assigned advisor should you have any academic issues.

Join us on Walk-in Wednesdays!

8:00a.m. – 6:30p.m.

Room 61A

No Appointment Necessary!

Services include: Academic Advising, Career Planning, Course Scheduling and More...

Contact us to:

- Create a career plan.
- Attend a career planning session; to sign up call 508-854-4308.
<http://www.qcc.edu/images/capssession.pdf>
- Discuss your goals (educational and career) with an advisor.

Transfer MORE credits

from your QCC program into a Bachelor's through
Continuing & Career Education at Assumption

See the QCC Transfer Office for details about the generous transfer credit policy at Assumption College.
We apply up to 75 credits to your Bachelor's degree –15 credits more than most other colleges!

QCC Associates' Programs transfer into

- Human Services ----->
- Applied Arts (AS) ----->
- Automotive Technology (AAS) ----->
- Basic Engineering (AS) ----->
- Computer Information Systems (AS) ----->
- Computer Science-Transfer (AS) ----->
- Computer Systems Engineering Technology (AS) ----->
- Electromechanical Technology (AS) ----->
- Electronics Technology (AS) ----->
- Manufacturing Technology (AS) ----->
- Telecommunications Technology (AAS) ----->
- Telecommunications Technology-Corporate (AAS; Verizon) ----->
- Business Administration-Transfer (AS) ----->
- Business Administration-Career (AS) ----->
- Hotel & Restaurant Management (AS) ----->
- Business Administration-Transfer (AS) ----->
- Business Administration-Career (AS) ----->
- Computer Information Systems: Database Option ----->
- Computer Information Systems: Web Development Option ----->
- Hotel and Restaurant Management (Foodservice Mgmt. Option) ----->
- Hotel and Restaurant Management (Hospitality Mgmt. Option) ----->

Assumption College Bachelors' Programs

Bachelor of Arts in Human Services and Rehabilitation Studies

Bachelor of Science in Social Science OR Bachelor of Arts in Humanities

Social Science concentrations

- Anthropology
- Criminal Justice
- Human Services & Rehabilitation Studies
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Social Science
- Sociology
- Designer

Humanities concentrations

- English
- History
- Humanities (Art, Music, Foreign Language)
- Literature
- Philosophy
- Theology
- Designer

Bachelor of Business Administration

Bachelor of Business Administration

Bachelor of Business Administration-Designer Concentration

Bachelor of Business Administration-Designer Concentration

Bachelor of Business Administration-Designer Concentration

Bachelor of Business Administration-Designer Concentration

Learn why former QCC students say
"Assumption was the best transfer school for me!"
See back cover of this publication.

• **Transfer up to 75 credits – saves money and quickens your graduation**

(See ad in Transfer Section of this publication for details)

• **Small class size, individual attention!**

• **Personal academic advising!**

• **Personal career advising!**

• **Private college education and service!**

Incomparable value - lower cost to attend than a state college!

3-CREDIT COURSE	Local State College	Assumption College
Tuition	\$121.26	\$885.00
Administrative Fees	\$736.74	\$20.00
Capital Improvement Fee	\$49.50	None
Health, Activity, & Tech Fees	\$49.11	None
Parking Fee	\$72.00	FREE Parking
Total: \$1028.61		Total: \$905.00

Call today to schedule
an appointment with an
academic counselor
and/or career advisor:
508-767-7364

Go Places.
www.assumption.edu /cce





Dan de la Torre

Kim Coggans

QCC Transfer Resources

- QCC Transfer Office Website, <http://www.qcc.mass.edu/transfer/>
- Transfer Resource Library, Room 58 in the Administration Building
- Transfer information and appointments: call 508-854-4404, or email transfer@qcc.mass.edu

SAVE THE DATE

QCC Spring Transfer Fair, Wednesday, March 28, 2012, 10 am to 1 pm, Conference Room 109, Harrington Learning Center.

As of February 13th, the following colleges are planning to attend: American International College, Anna Maria College, Assumption College, Becker College, Bentley University, Clark University, Emerson College, Fitchburg State University, Framingham State

University, Mass College of Liberal Arts, Nichols College, Quinnipiac University, Regis College, Salem State University, UMass-Amherst, UMass-Boston, UMass-Dartmouth, UMass-Lowell, Western New England University, Wheelock college, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Check the QCC portal calendar for updates to the list.

