

# THE LIFE & LEGACY

A Newsletter for the Ocean County College Foundation  
Vol. 2: No. 2 • October 2024

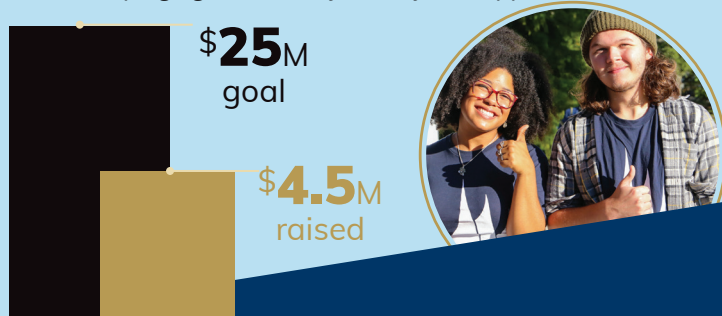
## A MESSAGE FROM OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

It's been a year of celebration at the Ocean County College Foundation. This year represents the college's 60th anniversary – six decades of learning, opportunities, growth, and transformative impact on students and the community. Six decades of the OCC Foundation providing opportunities for the students of Ocean County, supported by generous individuals like you.

With a new academic year upon us, Ocean County College continues to look ahead, and we have much to be thankful for. 2024 brought exciting new changes on campus, such as the newly curated additions to the Foundation Art Collection, the revitalized Library, and a dynamic new season at the Grunin Center for the Arts. The Blauvelt Speaker Series, featuring conversations with leading experts like Dan Buettner and Stephanie Ramos, continues to bring exciting and thought-provoking perspectives to the campus. New initiatives such as expanded mental health services and increased financial aid opportunities are designed to support OCC students and address their academic and personal needs.

### LEGACY CAMPAIGN “BY THE NUMBERS”

Together, we have raised over \$4.5 million in pledges toward our \$25M campaign goal. Thank you for your support!

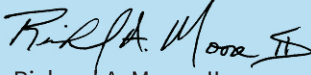


“While our impact has been significant, there is much more to do. The landscape of higher education continues to evolve right before our eyes. A college degree, vocational certificate and opportunities to expand one’s personal knowledge base has never been more important in ensuring continued individual and professional success in today’s world.”

- David C. Wintrode,  
Campaign Chair

The college’s connections to the community are stronger than ever. New partnerships with local businesses and organizations provide OCC students with real-world learning experiences and create opportunities for faculty and staff to volunteer their time and efforts to the community. These acts of service not only provide immediate support, but also deepen the connection between Ocean County College and the community.

Speaking of service, Ocean County has always had its share of heroes, and in this issue of Life & Legacy, you’ll read about one of them. His story may already be familiar to you. Through his bravery and leadership, Leonard G. “Bud” Lomell played a pivotal role in one of the most significant moments of World War II – the D-Day invasion of Normandy, which changed the course of history. As we commemorate its 80th anniversary this year, Bud Lomell’s legacy continues to remind us that one individual, through dedication and courage, can create lasting change and inspire generations to come.

  
Richard A. Moore II  
Foundation Trustee



# A LEGACY OF SERVICE

## LEONARD G. LOMELL

( 1 9 2 0 - 2 0 1 1 )  
Leonard G. “Bud” Lomell, one of Ocean County’s most revered figures, left an incredible legacy on the world stage and here in Ocean County.

Lomell’s life journey, from humble beginnings to decorated World War II hero and community leader, is nothing short of extraordinary. Born in Brooklyn in 1920, Bud was adopted as an infant by Scandinavian immigrants and relocated with his family to the Jersey Shore. After graduating from Point Pleasant Beach High School in 1937, he attended Tennessee Wesleyan College on an athletic scholarship, earning his degree in 1941. One year later, in June 1942, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and soon became a member of the elite Army Rangers.

Lomell’s bravery earned him national recognition after a daring assault at Pointe du Hoc during the Normandy invasion in which he neutralized a cache of German weapons that posed a significant threat to Allied forces. Military historian Stephen E. Ambrose would later call Bud Lomell one of the most pivotal figures to the success of D-Day, second only to General Eisenhower himself. Lomell’s courage and bravery also prevailed during the Battle of Hürtgen Forest, where he led Company D, forcing enemy troops to surrender, as the Rangers captured Hill 400.

After the war, Lomell settled in Toms River and married Charlotte Ewart, with whom he raised three daughters. He pursued a successful legal career, founding the law firm of Lomell, Muccifori, Adler, Kearney, Ravaschiere and Amabile,

subsequently known as the Lomell Law Firm, where he practiced until his retirement in the 1980s.

