

NORTH STAR

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MONEY MINDED

*Rochester College
& Dave Ramsey
partner in teaching
financial literacy*





from the *president's desk*

OUR FOCUS IS MISSION.

Faithfulness to the mission of Rochester College is the justification for its existence.

ROCHESTER COLLEGE *cultivates academic excellence, principled character, servant leadership, and global awareness through a rigorous educational experience that integrates liberal arts and professional studies within an inclusive Christian heritage.*

Vince Lombardi, the famous NFL coach for whom the Super Bowl trophy is named, took over the Green Bay Packers at a low point. Team morale was sagging. He made a few motivational speeches and tried to focus his team. In the midst of a particularly frustrating practice, he blew his whistle and called everyone around him.

When everyone trotted over and got quiet, he picked up a pigskin. "Let's start at the beginning," he said. "Gentlemen, this is a football."

You've heard that famous story before. It uses the Lombardi experience in sports to communicate an important mandate to government and business, family and personal life, local church or Christian ministry — *stay focused on the basics of your task, and execute the fundamentals well.*

In order to keep all of us focused on the reason for our existence at Rochester College, the 2011-12 academic year has opened and will close with emphatic reminders of our mission. Everything in between those prompts will implement and reinforce that mission.

Dr. Gary Selby of Pepperdine University challenged staff, faculty and administration at this year's Opening Meeting with the question, "What Makes a Christian College Christian?" Dr. Ken Starr, president of Baylor University, will close the year at Partnership Dinner with an affirmation of "The Value of Christian Education in a Secular Culture."

Education, character, service and faith are the four hallmarks of the community that is Rochester College. Whether on campus or online, faculty or student, newcomer or seasoned veteran, these are the basics. We must execute these fundamentals well in order to serve those who come to us and to deserve your support in doing so.

The commitment to mission is clear and strong. It is being lived out faithfully on a daily basis. Join us in celebrating what God is doing at Rochester College.


Rubel Shelly, President

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Rochester College & Dave Ramsey Respond To Growing Need For Financial Literacy In Teens & Young Adults

ON THE COVER

Between the onslaught of credit card offers, rising costs of college tuition and the pressures of making sound financial decisions from an early age, young adults are seeking education in financial management. Mindful of this need, Rochester College and Dave Ramsey have partnered to promote financial literacy in teens and young adults nationwide.

(Pictured left to right) RC students Matt Osborn, Steven Turner, Elliott Kern, Asia Manning & Drita Dusevic

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WE ASKED OUR NORTHSTAR CONTRIBUTORS TO TELL US A BIT ABOUT THEMSELVES.

Read on and get to know this fun group.

ANNE NICHOLS

writer



ANNE IS assistant professor of English and the director of the honors program at RC. **SHE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT** coffee with half and half, but only two. (She tries not to be high maintenance!) She is **CURRENTLY READING** *Made for Goodness* by Desmond Tutu and *Ophelia Joined the Group Maidens Who Don't Float: Classic Lit Signs On to Facebook*. **HER FAMILY INCLUDES** her husband, Tim, who she's been married to for 11 years and their two kids, Hailey, 7 and Tyler, 5. **THE WORD THAT BEST DESCRIBES HER IS** ENTHUSIASTIC! **SHE ADMIRES** her coworkers, saying RC is teaming with role models. **HER HOBBIES INCLUDE** reading, biking and traveling. Curiosity and faith are **WHAT DRIVE HER EVERYDAY**. "Do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God" is the **QUOTE SHE LIVES BY**. Anne says it's painted on her kitchen wall as a reminder.

LARRY STEWART

writer



LARRY IS director of alumni relations at RC. Having worked at the college for over 40 years, much of his life is centered on RC. In fact, **THREE OF THE THINGS HE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT** include family, Rochester College and organization. **ONE OF HIS FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT HIS JOB** is getting to visit with alumni when they come to campus. **LARRY MOST ADMIRES** his wife, Lynne ('74). The couple have two children, Beth ('02) and Kevin ('04), and one granddaughter, Sophie, who is three years old (her expected graduation year is 2030.) **HE ENJOYS** history of any kind, particularly church history, which is why **HE'S CURRENTLY READING** *The Encyclopedia of the Stone Campbell Movement*. **LARRY LIVES BY** the words of Romans 8:28, and although **MOST PEOPLE WOULDN'T GUESS** it, he has a very silly side to him.

JORDAN ACKERMAN

writer



JORDAN IS RC's sports information director. Knowing that each day he can influence a young person's life is **WHAT MOTIVATES HIM**. Being the first person in his family to earn a college degree is **HIS GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT**. His dad, who he says has always told him to do what is right, even when no one is watching is **WHO HE ADMIRES**. The **THREE THINGS HE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ARE** his wife, Kristin (the couple married in September); his dog, Lucy, even though she loves chewing on his shoes; and baseball. Jordan's **BEST COLLEGE MEMORIES** are of the road trips he was a part of with the Warrior baseball team. **HERE'S SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE KNOWN** —Jordan plays in a band called "As Is Band." Check them out at www.theasisband.com.

LORA HUTSON

writer



LORA'S TITLES ARE RC's director of communication services; chair, mass communication department; and adviser of *The Shield*, RC's student publication. **HER FAVORITE COLLEGE MEMORY** involves the countless hours she spent in the journalism lab writing, designing and having fun with the rest of the OC *Talon* staff—this is where she laid the foundation for her professional life. **THE WORDS THAT BEST DESCRIBE HER ARE** "recovering perfectionist." **HER FAMILY INCLUDES** her husband, Dave, who teaches at RC; daughter, Taylor, 13; step-children Davis, 16 and Kate; 11 and Westie named Wallace, 8. Lora jokes that **HER GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IS** surviving Michigan winters for 20 years, but really she gains satisfaction from seeing how her students develop from freshman year on into the interesting and accomplished lives they lead.