UPCOMING OFF-CAMPUS TRANSFER EVENTS

Boston University Metropolitan College, Boston, MA. Undergraduate Open House on Saturday, March 31, 2012, 10 a.m. Location: BU Experience Room, 602 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA. Learn about convenient part- and full-time evening degree programs. Meet with faculty and staff. Gain insight into the admission process and financial aid opportunities. Bring a copy of QCC transcripts for review by academic counselors. Learn more about the Scholarship for Community College Graduates. Email met@bu.edu or call 617.353.6000 to reserve a seat.

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, Transfer Day, Friday, March 16, 2012. Explore academics, meet with faculty, tour the facilities, and experience campus life. For more information, email admissions@rit.edu or call 1-585-475-6631.

University of Maine, Orono, ME, Saturday Information Session for transfer students, March 24, 2012. For information and details, visit www.go.umaine.edu/transfer or call 1-877-486-2364.

DID YOU KNOW... a lot of QCC students are planning to transfer!! I know, because I speak with them all the time. And one of the most common questions starts with “How do I make sure that...?” The answer is always the same: The best way to have accurate and up-to-date information about transferring to a particular school is to talk with their admissions staff. Make an appointment to meet with transfer admissions rep at that school.

DID YOU KNOW... that you don’t have to wait until you apply to a four-year college before you can talk with someone there in the admissions office. The transfer admissions counselors want to talk with QCC students as early as possible.

DID YOU KNOW... transfer admissions counselors from approximately 30 colleges and universities will be here for the **Spring Transfer Fair on Wednesday, March 28, 2012.** This is a perfect time to talk directly to the person who will get your transfer application. Details on the fair are below.

DO YOU KNOW... what questions to ask? Here’s a *top ten list*:

1. What is the transfer application deadline?
2. What application forms do I need to fill out, and when should I start to fill them out?
3. Is there a minimum number of college credits and minimum GPA required in order to be accepted? Do ‘C’ and ‘D’ grades count?
4. How many QCC credits will transfer towards my bachelor’s degree?
5. How many more credits will I need to finish my bachelor’s degree?
6. How do transfer students get housing?
7. Do you offer scholarships for community college transfer students?
8. What financial aid forms do I need to fill out, and when should I start to fill them out?
9. What kinds of co-ops or internships are available?
10. What kind of help with job placement can I get at your school?

QCC STUDENTS—PLANNING TO TRANSFER? USE YOUR WITS! Walk-In Transfer Sessions

“How do I transfer?” “Where can I go?” “What classes can I take, and how will they be accepted?”—these are just a few of the questions students ask when they begin thinking about transferring to a four-year college.

walking in to any **WITS** meetings this semester. **These are drop-in sessions—no appointment needed, stay 5 minutes or 50, and attend as many times as you’d like.**

All Walk In Transfer Sessions are held in the Harrington Learning Center, Conference Rooms 109A as follows:


Wed.	Mar. 7, 2012	12pm-2pm with	WORCESTER STATE U
Thurs.	Mar. 22, 2012	10am-12pm with	WORCESTER STATE U
Wed.	April 4, 2012	12pm-2pm with	WORCESTER STATE U
Thurs.	April 12, 2012	10am-12pm with	WORCESTER STATE U
Tues.	April 24, 2012	10pm-12pm with	WORCESTER STATE U
Wed.	May 2, 2012	10am-12pm with	WORCESTER STATE U
Mon.	May 7, 2012	12pm-2pm with	WORCESTER STATE U

Spring Transfer Fair is March 28!

Transfer News | March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Bay State College 9 am - 1 pm HLC Curved Counter Fitchburg State University 9 am - 1 pm HLC Curved Counter	2	3
4	5 Bay State College 9 am - 1 pm HLC Curved Counter Assumption college-CCE 10 am - 1 pm HLC Curved Counter Southern New Hampshire Univer- sity 10 am - 2 pm HLC Curved Counter	6	7 Nichols College 9 am - 12:30 pm HLC Curved Counter Worcester State University 12 pm - 2 pm HLC Rm 109A	8 College of Saint Rose 10 am - 2 pm HLC Curved Counter	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Nichols College 9 am - 12:30 pm HLC Curved Counter	20 American Interna- tional College 8:30 am - 1:30 pm HLC Curved Counter	21	22 Worcester State University 12 pm - 2 pm HLC Rm 109A	23	24
25	26	27	28 Transfer Fair 10 am - 1 pm HLC	29	30	31

Get all of the campus
news & more in
The Open Door.
On stands and The Q
the first Thursday of
each month.





