

## Dr. John C. Mason, Jr. — Why I Give...

Dr. John C. Mason Jr. has been a DACC scholarship donor since 1992. He and his late wife Donna, a registered nurse, established the Mason-Cole Scholarship to give a financial boost to DACC students in healthcare fields like nursing, radiation technology, sonography, and health information technology.

A valued member of the DACC Foundation Board, Dr. Mason continues to contribute his time, treasure, and talent to advancing student success at DACC. The DACC Foundation pays tribute to the Masons on the Wall of Distinction in the Bremer Center. A recently installed bronze plaque gives permanent recognition to scholarship contributions that have surpassed \$100,000.

Dr. Mason has a personal interest in helping DACC healthcare students. He followed his father's footsteps into the medical profession and is proud two of his sons chose professions in healthcare. His son John is a dentist in St. Charles, IL. His son Jeffrey is in the general practice of medicine like his grandfather and practices in Irving, TX.

"I am now the senior doctor in the family and very proud of my sons. My Dad was one of those old-fashioned country doctors who used to make house calls. He had an office in Rossville and then would travel all around the area along what we used to call 'Dad's Route.' He'd put in really long days seeing patients in towns like Henning, Potomac, Armstrong, Oakwood, Danville, Bismarck, Alvin, and he'd even go out regularly to Pence, Indiana. These are the areas covered by our scholarship."

When Dr. Mason graduated from the University of Illinois medical school, he chose Obstetrics and Gynecology as his field. While in training he learned to appreciate the value of

good nursing care. Like his father, he married a nurse.

"This was a very good decision. My father was happy that I was a doctor, and he understood that my personal calling wasn't as a general practitioner. My interest was always in obstetrics. This gave me a general practice of providing care for women, and also with a surgical component."

Throughout his lifetime living and working in Danville, Dr. Mason has seen the value that DACC brings to the community.

"It's one of the bright spots for the City. DACC has a beautiful campus and DACC students get a great education. I really like the way the College has progressed over the years and has continued to support local healthcare."

The Mason-Cole Scholarship has contributed scholarships for dozens of students over the past 25 years.

"I got to know about DACC while I was working as an obstetrician. I saw young people struggling to enter the medical profession and thought that the scholarship could help give them a boost."

For nine of the past 16 years on the Foundation Board, Dr. Mason has reviewed students' applications for scholarships.

"I see many young people out there with the brains and the drive but who lack the financial wherewithal to pay for their education. DACC is affordable but still some students need a little help. Even a partial scholarship can get them started—and then they're on their way."

*Cont'd on page 3*

### This Issue:

Dr. Mason	1
Graduation	2
Sustainability	2
Learning Lab	
Donor Recognition	3
Dick Cheney Salute	4
Carnegie Library	5
Dedication	
Donor List	6
Student Profile	8



# Commencement 2017

Danville Area Community College exists to help students set and meet goals. Anyone is welcome through the doors at any stage of life. Whether students choose to pursue a baccalaureate degree or to enter the workforce after leaving DACC, helping them to fulfill their dreams is the number one priority of everyone connected to the College.

More than 500 Associate degrees and career certificates were conferred upon the Class of 2017, represented by nearly 250 graduates who walked in Commencement ceremonies on Friday,

May 19.

Delivering the Class Response was MacKenzie Scroggins, Chrisman, summa cum laude candidate receiving an ASA degree in Pre-Med. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sadie Edwards, Oakwood, summa cum laude candidate receiving an ASA degree in Business Management and current Student representative to the DACC Board of Trustees. The Tassel Ceremony was led by Kylee Summers, Fairmount, summa cum laude candidate receiving an AGS degree in General Studies. Class Marshalls were Alyssum Styer,

Willimasport, IN, summa cum laude candidate receiving an ASA degree in Business, and Kylee Summers.

For the first time in its 70-year history, Danville Area Community College conferred honorary degrees on two community leaders. Louis L. Mervis and Vickie J. Miller were chosen because they have excelled in personal and professional achievements, made significant contributions to the community around them, and inspired others with their life achievements and ability to overcome obstacles.



