

# Donor Digest

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*A Private Giving Report*

Spring  
2004

## Todds Honored for Generous Gift

by Marcie A. Molloy  
Director of Public Information

Chesapeake College honored two Dorchester County residents for their generosity by naming the theatre on campus the Rufus M. and Loraine Hall Todd Performing Arts Center.



*Loraine Hall and Rufus M. Todd being honored by the Chesapeake College Foundation.*

The Todds donated more than \$500,000 to Chesapeake's Mezzanine Campaign to construct a second level of seating in the theatre.

The donors' story is one of hard work and financial discipline. This husband and wife worked in the Dorchester County Public School System during the day and built a seafood distribution company in their off hours. They worked long hours and, over the years, carefully invested their earnings.

The Todds, who are ardent country music fans, travel to the top country music venues around the United States to see shows. In helping to expand the theatre in Wye Mills, the Todds hope to see more performers closer to home. "We need additional seats in the theatre in

order to attract the bigger shows," Mrs. Todd said. "We see this Campaign as a chance for everyone in the five-county area to become involved in the arts. No donation is too small for the Mezzanine Campaign. We especially hope

that former Chesapeake students will become involved."

The Theatre at Chesapeake College opened in 1996 and was designed to include a mezzanine, but funding was not provided in the original state construction budget. The Chesapeake College Foundation was given the task of raising money for this construction project.

The mezzanine will add additional seats to the existing 600-seat theatre. With an expanded theatre, the Todd Performing Arts Center will be able to attract top-quality shows and performers on a regular basis. Construction is scheduled to begin in June of 2004 and end by October 2004.

## Mezzanine Campaign Update

by Lauren Halterman  
Director of Resource Development

As we approach the end of the Mezzanine Campaign and begin construction in June, I look back over the last year with a sense of awe and gratitude. I am pleasantly surprised with the momentum of this Campaign and extremely grateful to those who have made it all possible. The leadership gift of over \$500,000 that was made by Rufus and Loraine Todd in March of 2003 was an amazing commitment to this project, and undoubtedly inspired others to support this Campaign. The Todds have been exemplary friends to both the College and the Foundation, and we are so grateful for their leadership, generosity, and friendship. Also, a challenge grant from the Grayce B. Kerr Fund, Inc. in Easton in the amount of \$150,000 provided a terrific incentive to many individuals and corporations in our community. The success of that effort was realized in December, only nine months after the

UPDATE, continued to page 5

### Inside

Scholarship .....	2
Farewell .....	2
New Directors .....	3
Bank Support .....	3
Stage Extension .....	3
Construction .....	4
Verizon .....	5
Gifts .....	6-7
Board Members .....	Back Cover

# Donation Launches McCauley Scholarship

by Brandon Hesson  
Courtesy of Chesapeake Publishing

Last year, Hugo Gemignani stood in front of Robert McCauley's mourners and delivered a poignant summary of a man whose forethought had largely gone unnoticed.

"Bob McCauley was a man who would rather build boys than mend men," said Mr. Gemignani, who is commander of the American Legion Post #278 on Kent Island.

In July the Legion honored Mr. McCauley by establishing the Robert E. McCauley Athletic Scholarship with \$25,000 in donations to the Chesapeake College Foundation.

"Post #278 has been a major supporter of scholarships to the College for a number of years. Recently, they have really gotten behind the athletic program with scholarships and grants for athletes," said Chesapeake College President Stuart Bounds. "It has had an



Members of Robert McCauley's family, Chesapeake College officials and American Legion Post #278 officers gathered last summer to announce the new athletic scholarship at Chesapeake. Pictured left to right are (front row) Nancy Schrum, Jean Holman, Providence McCauley, Stuart Bounds, Hugo Gemignani, Thomas Fountain, Frank Szymanski, Lauren Halterman, Richard Midcap, (second row) Bob Holman, John Schrum, Samantha Schrum, Megan Schrum, (third row) Rose Rita DiPietro, Joe DiPietro and Larry DiPietro.

enormous impact on our student-athletes. We have recruited some excellent athletes, but most important, some excellent students."