CATHY RIES

proofreader



CATHY IS RC's development coordinator. **THE WORD THAT BEST DESCRIBES HER IS** friendly. **HER GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IS** being a single mom who raised two beautiful daughters. **THE QUOTE SHE LIVES BY IS** "Everyday is a new day." **THE THING SHE ENJOYS MOST ABOUT HER JOB IS** getting to know the people who help RC; Cathy says she's made many friends through her job **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT HER IS THAT** during her time as a student at MCC, Cathy was a Warrior cheerleader **SHE ADMIRES** Ida Palmer for her gentleness and sweetness. Cathy says **SHE WANTS TO RETIRE** as close to her grandchildren as possible. **THE THREE THINGS SHE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT** include frozen Coke, family and (when she has time to watch it) TV.

84%

of undergraduates
admitted the need
for more financial
management education.

(SALLIE MAE, 2009)

RAMSEY & ROCHESTER COLLEGE RESPOND

BY Lora Hutson

When I was an 18-year-old starting college three decades ago, I received a credit card offer in the mail from Exxon. "Wow," I thought. "I'm grown up. Exxon wants to give me money!"

Suddenly, overnight it seemed, I was now mature and wise enough to manage a credit card...or so Exxon was telling me with its offer. That offer was soon followed by credit card deals from other retailers. These seemingly generous gifts of "money" were tempting to me. Like most college students, I juggled paying for college courses, living expenses, eating, buying clothes and having fun.

Unfortunately, those purchases I made in the "me" decade of the 1980s ended up costing me much more. It took several years to pay off those credit cards and my undergrad and graduate student loans. Looking back now, I wish I had known more about saving, budgeting and credit card debt. Helping young people avoid similar money mistakes is what Rochester College hopes to accomplish with its new Personal Financial Management course.

THE SITUATION

I'm not the only college student who struggled with money management. According to a Sallie Mae study, 68 percent of college students in 2009 charged items to their credit cards knowing they didn't have the money to pay the bill.

And the money woes continue for today's college student. In a world where college costs are much higher than when I was in school, almost half of all college students report they don't have adequate financial resources. Yet they know the value of a college education, understanding that it can help their long-term financial outlook, as well as provide a foundation of critical thinking and life experiences unavailable to them anywhere else.

College students can often become stuck with the need for a quality education vs. the need to make smart financial choices. With little guidance, many of them fall into debt traps. Up to one in three college students graduate with more than \$10,000 in credit card debt, in addition to student loans that often surpass an average of \$20,000 for an undergraduate degree (Sallie Mae, 2007 & U.S.

Department of Education, 2007).

These stats support the desire of many young people today for courses in money management that are both clear and practical.

RC'S RESPONSE

Rochester College is responding to this challenge by offering educational training in partnership with Dave Ramsey, the straight-talking, reduce-your-debt adviser who people around the country are turning to for sound financial advice.

Ramsey, a *New York Times* bestselling author and radio personality, said students "have watched their older brothers and sisters graduate from college with huge debts hanging over them from their college years. We need to provide them information that can put their financial lives on a responsible course."

The RC Department of Business has developed a quality introductory course in financial management around Ramsey's popular *Foundations in Personal Finance*. The course will cover real-life issues every college student needs to understand in order to graduate on sound financial footing and be set for a lifetime of responsible financial management.

Dr. Ken Johnson, former president of Rochester College and an experienced accountant, will teach the three-credit online class, which will include reading Ramsey's materials, viewing videos and discussing key topics important for young people.

Primary audiences for the entertaining and relevant course will be high school juniors and seniors, as well as college freshmen. The seven-week course will be fully transferable. Thus, the course combines quality instruction, critical thinking, ease of use for students around the nation, and easy transferability of college credit.

STUDENTS WILL TALK ABOUT

SAVINGS Get set for emergencies, big purchases & wealth building

BUDGET Create and live on a zero-based budget

COLLEGE STUDENT ESSENTIALS Learn what every college student needs to know about money

DEBT Avoid the trap of borrowing \$

CONSUMER AWARENESS Buy wisely by understanding powerful marketing strategies

CREDIT BUREAUS Evaluate the role of credit in our culture

INVESTMENTS Build wealth & change your family tree

BARGAINS Find and negotiate deep discounts

THE OUTCOME

For young people, the time to learn how to handle money is now — before they get huge student loan debts, sign car notes or pay for their weddings with credit cards. As they begin their college careers, they need to think through these things and learn to live by sound principles of financial management.

This unique partnership between RC and Dave Ramsey will equip young people with the knowledge and motivation they need to take control of their financial well-being. Completion of the course will help students make wise financial decisions, freeing them from a lifetime of debt and stress.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

BUS 1003 PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT is a college-level study of the principles of personal financial management popularized by best-selling author and media personality Dave Ramsey. This course helps individuals discover a lifelong strategy for handling money that is — in Ramsey's words — "biblically based, common-sense education and empowerment which gives hope to everyone from the financially secure to the financially distressed."



If you live like no one else, later you can live like no one else.

DAVE RAMSEY





ONE IN FOUR TEENS

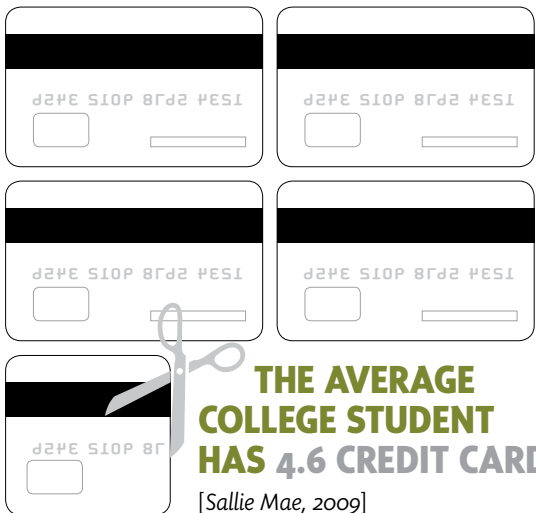
UNDERSTAND CREDIT CARD INTEREST & FEES
[Charles Schwab, 2007]

words of WISDOM from warrior alum



92% of college students have used a credit card to cover educational expenses.
(Sallie Mae, 2009)

WHILE 96% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE DETERMINED TO FINISH COLLEGE, ONLY 46% THINK THEY HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO DO SO. (NOEL-LEVITZ, INC., 2009)



THE AVERAGE COLLEGE STUDENT HAS 4.6 CREDIT CARDS

[Sallie Mae, 2009]

JULIANNA BLANKENSHIP ('05) SAYS, "Save a \$1,000 cushion for yourself while you're in school. Start thinking of that \$1,000 as 'zero balance' in your savings account, and keep it apart from your regular accounts, like in an online ING savings account. Also, don't wait until graduation to figure out student loans. Check them monthly and pay your unsubsidized interest at least. If you don't, you'll end up with a much higher balance when you graduate due to capitalized interest."

