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Linking Monterey Peninsula College and the MPC Foundation with t



Dr. Peggy Downes Baskin and Jack Baskin

Jack and Peggy Baskin Epitome of Philanthropy

The foundation is new, but the name and inspiration belong to one of MPC's longest friends and champions. Dr. Peggy Baskin and husband Jack recently formed the Peggy and Jack Baskin Foundation. One of its first projects is to create a two-year, \$20,000 scholarship for underprivileged women at MPC to help them complete their four-year degree.

"Jack and I started the foundation to help disadvantaged women and girls who need to further their education," says Peggy. "We wanted to reach out to try to help women and girls who are ambitious, focused, and committed to a goal."

Peggy says the Foundation will initially fund two scholarships, one each for MPC and Cabrillo College in Aptos, but that they hope to increase the number of beneficiaries in the future. Recipients will receive \$10,000 a year for two years to attend the University of California campus of their choice.

Jack is a retired engineer and Peggy started her illustrious teaching career - which includes 18 years at Santa Clara University teaching political science, and shorter stints at MPC, Cabrillo, and UC-Santa Cruz - during the Kennedy Administration, when she was offered an opportunity to teach at MPC.

"I was terrified," she says. "I had to excuse myself for a moment because I

had to... well, because I got sick." She says one male student, not realizing she was the new instructor, commented disapprovingly to her before class that the teacher was a woman and that women had no business in politics. "We've come a long way," says Peggy.

That and similar experiences have resulted in two books, which she co-authored on women in the workforce, and a lifelong commitment to helping women succeed. Another project of the new foundation provides funds for 30 middle school girls interested in science, math and engineering to attend a 10-day "camp" at UCSC each summer.

Peggy and Jack Baskin are among Monterey Bay's leading philanthropists, their generosity largely targeting education. Peggy Baskin is also the creator of the Peggy Downes Baskin Series on Ethics, which has brought prominent speakers to the Peninsula, such as Watergate journalist and author Carl Bernstein and Web entrepreneur and author Arianna Huffington.

Each recipient of the new scholarship program for MPC women will be chosen by the Baskin Foundation from a list of three students recommended by the colleges based on achievement, motivation, and a commitment to completing a bachelor of arts or science degree.

Sherman Smith to be Honored May 8 With MPC President

Sherman Smith, who served 32 years on the Monterey Peninsula College Governing Board, will receive the President's Award at the 3rd Annual MPC President's Address to the Community luncheon on May 8th at the Hyatt Regency Monterey.

The selection of the recipient is based on the individual's support of MPC and long serving civic and community involvement. The selection committee includes representation from the community, past recipients of the award, the MPC Foundation and college leaders. The first two recipients of the award were Bert Cutino and Peggy Bates, respectively.

Smith served on the MPC Governing Board from 1965 until he retired in 1997, lending leadership, guidance, perspective and intellect to the Superintendent/President, faculty, staff and students. At the time of his retirement, he was the longest serving community college board member in the State. The title of Board Member Emeritus was conferred on him at his last offi-



Sherman Smith

cial board meeting. The title of "board member emeritus" was conferred at the 3rd Annual MPC President's Address to the Community luncheon on May 8th at the Hyatt Regency Monterey. Then-Board Member Sherman Smith was praised as a "trustee" and for "his leadership and reasonableness in the face of the different ups and downs of college has had."

Campus Improvement Project Blaze Pathways to Success

Have you visited campus lately, easily found a parking space, enjoyed a game at the Community Stadium, walked to the Library and Technology Center on paths next to water-wise landscaping?

Those are some of the improvements you can see, but there are many pipes, fiber optic cables and conservation measures you can't see underneath.

With the passage of Measure I in 2002, MPC has undertaken a series of major construction and renovation projects on campus and properties at Fort Ord, and have several more projects in the pipeline with plans to break ground in the near future.

You might call all of these improvements part of MPC's aim to provide its students, faculty, staff and community partners pathways to success.



View from the library showing new walkways and landscaping on the MPC campus

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