Quinsigamond
Children's SCHOOL

Quinsigamond Community College
A community of support. A world of possibilities.

Quinsigamond Children's School offers to young children (2 years, 9 months to 5 years of age) a program that fosters appreciation of self, others, and the world around them. It promotes self motivated learning through discovery and hands-on involvement with the environment. Emphasis is placed on meeting individual needs while encouraging respect for others.

Now open to 5 pm
FOR THE
FULL YEAR!

Hours		
Classroom I:	Mon/Wed/Fri	7:15 am- 5:15 pm
	Tues/Thurs	8:30 am- 3:30 pm
Classroom II:	Mon-Fri	7:15 am - 5:15 pm
	Mon/Wed/Fri	7:15 am - 5:15 pm
	Tues/Thurs	7:15 am - 5:15 pm



For further information please contact:
janel@qcc.mass.edu or you
may call 508.854.4220

570 West Boylston Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Accredited by: NAEYC



records & registration

Key Dates and Deadlines

The last day to withdraw (W) without penalty is Friday, April 6. If you want to withdraw from a class, you must collect a signature on the withdrawal form from the instructor or your academic advisor. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrar's Office room 152A or the Advising Office Room 61A. Return the completed form to the Registrar or Advising Office. After April 4, you no longer have a right to the W grade. Your instructor may choose to assign the grade of W or the grade of F. Don't miss your opportunity to claim your right to the W grade. If you are thinking about withdrawing, you should discuss this with your instructor and your academic advisor as soon as possible

Will you be finishing your degree or certificate in May or summer? If so, you should already have filed your Intent to Graduate Form (available in the Registrar's Office or on the Q). If not, do it right away. We don't know if you plan to graduate unless you tell

us. Once you do file, we perform a final audit of your records to make sure all your degree requirements are met and notify you by QCC email if any remain. We also can order your diploma making sure your name will read exactly the way you want. If your middle name is say, Percival, and you'd rather have your middle initial printed, this is how we know your preference. If you wait too long we won't have time to clear you for graduation and order your diploma. You worked hard to earn your degree or certificate, don't let red tape trip you up now.

Midterm grades available 3/10/12. Check the student portal – the Q.

Spring Break week of 3/11/12 to 3/17/12: NO CLASSES.

Fall and summer course schedule available on Web and in hard copy about March 20. It's usually

up on the web before we get hard copies back from the printer.

Priority registration for returning students is from March 26 to April 6. You have seniority over all new students. Lab sciences and lots of other classes fill quickly. Book your space early. Remember you do not need to pay when you register early. We will bill you.

The last day to change to or from an AUDIT is April 6.

Do you have INCOMPLETE grades hanging from Fall or Intercession? If so, get cracking. The deadline is April 20. If you're missing work is not in your professors' hands by this date, the grade turns to an F. That's a very generous time table. Don't expect any extensions beyond this deadline.

The final exam schedule in the Spring Schedule book was wrong. This is the correct info:

FINAL WEEK OF THE SEMESTER

During the last week of the semester, day classes (defined as Mon- Fri classes starting before 4PM) are assigned a two-hour block of time. This period of time may be used for final exams, classroom instruction, or other types of evaluation as the instructor may choose. If a course does not fit exactly into one of these modules, it assumes the closest time module for that time. For example, if a class meets on MW from 9:30am – 10:45am, it would be assigned to the MWF 9:00 A.M. time slot, which is module 02.

During this week all other classes – evening and weekend - meet as scheduled as they are already allotted at least a two hour period.

