

I am more into hands-on building, which is what I thought that this internship would lead into, but because it was so different than I expected, I learned a tremendous amount of new stuff, and I think now that I might want to go into electrical engineering."

The internship with Green was Ruffino's first experience with the program, and he said he hopes to be a mentor again.

"It is a very exciting time to be involved with students as they are exploring their career of interest, and that I had the ability to inspire a field that I am in," he said. "It was great to have a student who was genuinely interested in the career and the internship. ... I enjoyed the opportunity to influence others in making the right decision for their future."

Ruffino is one of hundreds of mentors who have dedicated their time over the years, and Wittig said she is constantly trying to reach out to the community. It has been more difficult with the economic recession to recruit mentors, she added, because more college graduates are willing to accept non-paid internships.

The mentors, from all over the area, volunteer their time to work with the students.

"They do it for the love of the students," Wittig said.

PROGRAM

From Page A1

a violence-free life and returning to their abuser or being homeless."

Finding her voice

Among the program's participants is Susan Still, a Rochester women's rights activist who travels across the country to speak against domestic violence.

A survivor of a 24-year abusive relationship with her husband, Still fled their home in 2003 with their two children and pressed charges against her abuser. Since 2004, he has been serving a 36-year prison sentence, the longest term in the United States given for the crime of domestic violence in which the victim survived.

"I started to (speak out) because I didn't want anyone to go through what I went through," Still said. "I found my voice there."

She said she learned a lot through the experience that can help survivors, everything from interacting with police, going through the court system and what services are available to survivors.

"I want to give a voice to people out there who are still in an abusive relationship," she said. "I want to give a voice to people who got out and are moving through the system. I want

to encourage people that there is a way out."

And she wants to do it on a much larger scale. The Business Entrepreneurship Program at MCC, she said, will help her do that.

"When I heard about the program, I definitely wanted to take part," she said. "I didn't know the exact steps I wanted to take. This is a great opportunity for that."

Learning the business

Over the next few months, she and the other participants will take part in a series of business courses on such topics as financial literacy, taxes, legal issues, money management and marketing at MCC's Brighton Campus. They will then have the opportunity to spend an additional three months developing a viable business plan for their ventures with the help of an adviser from the Small Business Development Center.

"Through this program, women will develop an entrepreneurial mindset and a network of connections that will carry them far in their new careers, as many graduates in our entrepreneurial degree program have realized," said MCC President Anne M. Kress. "With Verizon's support, together we are creating promising futures for domestic violence survivors and spurring our local

economy forward."

Graduates of the program will also be eligible to apply for up to \$5,000 in start-up funding from Verizon. In addition, they will receive ongoing mentorship.

The program aims to serve up to 75 women by May.

Moving forward

Still said she hopes to start an organization that helps domestic violence survivors and their children and informs them about the services that are available for them. She specifically wants to target older children; in her experience, she said, services are often geared more toward younger children. For example, she said, shelters often have toys for young children, but have much less available that is appropriate for older ages.

"I feel it's a target area that is missed — older kids coming out of an abusive environment," she said. "I want to develop a program that targets those kids."

She said the thing she is looking forward to most with the program is, "seeing her dream come to fruition."

"A lot of us have those dreams; we have those capabilities," she said. "But we don't have the means and opportunity to do it."

FREE Cheeseburger

**Buy One
Cheeseburger
Get One
FREE!**




www.tomwahls.com

Not valid with other coupons or discounts. Expires 8/30/12.



43022204

A Family Tradition Since 1955



Jeremy P. McGorty, EA, LLC
Income Tax Preparation
(585) 465-5066

Call or E-Mail
 for your free brochure on
 how to keep more of what
 you make!

140A Metro Park, Rochester, NY 14623

E-Mail: info@jmcgortytaxes.com Web: www.jmcgortytaxes.com

CA002295

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF BRIGHTON

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board of the Town of Brighton, Monroe County, New York (the "Town"), at a meeting held on August 8, 2012 duly adopted, subject to a permissive referendum, a resolution, an abstract of which is set forth below.

In accordance with the New York State Town Law, such resolution will take effect thirty (30) days after the date of its adoption, unless prior to the close of such thir-