## Sustainability Learning Lab & Farmer's Market

When Kristy Herr Bartos and her husband Jerry offered to lease 5 acres of land to the College for one dollar in 2015, the plan was that the property would benefit the Agriculture and Horticulture programs. The couple felt strongly that any production on the property be done in a sustainable manner, but beyond that plans for the future of the property were up to the departments involved.

So began the most unique "cross-pollination of curriculum the College has ever seen", according to DACC Foundation Executive Director Tracy Wahlfeldt.

To date, departments actively involved in efforts at the Sustainability Learning Lab on Daisy Lane include the expected Horticulture and Agriculture, as well as Culinary, Biology, Green Construction, and Art. Every division, the College Express program, Community Education, and the Child Development Center have had at least



*Cont'd on page 4*

### Mason, Cont'd

Dr. Mason has encouraged others to join him on the Wall of Distinction.

"I knew one person who was very generously giving to DACC scholarships but preferred to remain anonymous. My feeling was that someone of his stature needed to let everyone know he supported the College, and that's what he did just by attaching his name to his fund."

With the Mason-Cole scholarship having achieved an endowed level, Dr. and Mrs. Mason's names and the scholarship are forever etched in the annals of the DACC Foundation and the Wall of Distinction. The DACC Foundation is proud of the legacy that Dr. and Mrs. Mason have established. Just as Dr. Mason Sr. influenced the careers of Dr. Mason Jr. and his sons, the Mason name will live in perpetuity to influence future generations of donors.

## Donor Recognition 2017

According to College officials, nearly 84% of the students at Danville Area Community College received some form of financial aid including federal, state, private, institutional, and student loan dollars, and a majority of students work at least 20 hours per week. Lack of finances is one of the greatest deterrents to student retention.

For the 2016-2017 academic year, the Foundation celebrated awarding a record-breaking 531 scholarships totaling \$641,900. Financial support in the form of a scholarship is one of the greatest gifts a student can receive. The generous donors who fund private scholarships often make the difference between a student achieving his or her educational goals or having to stop out due to lack of finances.

Private resources have never been more essential. The College has benefited from the generosity of donors who, in addition to scholarships, have provided funding for new technology, program support,

instructional equipment, faculty chairs, professional development, and academic support services.

In recognition of all they have done to further the cause of education in the community, the Danville Area Community College Foundation honored five donors/estates during the biennial Donor Recognition Celebration held on Friday, June 9th. The celebration, held at the Danville Country Club, included tributes to the donors, as well as testimonials from scholarship recipients.

Honored at the event were Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs, Doug and Vickie Miller, the Harold and Ginny Auter Estate, and the Danville Rifle and Pistol Club. Two DACC scholarship recipients, Dulce Trejo and Shearee Griggs shared the impact of scholarship dollars on their student success.



## Sustainability, Cont'd

a small part to play in the development of the property. Projects include a vegetable garden, blue bird houses, owl boxes, honey bee colonies, and prairie plants. Art students painted the bee boxes and green construction students built a garden shed. Culinary students use the produce and learn traditional canning and preserving techniques. Even the community has become involved, with volunteers from Peer Court spending time helping to plant, maintain, and harvest the vegetable garden.

After a slow start last summer, the vegetable garden produced a bumper crop in 2017. As a service to students, the Horticulture department decided to offer the fruits of the harvest in a free farmer's market for students each Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 near the College greenhouse. By September, the garden had yielded 2,000 pounds of produce that was distributed for free to DACC students through the farmer's market, Vermilion County Housing Authority, St James United Methodist Church Food Pantry, VA Illiana Healthcare, Danville Rescue

Mission, Crosspoint Women's Shelter, DACC Child Development Center, and the DACC Culinary department.

"Our thanks go out to the Bartos family, Iroquois Federal Foundation, and Vermilion Healthcare Foundation," Wahlfeldt said. "To date, expenses associated with the Sustainability Learning Lab have been covered by private donations and the federal Carl D. Perkins grant. It has been a wonderful collaboration in every way."



