

The Martin Messenger

A monthly newsletter for Martin Community College

March 2017

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MCC's 30th Annual Black History Month Program is Big Success!

A large audience, with many enthusiastic ECSU alumni in attendance, welcomed Dr. Thomas Conway, the Chancellor of Elizabeth City State University to MCC's 30th annual Black History Month presentation on February 16. The program, which was emceed by MCC's IT Director Elijah Freeman, featured a wide variety of local talent. Tony Spence, a member of the Washington County Male Chorus sang a number of gospel songs. Crystal Waters, an MCC Counselor and ECSU alumna also sang an inspirational song. Several students from Smiling Faces Child Care Center, under the direction of Bernadette Rodgers, recited quotes by a number of famous African Americans. Dr. Conway spoke eloquently on how we all have a role to play in history. Although he highlighted several historic events, his description of the Cuban Missile Crisis and President Kennedy's decision not to start a nuclear war - despite strong military encouragement - was particularly moving. **Cont. on page 10...**



Pictured above, MCC's HRD Director and Coordinator of the Annual Black History Month Celebration, Brenda G. Moore, speaks with Mr. Kenneth Johnson, a fellow ECSU alum during the event's reception, which was sponsored by the local A.P. Lester Chapter of the ECSU Alumni.

MCC's Interim President, Dr. Kenneth A. Boham (left), greeted his friend and colleague, Dr. Thomas Conway (right), Chancellor of Elizabeth City State University at MCC's 30th annual Black History Month presentation on 2/16/17. Dr. Conway was the guest speaker. A reception, hosted by the local chapter of ECSU alumna was hosted after the event. The event was well attended and highlighted the accomplishments of numerous African Americans in Martin and Bertie Counties.

MCC Student, Toshika Watson, Interviewed by WRAL TV

When WRAL TV's Documentary Producer, Clay Johnson, contacted MCC's PR Director, Judy Jennette in late January, he was in search of a student from Bertie County who was retraining for the job market in their home county. Johnson explained that he was developing a news story comparing the job



Pictured above is Toshika Watson being interviewed by Clay Johnson, a documentary producer for WRAL TV in Raleigh. Pictured right is Watson in the midst of all the recording equipment as camera-man Jay Jennings captures her interview with Johnson. The interview was conducted in MCC's Cosmetology Department on February 2. The short documentary is slated to run on WRAL TV sometime in March.

market in Wake County (one of the largest in NC) to that of Bertie County (one of the smallest). Although Bertie and Wake Counties are only 100 miles apart, the economic disparity is startling.

Since 24% of MCC's students reside in Bertie County, it didn't take Jennette very long to find second year Cosmetology student, Toshika Watson. Watson, a well-spoken and committed student, was recommended by her instructor, Curtis Hyler.

Watson, age 37, a mother of three boys (ages 21, 16 and 14) and a life long resident of Lewiston, already has an associate degree in health administration from the University of Phoenix, but to date, that has not helped her find fulfilling work close to home.

During the interview, Watson noted that she had worked at Perdue's chicken processing plant just five minutes from her home, as well as the Smithfield's pork processing plant in Virginia, an hour and a half away from her house. But, despite the relatively good pay at both of these plants, Watson still felt that she wanted to do more than assembly line work for rest of her life.

With a flare for both the visual arts and music, and a desire to help people feel good about themselves, Watson felt drawn to the creative and uplifting aspects of cosmetology. The proximity and great reputation of MCC's Cosmetology Department made the next step easy for Watson. She enrolled in MCC's Fall of 2015 semester.

Watson continued on page 3...



Watson continued...

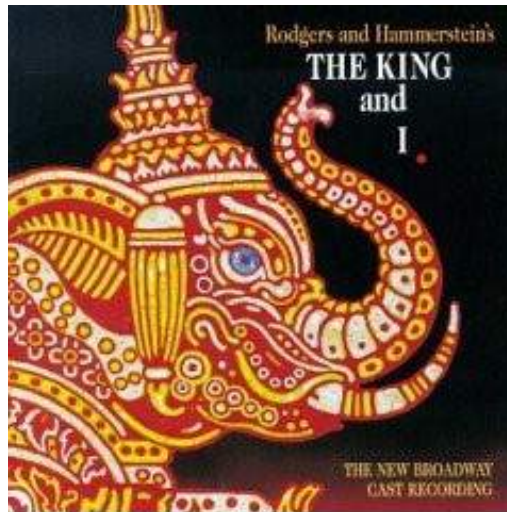
Watson is set to graduate this May. When asked what she plans to do after that, she states, "I really want to open my own salon in Lewiston. I love the idea staying close to my children, parents and friends. I really would prefer staying right here. But I'm worried that the client base might not be large enough to sustain me. If not, I may have to think about moving to a bigger market like Raleigh, Charlotte or Fayetteville."