LARRY STEWART ('70) SAYS, "If you are a boarding student, use your meal plan instead of the local restaurants!"

CURTIS STORM ('05) SAYS, "Budget. Figure out appropriate amounts of money to use for gas, food, bills, etc. Adhere to that budget and control your urges to go out and spend money instead of letting those urges control you and your financial situation."

STEPHEN McCUNE ('10) SAYS, "Always remember that the student loan money you receive is NOT your money—you're just borrowing it. Don't go and buy fast food or anything that is not school related with your loans. That is why they call them STUDENT loans. They're meant for school purposes."

JENNIFER ROKOWSKI ('10) SAYS, "If at all possible, before you enter college, get your GPA up as high as you can so you're eligible for more scholarship money. Again, if it's doable, take AP classes or dual enroll to get a head start on college."

Also, most freshmen want to ease into college and maintain an active social life, but don't take the minimum 12 credit hours—it will only drag out the number of semesters until you're able to graduate. Unfortunately, I learned this the hard way. Because of a few semesters that I hoped to make things "as easy as possible," I had to add an extra semester in the end. At the time, I didn't realize these decisions would also increase my student loan debt by almost \$10,000."

First Junior Scholars Week Enlightens Students

Not many students get the opportunity to “try out” a college, but that is exactly what the 20 students who attended Rochester College’s first Junior Scholars program did. The week was sponsored by the Honors Program at Rochester College and allowed students to earn two to three hours of college credit while experiencing social and academic life at Rochester College. Students stayed in the residence halls, attended classes taught by five different RC professors and enjoyed local cultural sites.

The theme for the week was “Enlighten” and centered on the relationship between faith and reason. “We chose this theme because it really speaks to the mission of Rochester College,” said Dr. Anne Nichols, director of both Junior Scholars and the Honors Program. “While many people see faith and reason as antagonistic, RC exists because we believe the two are inseparable, and we want to help

students develop both.”

Because the Enlightenment Movement of the 1700s was a formative time for current ideas about faith and reason, many class sessions focused on that era. As each professor presented the theme from their discipline, scholars learned philosophy, history, literature and science. Presenters included Dr. Rubel Shelly, president; Dr. John Barton, provost; Dr. David Greer, associate professor of history; Dr. Anne Nichols, associate professor of English; and Dr. David Brackney, chair of the Department of Science and Mathematics.

Some aspects of the Enlightenment were celebrated, while others were critiqued. The critique of Enlightenment thought culminated in a visit to the Holocaust Memorial Center, where the scholars were addressed by Holocaust survivor and author Sam Offen. Conversations of Enlightenment poetry and art led to a trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts, while Brackney’s discussion of science and faith led to visiting his home in the country, where scholars played volleyball, enjoyed a campfire and received a tour of the universe, compliments of Brackney and a high-powered telescope.

“I received so much positive feedback from our scholars,” said Nichols, “but my favorite comment was from a student who said his favorite part of the week was having enjoyable intellectual discussions with his peers outside of class. I know Junior Scholars accomplished our goals because students went home associating Rochester College with intellec-



tual and social stimulation. My hope is that they will return to RC for college, join the Honors Program, and build on these experiences.”

Junior Scholars 2012 is open to all current high school students, including 2012 graduates who would like to dedicate a week of their summer to intellectual fun. The program will run from July 22-28 and the theme will be “Pop!”, inviting scholars to look at how technology and mass media have made popular culture a pervasive influence.

To join the Junior Scholars as they examine how popular culture informs our lives, or for more information, visit www.rc.edu/jrscholars.

By Anne Nichols ('00)



DON'T MISS OUT *The group pictured at left explored the relationship between faith and reason during this summer's "Enlighten" themed Junior Scholars week. In July 2012, participants will dive into the topic of technology and mass media as they examine the theme, "Pop!"*

Students Begin BSN Program After State Approval

The Michigan Board of Nursing, which oversees nurse education programs throughout the state, approved Rochester College’s bachelor of science in nursing degree program on June 2.

Twenty two students began the 126-credit-hour program this fall. In addition to their courses, the students have been active in the community, visiting local elementary schools to present on health education and bullying awareness.





BACK IN THE GAME

A New Year Of
WARRIOR ATHLETICS

BY *Jordan Ackerman*

In the first season playing as a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, Rochester College Warrior athletes are earning the respect of teams around the nation. After a record breaking 2010-11 athletic term, Warriors continue to build upon past successes, setting the pace for an even better outcome when this current academic year wraps up.

MEN'S BASEBALL

The baseball team is coming off one of its most successful seasons in the school's history, having finished the season with a 21-19 record and an appearance in the United States Collegiate Athletics Association Small College World Series. Graduate Nate Billings and juniors David Woodson and Johnny Barreto earned All-American honors at the conclusion of the season.

SOFTBALL

With the return of a solid core of its national championship team and behind new and highly decorated coach, Jane Zimmerman, the Warrior softball team looks to capture another USCAA national championship this season. The athletes have spent the fall working out and training for the 2012 campaign.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

After a 5th place finish in the USCAA polls, the men's basketball team enters its first season under the direction of new head coach Clint Pleasant. The Warriors will be playing against five NCAA Division I opponents in preparation for a return to the USCAA national championship.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Coach Eric Sims and team are coming off a 21-10 season. The Lady Warriors made an appearance at the USCAA national tournament, but were downed in the second round. With a strong core of returners and a solid group of recruits, the Lady Warriors are pre-season favorites to return to nationals this season.

