



May 28, 2021
Volume 2021/607

CCM EVENTS

Memorial Day
Monday, May 31
College Closed

STUDENT SERVICES

The Library
[In-Person and Remote Service](#)

Online Tutoring Center
More information, click [here](#)



Graduates Celebrate Their Accomplishments



More than 250 students from the Class of 2021 turned out with their family and friends last Friday for a special graduation walk to mark their accomplishments. Graced with a warm spring day, the members of the Class of 2021 were able to take part in that celebration and also a virtual ceremony at www.ccm.edu/graduation to mark their outstanding success in the face of a pandemic and the resulting challenges.

“We call you Titans and no class has earned the title more in the history of County College of Morris,” said President Tony Iacono, noting that one of the meanings of Titan is a person of great achievement. “And that is you. You have shown us

greatness and achievement. You had to learn how to persevere, demonstrate resiliency and determination. I know through this class, through these Titans, our communities, our nation and our world will be better for all people.”

As part of providing high-quality, nationally ranked academic programs, CCM instills in its students the importance of community engagement. Reflecting that commitment, this year’s keynote speaker was Richard T. Thigpen, Senior Vice President – Corporate Citizenship at PSEG and Chairman of the PSEG Foundation. He also was a former assistant to the president of the NAACP State Conference for Public Affairs and currently serves on the boards of the New Jersey Climate Change Alliance, the New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus Foundation and the New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund.



“All of you – each and every one of you – will contribute in ways large and small to shaping the future of your community, our state and our country,” said Thigpen. “Today is a day not only to look back at what you have accomplished. Today is also a day to look forward. Lead by example. Respect your fellow man and woman. Dream big dreams. You all have a role in shaping a future where the world is a better place.”

Speaking on behalf of the Class of 2021 was Jenna Curran, of Denville, who served as Student Government president. Curran was named a 2021 Phi Theta Kappa Coca-Cola Gold Scholar for her academic excellence. “As a class, we have been through the unimaginable but have persevered through it all,” noted Curran. “We should all be so beyond proud of ourselves. We pushed through the face of adversity.”

This year’s Peace Prize, which is awarded annually at commencement, went to Brenden Morton, of Washington, who created a musical composition "Liebe und Frieden" (Love and Peace). His faculty advisor was Professor Dee McAree. The college established this annual award following the September 11, 2001 attacks. The creator of the winning entry receives a \$1,000 award provided by the CCM Foundation. You can listen to his composition at <http://bit.ly/PeacePrize2021>.

To view photos from the graduation walk, visit the college’s [Flickr](#) account.



VP Vivyen Ray Serves as Memorial Day Keynote Speaker

The Morris County Board of County Commissioners this year held a virtual celebration on Thursday for its annual Morris County Memorial Day Observance. Serving as keynote speaker was CCM's VP of Human Resources and Labor Relations Vivyen Ray, who spent 22 years as a U.S. Army Reservist.

"I am honored to have been asked to say a few words today in commemoration of Memorial Day," said Ray. "It is during days like this I am always reminded of the NCOs and officers I met in my military career . . . Much of who I am as a professional and as a leader I owe to those men and women I met along the way in 22 years of service."

We're CCM Proud of VP Ray's service to her country, community and the college!



HR CORNER

RETIREMENT CONSULTATIONS WITH NEW JERSEY STATE APPROVED VENDORS

Save for retirement –

Receive free, no pressure retirement counseling sessions. Make your appointment today. You do not need to be a member to speak with the representatives.

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Access Marc's calendar to schedule an appointment: <https://app.zynbit.com/zyncal/schedule/marc-sheridan>

MassMutual (formerly Hartford) representative Kenneth Quarnaccio is available at 848-248-4313 or email kquarnaccio@gittermanwealth.com.

MetLife/Brighthouse representative David Sharpe is available at 973-575-3254 or email dsharpe@financialguide.com.

Prudential

Call 732-428-2314 or email alicia.smith@prudential.com to make an individual appointment to discuss ABP or DCRP investments.

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VALIC representative MaryAnn Bradford is available for individual appointments.

Call 908-470-4114 or email Maryann.bradford@valic.com
Schedule a virtual meeting or phone call: <https://my.valic.com/seminarregistration/availableseminars.aspx?regcode=5296NEW11AA>

Voya representative John Murray is available to review your ABP and voluntary retirement accounts, help with a retirement income plan and review your personal portfolio. Schedule an appointment at <https://ccofmorris.timetap.com/>

The Wearing of Masks and Practicing Social Distancing on Campus

Governor Murphy has announced that on May 28 fully vaccinated persons are not required to wear masks indoors and are not required to practice social distancing. The Executive Orders requiring the wearing of masks and maintaining social distancing in public places have not been entirely lifted. Until there is clear guidance, we will continue to require all employees and students to wear masks and to practice social distancing in the presence of one or more persons both indoors and outdoors.

The governor has also announced that he is lifting the requirement that employers must permit employees to work remotely. We expect at some point as more people get vaccinated that wearing masks and practicing social distancing will no longer be required. We encourage all of our employees who can to get vaccinated before the beginning of the school year. Please review the guidance from the CDC regarding keeping yourself and others safe while unvaccinated.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

Keep Your Financial Goals on Track

TIAA offers live and on-demand webinars on financial and social security topics for all employees. For details, visit <https://webinars.on24.com/glw/tiaa2021/>.



Help for Military Families

Having family and friends in the military can be a difficult lifestyle change. CCM's employee assistance provider, New Directions, has tips and ideas on how to get through the tough times. Many different things have to be taken into consideration when you have someone important to you on active duty. Some of the topics you can explore to gain more insight are:

- Children and Separation
- Coping with War
- Coping with the Loss of a Loved One
- Deployment and the Family
- Legal Assistance
- VA Loans
- Veteran Resources

If any of these topics interest you, New Directions can connect you to articles to provide you with helping information on each topic and many more. Visit <https://eap.ndbh.com> and enter company code **ccm** or call 800-624-5544.



NOTICES FOR CCMEMO

Email material to both Kathleen Brunet at kbrunet@ccm.edu and Theresa Gehring at tgehring@ccm.edu.

Submissions must be received by 3 p.m. Wednesday.

Looking for past issues of the CCMemo? [Find them here.](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Help us communicate all of the good things happening at CCM by liking, sharing or commenting on the college's social media posts and pages.