When Mr. McCauley was the post commander in 1983, American Legions were allowed to operate slot machines provided they donated half of their

proceeds to charitable organizations. Mr. McCauley was concerned about bright young adults who failed to reach their potential because of the rising cost of college tuition.

To address that problem, McCauley and the Post established a scholarship at Chesapeake College that has since grown to three separate scholarships. Now McCauley's name will forever be linked to the education of Chesapeake student-athletes and he will receive the credit he often disregarded with humility.

"He was an advocate of higher learning for needy students on the Eastern Shore," said Providence McCauley, Mr. McCauley's wife. "He just didn't want to see that money go to waste and he wanted to make a difference. He was a great guy thinking of others."

## Foundation Says Farewell to Jackie Bowen

On May 14, the Foundation honored Jackie Bowen, Dean of Institutional Advancement, at a Board meeting, for her inspiration and dedication over the 11 years she served the Foundation.



With a mixture of sadness and excitement, Jackie left Chesapeake at the end of May to become the Director of

Corporate and Foundation Relations at University of Maryland University College (UMUC).

During her time at Chesapeake, first as Director of Resource Development and then Dean for Institutional Advancement, the Foundation matured into a dedicated membership effective in both its advocacy and fundraising missions. Jackie provided the leadership through the Capital Campaign to take the net worth of the Foundation from a little more than \$50,000 to \$3 million.

Lauren Halterman, Director of Resource Development said, "Jackie was certainly a great mentor, colleague and friend. She accomplished many wonderful things for both Chesapeake College and the Foundation. I was sorry to see her leave us, but I'm gratified that the Foundation is so well-positioned for even greater achievements."

Lauren Halterman has taken over Jackie Bowen's responsibilities.

## Foundation Welcomes New Directors



Four new board members began terms in July. Pictured above they are, from left to right: John McGinnis (Dorchester County); Norman Noel (Caroline County); Steve Ochse (Caroline County); and Mary Ellen Valliant (Queen Anne's County).

Foundation Board President Bruce Armistead said, "Mary Ellen, John, Norman and Steve are all highly respected community leaders who recognize the importance of Chesapeake College to the Upper Shore. Each of them brings a high level of expertise in

their respective fields to the Foundation's mission. We have already benefited from their assistance with our Mezzanine Campaign and we are delighted that they will now be part of our team."

John McGinnis is a CPA with a practice in Cambridge. Norman Noel is the President and CEO of ProTemps in Easton. Steve Ochse is an investment banker with CBIZ/Beatty Satchell Business Services, Inc. in Easton. Mary Ellen Valliant is a partner in Valliant & Associates in Chestertown.



## Area Banks Provide Major Support

Thanks to the efforts of Dan Cannon, Centreville National Bank President and Foundation Board member, and Tom Rhodes, Queenstown Bank President and former Foundation Board member, the Mezzanine Campaign received a significant boost from the other banks in our service area. After each of their banks pledged \$10,000 toward the Mezzanine Campaign, Mr. Cannon and Mr. Rhodes spearheaded an effort to enlist the support of more area banks. Their efforts, along with those of other Foundation Board members and friends of the Campaign, have resulted in \$135,000 in gift and pledges.

The banks that have made gifts or pledges to the Campaign thus far include: Bank of the Eastern Shore; Centreville National Bank; Chesapeake Bank & Trust Company; Easton Bank &



*Foundation Board Member Fred Spence, Lauren Halterman, M&T Vice President Amos Meredith, and Chesapeake President Stuart Bounds pictured with the Foundation Giving Tree in the Todd Performing Arts Center lobby. M&T recently pledged \$25,000 to the Mezzanine Campaign.*

Trust Company; Hebron Savings Bank; M&T Bank; National Bank of Cambridge; Peoples Bank of Maryland; Provident State Bank; Queenstown Bank of Maryland; St. Michaels Bank; Talbot Bank of Easton; and SunTrust Bank of Maryland.

