



REACHING THE G.O.A.L.

The Newsletter for Adult Students at Montgomery College, Germantown Campus

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Join us this month for events that will raise awareness and spark dialogue about the issues surrounding domestic violence in the United States.



Telling Amy's Story

On October 14, the Office of Student Life, the G.O.A.L. program and the Women's Studies Program will be hosting a documentary viewing of the film *Telling Amy's Story* in SA 104 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. *Telling Amy's Story* is a documentary and public service media project produced by Penn State Public Broadcasting which tells the story of Amy Homan McGee, a mother of two who was shot and killed by her husband in State College, Pennsylvania in 2001. Sponsored by the Verizon Foundation (Mrs. McGee was an employee of Verizon Wireless), the film includes interviews with family, friends, law enforcement and court officials who were involved to try to piece together what happened in the final months of Amy's life. Following the film, a discussion will be led by faculty from the Women's Studies program.



Domestic Violence Roundtable Discussion

On October 20th, Parisa Tabrizi, a case coordinator from the Montgomery County Family Justice Center, will join us for a roundtable discussion on domestic violence in Montgomery County, the resources available to battered persons, what others can do to help and so on. We invite you to join us and share your perspective and experiences. The roundtable will be held in HT 216 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

In This Issue:

- National Domestic Violence Month Events
- Adult Student First-Year Experience Focus Group – Rockville Campus
- Student Spotlight: Claudia Gray-Onque
- Montgomery College Scholarship Conference

Upcoming Events at MC-G

- **October 6** – Financial Literacy Seminar. HT 216, 6 – 7:30PM.
- **October 14** – Documentary Viewing: *Telling Amy's Story*. HT 216, 7 – 9:00PM
- **October 18** – 23 – Midterm Week
- **October 20** – Domestic Violence Awareness Roundtable Discussion. HT 216, 6:30 – 8:30PM
- **October 27** – Adult Student Focus Group, RV Campus. TC 232, 6 – 7:00PM.
- **October 30** – Scholarship Conference. Shady Grove, 9AM – 12PM.

The Germantown Options for Adult Learners (G.O.A.L.) Program invites you to join us for



An Introduction to Financial Planning and investing

with Mr. Barry Korb, CFP
Lighthouse Financial Planning, LLC

Wednesday, October 6th
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

HT 216, Germantown Campus

For more information or to RSVP, email goal@montgomerycollege.edu

Topics Include:

- Sound Financial Management Practices
- Risk Management • Insurance
- Retirement • Credit v. Debit • Making Sound Investments •

ADULT STUDENT SPOTLIGHT ON...

MS. CLAUDIA GRAY-ONQUE

General Studies Major



Hello, Claudia! Tell us a little about yourself...

My name is Claudia Onque, and I'm a 47 years young. I truly enjoy life. I'm currently employed full time as a Sponsored Project Manager at the largest university in Washington, DC. I'm married to my friend; he is a wonderful husband, and we have seven adult children, one grandson and one on the way. I enjoy spending time with my family, volunteering and helping others, attending church, crocheting and hand dancing with my husband.

Why did you decide to go back to school?

The timing was right for me to continue my educational goal of obtaining a degree. Our youngest daughter is now a senior in college.

So, my husband and I are empty nesters and enjoying life. I had attended MC in the 1990s, but I decided to temporarily stop taking classes, so that I could enjoy more precious quality time raising our young children and treasuring the memories with them while they were growing up. I'm blessed that I met the child rearing goal! My husband and our children have encouraged me to return to school to pursue my education and have committed to support me as well. Our children have attended college, graduated, and have professional careers, and have offered to provide guidance and tutoring too. However, I'm undecided on my major because since I took I break from school my career goals for the future have changed. I enjoy working with people, so, I may eventually pursue a degree in organizational management or psychology.

What has been the biggest challenge for you as an adult student?

My biggest challenge as an adult student at MC is managing my time. I have a very busy schedule everyday that includes commuting three hours per day to work, and the management of a high volume work portfolio. I'm also involved in various groups and activities at church. I now realize that I cannot participate in every activity and function, so I have to say no more often when asked to participate in events. I have to schedule each small block of time to study. I'm seriously committed to diligently finding ways to creatively stay focused so that I can successfully memorize and study for my lessons and exams. I have come to realize that my study techniques and abilities are much different now, than they were when I was in my 20s and 30s.