FINAL EXAM PERIOD FOR DAY CLASSES MAY 2 – MAY 8		
Date of Exam	Exam Time	Classes That Meet On
Wed. 05/02	09:00 – 11:00	MWF 10:00
Wed. 05/02	11:30 – 01:30	MWF 12:00
Wed. 05/02	02:00 – 04:00	MWF 02:00
Thurs. 05/03	09:00 – 11:00	TR 08:00
Thurs. 05/03	11:30 – 01:30	TR 11:00
Thurs. 05/03	02:00 – 04:00	MWF 01:00
Fri. 05/04	09:00 – 11:00	MWF 08:00
Fri. 05/04	11:30 – 01:30	MWF 09:00
Fri. 05/04	02:00 – 04:00	TR 03:30
Mon. 05/07	09:00 – 11:00	TR 09:30
Mon. 05/07	11:30 – 01:30	MWF 11:00
Mon. 05/07	02:00 - 04:00	MWF 03:00
Tues. 05/08	11:30—01:30	TR 12:30
Tues. 05/08	02:00 – 04:00	TR 02:00

Records & registration question of the month:

“I moved from out of state. Admissions told me that after 6 months, I will get the in state tuition. That never happened. I’m still being billed the outrageous out of state tuition rate.”

Answer: A few years ago the state tightened up on the in state/out of state rules. Someone in Boston figured that there were a significant number of out of state residents who were getting benefits they were not entitled to. Frankly, most of us scoffed at the thought that people were coming in from out of state to attend community colleges. We expected to go through a lot of extra red tape for no purpose. However, the fact is that most colleges, including QCC, found that there were quite a few out of state students getting the lower tuition reserved for Massachusetts residents.

The standards for in state tuition are:

First, you must be a US citizen or Permanent Resident (Green Card). Persons on a temporary VISA such as a Student Visa are by definition not permanent residents.

Second, you must be resident of Massachusetts for 6 continuous months **with the intention of remaining.**

Most students attest to their residency on the

application form. Undeclared or special students make the statement on their registration form. Unfortunately, some students don't fill out the forms completely. We must presume that if a student will not attest to his/her residency, then s/he is not a resident and will be billed at the out of state rate. Similarly, if a student provides an out of state mailing address or if mail is returned by the Post Office with an out of state forwarding address, we must bill at the out of state rate. We have no choice in this, we are under state mandate.

Once a student is classified as out of state, just filling out a form or saying you have six months in residence is not enough. You must prove your residency by coming to the Registrar's Office to prove U.S Citizenship (birth certificate or US Passport) or present your Green Card along with at least 2 documents proving you have lived in Massachusetts

Question of the month continued on next page.

veteran's corner

Records & Reg. Question of the month continued

for the last 6 months. The Application for Admissions lists the kind of documents which are acceptable. While this may be inconvenient, most students can quickly provide the proof and in 24 hours the residency issue is settled.

However, for some students no documents exist. Sometimes they don't exist because the student should be paying out of state rates. Other times the records don't exist because the student was blasé about documentation. When a person moves to a state with the intention of

remaining, s/he does certain things. Find a place to live (lease or rent receipts), gets a Mass drivers license or state id, registers to vote, registers a car, gets a job, has utility bills (electric, phone, etc.) If you do not have documents proving you were in Massachusetts for 6 months prior to the start of the semester, you pay out of state tuition. We have no flexibility in this. By the way, at the state universities and at UMass campuses, it's a full year.

Confused about certifying your attendance to the VA?

Veterans being paid under the new Post 911 GI Bill (Chapter 33) do NOT certify attendance. This is due to system limitations. We expect that to change sometime, but not right now. Don't think this means you can stop going to class. Sooner or later we will report attendance directly. You will get caught and have to pay back any overpayments. So let Holly or me know right away if you withdraw from any classes.

For Montgomery GI Bill recipients (Chapter 30), Reservists (Chapter 1606 and 1607) don't forget that it is

your responsibility to attend class and on the last day of each month, certify to the VA that you are attending. You can do this on line (preferred method) at <https://www.gibill.va.gov/wave/default.cfm> or by phone 1-877-823-2378. No attendance certification, no payment. You must also notify the QCC VA office of any changes in enrollment status – e.g. adding a course or withdrawing.

Check out our web site on the Q.

Go to Student Services, then Veterans Services. Then surf away. If you have suggestions, let us know.

“Are my GI bill benefits taxable? Will I get a W-2?”