## Theatre Enhanced with New Stage Extender

*by Richard Peterson  
Director of the Performing Arts Center*

The addition of the new orchestra pit cover in the Todd Performing Arts Center (TPAC) at Chesapeake College is an exciting enhancement of our facility.

The cover, or stage extender, manufactured by the Wenger Corporation of Owatonna, Minnesota, is divided into segments and is supported by an aluminum column system. The extender will remain in place over the orchestra pit most of the time, but can be removed for road shows and other events requiring an orchestra pit.

The addition of the pit cover will allow us to have some increased scheduling flexibility for the theatre. We can have a production setup on the stage and use the area in front of the main curtain for a small conference presentation, or lecture event without disturbing the setup, for example.

This pit cover will also benefit the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra during performances here as the musicians will have more room for the upper strings and celli. Moving the upper strings downstage will provide additional floor space for the rest of the orchestra as the sections are placed on the stage.

The orchestra pit cover is one of the larger purchases at TPAC since our opening in 1996.

Thanks to the Foundation for providing us with this equipment.

# Mezzanine Construction Set to Begin in June

Chesapeake College will be a very active campus this summer. Not only will renovation be underway on the Caroline Student Center, but construction of the mezzanine will begin on or before June 1 in the Rufus M. and Loraine Hall Todd Performing Arts Center. The 600-seat theatre will be increased to over 900 seats, through a reconfiguration of seats on the floor and the addition of a mezzanine.

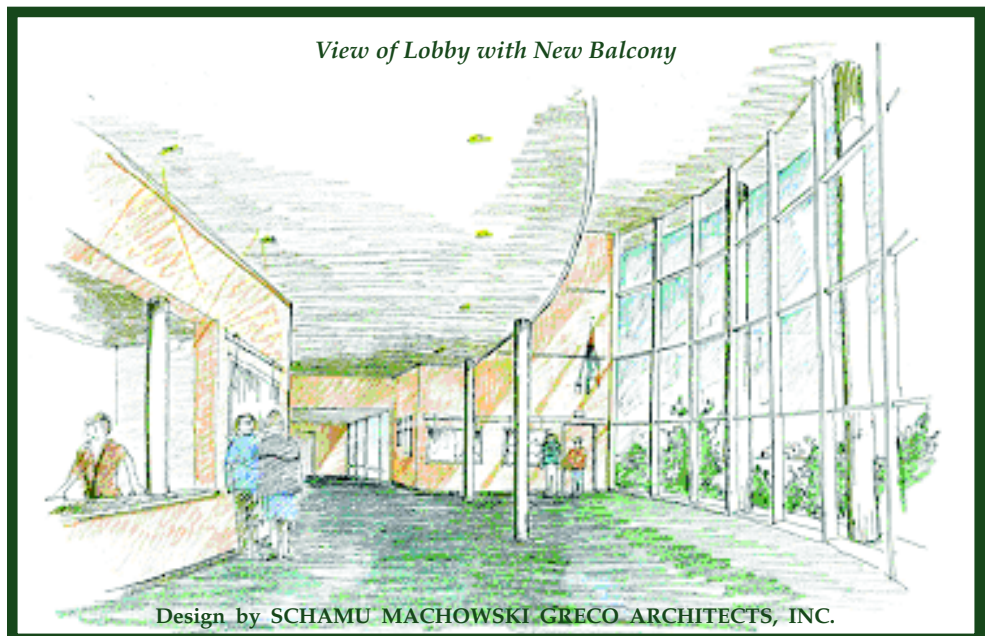
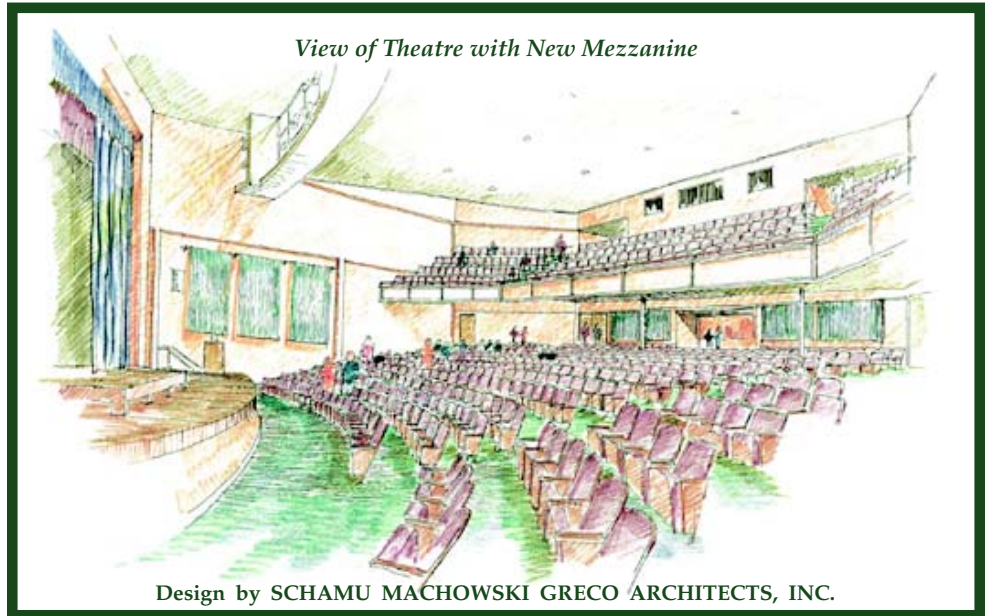
Architectural firm Schamu, Machowski and Greco (SMG) of Baltimore is designing the addition, with Whiting-Turner Contracting, also of Baltimore, winning the construction contract. Both firms have recently completed work on the Hippodrome project in Baltimore and have worked on other Eastern Shore projects in the past. This team of professionals also includes an acoustical/theatre expert with more than 22 years of experience in acoustics, noise control and sound systems design. He is currently the Director of Acoustics at the Peabody Institute.