For his heroic actions during his service, Lomell received numerous accolades, including the U.S. Army’s Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star, the Silver Star, the British Military Medal, and the French Légion d’honneur. He was also inducted into the Army Ranger Hall of Fame. In 1999, the Borough of Point Pleasant Beach dedicated a monument to him in its Veterans Park in honor of his contributions during the war.

Those contributions extended far beyond Lomell’s military service. Lomell was actively involved in his community and took a keen interest in music, art, history, and education. He was a dedicated member of the Ocean County College Foundation Board of Trustees and the president and co-founder of the Garden State Philharmonic Symphony. He held leadership roles in numerous civic and business organizations, including as the General Chair for the 1981 building of Community Memorial Hospital, member of the Christ Church Vestry, director of the Ocean County Historical Society and the Colonel Waterhouse Museum, Statewide Bancorp, the Dover Township Juvenile Conference, South Jersey Title Insurance Co., and the Dover Township Board of Education. Together, he and his wife, Charlotte, established the Lomell Ewart Scholarship Fund in 2001. His commitment to the community was recognized in 2009 when he was honored as the OCC Foundation’s Humanitarian of the Year.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Leonard Lomell was the first director of the newly organized Ocean County Veterans Service Bureau (1946-1948)



Drafted in the US Army and served with the 76th Infantry Division

1942



Co-founded his first law firm

1957



D-Day 50th Anniversary with President Ronald Reagan

1984



Appointed Ocean County Historical Society Director

1990



Honored for Humanitarian of the Year, OCC Foundation

2009



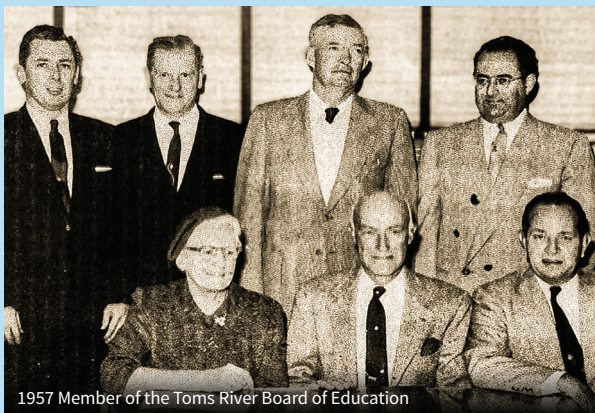


1941 They meet

1988 Leonard G. Lomell and Charlotte Lomell



1944 Participates in the D-Day invasion as part of the 2nd Ranger Battalion



1957 Member of the Toms River Board of Education



2009 Leonard G. "Bud" Lomell recounts his actions on D-Day depicted in a painting titled "Point Du Hoc, Rangers Lead The Way." - Photo by Thomas P. Costello



“ Education is the key to opportunity. Keep up your dedication and wonderful work in educating our OCC students. ”  
 - Fmr. Ocean County College Foundation Trustee, Leonard G. Lomell, February 27, 2009

# SAVE THE DATE!

## BLAUVELT SPEAKER SERIES



### VIET THANH NGUYEN

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

11:00 a.m.

Viet Thanh Nguyen's writing is bold, elegant, and fiercely honest. His remarkable debut novel, *The Sympathizer*, won the Pulitzer Prize, was a Dayton Literary Peace Prize winner, and made the finalist list for the PEN/Faulkner award.



### DAVID HOGG

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

11:00 a.m.

Thrust into the world of activism by the largest school shooting in American history, Parkland survivor David Hogg has become one of the most compelling voices of his generation. His call to "get over politics and get something done" challenges Americans to stand up, speak out and work to elect morally just leaders, regardless of party affiliation.



### TIKI BARBER

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

6:00 p.m.

Tiki Barber is a national media personality, serving as a color analyst for the NFL on CBS. He is also the afternoon drive co-host of *Evan and Tiki* on WFAN in New York. During his 10-year NFL career with the New York Giants, Barber was a three-time Pro Bowler and a First-Team All-Pro.



## SHARE YOUR LEGACY STORY ...



Do you have a personal memory from OCC history?  
A story to inspire our community?  
We want to hear from you!  
Send us your article or photo and we may  
feature your story in an upcoming newsletter.  
Send email to [Foundation@ocean.edu](mailto:Foundation@ocean.edu)

### DOWN

1. In or to a foreign country
2. Competitive physical sports
4. Fund that provides ongoing support
7. The ability to keep or hold
9. Related to education and formal study

### ACROSS

3. Generous to those in need
5. Acquiring knowledge through study or experience
6. People engaged in or available for work
8. Former member of the armed forces
10. Fixed sum of money paid regularly

## JOIN THE LEGACY CAMPAIGN ...



Gifts to the Ocean County College Foundation help our students today  
and in the future. Your support makes a tremendous difference.

To donate, call 732-255-0492 or visit our website at [go.ocean.edu/foundation](http://go.ocean.edu/foundation)