Answer: No and no. Any Veteran's benefits paid under any law administered by the DVA should not be reported as income to the IRS. They will not send a W-2 or a 1099-G. Only the students taking the Federal Taxation course know what a 1099-G is.

From IRS Publication 970: "Payments you receive for education, training, or subsistence under any law administered

by the Department of Veterans Affairs are tax free. Do not include these payments as income on your federal tax return."

As always with government programs and tax codes there are some exceptions – mostly related to vets receiving multiple payments under different government programs. If you do have this complicated an income structure, consult with your tax advisor.

Veteran's question of the month

QCC Diversity Caucus presents its *SPRING SPOTLIGHT* "African Americans in the Civil War" Presented by QCC Department of Public Safety **Lt. Reynaldo Rodriguez**

Rey is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and member of the G.A.R. Memorial Board of Trustees with five civil war ancestors.

Thursday,
March 22, 2012
2-3:15 p.m.
HLC 109A
Light refreshments
will be served



All QCC students, faculty, and staff are welcome

Quinsigamond Children’s School

The philosophy at the QCC Children’s School is, “Teaching begins with children, not curriculum.” The children in Classroom 2 began building rocket ships out of magnetic tiles and flying them around the classroom. You could hear them counting, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, BLAST OFF! To enhance the play, a rocket ship was added to the dramatic play area as well as a NASA Space Station. Space helmets and moon boots had them journeying out into space and walking on the moon. Many questions were asked about outer space and we found ourselves looking up information about the moon, the sun and all the planets in our solar system. The children just couldn’t get enough! It was very exciting to discover there is a new planet named Goldilocks because it’s not too hot and not too cold.

In classroom one and two, the early childhood students are now putting into practice everything they have been learning in their classes. They are planning the curriculum and are the lead teachers in the classroom. What a great learning experience for everyone!

The QCC Children’s School is on campus and open year round from 7:15 – 5:15. Financial assistance may be available for some families and students. If you would like more information about the QCC Children’s School, you can contact Jane or Nancy at 508-854-4420, janel@qcc.mass.edu or stop by.

QCC Police Informer

By Lt. Reynaldo Rodriguez

Don’t Get Burned

Fires are a serious critical incident which should never be taken lightly. They spread quickly and take both lives and property without discrimination. To protect yourself in case of a fire there are things you should do:

Sound the Alarm: If you discover or suspect a fire, sound the building fire alarm. At QCC, there are red boxes which can be pulled in order to sound the fire alarm.

Leave the Building: Move away from the building and stay out of the fire department’s way. Do not go back into the building until the fire department says it is safe to do so.

Call the Fire Department: If you are where there are no fire alarms to pull and you see a fire, dial 911 and give as much information as possible to the dispatcher.

If you are caught inside:

Crawl if there is Smoke: If you get caught in smoke, get down and crawl. Clearer air will be near the floor even though it will not be much better.

Feel Door before Opening: Feel the metal knob. If it is hot, do not open the door. If it is cool, brace yourself against the door. Open it slightly and if heat or heavy smoke are present, close the door and stay in the room.

Go to the Nearest Exit or Stairway: If it is blocked by fire, heat or smoke go to another exit.

If you are trapped: Keep the Door Closed: Seal cracks and vents if smoke comes in.

Signal for Help: If there is a phone in the room, call 911 and report that you are trapped. Be sure to give your location. Hang an object out the window (jacket, shirt, etc...) to attract the fire department’s attention.

For more tips on how to stay safe during a fire there are several websites like this one:

<http://www.firesafetytips.com>

Diversity Goes High Tech

By Beryl Pettiford,
Open Door Staff

Most of us, me included, have associated diversity with multiculturalism. However, diversity touches many more subjects including age, sexuality, and the frame of your body. What is your opinion of someone in a wheelchair, or being assisted by a service animal? Perhaps you know someone with a physical, emotional, or learning disability. These all fall under the topic of diversity, a topic that our college is exploring and gathering feedback on through a recent Diversity Caucus survey. The feedback from the survey will lead to the creation of a Virtual Multicultural Center by the QCC Diversity Caucus and I.R.A.P. (Office of Institutional Research and Planning).

