



Moraine Valley Matters

Alumni and Friends Newsletter

Moraine Valley Community College Alumni Newsletter - July/August 2023



Nomination deadline for Alumni Hall of Fame is Aug. 31

The Moraine Valley Community College Alumni Office now is accepting nominations for its 2024 Alumni Hall of Fame. Nominees must have attended Moraine Valley 10 or more years ago and received a degree or certificate or have completed at least 30 hours of credits at the college.

The Hall of Fame recognizes alumni who have made an impact in their professional and personal lives. Winners will be chosen by a committee of alumni and college faculty and staff based on their career success, commitment to education, leadership and volunteerism. They will be invited to the Alumni Hall of Fame Reception in March 2024.

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Scholarship donors meet recipients at Scoops and Scholarships

Moraine Valley Foundation scholarship recipients had a very special day on Monday, July 10, when they were introduced to the people who made their education dreams a reality. Scoops and Scholarships, an annual event sponsored by the Foundation, provides a casual venue for donors and scholarship recipients to connect. The event, which features ice cream sundaes with all of the toppings, offers a comfortable setting for students and donors to meet, share interests and appreciation. Students bring parents and family members who also have a chance to say thank you to donors for helping their loved one.



This year more than 30 scholarship recipients paired with their donors in the picnic area behind Building M on the Moraine Valley campus. College Trustees, Executive Leadership Team members and Foundation Board members were also there to greet students and donors. The weather cooperated with cool breezes and sunny skies as new friendships were made and mentorships initiated.

In the photo above, scholarship donor and Moraine Valley faculty member, Professor Mike Wade, meets with the Donna E. Wade RN Scholarship recipient, Donna Davidson and her family..

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Summer Movie in the Moonlight film

Moraine Valley Community College is hosting its last Movie in the Moonlight series for this summer on Aug. 12, at 7:30 p.m. featuring "The Little Mermaid" (new, live-action version). The college will show the family-friendly movie on a 16-foot inflatable screen at the Gateway, between Buildings F and M, on campus, 9000 W. College Parkway, Palos Hills. Admission is free.

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Emmy Award winning filmmaker Jason Knade

In 2004, when Jason Knade was making plans to attend college, Moraine Valley was not on his list of choices. However, when his father became seriously ill, the decision was easy for Jason to stay home to be with his dad in his final months. His father passed before Knade started college, but he decided to stick with his plans to attend Moraine Valley to stay close to his mother and brother as the family dealt with their loss.

"I actually have a vivid memory of my dad sitting up in the hospital bed that had become a permanent fixture in our living room, intently reading through the materials for Moraine Valley's new Honors Program," recalls Knade. "He wanted to know everything about it. Despite all he was going through, he was still my biggest fan and could still find genuine joy and a deep sense of pride in seeing I was going to make the most out of an opportunity, an invaluable trait among many he modeled and championed over the years."

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Par-take in golf outing to help students

There are still available spots for the Moraine Valley Foundation's 42nd annual Golf Outing to be held at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club on Wednesday, Sept. 20, presented by Live Right Senior Care. [Register](#) now for a great day of golfing, course games and networking.

A shotgun start will be at a new time of 9 a.m. Finish the day off with an exceptional dinner and awards ceremony in the pavilion tent. All proceeds from the

Golf Outing fund scholarships for our un-fore-gettable Moraine Valley students.

There are still multiple [sponsorship opportunities](#) available for the event.

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Scholarship Recognition Open House honors scholarship recipients

On July 19 and 25, the Moraine Valley Foundation held open houses to recognize more than 200 scholarship recipients for the fall 2023 and spring 2024 semesters. Students and their families were invited to the event, held on campus, in the Moraine Rooms in Building M. Students were presented their

official scholarship certificates by Moraine Valley Alumni Hall of Fame recipient, Elaine Echols and Moraine Valley Board of Trustees member, Tracy Sullivan.

As students entered the facility, they walked a "red carpet" that welcomed them into the event. They were treated like celebrities when the college's own paparazzi, photographers Glenn Carpenter, Molly Burkiewicz and Matt Grotto, took their photos and videos. Students also received gifts and celebrated their award with their family with sweets and treats.

