

**Tunxis Community College
Foundation and Advisory Board, Inc.**

Officers

Timothy M. Fitch - *President*
Chuck Pagano - *First Vice President*
Helen G. Sneed - *Second Vice President*
Gene F. Prentiss - *Secretary/Treasurer*
Frank Johnson - *Immediate Past President*

Board Members

Rick Barnhart
Elizabeth "Betty" Boukus
David Brantner
James Buccheri
Angela DeFelippi
S. Douglas Devnew
Jeff Durham
Tom Fahey
Arthur Funk
John Gallant
Nancy Grassilli
Peter Kelley
Tom Leonard
Frank H. Luke
Amy Miller
William Millerick
James Murdick
Michael Nicastro
Michael S. Rivers
Theodore Scheidel
Ahmed Shaher
John E. Smith
Salvatore V. Vitrano
Robert J. Voight
Eliot M. Weissberg

Foundation Staff
Jennifer Destefani

College Representatives
Cathryn L. Addy, Ph.D. (*ex-officio*)
Terry Cassidy, Ed.D.
David England, Ed.D.
Lynn Laskowski
Carol Mahmood
Robert Smith, Ph.D.

A Tribute to Eugene "Gene" Millerick

Tunxis Community College lost a long-time friend and big-time supporter on May 5 of this year when Eugene "Gene" Millerick passed away at the age of 88. Anyone who met Gene was struck by his generosity, tenacity and profound sense of community. An advocate for education, Gene was active in local and state politics and believed in giving back to the community.



He served in the Connecticut House of Representatives from 1986-1994 as a Democrat representing the 22nd District, including Plainville. He was Assistant Majority Leader in the Connecticut General Assembly for two terms, and served on the

Education Committee, among several others. During his tenure, Gene was responsible for obtaining more than \$10 million in state bonding money for the initial expansion of Tunxis Community College completed in 1992. This work earned him an award of recognition from the TCC Foundation for his significant contributions to community college education.

"Gene was a very generous and kind gentleman, which is probably why he was such a good politician," said Tunxis President Cathryn L. Addy, Ph.D. "He listened to his constituents and tried to make things happen that would benefit everyone. We are grateful that he was devoted to providing educational opportunities for the people in our service area and this college owes a great deal to his perseverance and commitment to higher education for his constituents."

Tunxis Community College continues to flourish and grow today, in part because Gene understood the power of the services it provides to adults of all ages who want to pursue higher education. In recognition of all that Gene did for the College, the Foundation has established a scholarship in Gene's name. The Eugene Millerick Scholarship will be presented to a Tunxis student at the Annual Student Achievement Recognition Ceremony in May 2014.



What a Sight....Scholarship Night!

Every spring, Tunxis holds its annual "Student Achievement Recognition Ceremony" at which an amazing group of students are spotlighted for their accomplishments. This year was a particularly special night that recognized the achievements of over 100 of the best of what Tunxis has to offer.

The 30th annual event was held at Tunxis on May 3, and the Tunxis Community College Foundation was pleased to play a key part in the evening by providing over 50 scholarships worth more than \$50,000 in total to deserving students.

"Not only is awards night a big night for the students who get the recognition

they deserve, but also for the Tunxis Foundation," said Tim Fitch, Tunxis Foundation board president, who emceed the Foundation portion of the evening. "We're an organization that



(Photo left to right) Gregory & Helen Sneed Scholarship recipient, Kassandra Santiago and board member

exists for only one reason—to raise money to help Tunxis and its students," he explained. "And, this is the night where, thanks to the generosity of our donors, that we get to help a whole bunch of students by easing some of the financial pain that comes with pursuing their dreams."

On behalf of the Foundation, we would like to congratulate all of our scholarship recipients and thank all of the individuals, families and companies that provided scholarships to these deserving students. See you next year!

**You are Cordially Invited to Attend Tunxis Community College
Foundation's 2013 Economic Conference**



"Reinventing Healthcare"

Presenting
Mark Bertolini
Chairman & CEO of Aetna, Inc.

October 31, 2013
8:30-10:00 a.m.

Farmington Club
162 Town Farm Road • Farmington, CT

If you are interested in attending the conference by purchasing tickets, tables, sponsorships or an ad for the program book, please contact Jennifer Destefani 860-255-3604.

We would love to see you there!

Tunxis Foundation Helps a Future Dental Hygienist

Mia Kenefick did not realize how strong her passion to be a dental hygienist would become until her sister, a dental hygienist, introduced her to the world of oral hygiene.

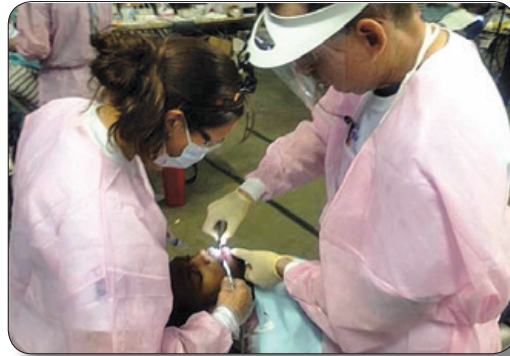
Kenefick had previously received a bachelor's degree from Eastern Connecticut State University in biology. She loved science and wanted to gain a better understanding of research in her field. She worked in a biomedical lab for a short time, however Kenefick longed for more. "I needed the personal reward you receive from helping people. I was indirectly doing that in the lab, however I needed to work with people directly."

Kenefick's sister began to educate her about the field. Mia was her patient several times and the more she learned about the profession, the more she wanted to go back for her degree. After researching programs, Tunxis was the top contender for dental hygiene and Kenefick decided it would be worth the lengthy commute two hours a day from Columbia, CT.