The survey was administered two ways: through your QCC email and two on campus events. On January 27th, 2012 the first QCC Diversity Caucus survey was administered in the Fuller Student Center by Diversity Caucus members Dale LaBonte, Deborah Gonzalez, Ricardo Caton and Alison Hall. The second survey was held in the HLC Living Room February 1, where Gaelan Benway was assisted by Hall and Eric Mania. Whether you participated in the survey

on one of these dates or took it through your QCC e-mail, your time was very much appreciated. Taking this short survey could have a huge impact on how we view diversity.

I was honored to be invited by Professors Benway and Hall to observe the Diversity Caucus’s virtual survey in the HLC. What I noticed was that QCC students are made up of a huge diverse population. Right before my eyes, I saw young and old, gay, lesbian, heterosexual, able and disabled, races of all kinds, stop and have a piece of chocolate, receive a Consortium notebook, and get the coupon for the soft drink after taking the survey (coupons were facilitated through the Office of Auxiliary Operations). All different, yet with one common bond--all of us stepped into the world of technology.

The first time I had been introduced to the virtual world, was when my teenager was building a fully functional, furnished home, with a family and pets that needed to be walked in the enormous yard space. For those of you familiar with virtual sites, you’ve come to know one very important thing: you

need only a small space to create an entire virtual community.

We eagerly await the results of the survey. Professor Benway promises the results to be a “rich and engaging website or blog, celebrating diversity.” Everyone will be able to have access to sharing their ideas, wants, likes, dislikes and needs pertaining to diversity. Professor Benway explains that the survey itself took a lot of work to build. The I.R.A.P. assisted with the Zoomerang platform on which the survey is structured. The fact that the survey was anonymous created a freeness of speech.

You may be pondering; will this be an ongoing website with additions made? And the answer is yes! The future hope is to leverage resources during spring and summer to develop the Virtual Multicultural Center and bring it online for our students, colleagues, and neighbors, within the next year. I am sure we will all want to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to step into the virtual world, and learn, explore, and become educated in the unification of diversity.

April 2012 is Poetry Month.

In our April edition, The Open Door will feature student poems. Submit your poems to opendoor@qcc.mass.edu

Please include the following:

Subject line: "Poem Submission"

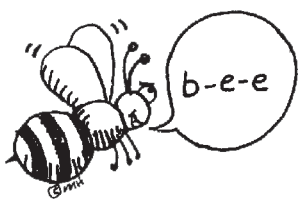
Full Name and Student ID# should be included in the email

The deadline for submissions is March 16th 2012.

Send us one of your finest for consideration!*

poetry contest
2012

*Limit 2 poems submission per person



14th Annual Quinsigamond Community College Spelling Bee

When: Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 7 pm
in Hebert Auditorium.

Snow Date: Thursday, April 12, 2012

The Quinsigamond Community College Spelling Bee is a charitable event designed to raise money for the QCC Foundation to support programs and student scholarships. This event is sponsored by the QCC Foundation, QCC Alumni Association and Worcester Telegram & Gazette.

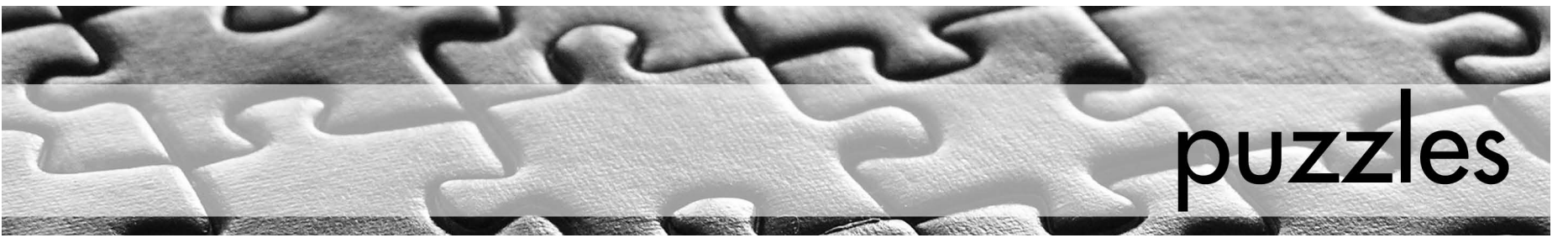
The current reigning champion is the QCC team Bee Me Up.