MEN'S GOLF

After two consecutive national championships, the Warriors fell short of a three-year reign, but were able to finish second place in the USCAA national tournament. Leading by one stroke after day two, the Warriors finished 21 strokes shy of the title behind Lindenwood-Belleville. Senior Kristopher Bartling was honored as a USCAA All-American after the 2011 national championship. Next season the Warriors' golf team will be returning a slew of experienced golfers.

WOMEN'S GOLF

The Lady Warrior golf team showed much improvement from years past by winning its first tournament at the Defiance College Yellow Jacket Invitational. The women also had a second-place finish at Olivet College. Despite challenging weather, the team displayed skill and discipline at all of the 2011 matches.

MEN'S SOCCER

The men's soccer team finished the 2011 season with an 8-8 record. The Warriors received great play out of freshman Daniel Seargent who led the team with six goals. The Warriors were ranked in the top 10 of the USCAA polls all season and may receive a bid to nationals.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer team started out the 2011 season on fire by winning four of its first five games. The Lady Warriors finished the season with a 7-10-1 record. The soccer story of the season was the play of freshman Emily Guirey who led the nation, both USCAA and NAIA, in goals scored before a season-ending injury against Marygrove College.

VOLLEYBALL

Warrior volleyball is on pace for the best season in the program's history. With a 28-14 record and four tournament championship titles in hand, the team will be a force to reckon with at nationals this postseason. Last season the Warriors finished 3rd at the USCAA national tournament, and the team has consistently ranked in the number one or two position throughout the current season.

Though Rochester College is known for its small, close-knit community, it has some big international connections. This fall, RC's administration pulled current and new initiatives together to create the Center for East African Studies and Development.

The center taps into unique resources RC has in terms of its connection with East Africa. Several of the college's faculty members have lived in Uganda. Students have spent summers there as interns, and Ugandan students are currently enrolled at RC.

Provost Dr. John Barton said, "We have this growing network of people, and for being the small little community that we are, we are unusually tied into Uganda." The Center for East African Studies and Development will be composed of four main components:

UGANDAN SCHOLARSHIPS

The international program at RC has been in place for several years. It is unique because of the college's intimate community and family atmosphere. Many of the Ugandan students who come to RC through the scholarship program are well-acquainted with faculty who lived in Uganda at one time.

"We've hand selected students from Uganda because of their academic and spiritual backgrounds," Barton said. "We've brought them over, and then we envelope them as a family, as well as a community."

RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center for Research on East African Studies will be maintained by Barton and Mark Manry, RC's director of assessment and institutional research. Both have highly specialized degrees in African studies and have published on development, cultural and religious issues in East Africa.

Manry has created archives of historical documents from Uganda that have been scanned and will be available on the Resource Center's website, along with research that he and Barton have completed individually.

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

Rochester College partners with Pepperdine University to send students to Uganda for the summer. They are able to receive academic credit, as well as experience the culture and environment in a profound way.

KIBO CORNER

One of the newest initiatives at RC, the Kibo Corner is a coffee shop on campus stocked with Arabica coffee from Uganda. It connects the institution to the Kibo Group, an organization that is dedicated to helping communities in East Africa reach their full potential. "This is a way to get our campus more involved, even for those students and employees who will never get on a plane and go to East Africa," Barton said. "They can feel connected."

Staffed by volunteers, 100 percent of the profits gained from product sales will go to various initiatives of the Kibo Group, tackling such issues as poverty, injustice, and helping to provide clean water wells and healthcare training.



Rochester College Launches New Initiative:

CENTER FOR EAST AFRICAN STUDIES & DEVELOPMENT

CONVERSATIONS & KISIR

Provost Crosses The Globe & Dividing Lines Of Religion On Trip To Turkey

During the summer of 2011, Dr. John Barton, provost of Rochester College, had the opportunity to travel to Turkey for a 10-day trip with seven other academic leaders from southeast Michigan. The trip was initiated and funded by the Niagara Foundation, a Muslim-influenced organization seeking to promote respect, peace and friendship across the dividing lines of difference of religion.

“It seems like religious history has always gone one of two ways,” Barton said. “We either don’t talk—we just scream at each other—or at worst, bomb each other. Or, we have a more liberal approach where we compromise, turning our message into mush so we can all get along. The real challenge is how to not compromise the message, but still be in respectful relationship and dialogue with each other.”

“
If we’re asking our students to grapple with other religions in respectful, Christ-like, loving ways, then we should as well.

The Niagara Foundation finds that international trips serve as a creative way to build bridges and strengthen friendships between individuals who hold fundamentally different beliefs. Though participants on each trip might come from significantly different religious backgrounds, they are able to find common ground through traveling together and sharing the same dining table.

Each day, Barton’s group would spend time at famous museums and historical sites, such as third-century churches and some of the most important mosques in the world. Evenings were spent in the home of a Turkish host family.

“I came home impressed that Turkey is one of the most remarkable and important countries on the planet right now,” Barton said. Both Christianity and Islam have deep roots in Turkey, and the country sits directly on the border between Asia and Europe. Its people experience the tension of living in peace both with the West’s democracy and with the Islamic world.

Ultimately, the trip taught its participants to forge bonds of friendship that break through the walls that often stand in the way of Christian and Muslim interaction. “I was sitting on a bus for eight hours a day, driving to all of these places, experi-

encing all of this with Muslims,” Barton said. During the trip, he spent time talking to Imam Achmat Salie, the director of Islamic Studies at UD Mercy. “We found out our daughters go to Rochester High School together and are in the same grade. We formed a bond there that our daughters share.”

Though the trip lasted only 10 days, it has had long-reaching effects. Barton submitted a proposal to the Niagara Foundation, requesting it send a group from the RC community to Turkey. The foundation accepted his proposal, and a group of 12 members of RC’s administration and faculty, including President Rubel Shelly, will be participating in a trip to Turkey in March 2012.

“This is an important issue in the world,” Barton said. “We’re telling our students they need to be able to be open to other cultures and be able to figure out how to grapple with other religions in respectful, Christ-like, loving ways. It’s easy to say

that in a classroom, but if we’re asking our student body to grow and live into that, then as a faculty and administration, we should as well.”