Curtis Hyler, Watson's Cosmetology Instructor states, "Toshika is a great student and will do well anywhere she goes. However, for somewhat selfish reasons, I hope that she is able to make her mark in Lewiston; because no one sells our program better than our own graduates! She would be a very good recruiter for MCC."



Pictured above is Toshika Watson working on another student's hair during an interview with WRAL TV on February 2.

Next Foundation Trip "The King and I"



The MCC Foundation Board has approved another day trip to the Durham Performing Arts Center. The Foundation has committed to ten orchestra seats for the Saturday, June 10, matinee performance of *The King and I*. One of Rodgers & Hammerstein's finest works, *THE KING AND I* boasts a score which features such beloved classics as "Getting To Know You," "I Whistle a Happy Tune," "Hello Young Lovers," "Shall We Dance" and "Something Wonderful." Set in 1860's Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional and tempestuous relationship that develops between the King of Siam and Anna Leonowens, a British schoolteacher whom the modernist King, in an imperialistic world, brings to Siam to teach his many wives and children. This trip will cost approximately \$130 which will include the theater ticket and transportation. Please contact Judy Jennette at judy.jennette@martincc.edu or via phone at 252-789-0310 if you would like to reserve a seat.



Donvea Thompson

TRIO Rep now on MCC Campus

Thanks to the TRIO program at Pitt Community College, MCC now has a part-time Educational Opportunity Center Outreach Specialist on its campus. Mr. Donvea \Don vee ay\ Thompson, originally from Bertie County, started working on our campus in February. According to Thompson, "My primary task is to provide potential students with access to resources and personnel that will assist in GED completion, college enrollment and financial aid submission. I will take the student by the hand and walk them through the enrollment process." Thompson will also be working at the NC Works office in Williamston. Despite his connection to PCC, Thompson's main goal is to move students toward GED completion, college enrollment and college completion - no matter which campus is most convenient.

Boham named Caldwell County's Man of the Year

*Reprinted from Issue 3: March 2017
The Caldwell Chronicle*

A former Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute President was honored with the Caldwell Chamber of Commerce's LA Dysart Man of the Year Award at the organization's annual dinner on Feb. 7.

In 2016, Dr. Kenneth Boham capped a nearly 40-year career in higher education – a majority of which was spent as a leader and innovator in Caldwell and Watauga counties. He made his retirement official in June after more than 21 years as President of CCC&TI, leaving a legacy that included unprecedented enrollment, facility expansion and successful partnerships.

"He unified the community," according to one community member who nominated him. "He would get the job done without taking credit and always did what was best for students."

Under Boham's leadership, CCC&TI served as a state model in the development of "seamless education" through the Career Center Middle College, the Appalachian State University Center and the Caldwell Early College High School. During his tenure, CCC&TI established a permanent campus in Boone, retrained thousands of displaced workers during the Great Recession and experienced the greatest growth in the institution's 50-year history.

His volunteer service includes: the NC Commission on Workforce Development, NC Association of Community College Presidents, Caldwell Chamber of Commerce, Caldwell County Smart Start, the Foundation of CCC&TI and Caldwell 20/20. Recognition for his decades of work in education includes: the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, NC Community College System President of the Year, I.E. Ready Distinguished Graduate Award from NC State, CCB's Golden Apple Award, the Caldwell Economic Development Commission Herman Anderson Award and the Caldwell Chamber Visionary Award.

Congratulations Dr. Boham!



MCC's Interim President, Dr. Kenneth A. Boham (above), was named Caldwell County's Man of the Year on February 7. Dr. Boham quickly came back to reality when he returned to the MCC campus and started pulling wires for his computer (pictured below).



MCC Participates in Local Entrepreneur Fair

MCC was one of several co-sponsors of the Entrepreneur Fair held on February 4 in the Bob Martin Center. This was the first fair of its kind held in Martin County and by all accounts, it was a successful effort.

Pictured above left is Lena Jackson, MCC's Small Business Center's (SBC) Administrator. She manned the SBC booth throughout the day and reported that more than a hundred visitors stopped by her booth and requested information.

Pictured center is MCC's Business and Industry Liaison, Billy Barber. Barber has also been filling in as the interim Director of the SBC. Barber reports that the event was very successful and so much so, that it may become a regular event.

