

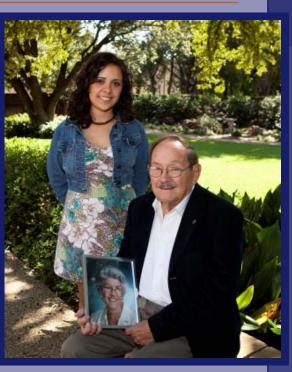
In this issue: Donor Spotlight • Tax and Financial Planning Institute Foundation Gala Announcement • Rapoport Scholars Update Honorariums and Memorial Gifts

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: BILL PATTERSON

Remember the MCC Foundation in your annual giving and estate planning.

In Honor of Nelda

Bill Patterson never imagined that his retirement years would be spent alone. But when illness took his wife Nelda much too soon, Patterson wanted to do something to permanently honor her memory. His solution was a named endowed scholarship with the MCC Foundation.



"Nelda was in the hospital or long-term care for the last few months of her life and she truly received wonderful care from the nurses. I couldn't think of a better way to make a lasting difference than to give money to help train more nurses like that," Patterson says.

In 2007, Bill endowed the Nelda Montrose Patterson Nursing Scholarship at MCC. Because the fund is endowed, the original gift will remain perpetually in the care of the MCC Foundation, with investment proceeds awarded to pay tuition and fees for a student each year.

On a crisp fall day this October, Bill met one of the students who benefits from his generosity. Samantha Aguirre, a 2009 Lorena High School graduate, has known since childhood that she wanted to be a nurse. A two-week stint in the hospital with pneumonia when she was a child convinced her that she would like to care for others as



The MCC Foundation • 1400 College Drive • Waco, TX 76708 Phone: 254.299.8604 • Fax: 254.299.8484 Harry I. Harelik, Executive Director • hharelik@mclennan.edu Office Location: 1728 Powell Drive (by The Highlands Gym)

they had cared for her. So, when she applied for an MCC Foundation scholarship, she checked "nursing" as a career field. The scholarship committee thought her background and goals were perfect matches for the intent of Bill Patterson's scholarship.

This semester, Aguirre is making good grades in her pre-nursing classes and is still undecided about whether to pursue geriatric, pediatric or trauma nursing as a specialty. As she and Patterson got to know each other over lunch, they talked about family, travel, and the nine Nicaraguan children that Patterson also helps financially through a Christian agency. But, the conversation eventually turned to getting

"When that time comes, all you can really hope for is that you have a kind, talented and compassionate nurse like Samantha to take care of you," Patterson says.



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5TH ANNUAL TAX AND FINANCIAL PLANNING INSTITUTE A SUCCESS!

In an effort to reach out to estate planning professionals in the area, each year the MCC Foundation hosts the Tax and Financial Planning Institute at MCC. The day-long seminar not only provides area attorneys, CPAs, trust officers, insurance professionals and financial planners with high-quality continuing education and the opportunity for local networking, but it also exposes them to the work and mission of the MCC Foundation.

This year's institute hosted seven highly regarded experts speaking on topics including social security, retirement and heath insurance, the economic stimulus package, property taxes and international reporting standards for accounting. "Great conference!" was the oftstated review from the more than 70 professionals who attended.



Harry Harelik with keynote speaker Murphey Smith, noted Texas A&M University business professor.

Leland Gersbach, left, with speaker Connie Rose and Kraig Fields.



Teri Meyers, left, and Rachel Hobbs.



MCC Foundation Scholarship Application Deadline Jan. 12

Students interested in being awarded an MCC Foundation scholarship for the 2010-2011 academic year must turn in their application by 6 p.m. on Jan. 12, 2010. The scholarships, which will be awarded in May 2010, will help cover tuition, fees, and books for the Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 semesters.

The application is available online at https:// mclennan.scholarships. ngwebsolutions.com and must be filed via the Internet. Hard copies of applications will not be accepted. Students who do not have access to a computer with Internet access may use the computers located in the lobby of MCC's Office of Financial Aid or in the MCC Library. Additionally, online letters of recommendation will be accepted until midnight on Jan. 19. Hard copies of transcripts must be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid by 6 p.m. on Jan. 19.

Students applying for scholarships are strongly encouraged to also complete the 2010-2011 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal

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"OH WHAT A NIGHT!" GALA PLANS

Now in its 9th year, the MCC Foundation's annual Hearts in the Arts Gala has become one of the area's premier social events, offering a delightful pairing of the esteemed talents of the MCC Visual and Performing Arts program with the educational mission of the MCC Foundation.

On Saturday, March 27, 2010, we are pleased to present a totally new type of gala production titled "Oh What a Night!" This spectacular showcase will feature visual, musical, vocal, and dance performances from our very talented students and faculty along with a cocktail buffet at the beautiful Waco home of Valerie and Dave Fallas. The



Raffle tickets for this gorgeous white gold and diamond necklace are \$30 each or two for \$50. Drawing will be held March 27, 2010 at the MCC Foundation Hearts in the Arts Gala.

evening concludes with a lavish dessert buffet with cast and crew at the theatre.