## Recognition Reception for Dick Cheney

The Danville Boat Club provided a lovely backdrop for the Recognition Reception honoring Richard "Dick" Cheney's many years of service to Danville Area Community College. Nearly 200 friends and well-wishers dropped into the Open House to

celebrate Mr. Cheney's dedication to the College. The event raised more than \$5,000 toward the Dick Cheney Scholarship Fund.

Mr. Cheney has the distinction of being the first person to be a student, faculty,

coach, administrator, and Trustee at DACC. He was recognized as a Founder of the College in 2016. Following the completion of his epic 23 years as a DACC Trustee in April, Mr. Cheney joined the DACC Foundation Board in July.



# Carnegie Library Gift & Dedication

Officials from Danville Area Community College and the DACC Foundation celebrated receipt of the Carnegie Library from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs August 31 and revealed a \$2 million planned gift from Julius W. Hegeler II that will fund renovations to the historic building.

"We are so grateful to Mr. Hegeler and his continued generosity in providing educational opportunities for DACC students," said Tracy Wahlfeldt, Executive Director of the DACC

Foundation. "He has transformed this campus as well as the lives of our students."

Friends of the College and members of the campus community gathered to dedicate the new acquisition and honor the College's second female president, Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs, with a naming ceremony. The DACC Board of Trustees convened on the Library steps and voted to commemorate Jacobs' 17 years of service to the College by naming the building the **Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs Hall**

- **Carnegie Library**. Dr. Jacobs retired in 2016 as President Emerita. The name was requested by the donor, Julius W. Hegeler II.

About the tribute to Dr. Jacobs Wahlfeldt said, "It's especially nice that we are doing this while she and Mr. Hegeler are available to join the celebration."

The Carnegie Library was officially transferred to DACC last month from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

*Cont'd on page 8*



# Giving in Tribute

With gratitude we recognize these 2017 honor and memorial contributions which provide a lasting tribute by enriching a DACC student's educational journey.

## In Honor of

### **Keith Bates (Father's Day)**

Becky Estill

### **Al Bello (Retirement)**

DACC Math and Science Department

Tamara Howard

Kevin and Kasey Moore

Jamie Moreland

Heidi Young

### **Dick Cheney**

Dr. and Mrs. Suhail Alnaqib

Dr. Angelo and Alberta Anaclerio

Barry and Ellen Anders

Jim and Carolyn Anderson

Dr. Keith Bates

Ed Bath

Richard and Christel Belton

Dr. Wesley Bieritz

The Honorable William and

Sharon Black

Bob and Nancy Boesdorfer

Catherine Bott

Alna Braun

Dick Brazda

Peggy Chase

Michael Cheney

Tammy and Eli Betancourt

Mr. and Mrs. George Cline

Lara Conklin

Fowler Connell

Jill and Kerry Cranmore

Mike and Janice Cunningham

Jerry and Lisa Davis

Dr. David Dillman and

Ms. Cheryl Vergin

Dr. Joseph Fabrizio and

Phyllis Dougherty Fabrizio

Darren and Natalie Duncan

John and Sally Eakle

Sadie Edwards

John and Stacy Ehmen

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Ewbank

### **Dick Cheney (cont'd)**

Fred Faulstich

Karen Flessner

James and Susan Fruin

The Honorable Rita Garman

W. Dean Grimes

The Honorable and

Mrs. Charles Hall

Lon and Nancy Henderson

Rachel Heron

Jerry and Kristy Bartos

Carl and Tonya Hill

Terry and Marla Hill

Larry Hinkle

Greg and Maggie Hoover

Mike and Julie Hulvey

Vern Ingalsbe

Tom and Beth Chamberlain

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

Mr. and Mrs. Montfort Johnson

The Honorable Robert Jones

Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Karinattu

Martha Kay

Nancy McCoy

Diane Stong

Missi Gouty

Gladys Davis

Donna Martin

Mr. and Mrs. William Kesler

Dave and Glenda Kietzmann

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kukla

Jacqueline M. Lacy and Tim Tutton

Phillip Langley

John and Theta Lee

Charlotte Luebbers

Mike and Brandy Marron

Dr. John C. Mason, Jr.