What advice do you have for other adult learners like yourself?

Take the time to manage and prioritize your personal life and educational goals. Do not over burden, over stress yourself, or try to accomplish unrealistic goals. Talk with your professors and stay in touch with them on a regular basis. Reach out and get the help that you need. Take advantage of the Adult Student Learners Support at MC. Amanda McIntosh (G.O.A.L. Specialist) is a true inspiration and encouragement to me as well as many other adult students. She is truly my advocate, advisor, and mentor. She can relate to me and my needs and provides the guidance, advice, and support that I need. She is always a phone call or email away, and her office door is always open. She welcomes you with her sincere and kind smile. I met with Amanda before I returned to MC this Fall. She developed my educational career plan for two majors because I'm undecided on my major. She encouraged me to go ahead and start this Fall. So, I did it! I highly commend Amanda for the excellent support that she provides to me and other Adult Students at MC. She is very understanding, professional, and truly supportive of the Adult Students at MC. Please contact Amanda and take advantage of the Adult Student Support Services. Also, attend the Adult Student Learner Focus Group Meetings. The meeting provides you the opportunity to meet other adult students, and allow you to express your concerns and comments regarding your adult student learning experience at MC.

For more information about the Germantown Options for Adult Learners (G.O.A.L.) Program, please contact Amanda McIntosh at 240-567-6976 or goal@montgomerycollege.edu

Join us at the Universities at Shady Grove on
Saturday, October 30th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for the

Montgomery College 5th Annual Scholarship Conference

Workshops

- Financing a Private Education
- Montgomery Scholars Honors Program
- Writing a Winning Scholarship Essay
- Student Panel - Transfer Scholarship Winners
- Scholarship Scams: Protecting Yourself While Getting the Most \$\$
- Scholarships and Other Educational Funding for Adult Students
- Transferring to Four-Year Schools - The Process
- Winning Resumes - Get Prepared to Win Scholarships for College
- Exploring Financial Aid Opportunities
- The College Search and Financing Your Education
- The Culture of Transfer Scholarships: How to use your Community College credits to help Pay for your Bachelor's Degree

Keynote Speaker: Marianne Ragins

In Marianne Ragins senior year of high school, she won over \$400,000 in scholarships for college. As perhaps the first student ever to amass nearly half a million dollars in scholarship money, she has been featured in many publications including *USA Today*, and *People*. She has also made hundreds of radio and television appearances. Marianne Ragins is also the author of the highly successful *Winning Scholarships for College: An Insider's Guide* and *College Survival & Success Skills 101*. She is an experienced motivational speaker and lecturer who has traveled nationally and internationally presenting The Scholarship Workshop and giving other motivational seminars and speeches.



Online pre-registration required. www.montgomerycollege.edu (Keyword: Scholarship Conference)

9630 Gudelsky Drive * Building II * Rockville, MD 20850

Please join us for our second Adult Student First-Year Success Focus Group



Wednesday,
October 27th
6:00 – 7:30 PM
Rockville Campus
TC 232

The purpose of this focus group is to examine the challenges and needs of adult students in their first year, to perform a critical review of the factors that contribute to adult student success, and to utilize that information to develop an effective first-year experience program for adult learners in the community college.

We appreciate your RSVP:

goal@montgomerycollege.edu or 240-567-6976

A Little Halloween Trivia...

1. The first Jack-o-Lanterns were made out of what?
A: Watermelons B: Coconuts
C: Turnips D: Pumpkins
2. What was the most popular Halloween candy in 2004?
A: Snickers B: Candy Corn
C: M&Ms D: Tootsie Rolls
3. Halloween is the _____ most commercially successful holiday.
A: Fourth B: Seventh
C: Second D: Ninth
4. According to superstition, if you see this on Halloween, a dead relative is watching over you.
A: Spider B: North Star
C: Crow D: Rainbow

1. C 2. B 3. C 4. A