Barton is currently teaching a diversity seminar at Rochester College with Saeed Khan, a Muslim professor from Wayne State University. The goal of the class is to help students begin to wrestle with and navigate the complexities of interactions between Christians and Muslims.

“I have a passion to help other young people figure out how to stay devoutly convicted about who you believe Jesus is, while at the same time opening up the arms of respect and true listening and embracing people of another faith that you will never completely agree with,” Barton said. And, though nothing is confirmed as of yet, the possibility of student groups traveling to Turkey is being explored as well.

By Emilie Vinson



MEMORIES TO KEEP. LESSONS TO PASS ON. Coming from different cultures, life experiences, and religious backgrounds, the group above, including Provost John Barton (pictured far right), explored the sites of Turkey while developing friendships that started with simple respect and dialogue.



WHO USED TO

BY *Larry Stewart*

Visitors to Gallaher Center, the former estate house on the campus of Rochester College, often ask questions about the history of the building and its former owner.

Lou Maxon, a Detroit advertising executive, constructed the country estate in rural Rochester during the early 1940s. The founding board purchased the property in 1957 for \$200,000. In a news story about the purchase, the *Detroit News* hailed the property as an "Oakland County beauty spot." With very limited resources, the founding board acted with tremendous faith by committing the equivalent of \$1.5 million in today's economy to purchase the property. A focal point of the original property, the house quickly became an icon of the college after the institution opened in 1959.

Maxon founded his advertising firm in 1928. Initially attracting customers by providing direct-mail services, he eventually landed such accounts as General Electric, Heinz, Packard, Pittsburgh Glass and Gillette. A *Time* magazine article from 1940 named his agency the largest in the Midwest and pegged his personal income as the 53rd highest in the nation.

With his fortune, Maxon developed several properties, including a getaway home he established in his hometown of Onaway, Mich., a decade prior to constructing the Rochester estate. He could board 72 guests at the Onaway complex and often used both properties to entertain clients and friends.

"I remember so clearly my first visit to Rochester," said Alice Burke, a Rochester resident who

worked for Maxon in the early 1950s. "Several employees rode a bus to the Maxon home for a holiday gathering. Mr. Maxon met us at the door and gave fresh orchids to each of the women."

In spring 2009, Burke saw a newspaper article about the college's 50th anniversary celebration. Curious to see the estate so many years later, she called the college to ask if she could tour the house that she hadn't stepped foot in since her early 20s. Her visit not only allowed her to relive some fond memories, but provided college personnel with more insight into Maxon and his estate.

"Mr. Maxon was a wonderful employer who knew how to foster employee loyalty," Burke recalled. "He maintained a cafeteria at the agency





and provided free lunch for all employees. The cafeteria was run by chefs and even included entrees like prime rib.”

Maxon also spared no expense while developing the Rochester estate. He finished the interior of his house with walls of oak and knotty pine, dramatic cathedral ceilings, five fireplaces and five bathrooms. He elaborately landscaped the 37-acre estate with beautiful gardens and imported large trees to expedite development of the property, investing an estimated \$500,000 on the house and grounds.

For many years, members of the college community wondered about the origin of the totem pole, a campus symbol that graced Lake Norcentra for decades. Even those from the college’s pioneer years were unfamiliar with the artifact’s origin since

it was already on the island when they arrived. Burke confirmed it was part of Maxon’s landscaping.

“While working for Mr. Maxon, I remember visiting the estate one summer and sitting by the lakeside with my feet in the water,” said Burke. “I loved viewing the beautiful scenery of the lake with the colorful totem pole at its center.”

Mrs. Lou Maxon II, wife of the former owner’s grandson, also visited campus soon after a 2009 restoration of the home’s great room for the campus store. Knowing her plans to travel from the West Coast for a funeral in the Detroit area, family members had asked her to drive by Rochester to see if the house still stood. After entering the building, Mrs. Maxon phoned her mother-in-law.

“Yes, I entered the front door and then turned left into the first room,” exclaimed a very excited Mrs. Maxon. “I am looking at a fireplace right now. It must be the one where you celebrated Christmas!” As she walked across the room, she looked up and said, “The beams are still here as well. I am looking at them right now!”

While visiting with college personnel, Mrs. Maxon speculated on the origin of the totem pole. She assumed her husband’s grandfather obtained it in Onaway since totem poles were often produced in that area. Coincidentally, the site of the totem pole’s three-year restoration, which concluded in early October, is about 25 miles from Onaway in Atlanta, Mich.





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LIFE, POST GRAD

FOR THE COOL, CALIFORNIA COPYWRITER

NICK FLORA

BY REKEBAH PARSONS//PHOTOS COURTESY OF NICK FLORA

RARELY DOES ONE FIND A ROCHESTER COLLEGE ALUM STROLLING THE STREETS IN ORANGE COUNTY, BUT FOR 2002 GRADUATE NICK FLORA, LAGUNA BEACH IS HOME.

A young copywriting professional, he traded in the Motor City for the sunny beaches of southern California last year when he joined the staff of the new, hip agency, The Garage TM. While Michigan will always be home, this latest chapter in his life has brought some exciting new experiences.

Daily routines don't exist in Flora's world. With an average of five projects on his plate at any given time, the consistency is in the chaos. Before lunch he may have already switched between a national campaign, a radio ad and a non-traditional event concept, several times. While others might find the constant juggling on the job irritating, Nick flourishes in the atmosphere. "Each day is an adventure in itself. It's a lot of hours, but still rewarding, all the same," he said.

This type of day-to-day hasn't always been the norm, however. During his four-year tenure at Team Detroit, a Dearborn-based advertising agency that boasts over 1,000 employees, he worked on campaigns for Ford and Lincoln in large group settings. Projects lasted several weeks, and they were his sole focus. Collaboration on a wide-scale was standard and utilizing ideas from different departments helped Flora see the entire scope of things.

In 2010, Flora and his team's hard work paid off. The D Show, a local non-profit organization who recognizes excellence in advertising, named one of Flora's projects "Best in Television Craft." It came as a bit of a surprise, but also served to affirm that the time and effort he was investing did indeed bear fruit.

