

MARICOPA *Gold*

News from the Maricopa Community Colleges Retirees' Association

FALL 2020

Retirement Planning Workshops Go Virtual

One of the key purposes of Maricopa Community Colleges Retirees' Association (working in conjunction with the MCCC Human Resources department) is "to assist Maricopa Community College District employees in preparation for retirement." To meet this purpose, MCCRA created a pre-retirement workshop offered each fall with follow-up sessions held at the colleges during the year. The events have been well attended by potential retirees and retired folks who come to share their expertise.

Like other events during COVID, this year's workshops will be held online in real-time.

The virtual pre-retirement meeting sponsored by MCCRA will be on Friday, Nov. 13, 2020, from 1 - 2:30 p.m. Retirement experts will cover a variety of essential issues to help participants maximize their retirement. Topics will include Financial Planning, the Arizona State Retirement System, Social Security, Medicare, and United Healthcare.

To stay current with the latest information visit **www.mccrassoc.org**.

MCCRA will also hold three 90-minute follow-up sessions, offered over two days. The first session will provide information about the Arizona State Retirement System, while the second one will highlight Social Security, Medicare, and financial planning. Employees may log in to one or both sessions.

Monday, 11/30/2020 at 9 a.m., ASRS

Tuesday, 12/1/2020 at 9 a.m. SS,
Medicare, Financial Planning

Thursday, 1/21/2021 at 12 noon, ASRS

Friday, 1/22/2021 at 12 noon, SS
Medicare, Financial Planning

Wednesday, 3/24/2021 at 5 p.m., ASRS

Thursday, 3/25/2021 at 5 p.m., SS,
Medicare, Financial Planning

Any MCCC employee who retires is invited to join the Retirees' Association, and the first year of membership is free.

MCCCD Launches COVID-19 Information Site: together.maricopa.edu

As Maricopa Community Colleges phases in the reopening of campuses, student, faculty, staff, and community health is our number one priority. Wearing a face covering is mandatory. Physical distancing requirements include marking off spacing at 6-foot intervals with carpet or tape and designating hallways and stairways as one-way. Capacity is also being limited in enclosed spaces such as classrooms, other learning spaces, conference rooms, and elevators.

Visit **together.maricopa.edu** to learn more about how the Maricopa Community Colleges are creating safe learning environments during COVID-19.



Check out MCCCD's new COVID-19 Web site at:
together.maricopa.edu

MCCCD Covering Board Elections: 4 Seats on the Ballot

For Maricopa County Community Colleges District Governing Board, four seats are open, but only two have challengers. MCCCD's Governing Board has seven non-partisan seats, including five elected positions from geographical districts within Maricopa County and two at-large positions representing the entire county.

The current board member for **District 2**, **Dana Saar**, is not running for re-election. **Susan Bitter Smith** is running for the seat with no challengers.

Dr. Tom Nerini is also unopposed in **District 5**. He is a former college administrator and counselor in the Phoenix Union High School District.

Incumbent **Linda Thor** is challenged by **Shelli Boggs**. The at-large seat is for a 4-year term and is on the ballot for all Maricopa County voters.



Dr. Linda Thor

Dr. Linda Thor is a former president of Rio Salado College and has worked in community colleges for 41 years, spending 29 of them as a president or chancellor. After retiring, Thor was elected to the Board in 2016 and served as Board President in 2019. She plans to "focus on what is best for students, valuing employees, and to be a trustee of the taxpayers' investment."



Shelli Richardson Boggs

Shelli Richardson Boggs is a former cosmetology instructor at the East Valley Institute of Technology and served on the Governing Board of EVIT. A lifelong resident of Arizona, Boggs believes that "an education can make the

difference for a successful future." She wants to reach those who have been disconnected or disengaged and bring them back into a pathway to equip them for life.

Incumbent **Laurin Hendrix** challenged by **Jacqueline Smith** —**District 1**, 4-year term; Southeastern portion of Maricopa County.



Laurin Hendrix

Laurin Hendrix was elected to the **District 1** seat in 2016 and is serving as Board Secretary this year. He owns businesses in legal services and is a real estate broker. He is a former Republican legislator who served in the Arizona House, from 2009 to 2011. Hendrix believes in lower tuition, lower taxes, and less bureaucracy.

Jacqueline Smith is vice president of the ASU Foundation, the non-profit funding arm of Arizona State University, and is a professor of practice in ASU's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College. At a recent candidates' forum, Smith said that she decided to run for a seat on the Board because she believes it's essential for everyone to have access to an affordable and excellent education.