Dr. Penny McConnell

Lou and Sybil Mervis

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Meyer

Doug and Vickie Miller

Jack and Gail Morrison

Sona Morrissey

Mr. Mel and The Honorable Judy Myers

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Nacco

Bert and Jan Nicholson

The Honorable John O'Rourke

Dr. Anneliese Payne

Judd and MaryPeck

Alan and Susan Puzey

Tom and Michelle Ramage

Robert and Sandi Randall

David and Janet Redenbaugh

Mimi Reitemeier

Gary and Doris Resh

Bob and Kathy Richard

Dr. and Mrs. George Richards

Earl Rumbaugh

Gil and Val Saikley

William and Marilyn Satterwhite

Mark and Rebecca Schlecht

Richard Schlecht

Chuck and Cheryl Schroeder

Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Serfoss

W. John and Sue Shane

Dick and Jane Ellen Shockey

Eric and Lesley Shore

Tom and Kelly Strader

Sylvia Switzer

Marilyn Tucker

Alice Vernon

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

Jerry and Ellen Walker

Gary Ward

Karen Wodetzki-Davis

Mary Woodyard

Ben and Sue Ann Young

Frank and Ann Young

### **Leo Huffman**

John and Theta Lee

### **Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs**

Jill and Kerry Cranmore

Sandra Dreher

William and Ema Nicholls

Lynne Preston

### **Sandi Randall**

The Honorable Rita Garman

### **Susan Sigafoose**

Anonymous

## In Memory of

### **Robert Ball**

Dr. John C. Mason, Jr.

### **Louis Ballard**

Danville Area Community College

*Cont'd on page 7*

## ***In Memory, Cont'd***

### **Nancy Bates**

Edward Moore

### **Deb Borgwald**

Bill and Jeannie Brandenberger

### **Brett Buchanan**

Dr. John C. Mason, Jr.

### **Jane Bush**

Dr. John C. Mason, Jr.

### **Roy Christison**

The Honorable Rita Garman

Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Serfoss

W. John and Sue Shane

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **Patricia Cohen**

Neal and Melody Ehrlich

### **Phillip Finkle**

H. Michael and Nanette Finkle

Deborah Nuccio

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **John Girton**

Janis Dunn

### **Dorothy Houmes**

John and Diana Decker

### **David Kriehn**

Danville Area Community College

### **Roger Kroger**

Danville Area Community College

### **Nancy Latinovich**

George Latinovich

### **Don Longer**

Tom and Barbara Crays

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **Donna Mason**

Camilla Study Group of Danville Garden Club

### **Dick McFarland**

Tom and Barbara Crays

### **Don McFarland**

Tom and Barbara Crays

### **Marceline McGurk**

Catherine Bott

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **Miss Mary Miller**

W. John and Sue Shane

### **Mary Nolan**

Tom and Barbara Crays

### **Jan O'Rourke**

The Honorable William and Sharon Black

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cheney

Tom and Barbara Crays

David and Terry Harby

Carl and Tonya Hill

Doug and Vickie Miller

Mimi Reitemeier

Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Serfoss

Dan and Kerri Thurman

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **Barbara Peck**

Ms. Beckie Heck

Jim and Cathy Cox

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

Dr. John C. Mason, Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. George Richards

