

Dear Friends of Montcalm Community College,

It certainly has been an interesting year for the college. For the first time in its almost 60 years of existence, we have found ourselves with an Interim President. Fortunately, due to professional development and formal educational training, we are confident that the planning and preparations that have occurred over the last several years have paid off and the college's leadership continues to move the vision, mission and goals of the institution forward as we continue to improve student success.

We hope that you have been able to follow along throughout the last year as our major gifts campaign was able to highlight student success stories which truly embody the campaign "*Transforming Lives, Empowering People.*" This not only occurs on an emotional level but on an economic level as well. A recent economic impact study revealed that the net impact of MCC's former students who are currently employed in our regional workforce amounted to \$40.6 million in added income. We are pleased that our efforts contribute to the increased economics of our region.

It is also important to note that there has never been a better time to attend college than right now. With the Michigan Reconnect program and the Michigan Achievement Scholarship, not to mention the more than \$400,000 in scholarships that the MCC Foundation has available, going to college now is more affordable than ever.

In addition to regular programming, the college offers high school students dual-enrolled classes as well as early college opportunities. Both programs are featured in this magazine.

Athletics are also making a comeback at MCC after more than 40 years. In addition to offering students the opportunity to earn a degree, they can improve their athletic skills at the college level, learn about and participate in community service, and teamwork. Athletics is more than just playing a sport; it offers the opportunity for students to develop leadership skills and qualities that will last them a lifetime.

We are pleased to announce that MCC has been awarded a \$2 million ADN to BSN grant to support our Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) students, and we have signed an agreement that will allow them to seamlessly complete their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) with Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU). SVSU offers low-cost tuition and uses the same learning management system as MCC as well as the same brand of manikins for simulation purposes.

In the near future, you will see that MCC will be seeking renewal of a long-standing millage. This is just a renewal and does not increase the tax rate already being paid by our taxpayers. The levy was originally approved by voters in 1996 and has since been renewed twice. We hope you see the value the college offers to the community by educating our citizens who will help our region to prosper



and grow. In addition to traditional education courses, the college offers many recreational opportunities as well as life-skill enhancing courses on a noncredit basis. In everything the college does, good stewardship of funding is critical to our mission.

Above all, please remember that Montcalm Community College is YOUR college. We are here to serve you, our community.

If you have not been to campus lately, or are considering becoming a student, we would enjoy having you visit so we can show you around. Please contact us by calling **989-328-2111** or by emailing **outreach@montcalm.edu**. ■

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Connie Stewart". The script is fluid and cursive.

Connie Stewart, MBA, SPHR

Interim President
Montcalm Community College