For more information, call: 508-854-4385;
e-mail: nancyc@qcc.mass.edu

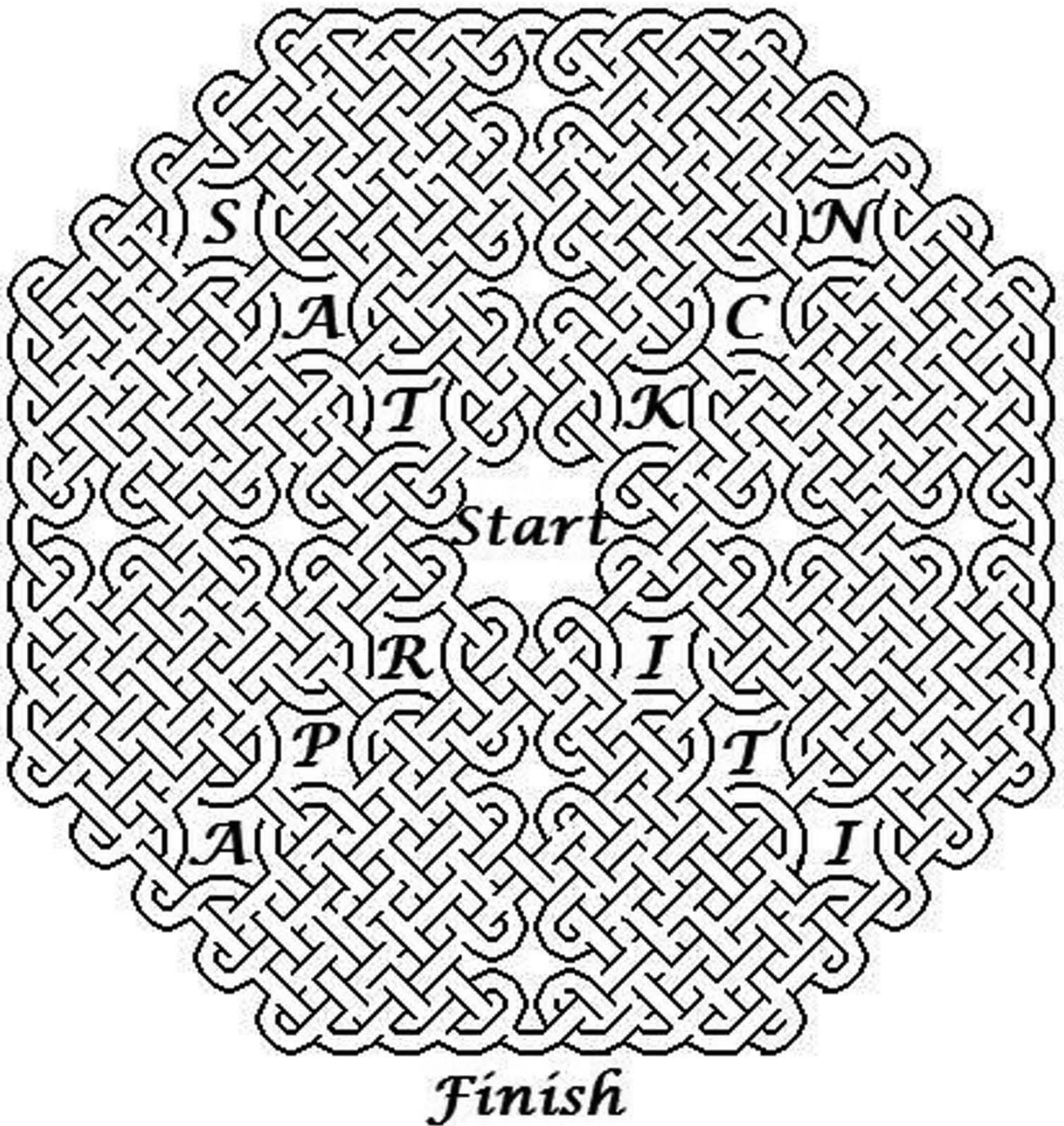
This event is sponsored by:
The QCC Foundation,
QCC Alumni Association, and
Worcester Telegram & Gazette