“We were impressed by the expertise, vision and creativity that Whiting-Turner brought to this project and believe that they are highly qualified,” said Dr. Barbara Houchen, Chesapeake College Vice President for Administrative Services.

The new design will add 69 seats to the lower-level and a 242-seat mezzanine, bringing the theatre capacity to 911. Two staircases will be built on each end of the theatre and a second-floor balcony will open to the lobby below. In addition, improvements to the theatre’s ductwork and acoustics will be made during mezzanine construction.

Although the original plan was to add 400 seats to the theatre, the design process revealed that so many seats

## Chesapeake College Todd Performing Arts Center



would negatively impact the theatre. “While a 1,000 seat theatre was our initial goal, we determined that it could cause the quality of sight and sound in the theatre to be reduced. We would prefer to have less seating than initially planned while having a significant improvement in the acoustics. Our objective has always been to increase

seating while maximizing the theatre experience,” said Lauren Halterman. Construction is scheduled to begin in June after all major events for the academic year have been completed. The theatre will be closed from June until the end of September, but the adjoining Economic Development Center will remain open.

## Chesapeake Honors Verizon for Donations

Chesapeake College officials recently thanked representatives of Verizon with a facilities tour and demonstration on the Wye Mills Campus. The communications company has donated more than \$250,000 in cash and in-kind contributions to Chesapeake's Distance Learning Program and the Verizon Faculty Development Center.

"We are a small community college in a rural area that contains two of the state's poorest counties. Despite that, we're at the forefront of educational technology. We have been able to jump ahead of other, larger colleges thanks to your help," Chesapeake President Stuart M. Bounds said to Verizon representatives.