W. John and Sue Shane

Scott and Jane Towne

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **Mary Puzey**

Janet Hickman

### **Dorothy Ramunno**

Eaton

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

Lynne Preston

### **Wesley Rush**

Danville Area Community College

### **Keith and Jerry Shirey**

W. John and Sue Shane

### **Jean Shreeves**

Danville Area Community College

### **Bob Skinner**

Danville Area Community College

### **Barb Todd**

Jeana Alexander

Doug and Karen Appleby

Eric Appleby

Patricia Brown

Peggy Chase

Danville Area Community College

Fred Faulstich

Gina George

Jerry and Kristy Bartos

Dr. Alice Marie and Darrel Jacobs

Martha Kay

David and Glenda Kietzmann

Carol Kritser

Stephen and Judy Laker

Tim Mahoney

Julie McClintock

Kent and Lynn Moody

Susan Mosiman

Dr. Anneliese Payne

Paris H.S. Class of '55

Tim and Jackie Prunkard

David and Janet Redenbaugh

Connie Russell

Marcy Satterwhite and Amy Hovious

William and Marilyn Satterwhite

Michael and Connie Schroeder

Sara Snyder

Ronald Stickler

Ada Varner

Scott and Tracy Wahlfeldt

### **Bertha Vinson**

Dr. John C. Mason, Jr.

### **Mary Alice Wayland**

W. John and Sue Shane

### **H. Gene Yeazle**

Steve and Marilyn Myers

### **John Young**

Tom and Barbara Crays

### **Angelica Yowell**

Classmates of Angelica Yowell

Subway

## **Contact Us**

DACC Foundation Office:

Phone: (217) 443-8843

Email: [foundation@dacc.edu](mailto:foundation@dacc.edu)

Web: [www.dacc.edu/foundation](http://www.dacc.edu/foundation)

# Student Profile: Shearee Griggs

My time at DACC has been the best college experience I could have hoped for. The staff are personable and willing to help, the teachers are very understanding and caring, and when I'm at DACC I feel like I'm walking through my hometown. I'm receiving all the tools I need to successfully complete my schooling.

I come from a big family; college wasn't something my mom could provide to her children. If I was going to do it, I had to do it on my own. To make things worse, my family experienced a great loss this year, so it was hard to stay focused and complete my assignments. Fortunately, DACC has given me the strength to push forward and go on.

I've been blessed to receive great help from a scholarship given by Dr. Alice Marie and Mr. Darrel Jacobs. I also was lucky enough to be able to participate in the TRIO program. My past college experience was not as supportive; help like this was hard to come by and I was never lucky enough to receive it.

DACC has given me endless possibilities and I can't express how thankful and happy I am to say that I am a DACC student. I want to send my appreciation and thanks to all those who offer a helping hand to students in need. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



## *Carnegie Dedication, Cont'd*

in exchange for a Gazebo that is located south of Bremer Conference Center. The transfer simplifies property lines for both DACC and the VA.

The transfer process, which lasted more than 3 years, involved an Act of Congress and a Bill signed by President Barack Obama. Congressman John Shimkus, instrumental in the transfer process, delivered a framed "red line" copy of the Bill to College officials August 14.

Though still in the development stage, post-renovation plans discussed for the Library include use as performance, visual, and musical arts building.



# DACC Foundation Board of Directors

Mr. Thomas Meyer, President  
Mr. Tom Chamberlain, Vice President  
Mr. Judd Peck, Secretary  
Mr. Bill Nicholls, Treasurer

Mr. Jerry Askren  
Mr. Dick Cheney  
Ms. Jennifer Ciancio  
Mr. Jeff Fauver  
Mr. W. Dean Grimes, Jr.  
Mr. Julius W. Hegeler II  
Ms. Kristy Herr

Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs  
Mr. Chris Kittell  
Mrs. Theta Lee  
Dr. John Mason, Jr.  
Mr. Michael Mervis  
Mr. Ryan O'Shaughnessy  
Mr. Alan Puzey  
Mr. Gil Saikley  
Ms. Tinisha Shade-Spain  
Mrs. Lesley Shore  
Mrs. Jane Towne

Mrs. Marilyn Tucker  
Mrs. Deanna Witzel

Mrs. Nancy Bates, Director Emeritus\*  
Dr. George Richards, Director Emeritus  
Mr. W. John Shane, Director Emeritus

Tracy Wahlfeldt, Executive Director  
Sandra Dreher, Office Manager  
Gina Davis, Office Assistant

\*Deceased