Julissa Munoz

Meet the First Student Governing Board Member

Julissa Munoz

Elected: July 1, 2020

Term Expires: June 30, 2021

The purpose of the new student seat on the Governing Board is to advocate for students.

"I look forward to being the voice of our student body for the 2020-21 school year."

Helios Education Foundation Grant Results in \$1.2M Scholarship Funds



The Helios Education Foundation has awarded a grant to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation

(MCCCF) to fulfill a dollar-for-dollar U.S. Department of Education (DOE) Title V Endowment Match Challenge, resulting in \$1.2 million in newly endowed scholarships funds.

The effort began with three Maricopa Community Colleges — Estrella Mountain Community College, Glendale Community College, and GateWay Community College — participating in an endowment challenge to raise the maximum match before the 5-year Title V grant programs ended. The Helios Foundation stepped-in with a matching grant to help achieve the DOE match.

Between the Helios grant and local fundraising, the Title V Endowment Challenge successfully achieved a match of \$640,000, resulting in endowed funds totalling more than \$1.2 million. Revenue generated by these endowments will provide annual support for scholarships and programs targeting low-income and under-served students.

To learn more about this program and other opportunities to support the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, contact Judy Sanchez, Director of Development and College Relations at judy.sanchez@domail.maricopa.edu or call 480.731.8739.

MCCCD First in the U.S. to Train Artificial Intelligence Technology

The District announced a collaboration with Intel and the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) to create Arizona's first Artificial Intelligence certificate and degree program enabling tens of thousands of students to land careers in healthcare, automotive, industrial, and aerospace fields. Maricopa Community Colleges will be the first in the U.S. to train workers for the region's driving demands in Artificial Intelligence technology.

Dear Friends,

The weather may be cooling down, but things at the Foundation have certainly been heating up! Over the course of the past few months, it's been full steam ahead as we work hard to ensure that students all across the Maricopa District have access to the resources they need to continue their education during these changing times.

As we relish in the coming of fall, I want to take this opportunity to thank you once again for supporting the Foundation, the Maricopa Community Colleges District, our students, and our faculty and staff. Your continued generosity has put us in a position to make such a difference in our community, and it is truly exciting seeing it all come to fruition. Thank you for your trust.

Brian F. Spicker

Interim President & CEO

Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation



Dr. Steven Gonzales
Interim Chancellor

Chancellor Named 2020 Leader Of The Year

Each year, the *Arizona Capitol Times* recognizes those who have contributed greatly to Arizona's growth and who are committed to improving the quality of life for those in our state. This year, Steven Gonzales, Interim Chancellor, Maricopa County Community College District, was named as a Leader of the Year in the Education category and was recognized with other recipients at a virtual awards ceremony.

Author Writes Books About Untold Native American History

Billie Jane McIntosh did not stop working when she retired as a counselor and professor from Mesa Community College in 1999. Since then, she has written three books about Native American history neglected by American history education, including one published last year titled Chief William McIntosh, Mvskoke Creek Warrior 1777- 1825.

"This story is for my family and our Creek tribe, as well as those who hunger for true American history," said McIntosh, a member of the Muscogee (Creek) tribe. "I am proud to be his great-great-great-granddaughter."

Her previous books include Ah-Ko-Kee, American Sovereign, self-published in 2002, and From Georgia Tragedy to Oklahoma Frontier: A Biography of Scots Creek Indian Chief Chilly McIntosh published in 2008.

McIntosh retired from full-time work at MCC after 10 years but worked part-time for another 10 years. She taught Personal Development for Native Americans, general Personal Development and Career Exploration courses. She served as faculty advisor to the Inter-Tribal Club and the annual Pow Wow. She helped develop a new Center for Tribal Students and a new humanities course, American Indian Heritage and World View.

McIntosh continues to participate in poetry writing sessions, writing classes and discussion groups at her bungalow clubhouse in Flagstaff. She takes part in exercise classes for elders and is writing her memoirs.



Billie Jane McIntosh

"Happiness is gained as we care for others," said Billie. "I enjoyed many ways accomplishing that in my life, and I continue to look for those adventures."

Books Come Alive in the Virtual Living Library

Individuals from around the District have volunteered to be virtual, living "books" for 30-minute increments. During this time, the "books" will introduce themselves, discuss their various topics, which can range from race, gender, sexual orientation, self-direction, and other social experiences, and then proceed to a Q&A session with their "readers."



Faculty and staff from across the Maricopa Community College District will participate in the 2020 Virtual Living Library. Living Books are coming from Chandler-Gilbert, Estrella Mountain, Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix, Rio Salado, Scottsdale, South Mountain, and the District Office.