"I actually wasn't at the award show, but was excited to hear the good news. Come to think of it, I never received my 'D' Trophy." He joked, "I'll have to see about tracking that down."

Admittedly, Flora didn't set out to be a copywriter. Like any other bright-eyed college student, he spent a lot of time enjoying his RC experience by getting involved in campus life. But, between the theatre classes he enjoyed, pledging a social club and developing personal relationships with professors, he learned a great deal about himself and what he could do.

Blessed with a penchant for creativity, he longed for a career that would challenge him; advertising seemed a natural fit for the two. While working in an agency early in his career, he found himself perusing creative briefs that were left in rooms after meetings. "Coming up with ideas to solve problems came natural, like a game," he said. "Seems like copywriting found me, rather than the other way around. But, I'm glad it did."

Now, nine years removed from his final days as a Warrior, Flora has built for himself a life that seems to fit just perfectly with what he wants. When pressed to define a favorite part of the job, he ultimately decided on his work in television. "There's just something about film I love. Who knows, it may lead me to something beyond the 30-second commercial one day," he remarked.

For now, Flora is unsure where the future will lead, both career-wise and geographically. Ultimately, he may return to Michigan, but he's in no rush and wouldn't mind trying out other new cities for a while, either.

Until then, he'll enjoy the rush of the creative chaos in which he excels, against the beautiful backdrop of Laguna's sunny skies and stunning scenery. And while his family and friends back in Michigan settle into the crisp fall and pending winter weather, who can blame him?

HONORARY ALUMNI



Ron Loshner

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

REPORTING BY *Tanna Evans*

Many people think of volunteer work as an occasional service, but for 1962 graduate Ron Loshner, donating his time and effort to assist others is routine. Not surprisingly, when it came time to select a recipient of the 2011 Alumnus of the Year award, Loshner was an ideal candidate.

"Ron is a model volunteer. You can count on him being available whenever there is a need for volunteer workers," said Larry Stewart, who has worked with Loshner on several college-related projects.

Loshner attributes his time at Michigan Christian

College as having a lasting positive impact on his life and stirring a desire in him to be a force for good in the world. He remembers watching the faculty and staff of MCC live out their faith on a daily basis. "Their love laid the foundation for who I am today," said Loshner.

As part of the college's second graduating class in 1962, he enjoyed being a member of the men's basketball team and chorus. During his freshman year, he met his future wife Betty Ann (Cross), a member of the pioneer class, and they married shortly after graduation.

Although the couple could have easily disconnected from their alma mater after graduation, they became supportive alumni, assisting the Associates by participating in several

Gift-a-Rama and Detroit Lions football game souvenir sales, Fall Festival, and phone-a-thons. Betty also provided administrative support for the original Board of Trustees and later served as administrative assistant for several deans and two of the college's presidents.

During these years, Loshner had a successful 41-year career at Ford Motor Company. While balancing work and family life, he still found time to do personal work, make hospital visits and serve as a deacon.

Unfortunately after 42 years of marriage, and as the couple approached retirement, they received the devastating news that Betty was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. Loshner says the subsequent 10 months were very difficult, yet

spiritually rewarding as he saw friends, family, church members and neighbors, many of them with ties to the college, shower his family with love and support. As he had experienced long ago, the acts of kindness from the college community made a lasting impact on him and served as a reminder of how God uses others in His service.

Three months after Betty's passing, Ron retired from Ford and faced a new chapter in his life—one that was very different than he had ever envisioned. He soon realized he was being called to dedicate his time, energy and resources toward helping others, just as so many had helped him and his family during Betty's illness. He poured



A MODEL VOLUNTEER Ron Loshier assists with the renovation of the Gallaher Center in 2009.

himself into service opportunities, serving as a volunteer and board member of God's Helping Hands, Inc.; participating in numerous disaster relief trips to the Gulf Coast; and supporting several ministries in his church congregation.

At the same time, Ron donated a considerable amount of time and effort to Rochester College,

including leading the committee for the 1960s decade class reunion held in Nashville, Tenn. in 2010. His assistance in the Gallaher Center restoration project of 2009 was instrumental to the completion of the renovation. Loshier also visited alumni throughout the country during his travels, acting as an unofficial spokesman and spreading

the word of the college's recent developments. "Sharing time with others is the best gift one can give and receive," he said.

Even today, Loshier has hardly slowed his pace, and his volunteerism still gives him plenty to do. When asked how he does it, he comments on his great appreciation for the sacrifices the pioneering founders made

saying, "I give back not just as a thank you to them, but also to help lay the foundation for others. I cannot imagine what my life would have been like if I hadn't attended MCC. My prayer is that Rochester College will continue to be a positive developmental force for Christian leaders."

Popes Recognized For Commitment to College

Rochester College awarded the J. Robert and Mary Utley Philanthropy Award to Art and Marge Pope at the annual President's Circle of Honor Luncheon on Oct. 22. Established in 2007, the award recognizes those who have modeled sacrificial commitment to the college.

"I feel the growth of Rochester College is so important for the overall development of our young people," said Art. "It has been exciting to see programs like the new nursing degree become reality for future generations of students."

Art, a retired engineer from Ford Motor Company, joined the Rochester College Board of Trustees in 1990. Prior to that time, he served as a local representative for the Herald of Truth ministries. He has served on the nominating committee of the board for several years, assisting

with the selection of new members.

"I was invited by Royce Dickinson to serve on the board," Art recalled. "I joined just before Ken Johnson began his tenure as president. It was particularly fulfilling to contribute ideas during that period of growth and development."

Marge began her relationship with the college in 1959 at the first organizational meeting of the Associates. For many years, she worked with the Parkside chapter in Dearborn Heights, Mich.

"There were so many women at the first meeting that some of us had to sit on the floor," said Marge. "I have been an Associate ever since and love it! I have been blessed by so many wonderful friendships for all these years."

The Popes join a distinguished list of award recipients, including Bob and Mary Utley (2007), Harold and Helen Slater (2008), Ann Luchsinger (2009), and Howard and Joan Hagerman (2010). All have been strong advocates of Rochester College and have played critical roles in its growth.

