



## Alumni News



### Join us for the Stay at "Home"-coming Tailgate - October 24

Although we may not be together in person, let's keep our school spirit soaring! Come back to your alma mater – online – for the alumni Stay at "Home"coming Tailgate. Sign up today to receive your alumni tailgate-in-a-box so that you can set the scene at your home for our Montclair State celebration. The full day begins at 10:00 a.m. and we'll have prizes and photo albums going throughout the day! [\[View full story\]](#) [\[Visit Homecoming website\]](#)



### Through the Eyes of a Child

When Ken Spooner and Mike Mee graduated from Montclair State in 2013, they set out to make films that would tell important stories, and their documentary *Life with Layla* does just that. The film, which won the Montclair Film Festival's New Jersey Films Competition award, tells the story of one family's all-too-common

#### Featured Event

**September 21**  
[MBA Executive Speaker Series – Chuck Muth '77](#)

#### Digital Events

**September 17**  
[Accounting and Financial Services Career and Internship Fair](#)

**September 17**  
[Philosophy for Lunch: "Conspiracy Theories vs. Free Speech"](#)

**September 21**  
[Sustainability Seminar: Application of Net Zero Principles to the Army's Industrial Base](#)

**September 23**  
[Webinar: PK-12 Virtual Learning for Students with Disabilities](#)

**September 23**  
[Decolonizing the Music Room presented by MSU NafME](#)

**September 23**  
[Cali Midweek Series: Inclusion, Equity & Access: Addressing Racism as a Music Community PART II with Dr. Courtney Plotts](#)

To find out more about online events and resources, visit our [website](#).

#### Weekly Women Entrepreneurship

On Montclair State University's campus, the 7th annual Weekly Women Entrepreneurship will begin virtually on Sept. 21st and run through November 13, 2020. We will feature talks and interviews with female founders and entrepreneurs weekly. New this year, any college, university, business or nonprofit is welcome to participate, by organizing an event featuring a female founder.

To register to receive our weekly agenda, please complete this [registration form](#). We will also post to [Montclair Entrepreneurs MeetUp](#) and our [YouTube channel](#). [\[View the full lineup\]](#) [\[Register now!\]](#)

struggle with addiction, through the eyes of 7-year-old Layla. Her Aunt Melissa overdosed on heroin before the film begins. As her Uncle Greg's heroin addiction escalates during the course of the movie, Layla and her mother, Cait, are determined to bring him home to save him from a similar fate – and try to hold their family together. [\[View full story\]](#)

## University News



### First Day Vibes

Classes resumed in a first-of-its-kind semester on August 27, and students attended a mix of online, in-person and hybrid classes. With mask wearing, social distancing and a lot of time outdoors, campus saw signs of life for the first time since the University had to pivot to remote work and instruction in March because of the pandemic. [\[View full story\]](#)



### Garage Bands

After nearly six months of silence, the Red Hawk Deck is alive with a new sound – music. For musicians who have been singing or playing instruments in isolation all that time, the in-person rehearsals that began the first week of school in the parking garage made for a meaningful – and at times, emotional – start to the school year. [\[View full story\]](#)

## Giving News

### Career Corner



By Adam Mayer, MA, GCDF,  
CPRW, Director of Career  
Development  
[The Center for Career Services](#)

Yet another cover letter article has breached the void, unceremoniously landing in our never-ending newsletter feeds. The article asks if we really need one, and, if the pandemic has heightened cover letter potency given job seekers' need to stand-out. One answer is this –cover letter use depends on industry, some love it, some could care less. The key is conducting industry research prior to applying to determine relevance. The final word on [cover letters](#) will never exist, but resume advice remains unmoved—[optimize](#) your resume for each application.

### Sign onto the NEW MONTCLAIRconnect!

We are pleased to announce the new and improved alumni online community, MONTCLAIRconnect!

Create your profile to start making connections today!

Sign on today to:

- Expand your network and connect with fellow graduates
- Access Hire a Red Hawk with the click of a button!
- Customize your profile and share your expertise
- Start a discussion about issues of interest to you
- Engage with Montclair State as a volunteer
- Participate in flash mentorship and formal mentor programs
- Explore the groups you've been added to and join new ones!
- Check out the calendar of events for upcoming digital opportunities

Get started by [creating your account](#) today!