Kenefick began her journey at

Tunxis last year and the commute began to take a major toll on Kenefick's finances as gas prices skyrocketed. She needed financial aid to finish her studies at Tunxis and was encouraged to apply for a TCC Foundation scholarship.

Kenefick was grateful to hear the news this spring that she had been selected for the Clinton Roberts Foundation Scholarship. "I was so surprised when I received the news. I felt blessed that my financial burden was lifted and I could concentrate more on school," said Kenefick, who will graduate in spring 2014. "Tunxis and the TCC Foundation gave me the opportunity to pursue a career that I love. I will be rewarded with helping people with oral hygiene. The commute is totally worth it, and giving back to the community is what it is all about."



DMD performing oral surgery (extracting impacted wisdom teeth)



(from left to right) Krista Myrick, RDH, Dr. Ross A. Kaplan, DMD, and Mia Kenefick, DHS

"Tunxis and the TCC Foundation gave me the opportunity to pursue a career that I love. I will be rewarded with helping people with oral hygiene. The commute is totally worth it, and giving back to the community is what it is all about."

Help Us Welcome Our New Board Members



Rick Barnhart
President
Barnes Aerospace



Amy Miller
Vice President
Webster Private Bank



Tom Fahey
Vice President of Sales
& Marketing
Mott Corporation

Bring your ideas, talents and dedication to the Tunxis Foundation and help us reach our goals! Please consider donating your valuable time to our mission. Contact Jen Destefani at 860-255-3604 if you are interested in volunteering.

Tunxis Foundation Partners with the Tunxis Veterans' OASIS

This spring, the TCC Foundation became partners with the Tunxis Veterans' OASIS, which stands for Operation Academic Support for Incoming Service members.

This remarkable little 700-square-foot spot on Tunxis' campus has been a true "oasis" for over two hundred Tunxis student veterans who are trying to acclimate from military to civilian life, providing them with a place to meet, study and socialize between classes.

"It is overwhelming to transition from the military to student life," said Jordan Massa, president of the Veterans' Club at Tunxis. "The OASIS just helps make that process a little easier. It's a great place for veterans to sit, relax and talk to others who have the same feelings and needs that they do," he continued. "The OASIS is also a place to remember our fellow Tunxis veterans who are no longer with us, such as Matthew Melanson and Andrew Feiner, who passed away at such an early age. It really helps to keep their memories alive." The campus suffered a tremendous loss when both veterans lost their lives during separate instances this spring.

The OASIS got its humble beginnings a few years ago when Karen DeBari, Tunxis Veterans' Club advisor, started providing sandwiches for the veterans a few times a week. It didn't take her long to realize that many of the vets had even greater needs since many of them were struggling financially and emotionally. So, in an attempt to do even more, she began her own fundraising efforts which have grown significantly over the past few years. "Local businesses and individuals have been very generous. As a result, I have been able to provide our veterans with food, coffee, and clothing and to furnish the OASIS in a way that it can serve as a place for these men and women to come to for some peace," said DeBari.

She also organizes on-campus social events for the veterans as well as off-campus volunteer efforts, such as fundraisers that benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

As DeBari's success at increasing the community's awareness of the OASIS grew, so, too, did the number and amount of donations. So, she turned to the TCC Foundation to see how it could help. The Foundation agreed to provide its resources to administer all donations to the OASIS and to help DeBari in her future fundraising efforts to ensure that these veterans, who gave so much to their country, have access to the funds and services they need.

This helping hand from the Foundation became particularly valuable when the OASIS found itself the beneficiary of donations from many generous donors who wanted to find a meaningful way to honor the memories of Matt Melanson and Andrew Feiner.

"There are many needs that this funding can fulfill to help make the transition for our veterans a healthy and successful one," said Jennifer Destefani, executive director of the Foundation. "The Foundation is proud to support the Veterans' OASIS and the incredible work that it is doing for these student veterans at Tunxis."

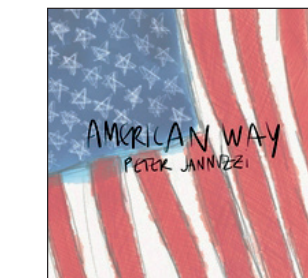
All funding for the Tunxis Veterans' OASIS comes from donations. Founded in 2009 and located in Founders Hall, the OASIS is

part of a larger initiative started in 2008 by the Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs to form Vet OASIS Centers at all of Connecticut's public colleges and universities.

Pediatrician's Song Benefits Tunxis Student Veterans

Tunxis Community College student veterans will soon benefit from a song recorded by Unionville pediatrician and veteran Peter Jannuzzi, M.D. through a fundraiser he started this past spring.

The patriotic song "American Way," which honors veterans and their families, is available for download on iTunes, Amazon and CD Baby for 99 cents. All proceeds of the song will go to the Tunxis Veterans, OASIS, which the Tunxis Foundation will accept on their behalf to help provide services to Tunxis student veterans.



Dr. Jannuzzi met the group on campus recently and sang them his song. "They all liked it, and I figured they could use some help," said Jannuzzi. "It just struck me that these men and women are out there defending us. They are a great group, and very representative of the kind of men and women re-entering life after war."

Tunxis currently has over 245 veterans on campus, a number that is expected to grow as more troops in Afghanistan are sent back to the United States.

The Veterans' OASIS and the TCC Foundation would like to thank Dr. Jannuzzi for his generosity and dedication to the student veterans at Tunxis.