since Goodall enrolled at MCC after he retired from the Navy. He always had a soft spot in his heart for Middlesex. When he got to Middlesex in 1979, the campus consisted of two buildings on the grounds of Bedford’s Edith Nourse Rogers M emorial Veteran’s Hospital. The whole idea of going back to school seemed daunting at first, Goodall recalled. “I.e., I am, a Vietnam veteran, on crutches and there was no hand-capped access on campus,” he said. “Of course, I was much older than most of the other students, but it was a really wonderful experience,” he said. Goodall volunteered in the VA Office, becoming the MCC liaison, and worked with other Vietnam vets returning to school. A few years later, he transferred to Suffolk University. While attending Suffolk, Goodall learned that Middlesex was about to form a board of trustees and needed two alumni members. He and others formed the MCC Alumni Association, and Goodall was elected its first representative to MCC’s new Board of Trustees. Over the next 26 years, he served as a trustee, helping to lobby the state legislature for funding to build MCC’s 200-acre Bedford campus. After running a successful insurance agency, Goodall relocated to Arizona in 1991. For months after the move, he had trouble finding work in Phoenix. Then one day he volunteered to help a boy on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Reservation get to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, and Goodall’s career in human services began. “I was taking this boy to AA meetings regularly, and the director of social services on the reservation asked me if I’d start a substance-abuse program for the reservation,” Goodall said. “I had absolutely no previous experience in the field, but she hired me. And, probably because of my lack of previous experience, we came up with some innovative programs.” He worked there for the next 6.5 years. During a short-lived move back to the Boston area (at the request of his children), while attending church in Easton, Goodall began getting the feeling he was being called to the ministry. “But I kept telling myself, ‘Forget it, you’re too old,’” he said. Several months later, his doctor told him he’d better return to the desert for health reasons. Once back in Phoenix, Goodall started to think seriously about heeding the call and began studying to become a Presbyterian lay minister. “I’m ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church, because the Presbyterians believe in priesthood of the laity,” said Goodall. “I’d like to say I took a shortcut to the ministry.” But Goodall, who has a degree from Suffolk University, is now Ecumenical Chaplain for the Homeless in Phoenix. Goodall’s journey from attending Middlesex to ministering to the homeless has involved a number of unexpected twists and turns. But, Goodall says, he got off to a fresh start at MCC, where he began putting his life back together after a debilitating accident. “I came to the college to find some way to live again, and they brought me back to life,” he said. “I’m a veteran, and I’m at a VA hospital and I’d see all these other vets as they came through the halls and into the cafeteria, and I’d think, ‘Where’s my life now? ’” Goodall volunteered in the VA Office, becoming the MCC liaison, and worked with other Vietnam vets returning to school. A few years later, he transferred to Suffolk University. While attending Suffolk, Goodall learned that Middlesex was about to form a board of trustees and needed two alumni members. He and others formed the MCC Alumni Association, and Goodall was elected its first representative to MCC’s new Board of Trustees. Over the next 26 years, he served as a trustee, helping to lobby the state legislature for funding to build MCC’s 200-acre Bedford campus. 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