The Virtual Living Library is designed to challenge stereotypes and biases and promote connection and support for participants to develop and embrace stories of empowerment and resilience.

Students, faculty, staff, retirees, and community members are encouraged to sign up for any book session and readers are encouraged to listen to these remarkable stories.

The CGCC One World Committee will host its Fall 2020 Semester signature event:
Virtual Living Library
Tuesday, Nov. 17 and Wednesday, Nov. 18 performed from 8:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
each day.

Self enroll in this Virtual Living Library Canvas course at:
<https://learn.maricopa.edu/enroll/YDDTBD>.

Criminal Justice Retiree Heads Discussion about Police and Community Relations

By Gordon Jesse

Dr. William “Bill” Crawford retired from Chandler-Gilbert Community College as Vice-President of Student Affairs at the end of his second career, which spanned 24 years with MCCC. It included 17 years teaching criminal justice at Mesa Community College — 7 years as an adjunct faculty member and 10 years as residential faculty. His first career was 23 years with the Phoenix Police Department. After retiring from the PPD, he served as a volunteer reserve officer for another 10 years – a total of 33 years of law enforcement service.



Bill Crawford

Now in his second “retirement,” he teaches for the Northern Arizona University Justice Studies program. As part of his current teaching assignment, he served as the host and moderator of a webinar on police community relations titled *“Police Community Relations, Where Do We Go from Here?”* It featured local and national guest speakers such as Phoenix Police Chief Jeri Williams, Maricopa County Sheriff Paul Penzone, and Chief Steven Casstevens, the president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. About another half-dozen commanders and administrators from Valley law enforcement agencies fielded questions submitted by viewers, including students from NAU’s Justice Studies program. Approximately 250 people attended the two-hour virtual event.

The field of community relations in law enforcement is not new (Phoenix formed its first community task force in 1966), but it has new relevancy in light of events in the national news in recent years. Much is being done —

and has been done — in police community relations, but unfortunately, it doesn’t usually make the evening news.

One might assume that “a bunch of cops” discussing community relations might have defensive attitudes or fall back on a position of “We’re doing the best we can,” but this was not the case; far from it. Several speakers expressed that they recognize that cops are not perfect (because they’re human) and that things must change. Attitudes repeatedly expressed were the desire to improve law enforcement on the whole and not just to get input from the community but to utilize that information to implement positive change.

A listener asked how the system can deal with racist cops. The answer was that there is often the desire, indeed the need, to weed-out fellow officers who do not live up to the behaviors and attitudes expected of them by their departments and their communities, and there are ways to deal with the situation.

The vast majority of law enforcement personnel are good people with a sincere desire to help. They don’t appreciate being unfairly judged by the bad actions of a minuscule number of their ranks whose actions have been magnified by the news media. Who among us would? Trust in law enforcement is at a low ebb in many communities, and it’s not hard to see how improved police community relations can mitigate this. Honest communication, undertaken in good faith, followed by evidence of a sincere desire for change, can help restore trust. Trust in law enforcement benefits a community and, in turn, makes the police’s job easier. Change will come to community police relations, and the improvement will benefit both law enforcement and the community.

The New Normal *By Sally Sugden Jesse*



Welcome to the new normal! If you are like us, you are being smart and SIPing (sheltering in place) so as to not encounter the wicked coronavirus. Since March, we have only ventured out to obtain the necessities. No dining out or take out, no social events, always safe distancing with masks, and many, many hours of television. Needless to say, we have made our way through much of what Prime, PBS, and Tablo have to offer. We are a bit more fortunate than some as our son and his family live across the street, and our younger son came home as he is a performer whose work stopped abruptly, as you may well imagine. We all stay in our bubble, and family dinners are a regular thing with us. Even given the blessings of family dinners, we have been looking for safe things to do. We have watched live performances via video and

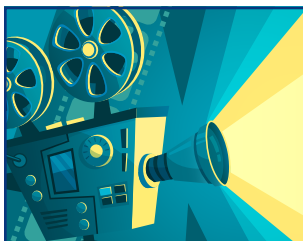
strongly recommend that you support the arts in whatever capacity you can. There is some wonderful work being done on a local level, and we can say from experience, funding for the arts is always a last thought.

One of the best live opportunities around for grandparents and grandkids is at the Great Arizona Puppet Theater, where one can attend live, drive-in performances every Saturday morning. The theater, which has provided educational entertainment for more than 80,000 children annually, used to earn 80 percent of their yearly budget from ticket sales. Because of the pandemic, this is no longer the case. If you are able to make a monthly donation, however small, please do.

