Making a Difference

During August and September, several employees participated in athletic endeavors in an effort to raise funds to support cancer research and to improve treatment methods and care programs for people diagnosed with cystic fibrosis (CF). In total, the two efforts raised more than $30,000.

On August 6, Kathy Foley-Giorgio, Associate Dean of Student Affairs/Director of International Student and Scholar Services, rode in the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC), a bike-a-thon across the state of Massachusetts to raise money for the Jimmy Fund for cancer research at the Dana Farber Institute in Boston. Kathy was among the more than 4,000 riders who took the challenge and raised more than $20 million for the cause.

Kathy completed the 82-mile one-day ride from Wellesley, Massachusetts to the Bourne Bridge, a gateway to Cape Cod. She raised 10% more than the $2,000 fund-raising minimum. More than 60 people contributed to her ride, and most donors were members of the College community. Kathy reported, “It was an incredible experience to return to the PMC after a decade away, and to receive such wide-spread support from friends and colleagues at the College. As I pedaled along, I thought about how fortunate I am to work at such an incredible place with such exceptional people. Given how many people in our small community have been affected by cancer, it felt great to do my part in the effort to find a cure.” Kathy appreciates all the financial support and encouragement she received from so many of you on campus. She encourages anyone interested in joining her for the 2006 PMC ride or who wants to be a training partner to contact her.

The following month, a group of people closely affiliated with the College raised more than $28,500 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation by completing the Reach the Beach Relay across the state of New Hampshire. On September 16 and 17, Dave Donahue ’91, Derek Hammel, Liz Hammel, Mark Peluso, Andrea Solomon, who all work for the College, and a number of friends—Becky Dayton, Michael Giorgio, Breena Holmes, Jill Madden ’87, Drew Palesik, Sarah Peluso, and Eben Punderson—ran the 210-mile relay race from Bretton Woods in the White Mountains to Hampton Beach. (Team member Joanie Donahue ’92 was unable to compete due to an injury but assisted (continued on page 3)
Robert Lawton • Dining Services

Bob Lawton grew up in Smithtown, New York on the North Shore of Long Island. While he was still in high school, Bob says that he spent quite a lot of time working in various restaurants and hotels in the Hamptons and Montauk Point, where he learned the basics of the food service industry.

After graduating from high school, Bob attended SUNY New Paltz for a year. “I couldn’t figure out what I wanted to do, so I dropped out for a year,” Bob recalls. He spent much of that time working in various restaurants, including The Tavern on the Green in Manhattan. Then, he decided to give college another try, and entered SUNY at Farmingdale, where he studied aerospace technology for a while.

One day, Bob received a phone call from a friend that he had met at New Paltz who invited him to share a beachfront home in California. He couldn’t resist. “I told him I’d be right out,” Bob says. “I spent three years in Santa Barbara, where I got married and continued my career in the food service industry. I was mostly working in fine restaurants and hotels like the Biltmore Hotel in Santa Barbara.”

Bob did a lot of line cooking, and then began to move up into middle management. He and his wife and their four children then moved to Los Angeles, where Bob continued his work in food service. Finally, in 1989, Bob decided it was time to get his children out of Los Angeles, and moved to Vermont, where his family had had a camp when he was growing up.

“I moved to Burlington and got a job as a sous chef at the Sheraton Hotel,” he says. Then, Bob worked at a number of other restaurants in the area before seeing an ad for a cook at Middlebury in 1997. He applied and got the job. He’s been here ever since.

Bob has worked in a number of different locations on campus. “I started out in Proctor Hall with the board plan feeding the students,” he explains. “Then, I was on the team that opened Ross Dining Hall, and was there for two years. But I wanted to work days, and I finally worked out an early shift, Monday through Friday schedule, that I liked.” Several months ago, Bob began as the chef for the Redfield Proctor Room.

Bob enjoys his new assignment. “I like being creative and designing my own menus for the lunches and creating an attractive, tasteful meal,” he says. “Previously, I was part of a team that was feeding, perhaps, one thousand students. “This is quite a contrast, creating a complete meal for 30 to 50 people. It draws on my past skills and I am very appreciative to Dining management for this opportunity.”

Bob offers high praise for his new co-workers at Proctor Hall. “I have been treated very well by everyone; both the day and night crew,” he says. “They have been very helpful and easy to work with.”

Bob now lives in Starkboro on a 260-acre Christmas tree farm. “I do a lot of outdoor work there,” he says. “I pick apples and chop wood. I also like to fish. In addition, Bob is a hiker, skier, and a New York Yankees fan.

Bob is also very happy to be a member of the College Community. "Middlebury is a special environment," he says. “It’s certainly one of the nicest schools to work for, and I am treated very well as an employee. I’m really glad to be here and to be a part of this community.”

Human Relations Advisors

8 new student HRAs
Angelica Towne ’08 - Brainerd
Lia Jacobsen ’08 - Cook
Ted Iobst ’08 - Cook
Terry St. Jean ’06 - Ross
Abigail Blum ’08.5 - Wonnacott
Lilly Fitzpatrick ’08 - Brainerd
Kevin Tierney ’08 - Brainerd
Elizabeth Bueno ’08 - Wonnacott

2 new staff member HRAs
Karen Guttentag in the Dean of Students Office
Steve Reigle in Dining Services

Facilities Services Outreach

The Department of Facilities Services wants to hear from YOU, our customers! In a continuing effort to improve our service, the facilities services management team will be stationed at various locations around campus on Tuesday, November 29th from noon until 1:30. Please stop by and tell us how we’re doing, make suggestions, ask questions, or just say "hello." Outreach teams will be found in the lobbies of the following locations:

- Atwater Dining Hall
- The College Library
- The Grille
- McCardell Bicentennial Hall
- Ross Dining Hall
suffer from chronic, and often fatal, lung infections and have difficulty digesting food. CF patients need various therapies to keep their lungs and bodies healthy and strong. Although recently developed therapies have made a difference in treating CF, it is not enough. Fundraising can have a dramatic impact on scientific advances. The dollars raised through special events like this keep critical research moving forward (To learn more about CF or to make a donation, go to www.cff.org).