Dean for Technology and Instructional Support Services Doug Gray agreed that Verizon has contributed significantly to the technology at Chesapeake College. He said that both faculty and students are more comfortable with new technology as a result of distance learning classes, online classes and high-quality equipment. Gray was joined by other Chesapeake employees in a "report card" presentation to show how the donations are funding educational technology at Chesapeake.

"Your donations have allowed us to expand our services to students through our alternative course delivery programs and to faculty through the Verizon Faculty Development Center, located in Chesapeake's Learning Resource Center. Representatives from other colleges and universities see our center and tell us they wish they had the same resources at their institutions," Gray said.

The Verizon Faculty Development Center assists instructors, students and staff with educational technology.



*Chesapeake College staff members showed Verizon officials some of the projects resulting from the communications company's donations. Pictured here, left to right, are: Dean for Technology and Instructional Support Services Doug Gray, Associate Professor for Instructional Design Cynthia France, Instructional Technology Specialist Angela Baker-Ward, Multimedia Specialist Michele Knight and Verizon President Bill Roberts.*

Projects include everything from creating a dissection cd-rom for a biology class to operating a helpline for students enrolled in Internet classes.

Verizon has funded equipment and other resources that aid learning for the students, teaching for the faculty and communication for the College as a whole.

Verizon President Bill Roberts, a former Chesapeake College dual enrollment student, said the Verizon donations were "investments well spent."

"You are doing wonderful work here," Roberts told the staff of the Verizon Faculty Development Center. Staff members gave Roberts a demonstration of Chesapeake's new Media Room where state-of-the-art audio and video products are produced with equipment also courtesy of Verizon.

UPDATE, continued from page 1

challenge grant was announced. Efforts by Foundation members and other Campaign committee members led to increased contributions. What has been especially nice to see is the diversity in the size of the donations. Gifts of all amounts have been given to support the Mezzanine Campaign, and all are equal indicators of the value of this project.

A grand celebration is being planned to commemorate not only the opening of the renovated theatre, but also to celebrate the completion of the Chesapeake College Foundation Capital Campaign. This Campaign was launched in 1996, with the goal of raising \$2 million for endowments, scholarships, and the mezzanine. At this time, the Foundation has raised almost \$3.3 million, which has far exceeded our expectations. We look forward to thanking all of you who have made this possible.

While the Mezzanine Campaign has been a focal point of the Foundation, other work is being done. We continue to establish new endowments and are encouraged by the upswing in the stock market. Also, I was very encouraged by the response to the recently established Annual Support Fund. This fund is extremely important as it allows the Foundation to direct support where it is most needed at the College. I look forward to continuing this appeal each year.

The Mezzanine Campaign is still underway. We have raised over \$1.1 million toward the \$1.2 million goal. In addition, the Foundation has pledged to raise \$158,000 more for other improvements to the theatre. As you can see, support for the Campaign is still needed. If you have not yet made your gift, I encourage you to use the enclosed envelope to make a contribution today.

# Gifts to the Chesapeake College Foundation Mezzanine Campaign

*Thanks to all those who have supported this Campaign, either through leadership, volunteer efforts, or financial support.  
Names in bold print indicate those who have made a gift or pledge in FY04 (July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004).*

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Pro Temps

*Mr. Steven J. Ochse, CPA*  
CBIZ/Beatty Satchell Business  
Services, Inc.

*Mr. Michael Schiwy*  
Gunther's Electric, Inc.

*Mr. Oscar "Sonny" Schulz*  
Fisherman's Inn

*Dr. Edward Soutiere*  
Tudor Farms

*Mr. Fred Spence*  
Provident State Bank

*Mr. William Sutton*  
Bittersweet Farm

*Mrs. Loraine Hall Todd*  
Retired Businesswoman

*Mr. Rufus M. Todd*  
Retired Businessman

*Mrs. Evelyn Townsend*  
Dorchester County Public  
Schools

*Mrs. Mary Ellen Valliant*  
Valliant & Associates

*Mr. W. Moorhead Vermilye*  
The Talbot Bank