Barber states, "This event connected us to the exact audience we were trying to reach. Our vendors were busy the entire time and the two workshops, 'Doing Business in Martin County' and 'Expanding Your Small Business' were well attended. I have had more than a dozen inquiries from contacts I made that day."

Pictured below is Mr. Ronnie Booth from Beaufort County. Booth brought his invention for restarting diesel engines after they run out of fuel - a diesel fuel injection pump. Booth developed the pump while he was working as a civilian in Iraq. He attended the Entrepreneur Fair to find assistance in marketing his invention.



REAL Crisis Intervention, Inc. is a non-profit agency offering free 24/7 counseling and an extensive referral service. REAL provides: Counseling, Information & Referral, Sexual Assault Services, Advocacy, Suicide Intervention/Prevention, Pitt Resource Connection, Dial-A-Teen, Community Resource Connection and Outreach/Education. They are located at 1011 Anderson Street, in Greenville NC. You may contact REAL in the following ways; by phone at 252-758-4357, by email at realcrisis@embarqmail.com or on the web at www.realcrisis.org





KidsFest on April 1

Please mark your calendars on Saturday, April 1st, 2017 for KidsFest. This year marks the 13th annual event presented by Martin-Pitt Partnership for Children (MPPFC). KidsFest will be held from 10 am to 1 pm at the Bob Martin Agricultural Center in Williamston, NC.

KidsFest is a free event that champions wellness, recreation, community, health and fun among young children and families while connecting them to a variety of programs and services in our area. This event typically draws 1000 participants.

MCC will have a booth at KidsFest and Elaine Spellman, MCC's Early Childhood Instructor, is asking for volunteers to bring information about their programs and come help 'man' the booth.

The organizers of KidsFest are also asking for sponsors or volunteers to help with the event. Sponsors who donate \$100 or more will have their name/organization printed on the KidsFest flyers. Sponsors who donate \$100 or less will have their name/organization printed on a presentation trifold board at KidsFest.

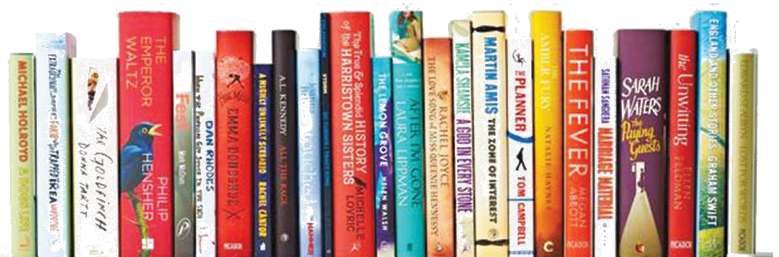
Please contact the following people for additional information: Elaine Spellman (MCC Early Childhood Instructor at 252-789-0305 or Tonya Leggett (MPPFC) Community Outreach Coordinator at 252-789-4911 or Carolene Battle (MPPFC) Resource Room Specialist at 252-789-4911.

Elaine Spellman states, "I am looking forward to hearing from my MCC family in helping make this family friendly event a Huge Success!"



Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) Class Draws Large Attendance

More than 40 local fire and rescue personnel participated in the Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) class conducted through MCC's Division of Continuing Education on February 18 and 19. Saturday's class was a daylong session in the classroom with lectures and vendor demonstrations. Sunday's training was a live, hands on demonstration. Pictured above is the live training in downtown Williamston. Larry Johnson, MCC's Fire and Rescue Training Coordinator, stated, "Based on the feedback I have received from the participants, this was one of the most well-received classes we have offered. This technology is vital to our fire departments and the training was timely with each department planning its budget for the upcoming fiscal year."



Annual MCC Library Book Sale! March 6 - 10

Freeman is MCC's New IT Director!



Elijah Freeman

On March 1, Elijah Freeman, a man of many talents - poet, raconteur, sound tech, deejay, gospel singer, dessert chef, mentor and IT wiz (just to name a few) - was promoted from Communications/Network Manager to Director of Information Technology at MCC.

Freeman, a life long resident of Oak City in Martin County, started his career at MCC in 1987. He was hired as an Accounting Technician/researcher, a position in which he evaluated all programs of study on an annual basis. But even then, he served as the backup Systems Administrator - writing and changing computer programs as needed and helping staff and faculty with computer and software problems.

Ten years later, Freeman was promoted to Telecommunications/Network Manager, a position in which he has managed all of MCC's routers, switches,

firewalls and virus/spam detection systems over the past 19 years.

Freeman graduated from UNC Chapel Hill in May of 1980 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Radio Television and Motion Pictures. He also earned an AAS degree in Business Computer Programming from MCC in 1986 and a certificate in Routing and Switching in 2003.