Through grassroots fundraising efforts, this team of runners solicited thousands of dollars from hundreds of people from across the country, including many from the College and our local community. Businesses such as American Flatbread, Middlebury Bagel and Delicatessen, Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op, Monument Farms Dairy, Otter Creek Brewing, and Vergennes Wine and Beverage provided generous support through in-kind donations and gift certificates to help cover the costs of supporting the team during the relay. The team appreciates all the support, especially from the College community, that made its success possible.

The Ergonomics Program Makes an Adjustment

For the last several years, the Human Resources Office has offered an office ergonomics program designed to educate Middlebury College faculty and staff about health and safety concerns in the workplace with special emphasis on preventative care and wellness. Specifically, the ergonomics program coordinator provides workstation assessments to employees working in an office setting and offers departmental guidance on the purchase of replacement furniture and supplies. In recent years the program has also incorporated a Web-based self-evaluation form and other online educational tools that employees can use to assess and address their own specific concerns. The College’s Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator currently provides training and education to employees working in non-office settings on campus.

In March a brief survey of our peer institutions was conducted in an effort to determine how unique this type of work is to Middlebury College. Four of the five respondents indicated that this type of program is currently carried out by their campus’ environmental health and safety office.

After further review, we have decided to follow the model of housing the ergonomics program within the environmental health and safety office. We feel that since Ed Sullivan is currently overseeing non-office ergonomics it would make sense to have it under one department. Please contact Ed Sullivan, Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator, at x5726 or via e-mail for any ergonomic related issue. Please also visit the web site which can now be found in the safety section of Business Services: www.middlebury.edu/administration/bsnsvcs/Safety/ergo.

Your Human Resources Office
2006 Health and Welfare Benefit Plan Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment forms will be sent to eligible employees within the next few days. Completed forms must be returned by Thursday, December 8th.

News from the Central Campus Box Office

Congratulations to Cheryl LeBlanc and Melody Perkins! They both suggested the winning name for the new College Store annex: Panther’s Pride! Cheryl and Melody will each receive a gift certificate to the Store, and a pair of tickets to any event at the Center for the Arts.

Stop by and check out Panther’s Pride and the Box Office next time you’re in McCullough—they’re open Monday–Thursday, 12:00-4:00 p.m. and 7:00-10:00 p.m., Friday 12:00-4:00 p.m., and one hour prior to ticketed events at the performance venue. They’re located between Midd Express and the Juice Bar.

Staff Council Vote

Staff Council would like to announce that, as required by our constitution, we will be putting to a vote the proposed changes to our constitution that appeared previously in Midd Points. For the sake of saving time and resources, the vote will be conducted electronically and we will not automatically send paper ballots to all staff in areas without individual computer access. We will encourage staff in these areas to use public computers, but we will print a limited number of paper ballots that will be available by request from Staff Council representatives or from Human Resources. When the ballot is ready, an all-staff email will provide the details.

**Date Change**

Due to the shortened Thanksgiving work-week, classified ads and articles for the December 1st issue of Midd Points must be submitted by Wednesday, November 23rd.

Classifieds

Classified ads are free for members of the staff, faculty, student body, and alumni of Middlebury College. Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Please send your ads to: Classifieds, Midd Points, HR, Service Building, or via Outlook to: Middpoints Editor (electronic submissions preferred).

Auto


Wanted


Wanted: Housemate(s) to share Seminary Street (Middlebury) house. 3 BR, 1 Bath upstairs, L.R, DR, Kitchen downstairs. Oil-fired forced air heat, electric hot water and range. Off-street parking. Furnished except available bedroom. Share rent ($1000/mo) and utilities. Available immediately.

Call Mark at 388-7672 or email at mprocter@middlebury.edu.

Other

For sale: Burton “Punch” Youth Snowboard, 132 cm, used but in excellent condition, ideal for beginner to intermediate rider, 80 to 110 lbs., board only, 388-0178, $75.

For Sale: Airline-approved pet carrier ideal for a cat or small dog. Measures approx. 20”x13”x11”. Steel door with secure locking system. Window vents and handle. Used once, $20. Stylish black-and-white shoulder bag designed for carrying a cat or small dog around town. Never used. One buckle is missing but it will not affect use, $15. Call x2095.

Faculty Grants Annual Report Available

During the 2004-2005 fiscal year faculty members were awarded over $2 million from government agencies and private sponsors to support their research and other projects; 48 faculty members received a total of 56 grants and fellowships. In addition, faculty efforts resulted in four institutional grants to support the academic program. The grants will support more than 49 student/faculty collaborations over the next few years as well as travel to research sites and conferences, research supplies, publication costs and other project expenses. Sixteen faculty members who were on leave last year were supported in part by 20 grants received in the past or earlier years and grants received this past year will support 20 faculty members on leave in 2005-2006 or future years. Eight faculty grants included funding for scientific equipment. Approximately 25% of the undergraduate faculty submitted at least one grant proposal last year; over 40% of those submitting proposals received at least one grant.

Copies of the full report are available from the Grants Office by email. Contact Franci Farnsworth (x5889) for more information.