Editor's Note: Join the Arizona Opera for an online Storytime: Reimagined! Visit Cinderella, explore the forest with Hansel and Gretel, take up residence at The Metropolitan Opera House, and more! Each selected story is woven together with musical experts to enhance it. Through December, a new musical story is released every two weeks! Be sure to follow us on social media and sign up for our email list to enjoy each unique musical story. ARIZONA OPERA, 602.266.7464 | 520.293.4336 azopera.org

100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote

America celebrated the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment on Women's Equality Day Aug. 26, 2020. This amendment prohibits the federal government from denying the right to vote to U.S. citizens based on sex. Check out the many movies covering this historical event such as "Iron Jawed Angels," "Not for Ourselves Alone" and "Suffragette" about the right to vote in Britain. More progress on women's issues are highlighted in "On the Basis of Sex" about the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg's ground-breaking court victory, the "Mrs. America" series on FX on Hulu, and Gloria Steinem's "The Glorias" on Amazon Prime.



AARP Movies for Grownups

If you are tired of searching the plethora of streaming services available today, don't forget good old AARP. Check out their list of Movies for Grownups featuring stars age 50 and over. www.aarp.org

2020-2021 Dues Renewal • Maricopa Community Colleges Retirees' Association

Name _____ Check if any info is new _____

Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Phone: Home () _____ Other () _____

Email address _____

Membership Dues are \$25/year valid from July 2020 through June 2021.

Dues \$ _____

Make check payable to: MCC Retirees' Association

SURVEY: How would you prefer to receive your Maricopa GOLD newsletter?

Mail to: Margaret Hogan, Treasurer • MCC Retirees' Association (MCCRA)
2411 W. 14th Street • Tempe, AZ 85281-6942

Printed/Mailed _____
Online _____

Maricopa Community Colleges Retirees' Association 2020-2021 Board Nomination or Self-Nomination Form

In nominating someone other than yourself, please confirm the nomination with the nominee. Be sure to indicate the appropriate employee group and contact information.

I nominate: _____ to be a candidate for the 2020-2021 MCCRA Board.

Please check employee group

____ Faculty ____ MAT/CEC

____ PSA ____ M&O/Crafts/Public Safety

Contact info/email:

Nomination form can be mailed with dues form to:

Ann Oehmke
500 W. Clarendon, E13
Phoenix, AZ 85013

Or email information to: aehmke@cox.net

Maricopa Community Colleges Retirees' Association Endowed Scholarship Fund

Name _____ Check if any info is new _____

Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Phone: Home () _____ Other () _____

Email address _____

Retired from which college _____ Check if any info is new _____

You can contribute in several ways to MCCRA Endowed Scholarship Fund. You may write a check .

Mail to: Maricopa Community College Foundation
2419 West 14th Street • Tempe, AZ 85281

Or you can donate online at: <http://mcccdf.org/>

Either way, please indicate you are supporting the MCCRA Endowed Scholarship. A receipt will be sent to you.

Mark Your Calendar

PC Centennial Events
postponed due to Covid-19

Sept. 15 - Oct. 15

National Hispanic Heritage
Month



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

November is Native American Heritage
Month

Tuesday, Nov. 3 ELECTION DAY

Friday, Nov. 13

Virtual Pre-Retirement Planning Workshop
1 - 2:30 p.m. Get link to login at
www.mccrassoc.org

MCCRA Dues for 2020-21

Dues for MCCRA are \$25 per academic year due July 1. Newly retired Maricopans receive their first-year of membership **FREE**. Use the enclosed form on page 7 to submit your membership dues now. Stay connected after retirement: **www.mccrassoc.org**

While you have your checkbook or credit card out, consider contributing to the MCCRA Endowed Scholarship Fund, which includes the Dr. Mildred Bulpitt Endowed Scholarship. Every donation is appreciated.

A Small Time Commitment Makes A Huge Difference

Do you have a few hours to spare? Volunteer scholarship reviewers give 1-2 hours every few months and work right from the comfort of their own homes! Not only is it easy — it's extremely rewarding.

If interested, contact the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, Judy Sanchez, Director of Development and College Relations at **judy.sanchez@domail.maricopa.edu** or call **480.731.8739**.

Have You Logged Into myASRS Lately?

It may seem trivial, but it's an essential step in keeping your account secure. Periodically making sure your contact information is correct ensures you receive important notifications and helps us verify your account if you need to contact us!

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