When asked what his immediate plans for the IT Department are, Freeman laughed out loud and stated, "I just want to keep it afloat until we can hire some additional help in here!"

In his spare time, Freeman sings with a family gospel group, The Gospel 5" started by his father.

MCC's Dean of Administrative Services stated, "The interview team ratified my firm belief that our internal resources in the IT Department are fully capable of getting the job done and I look forward to working with Elijah in this capacity."



Elijah Freeman reciting a Dunbar poem during the Literary and Cultural Arts Club's 2015 Poetry Slam.



Pictured above is Elijah Freeman with Dr. Boham during the Black History Month Celebration on February 16. Freeman served as the emcee for this year's event.

Need help?

Center for Family
Violence Prevention

24 Hour Crisis Line

(252)752-3811

TOLL FREE (800)537-2238

Greenville, NC

NCCEAPA is seeking scholarship applicants

Nominations are being sought for a \$750 scholarship offered by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Administrative Professionals Association (NCCEAPA) through March 21, 2017. The scholarship is available to North Carolina residents pursuing a college degree (Associates and/or Bachelors) in business or a business-related field of study. Applicants must be enrolled to attend classes at a college during the 2017-2018 school year.

The scholarship is awarded annually to honor the work and dedication of Edith Herter and Frances O'Neal, co-leaders in forming the NCCEAPA in 1973.

Qualified applicants interested in applying for this scholarship can obtain an application packet from the financial aid office at their local community college. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, Martin County Center, at 252-789-4370, or by visiting the Center at 104 Kehukee Park Road, in Williamston NC.

The Martin Community College Financial Aid Office is located in Building 1, Room 20. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION BY MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017.



Three from MCC Attend ATD Conference in SF



Amid a massive crowd of more than 2400 conference attendees, pictured above are Rhonda Breed and Maureen Green during one of the plenary sessions of the Dream Conference held in San Francisco 2/21 through 2/24. The Conference was sponsored by Achieving the Dream, of which, MCC is a member. Pictured below on the far left is Eileen Baccus, Martin's new leadership coach, introducing the distinguished panel of speakers during the post lunch plenary session on Thursday. The main speaker, Stephen M. R. Covey (pictured far right), Author of "The Speed of Trust" and eldest son of Stephen Covey (author of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People) gave a compelling synopsis of his book and touted how trusting people can make organizations perform more efficiently and effectively. MCC's PR Director, Judy Jennette, also attended the event.



And the winner is.... LJ Evans!



Pictured above left is MCC student La'Jharus "LJ" Evans receiving a \$25 gift certificate from SGA president Amanda Vick. Evans was the first student to correctly identify all 11 of the famous black leaders and their historic achievements in the sepia toned picture above. The contest was featured on the back of the February edition of the Martin Messenger. Evans, a NERSBA student and resident of Plymouth, is completing his second year at MCC. Upon graduation, he plans to transfer to NC State University and major in Computer Science. When asked about his experience at MCC, Evans stated, "I love the instructors and the classes. This has been a great introduction to college life for me. I have especially enjoyed my time in the Minority Male Success program. My mentor, the workshops I have attended and the trips I have taken, have all helped me to see the world from a much broader perspective. I will leave MCC a much more well-rounded person." When asked what he enjoys doing in his spare time Evans stated, "I like to dance, but I don't have much spare time because I work at the McDonalds in Plymouth." Congratulations LJ!

From the far left upper corner of the picture moving clockwise, Evans identified the following:

Mae Jemison: First African American woman to travel in space when she went into orbit aboard the space shuttle endeavor on September 12th, 1992.

Martin Luther King Jr.: Was an American Baptist minister and activist who was a leader in the Civil Rights Movement. He is best known for his role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience based on his Christian beliefs.

Ben Carson: American retired neurosurgeon, author, and politician, who is the nominee to be the 17th United States Secretary of housing and Urban Development picked by Donald Trump.

Henry Flipper: First African American to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1877.

Barack Obama: First African American to serve as president, 44th, as

well as the first born outside a contiguous United States.

Michelle Obama: First African American first lady was also an American lawyer and writer.

Patricia Harris: First African American Woman to serve in the United States Cabinet and the first enter the line of succession to the presidency, and first African American woman to represent the United States as an ambassador.

Colin Powell: The first, and so far the only, African American to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He was the 65th United States Secretary of State, serving under US President Georg W Bush, the first African American to serve in that position.

Sarah Vaughan: American Jazz singer being described as having "one of the most wondrous voices of the 20th Century".

