

The

insider

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Kay Digs Harper

"You shouldn't fight against what you have," Kay Turner says, referring to the environmental conditions in front of the tiered area adjacent to the Building A patio. "You've got to try and work with it."

Originally, the 12,800 square foot terraced garden was planted with woody shrubs and crab apple trees. Over time the prominent location became an eyesore — some plants were prone to disease, others attracted rabbits and mice. In the spring of 1995, the College asked Turner, a groundskeeper/horticulturist at Harper since 1984, to find a solution.

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Kay Turner continued

Turner began by planning a skeleton design, using plants that would be the backbone of each tiered area. With help from her department the area was stripped. "The shrubs had been hiding some big problems, including broken drain tiles, and because the soil had not been improved for more than 10 years it was infertile and compacted," said Turner. To keep the project within budget she decided to use plants that would thrive in the unfavorable conditions. "I chose moisture-loving plants like *Physostegia virginiana* 'Pink Bouquet' and *Sporobolus heterolepis*. The results are obviously excellent."

Because the garden is sunken, the plants are protected from the harsh weather. Turner plans to continue nursing the garden for about three years, until it progressively becomes self-sufficient.

Turner believes that there is a method to really enjoying a perennial garden. "Don't just look at it as a whole. Pick out smaller sections," she says pointing to a 'Purple Wave' petunia. "Notice the color of this plant next to the white artemisia. Look for the unique native grasses and fragrant plants like *Lavandula angustifolium* 'Munstead.' Oh, and see if you can spot the little pond."

Turner will share the details of her perennial problem-solving experience as a presenter at the Sixth Annual MAPPA/PGMS Grounds Management Conference which Harper is hosting August 6 and 7.

President's Message

Recently I had the opportunity to meet with the Harper students who participated in the Paul Simon Student Essay Contest, sponsored by the Illinois



Community College Trustees Association. The students addressed the subject of "How My Community College Changed My Life."

The essay written by Maria Verona Garcia of Palatine was selected to represent Harper College in the statewide competition. In her essay, Maria talked about the community college as a "land of opportunity," and stressed how her coursework here at Harper has helped her identify her aptitude for computers. She plans to earn her associate degree and transfer to a four-year institution to earn a degree in computer science.

I'd like to share parts of her essay with the Harper Community, as I feel that she is representative of the many students we serve:

"For me, community college is the land of opportunity. I mean that it gives people like me who don't necessarily have the means to be in a four-year college a chance to make something of themselves...my community college was patient with me, let me find my interests and helped me become more focused...without the option of community college, I would not be able to attend college at all...I came as an uneducated, undecided and unfocused child, and I have started my journey to becoming an educated, balanced and focused adult."

Maria, it is a pleasure to know that Harper College is helping you — and thousands of other students like you — to meet your educational goals.

Paul N. Thompson
President

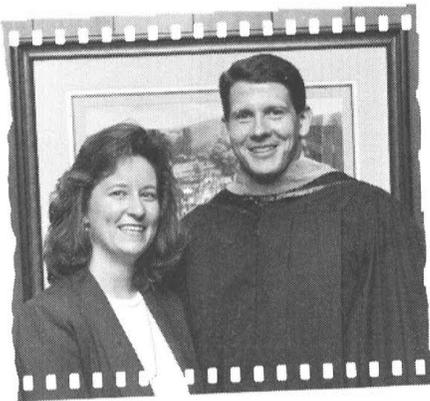
Kodak® Moments



Those awarded a Transfer Scholarship to Roosevelt University included Harper employee Janice Loster (pictured second from right).



On behalf of the Student Senate, Caroline Saccamanno presented the Class Award – picnic tables, trash cans and \$40,000 earmarked for campus renovations.



The graduation speech was given by James Murauskis, (pictured with his wife) a 1981 graduate of Harper. Murauskis is now the director of financial planning and analysis for Metz Baking Company in Deerfield.



Dr. Betty Hull was this year's Distinguished Faculty Award Winner.

Patricia Schager takes a moment after the ceremony to reflect on her hard-earned degree. A single mother of 14 children, she worked full-time while attending Harper for the past 13 years.



Departmental Developments

Congratulations to *The Harbinger* staff and their faculty advisor, **Howard Schlossberg**, who won 18 awards this year including first place for overall excellence in the two-year non-weekly newspaper category at the Associated Press "Best of the Midwest" Conference and first place in the weekly and biweekly category from the Illinois Community College Journalism Association.

Mark Clancy, ADM OUTR, was elected secretary of the Illinois Association for College Admissions Counseling.

Debbie Michelini, ADM OUTR, was elected to a three-year term on the executive board of REACH (Resources for the Education of Adults in the Chicago area.)

Molly Norwood, former chair of the Harper Board of Trustees, has been appointed to the board of the Illinois Community College Board.

Bob Getz's, PHY PLT, article *MAPPA and PGMS Sponsor Sixth Annual Grounds Conference* was published in the May/June issue of *Facilities Manager Magazine*.

Tom Johnson, BUS/SS, was appointed to the College of Business Advisory Board at Roosevelt University in Schaumburg.

Peggy Kazkaz, BUS/SS, has been selected as a Fulbright Scholar. She will travel through Egypt as part of the Fulbright Bi-national Organization.

A photograph by **Lorel Kelson**, PRINT, won first place in the landscape category of the Schaumburg Park District's "Hot Shot" Photo Contest.

Dave Graham, IS/US, and his wife Ellen downloaded a new file, Amanda, on May 23.



Lynette Navigato's, PRINT, daughter, Beckie was the honorary ball girl for the Bulls-Jazz second playoff game.

Twice each year the Personnel Department arranges a party on behalf of the College honoring that year's retirees. Always an open house, everyone is invited

to celebrate and wish their colleagues well. This year's spring retirement party was held on May 14 and those honored were: (front row) **Nico Genet**, TM/PS, **Judy Dincher**, LS/HS, **Felice Avila**, DEV OFF, **Darlene Stewart**, LS/HS, back row, **Nancy Brunke**, WHP, **Chester Cross**, PUB SAF, **Norma Johnson**, TM/PS. Not pictured: **Daniel Garay, Sr.**, PHY PLT, **Luz Guadalupe**, FD SER, **David Hindes**, PHY PLT, **Guido Norini**, TM/PS, **Patricia Paulford**, MUS/ART.



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