

MCC graduate to combine interior design with therapy

More about Judy

AGE 49

SCHOOL: Monroe Community College

MAJOR Interior design

BACKGROUND Has a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy and worked in the field for about 20 years.

HOMETOWN Pittsford



Why did you decide to go back to school?

"I had thought about studying interior design for many years because it is something I really enjoy and have a passion for. As my kids grew older and more independent I figured it was finally time to just go back to school and fulfill my dream. I started back in the fall of 2007 and completed the program in three years going part time."

Why did you choose Monroe Community College?

"I was told that MCC had an excellent interior design program. It also has the flexibility I needed and a schedule that matches the public school schedule so that I was off at the same time my boys were off."

What will you do with your new degree?

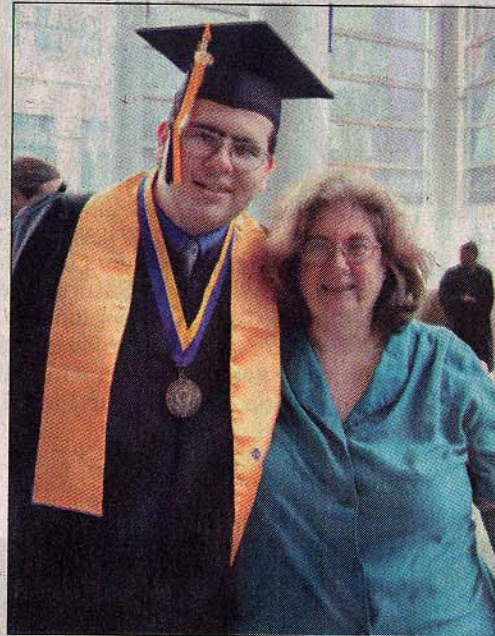
"I hope to combine the knowledge I have as an occupational therapist with my new design knowledge and design for the elderly and disabled. I believe I have a unique perspective in this area and will be able to combine the principles of good design with the safety and function needed by this type of client. With many people wanting to stay in their homes as they age, I feel that this is becoming a growing need."

What did you think of classes at MCC?

"I found the classes at MCC a good challenge. While the courses I took were extremely different than those I took for my occupational therapy degree, they were challenging in a different way. Many of my classes were more project oriented rather than exam oriented. I did very well but had to put in a great deal of time and effort. I learned far more than I ever could have imagined and gained many new skills especially in the computer and art areas."

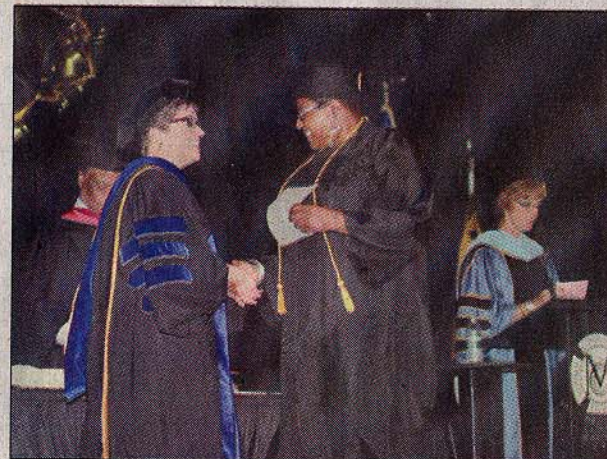
—Dan Goldman

MCC graduation day



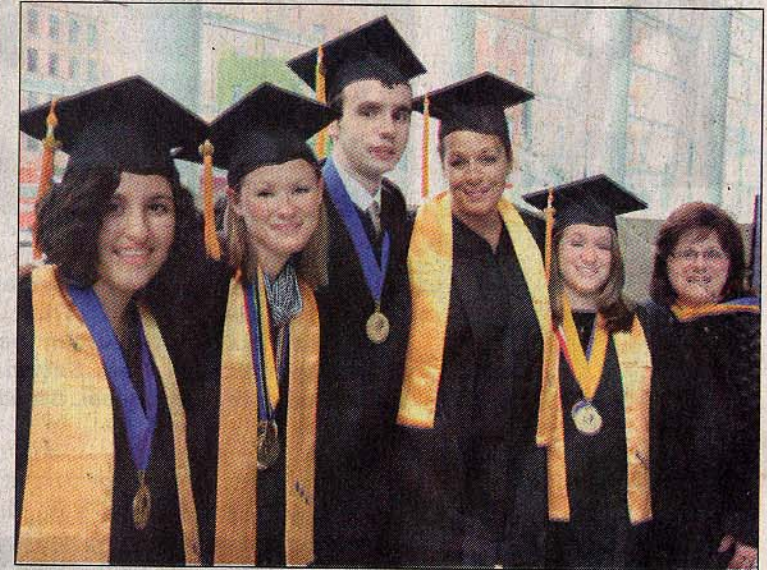
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Monroe Community College graduate Malcolm Cohen smiles for a picture with his mother after the college's commencement on June 3 at Blue Cross Arena.



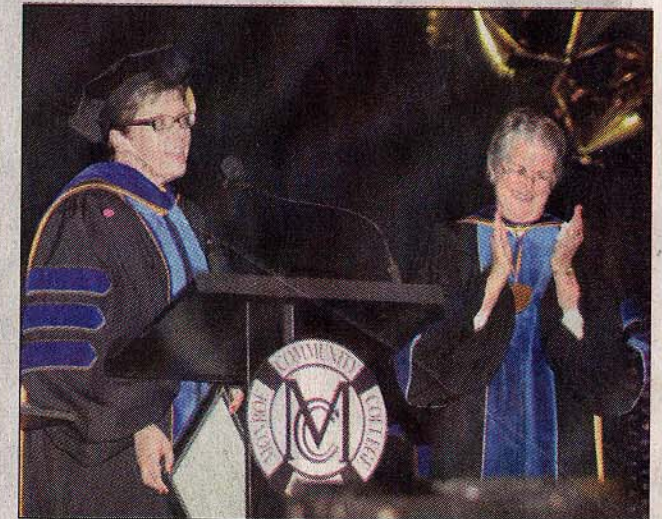
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College President Anne Kress, left, congratulates a graduate on her degree.



SUBMITTED

The Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society leaders and adviser Jodi Oriel celebrate the students' graduation.



SUBMITTED

College President Anne Kress, left, awards Vice President Janet Glocker an honorary degree. Glocker was the keynote speaker and is retiring after 32 years at the college.