Scholarships for the new academic year are still being awarded by the Foundation. The deadline to [apply](#) for this academic year is fast approaching as the last day students may apply is Monday, Aug. 14.

Congratulations to all 200 plus current scholarship recipients, and thank you to their scholarship donors for their generosity and support of Moraine Valley students.

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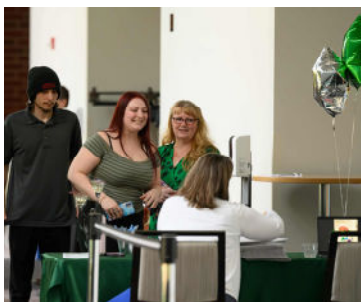


Photo above: Moraine Board of Trustee member, Tracy Sullivan, awards Jenna Lempa. Top row of photos, left to right: Student Jessica Warpehowski and her family; Lydia Delgado signs a donor thank you poster and Alumni Hall of

Second row photos, left to right: Recipient Victoria Ichniowski signs in with her family; Scholarship recipient Ziamiah Akil strikes a pose on the red carpet; and sisters Vanessa and Alyssa

*Fame inductee, Elaine Echols awards
Bryan Mata.*

*Garcia pose with their scholarship
certificates.*



Moraine Valley and Governors State partner on TransferBOOST initiative

Moraine Valley Community College and Governors State University (GSU) recently joined the statewide TransferBOOST (Bachelor's Opportunity Options that are Straightforward and Transparent) initiative

by partnering to offer a new transfer pathway. This collaboration grants Moraine Valley students guaranteed admission into several GSU degree programs by completing a qualifying Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree.

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Register now for the 10th Annual Halloween 5K Run/Walk

The Moraine Valley Health, Fitness and Recreation Center will host its 10th annual [Halloween 5k Run/Walk](#) on Saturday, Oct. 28, in conjunction with the Moraine Valley Foundation. Open to the Moraine Valley campus and community, this race donates all proceeds to the Moraine Valley Foundation, which provides scholarships to students including FitRec

employees. Multiple [sponsorship opportunities](#) are available now for this "spooktacular" event.

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Last day to buy a Shakespeare Garden brick in 2023

The last day to place an order for a personalized, engraved brick in the college's Shakespeare Garden for this year is Aug. 31, 2023. Bricks line the sidewalk winding through the garden that is filled

with plants and flora from William Shakespeare's plays and writings. Engravings on the bricks offer messages of memorial, anniversaries, accomplishments and honors. Some bricks simply state a donor's favorite saying or quotation. Each brick features three lines with 14 spaces per line to display a message. Bricks will be installed this fall.

The cost of one engraved brick is a \$150 donation to the college's Foundation that goes toward scholarships and programs that support the college and students. Information on the Shakespeare Garden and how to order a brick is available on the [Foundation's web page](#).

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Athletic Director retires after 40+ years

After more than 40 years as a basketball coach and athletics director (AD) at Moraine Valley Community College, Bill Finn retired on June 30.

Finn is well-known within the college district. Some people call him Coach Finn, some played sports at Moraine Valley, others know him from Richards High School, but they all equate him with success.

He was a star basketball player in high school and at Loras College and knew plenty of guys over the years who went on to play or coach professionally. After graduating college, he took a job as a substitute teacher at Evergreen Park Community High School. Moraine Valley's AD at the time – Doug Gehrke – heard about this talented athlete and had just lost a men's basketball head coach. Gehrke asked Finn if he'd take the job.

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Read the Moraine Valley student newspaper - The Glacier

To catch up on the latest news and events for our current Moraine Valley students, be sure to read the Glacier. This is the student publication that recently won several national awards for being an outstanding student publication.

[READ THE GLACIER](#)



REMEMBER WHEN? This photo, taken in 1979, is from a registration open house where students were meeting to discuss possible career and college paths. Today the college is holding an open house called [Super Saturday](#) on Aug. 12, from 9 a.m. to 2 pm in Building S on the main campus, 9000 W. College Parkway in Palos Hills. Fall classes start Monday, Aug. 21 and later.



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Moraine Valley Foundation
9000 W. College Parkway, Palos Hills, IL 60465