### Did you lose your health benefits? Augeo Benefits can help!

If you just left your job for any reason and lost your job-based health coverage, you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. This means you can enroll in a Marketplace insurance plan any time of year. You usually have 60 days from the day you lose your





## Back to School Student Emergency Fund

Thanks to the Student Emergency Fund, students like Leonard and Dana, who lost their jobs due to the pandemic, have been able to pay their tuition balances and continue their studies at Montclair State. The semester is underway, and there are many other students just like Leonard and Dana who need our help. The Montclair State Student Emergency Fund provides scholarship assistance for those who would otherwise be unable to continue their studies due to financial hardship caused by the pandemic. We have just two days left in our campaign! Help us reach our goal! [\[Learn more\]](#)

## Athletics News



## 8th Annual Red Hawk Open - Virtual Edition - A Success!

Montclair State University's 8th Annual Red Hawk Open – Virtual Edition was held on Monday, September 14. The program included updates from University leadership, visits from Rocky the Red Hawk, shout outs to our generous sponsors, highlights from Montclair State Athletics and a live raffle drawing. While golfers may not have hit the links this year, the Montclair State community came together to raise over \$56,000 for Montclair State Athletics. The golf outing is in its 8th year and benefits each of Montclair State's 18 NCAA Division III men's and women's teams. Last year's outing raised funds to create the Red Hawk Sports Network (RHSN). [\[View full story\]](#)

## Alumni Spotlights

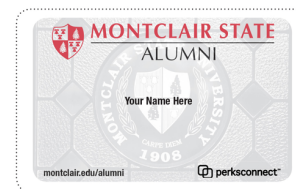
coverage to enroll. Speak with a licensed benefit counselor today by calling 888.807.3881 or get things started with a [free online quote](#).

### GEICO

Did you know? GEICO is providing a 15% credit to policyholders through October.

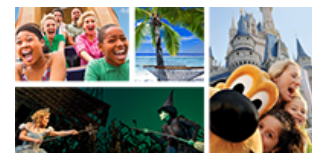


### Exclusive Alumni Benefits through PerksConnect!



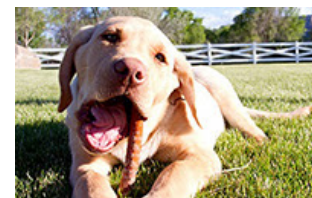
Sign on to PerksConnect to find local and national deals and discounts! Search for event tickets, cash back rewards, and much more! You will be asked to sign on to access your alumnibenefits. [\[Learn more\]](#)

### Working Advantage



As alumni, you have exclusive access to the Working Advantage discount network which allows you to save up to 60% on ticketed events and online shopping. Access these discounts and get started today! [\[Learn more\]](#)

### Wilson's Family Saved \$2,998 in Vet Bills!



Wilson needed emergency surgery after ingesting a tennis ball. Luckily Wilson's parents had Healthy Paws pet insurance, which covered 90% of Wilson's vet bills.



### Marisa Sweeney '08

Marisa Sweeney '08 is a registered dietitian nutritionist and owner of Be Well Integrative Health Services, a wellness center headquartered in downtown Morristown, New Jersey, that currently has 12 locations in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Be Well IHS houses a team of health professionals from various areas of wellness that provide an integrative approach to patient care. In addition to Be Well IHS, Sweeney is the creator and owner of the New Jersey VegFest: New Jersey's Official Vegan Food Festival and is the founder and owner of The Vegan Local, which is a curated online vegan specialty market of vegan and plant-based food and lifestyle items. [\[View full story\]](#)



### Fred Shandler '05

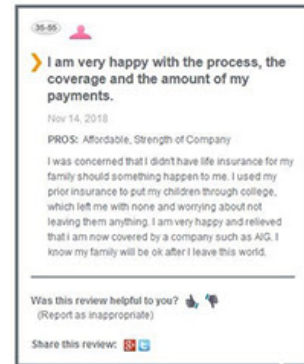
Fred Shandler '05 runs one of the hottest restaurants in New Jersey – Arturo's Osteria & Pizzeria in Maplewood – but he leads his Instagram bio with the humble title "Head Dishwasher." That description is a testament to Shandler's considerable work ethic and his collaborative approach to business management. We're a team of cooks," Shandler says, with everyone contributing. "It's a lot of trial and error." Shandler graduated from Montclair State with a degree in Elementary Education, and, even though he didn't put it to use in the classroom, it's obvious that he's an educator at heart. The staff at Arturo's – as well as his new bakery, The Bread Stand, also in Maplewood – are continuously training, learning, testing, sharing and aiming for excellence. [\[View full story\]](#)

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Hear from our customers who helped protect their family with life insurance. What our satisfied customers say about us in their life insurance reviews say more than any advertising campaign ever could. A review from a customer is a great way to see what people really think about a company. We encourage you to request a [free quote](#) for life insurance to experience a similar journey as our thousands of other happy customers. Take the first step to help protect those who matter to you. [\[Learn more\]](#)

### Support Montclair State with Amazon Smile!



**You shop. Amazon gives.** Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your alma mater by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). [\[Support Montclair State!\]](#)

### Get social with us!

Are you following us on social media? If not, you're missing out on live coverage of events and activities, important announcements, event invites, and much more!



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