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## MCC News

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Week of September 15, 2008

*MCC News* is a compilation of press releases and news items from Martin Community College.

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### MCC News: MCC Celebrates Constitution Day and Citizenship Day



Martin Community College (MCC) held its annual Constitution Day celebration Wednesday, September 17 with an auditorium full of students, faculty, staff and community guests, including David Irvine of Irvine Law Firm PC who served as the event's guest speaker.

Following the presentation of colors by the Martin County unit of the North Carolina National Guard's Color Guard, the audience joined together to sing the National Anthem and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. MCC's Student Government Association (SGA) president J.J. Mosley welcomed attendees to the event and encouraged students to exercise their right to vote in upcoming elections by registering at the voter registration table, sponsored by SGA.

Constitution Day (or Citizenship Day) is an American federal holiday established to recognize the ratification of the United States Constitution and is observed on September 17, the day the U.S. Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution in 1787.

In addition to renaming the holiday "Constitution Day and Citizenship Day," the act mandates that all publicly funded educational institutions provide educational programming on the history of the American Constitution on that day. In May 2005, the United States Department of Education announced the enactment of this law and that it would apply to any school receiving federal funds of any kind. This holiday is not observed by granting time off work for federal employees.



## **BLET Program Seeks New Recruits**

The Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program is seeking applicants for its upcoming training class in October. The rigorous, four-month course stresses professionalism, academic achievement, discipline and physical fitness in cadets.

Larry Boyd, law enforcement training coordinator, says of MCC's BLET, "We are one of few Basic Law Enforcement Training places to offer night classes for those with full-time jobs looking to change careers."

Accredited by the N.C. Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission, the BLET course is available through MCC's Law Enforcement Training Section and is required for all potential law enforcement officers. In addition, the college also offers Law Enforcement In-Service Training to provide continuing education for persons who currently work for criminal justice agencies.

The next BLET course cycle is scheduled to begin Tuesday, October 7, 2008. Several application forms and sponsorship by a law enforcement agency are required for enrollment into the program, so persons interested in participating should contact Boyd immediately at (252) 792-1521 ext. 267. Program information is also available on the College's website, [www.martincc.edu](http://www.martincc.edu). Click on "Continuing Education," then "BLET" for more details.

## **Small Business Center Begins Fall Seminars**

The MCC Small Business Center's fall seminar schedule has a number of upcoming workshops worth checking out – starting with "Sharpen Your Business Writing Skills."

The "Sharpen Your Business Writing Skills" seminar by Drew Becker is scheduled for Wednesday, October 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the NC Telecenter. Designed to provide an understanding of how to use the right words to convey powerful ideas so readers can quickly comprehend your messages, this workshop will also help participants learn how punctuation can help enhance the readability of their writing. A light lunch at the telecenter will be provided for participants. Pre-registration is required and there is a registration fee of \$10 for Martin County Chamber members and \$15 for non-members. Checks should be made payable to Martin County Chamber of Commerce.

To pre-register, call the Small Business Center 792-1521, ext. 202. For more information on these and other scheduled business seminars this fall, please check the "News and Information" page on MCC's website ([www.martincc.edu](http://www.martincc.edu)) or contact Georgette Chilton, Small Business Center director, at 252-792-1521 Ext. 202 or [gchilton@martincc.edu](mailto:gchilton@martincc.edu).