Also featured at the Gala this year is a jewelry raffle with chances to win a gorgeous white gold and diamond necklace from Kindler's Gem Jewelers, valued at \$2,800. All proceeds from the Gala and jewelry raffle benefit student scholarships at MCC. We are accepting sponsorships for this fantastic event through January 15, 2010. Call the MCC Foundation at 299-8604 for more information.

Jewelry raffle tickets are \$30 each or two for \$50. Those interested in purchasing tickets for themselves or as a special holiday or birthday present may contact the MCC Foundation at 299-8606 or hharelik@mclennan.edu, or send payment to the MCC Foundation, 1400 College Drive, Waco, TX 76708. Checks or credit cards are accepted; make checks payable to the MCC Foundation. Those purchasing raffle tickets will receive a discount to the March 27th Gala!

Scholarship application deadline continued

Student Aid), available at <u>www.fafsa.ed.gov</u> beginning Jan. 1, 2010.

In order to be considered for any MCC Foundation Scholarship awards, students must have a high school grade point average of a "B" or 80 on a 100-point scale, a GED score of at least 50 or a college GPA greater than 2.5. Generally, students must be enrolled full time in the semester for which they receive the award and maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA while attending MCC to be eligible to receive and retain the scholarship award.

For questions about the scholarship application process, contact Maria Macias at 299-8668 or <u>mmacias@mclennan.edu</u>. To learn more about the scholarships available, visit <u>www.mclennan.edu/</u> <u>departments/foundation/</u> <u>schol.html</u>.

Highlander Quarterly

Rapoport Scholars:

In December 2007, the MCC Foundation announced a dramatic new expansion of the First Generation College Student Initiative at MCC, made possible by a second major grant of \$258,000 from the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation.



Among other features, the new grant funded scholarships for 12 first-generation students to pursue junior- and senior-level courses toward bachelor's degrees at a University of Texas System school, particularly the UTA programs offered through the University Center at MCC. Two of the recipients of this scholarship, Nathan McAlister and Salvador Medina, recently gave us an update on where they are in their pursuit of their bachelor's degrees.

Nathan McAllister. a

China Spring High School graduate, was a member of the second cohort of the First Generation College Student Initiative. He received his Associate of Science degree from MCC in May 2009 and transferred to Arlington to begin his upper-level studies at UTA, where he is studying Industrial Engineering. His goal is to earn his bachelor's degree from UTA in 2012 and then continue his studies toward a master's degree.

Nathan says the best part of the First Generation program experience was that he got a chance to see how college classes would be and that he had an opportunity to meet a lot of great people who could help further his success. He also acknowledges the support of his family throughout his college experience: "Without them, I wouldn't be where I am

Salvador Medina, a graduate of University High School, was a member of the first cohort of the FGCSI. While at MCC, he studied accounting and graduated in May 2009 with Highest Honors, meaning that he earned a perfect 4.0 gpa. He is pursuing a business administration degree at UTA through the University

Two Years Later

Center and plans to graduate in 2012, then become a certified public accountant and pursue a master's degree in accounting or an MBA.

Since joining the FGCSI program, Salvador has married his high school sweetheart, Maria, who is also an MCC and UTA alumnus.



She is a first-grade bilingual teacher at Sul Ross Elementary in Waco. Salvador says the best part of the First Generation program was the support the students received from the MCC staff, particularly program coordinator Ameenah Shabazz and Foundation Executive Director Harry Harelik.

"Before starting college, they made sure we were able to do the job and prepare us for classes. I think we had an advantage over other students who were not part of the program," he says.

"The First Generation Program changed my life," Salvador says today. "Thanks to it, we were able to apply for the Rapoport Scholarship. I will always be in great debt to the people behind these amazing programs."

MCC's First Generation College Student Initiative (FGCSI) program was initially made possible by a \$100,000 grant from the Rapoport Foundation that was awarded in 2005 and successive grants of more than \$200,000 from Round Rock-based TG Benefits. The FGCSI program is designed to help students who are from families with no college experience successfully get to and through college. Ultimately, the objective is to raise the education level of the county, increasing the numbers of citizens who have higher education degrees and certificates. Since its inception, 57 first generation students have participated in the program at MCC and 20 more are expected in the fall class of 2010.

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The staff of the MCC Foundation feels supremely blessed to have your friendship and support, and we want to send special THANKS at this time of year to each of you. May you be blessed with health, happiness and well being in the coming year!

Very sincerely,

The MCC Foundation Staff

Harry Harelik, Rose DeLeon, Kim Patterson, Nancy Neill & Cloddy Williams