Larry Stewart ('70)

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DEVELOPMENT DEFINED

Rellinger Explains Mission For All Those Connected To Rochester College

BY *Emilie Vinson*

Tom Rellinger is Rochester College's new director of development. After graduating from Rochester College in 1980, Tom spent 15 years in the computer industry—most of it with IBM—and then 15 years in pastoral ministry. He is now starting a new chapter in his life at his alma mater.

He freely admits that his job and the term "development" often make little sense to those who hear it. To break it down, he explains his role in simple terms. "What we do is raise money," he says. "We are developing a donor base, developing friends of the institution, to hopefully get them to participate in the mission here from a financial standpoint."

Tom's role is to figure out how to best foster and develop relationships with partners of Rochester College. A regular day of work sees him keeping his finger on the pulse of campus life at RC.

"You're always trying to match what's happening here with someone out there," Tom says. "Part of everyday focus has to be what's happening on campus, making sure you understand needs."

Tom communicates the important work happening at the college to supporters so they can envision how they can help. Tom has trips planned to Indiana, Texas, Arizona and other places in order to meet with supporters of RC and tell them about the good work happening here.

"I believe in the mission of this school—

to help young people in their chosen fields or professions to be salt and light," Tom says. "I'm excited to ask people to help us do that for young people. I think it's a godly mission."

Tom works closely with three other individuals who together communicate the college's mission to friends of the college. Dennis Veara serves as director of estate planning,

see something different. Visitors come to our campus and experience an academic institution in a Christian environment. We look different because we are different. There's something very special about this place."

Tom's current goals are both internal and external. Internally, the administration is working to lay out a new strategic plan for the next several years, so the development team can create a strategy to mirror that plan.

Leaders at RC are also endeavoring to determine the flagship academic programs so supporters can understand how to best build into these initiatives. "The next three to five years will see the greatest growth in Rochester history," Tom says. "We will need friends of the college to help us to successfully implement our strategy."

Externally, Tom is working to develop new supporters of RC, particularly in the local Rochester area. "We have a good affinity with the greater Rochester area. We're working to strengthen our ties with this community," he says. Recently, an IBM friend of Tom's told him, "Rochester College is a precious gem within our community. As it continues to grow, more people see its positive impact."

Ultimately, Tom sees his work as connecting people to the mission of the college. "We change people's lives. It's not just about receiving an education. It's much bigger than that. We're working to help people understand the larger picture, and how they as individuals fit within that landscape. I'm proud to be a spokesman for Rochester College, and I'm finding a groundswell of support as others come and join the mission, too."

Larry Stewart oversees alumni relations, and Cathy Ries serves as development coordinator. However, Tom is adamant that although they might not realize it, every person at Rochester College works in development as they live out the college's mission on a daily basis.

"We have to be able to demonstrate we're fulfilling the mission in everything we do," he says. "People walk into our classes and

Whether they realize it or not, every person at Rochester College works in development as they live out the college's mission on a daily basis.

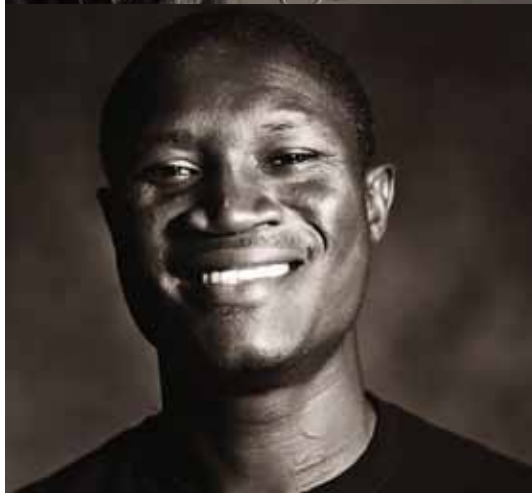


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"After just a few short weeks on campus, I'm constantly finding myself growing spiritually and emotionally. My life is slowly starting to steer toward a new path with new opportunities and goals."

Ariana Davison | Freshman Biblical Studies Major | *Pictured at left*



GIVE
[more than]
Change



A LOOK AT ALL THAT KEEPS OUR CALENDAR FULL

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

1

Rochester College revamped its freshman orientation program for the 2011-12 school year. Shifting from the JumpStart format experienced by incoming classes in past years, Student Development reworked the event to be composed of one day of mandatory orientation (hosted on three separate occasions throughout the summer months), along with a full schedule of social activities offered during "welcome week" (the first week of school).

ATTORNEY GENERAL SCHUETTE VISITS RC

2

Dr. John Todd, professor of political science, hosted Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette in his National Government class on Wednesday, Sept. 21. Attorney General Schuette spoke about the U.S. Constitution in celebration of Constitution Day, which was Sept. 17.

SHACK-A-THON

3

Not many people choose to be homeless, but during the chilly autumn weekend of Sept. 30- Oct. 2, Rochester College students and staff chose to do just that. The annual Shack-a-thon, sponsored by RC Campus Ministry, encourages students to raise awareness on the issue of homelessness. Students constructed makeshift homes on the east lawn of campus and spent the weekend living in them, as well as participating in various service projects throughout the community. The group also raised money for the local non-profit organization God's Helping Hands, Inc.

TOTEM POLE RETURNS TO CAMPUS

4

The iconic emblem that stood tall on Lake Norcentra for nearly 40 years made its long-awaited return to campus on Oct. 4. Made possible by a group of generous donors, the artifact has undergone three years of restoration. The once-aged surface still maintains the authentic texture of the piece, but has been repaired and given a fresh coat of colorful paint.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS SOCCER GAME

5

The Rochester College women's soccer team battled Concordia University on Oct. 12 during the "For a Cure" breast cancer fundraiser game coordinated by the team. Outfitted in pink gear, the game brought the community together for a cause and raised funds for the Detroit-based Karmanos Cancer Institute through generous donations, ticket sales, and a silent auction and raffle. Karen Newman, "the voice" of the National Hockey League's Detroit Red Wings, kicked off the event with a powerful performance of the National Anthem, and those affected by breast cancer were honored during the game's half-time. The Warriors ended the game with a tied score of 0-0.