**Daily Buyback will be open
11am – 2pm
throughout March**

**We'll have a selection of St.
Patrick's Day merchandise as well.**

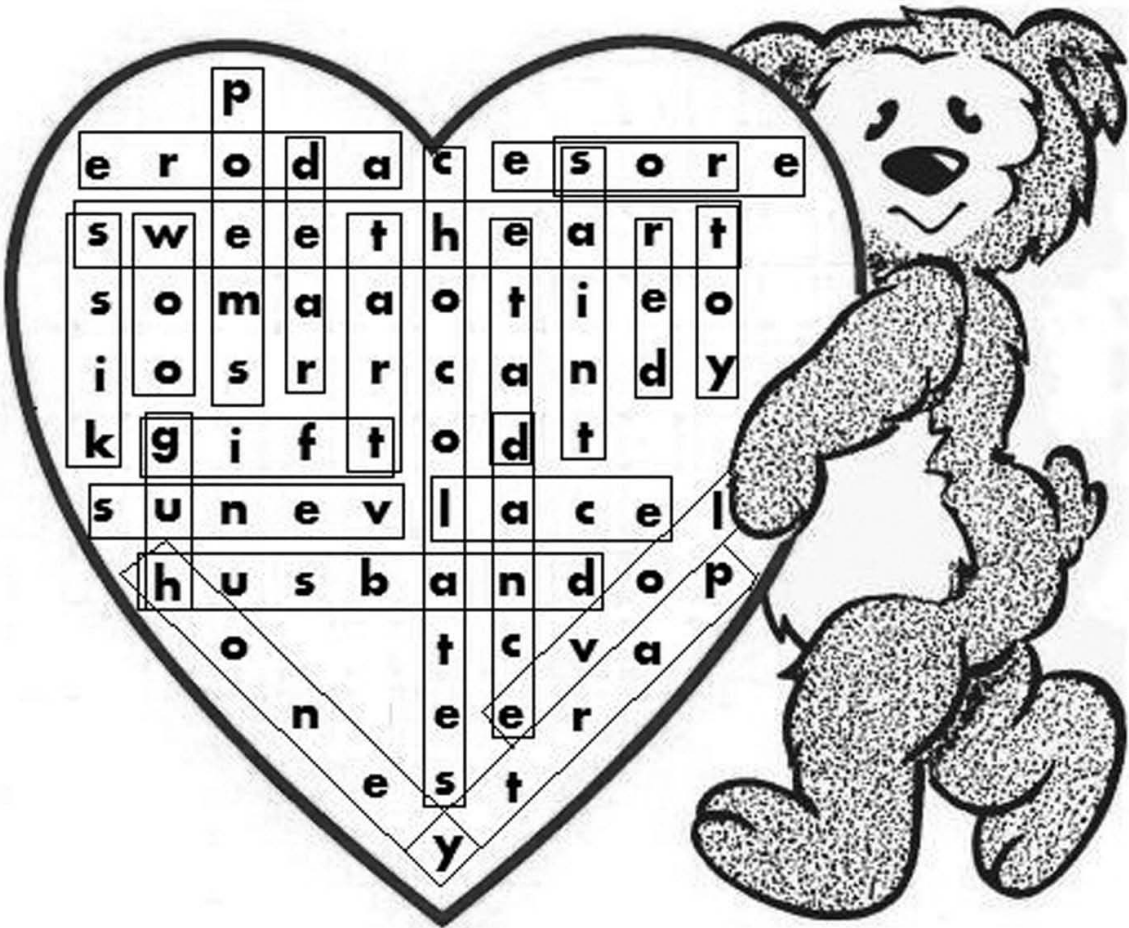


puzzles



*Find the path through the knot,
spelling out Saint Patrick all the
while. But beware, the path is as
twisted as the knot, don't get lost!*

Solutions to last month's puzzles



"Assumption was a better value."

An Assumption degree for LESS THAN a public college price, through Continuing & Career Education!

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-Derly Benitez

Bachelor of Social Sciences degree candidate,
Assumption College
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(See ad in Transfer Section of this publication for details)

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Capital Improvement Fee	\$49.50	None
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Parking Fee	\$72.00	FREE Parking
Total: \$1028.61		Total: \$905.00

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