6

MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONCERT FEATURING JOHN WHITWELL AS GUEST CONDUCTOR

On Oct. 18, highly sought after conductor and RC alumnus John Whitwell led the Rochester College A Cappella Chorus and Rochester College Concert Band in a lively concert at the Rochester Church of Christ. Spanning many years and nationalities, the diverse program included pieces representative of early baroque Europe and 20th century African-American spirituals. Whitwell is the director of bands emeritus at Michigan State University. Prior to his appointment at MSU, he held positions at Stephen F. Austin State University and Abilene Christian University. He also taught in the public schools of Michigan as band director. He maintains an active schedule and is in great demand as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and abroad.

CHELSEA'S WALK

7

On Oct. 26, students and staff from Rochester College gathered to participate in the second annual Take Two Awareness Day. The event, initiated by senior Miriah Jones, promotes the importance of taking at least one other person with you wherever you go. Participants shared in a devotional and walked the Paint Creek Trail behind the college in honor of Chelsea King. King, a high school friend of Jones', was tragically killed after being abducted during a routine solo afternoon run in 2009.

THEATRE PERFORMANCES

8

The Rochester College Theatre department will present "Jesus Christ Superstar," a rock-opera by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber Nov. 3-5 and Nov. 11-13.

Performed in rotating repertory Feb. 29-March 4 will be Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll House" and George Bernard Shaw's "Candida." For more information on these and other upcoming performances and to purchase tickets, call 248.218.2149 or email theatre@rc.edu.

9

HOMECOMING 2011: THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Homecoming 2011 "There's No Place Like Home," will take place Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011. Students, staff, alumni and friends of the college are invited to gather for a tailgate lunch in Riverside Park on the campus of Rochester College at 12 p.m. before heading out for the varsity men's basketball game. The team will go head to head with Fleming College at 2 p.m. in the main gym of Rochester High School.

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ALUMNI NEWS

To submit alumni news, see rc.edu/alumni or send information to Larry Stewart at 800 West Avon Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

1961

Larry & Mary Lou (Smart) Daughety recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married at the Rochester Church of Christ on Sept. 16, 1961, with Lucien Palmer officiating. The couple lives in Searcy, Ark., and has five children, 18 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They can be contacted at daughetylarry@yahoo.com.

1984

Robin (Swenor) Shattuck recently published her first book, "Poems and Prayers." The book, published by Westbow Press, is a daily devotional guide. Robin is living in Kingsley, Mich. She can be reached at rbnshattuck@yahoo.com.

1994

Aaron Burtch presented a paper on Christian rhetoric in the movie "Field of Dreams" at the National Baseball Hall of Fame's annual symposium on baseball and culture on June 2, 2011. Aaron and his wife, *Sara Burtch* ('01), live in Gallatin, Tenn. Aaron can be contacted at aaron.burtch@lipscomb.edu.

2001

Florian Thiel and his wife Samantha welcomed Reba Lilly on July 20, 2011. The family lives in Kassel, Germany. Florian can be reached at florian.thiel@kmweg.de.

2004

Matt and *Becky (McColm) Hurt* welcomed Brendan Michael on June 21, 2011. The family lives in Richmond, VA. Becky can be reached at beckyhurt@gmail.com.

2008

Jared Malone married Elizabeth Newsome on May 15, 2011. The couple lives in Toledo, Ohio. Jared can be reached at malonejared@gmail.com.

Patrick Nulty and Dawn Morningstar ('10) tied the knot on Oct. 15, 2011, at the Rochester Church of Christ. The couple lives in Royal Oak, Mich. Dawn can be reached at dmorningstar22@gmail.com.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

April 30, 2011—
September 30, 2011

Cyrus & Betsy Addams

James & Deborah Addams
Frank Baker
Phyllis Baker
Kris Baker
Phyllis Baker
Larry Barton
Pam Barton
Anthony "Tony" Bradley
Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Ralph & Lorraine Church

David & Janice Church
M. Kate Cottrell
Jim & Janet Atnip
Jerry & Debra Bishop
Ethan James Gurganus
Cathy Ries
Fannie Johnson
Johnson Family & Friends
Hugh Mingle
Ida Palmer
Virginia Phillips
Clara Hancock
K.C. Richards
Mike & Diana Folkerts

William & Betty Hooper
Roy & Bernice Rector
Bill Shinsky
Joanne Shinsky
Clara B. Wilson
Phillis Wilson
L. B. & Laura Work
Ed & Joan Work

HONOR GIFTS

April 30, 2011—
September 30, 2011

Mary Bruce
Leecia Penrod

Caroline Cross

Art & Marge Pope
Todd & Connie Graham
Jonathan Graham
Nathan & Tina Gurganus
Cathy Ries
Duane & Pat Harrison
K.C. Comolli
Garth Pleasant
Anna Carter
J. Paul & Dawn King
Rubel Shelly
Jim & Jill Talmadge
Joan Work
Ed Work

SAVE
the
DATE

1970s
REUNION

JULY 20-22, 2012
Rochester College Campus

For more info, contact
Barb (Cossa) Harrell at
Babs8455@aol.com

rochester in RETROSPECT



1961

THEN & NOW

Fifty years ago, the college opened the new academic year with 170 enthusiastic students pursuing the associate degree. Only nine men played on the college's one intercollegiate team, but over a quarter of the student body sang in the A Cappella Chorus. Male students moved into a newly constructed residence hall with supervisors Bill and Joanne Shinsky. Known for many years as "Dorm Two," the new residence hall was funded by a gift from the Grace Barbier estate.

Today, more than 1,000 students are enrolled at Rochester College, pursuing both the bachelor's and master's degree. While the chorus remains a size that will fit into a tour bus, 185 students participate on one of nine intercollegiate teams. Barbier Hall remains a popular option for male students. Two estate gifts totaling over \$206,000 from individuals with a vision for the future recently blessed the college during difficult economic times.

With continued blessings and growth, imagine the Rochester College of 2061!



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