Shirley Chisolm: American Politician, educator, and author. First Afri-

can American Woman elected to the United States congress. In 1972 she became the first black candidate for a majority party's nomination for president of the United States and the first woman to run for Democrat Party's presidential nomination.

Magic Johnson: American retired professional basketball player who played point guard for the Los Angeles Lakers of the NBA for 13 seasons.

Evans reports that it took him about an hour to identify the people he did not know. Although he immediately recognized about eight of the eleven, three of the figures required some real detective work.

The SGA is to be commended for supporting this contest and bringing attention to the enormous and numerous contributions these awesome Americans have made to society!

Black History celebration shines spotlight on local talent!



Candance Bryant - Whitehurst



Crystal Waters



Bernadette Rodgers
Owner of Smiling Faces



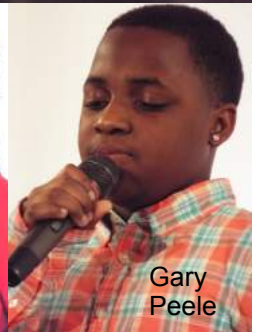
Elijah Freeman



Tony Spence



Shakiah Dolberry



Gary Peele



Taniya Bond



Jhayda Speller



Tanyah Thompson



Jazir Chance

Continued from page 1...
 Citing several moments in history, when ordinary people have stepped up to do extraordinary things, Dr. Conway demonstrated how we are all called to make contributions to society. It is therefore incumbent upon each of us to be prepared for our moment.

Conway's remarks were followed with comments by MCC's Interim President, Dr. Kenneth A. Boham who stated, "I hope that we can keep the spirit of this moment alive and spread it to all of the other 11 months of the year."

Candance Bryant Whitehurst then led the audience in singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing" which was immediately followed by a reception in the lobby sponsored by the local A.P. Lester Chapter of the ECSU Alumni. ECSU Alumnus, Jean Cherry provided the cake.



Reginald Speight, District Director for Congressman G.K. Butterfield



Dallas Wiggins

MCC Equine Students to Host Annual Open Show

The Equine Technology Department at Martin Community College (MCC) will host an Open Show fundraiser on Saturday, March 4, beginning at 9 am and ending when the competitions are finished, generally around 6 or 7 pm. The event will take place in the Martin Community College Equine Indoor Facility, located at 1161 Kehukee Park Road in Williamston. Spectators are welcome and there is no charge to spectate. Concessions will be available at this event and will start serving around 8:30 am.

The entry booth will be open on Friday, March 3 from 5 pm to 8:30 pm and on Saturday, March 4, beginning at 6:30 am and will remain open throughout the day. The entry fees are \$8 per class or \$60 all day/unlimited classes.

The show will lead off with Open Showmanship and Open Lead Line events followed by a number of English Saddle events, subdivided into youth, junior, adult and open categories, for Walk Only, Walk/Trot (W/T), Walk/Trot/Canter (W/T/C) and Go As You Please (GAYP).

Western saddle events will begin after the lunch break. This category will also be subdivided to include youth, junior, adult and open categories for Walk Only, Walk/Jog (W/J), Walk/Jog/Lope (W/J/L) and Go As You Please (GAYP).

The games section will include Coke and Cracker, Egg and Spoon, Ride A Buck Bareback

(for entrants age 18 and up – helmets required), Relay Race, Key Hole, Poles and Barrels.

All classes will be divided into Pee Wee (12&under), Youth (13-17) and Adult (18 & over). Ribbons and a few cash prizes will be awarded.

All mounted English riders as well as all riders under 18 years of age must wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet to compete in this event. All horses must have AGID NEGATIVE Coggins verification. No ELISA Coggins will be accepted!

Stalls will be available for this event on Friday, March 3, between 5 pm and 9 pm, and can be reserved through Mirindy Piland via email at 252-319-0410. The fee is \$40 per stall, which includes three bags of shavings.

Tami Thurston, the Director of MCC's Equine Technology program states, "This show is just for fun, but it is a great learning experience for the MCC students. We've been doing for more than 10 years. The students learn to plan, prepare and facilitate a show. It's actually a class project for them to explore if they would like a career in show management. It also gives the public a firsthand opportunity to see our indoor equestrian facility and interact with our students. It's just a fun day for everyone."

The proceeds from this event are used to enhance MCC's Equine program. For any questions or further information, please contact Tami Thurston at (252) 661-3234, or via email at tthurston@martincc.edu.



Pictured above, is one of the Pee Wee class riders in last year's Open Show. She competed in English style riding.



Pictured above in western style riding, is Martin Community College (MCC) equestrian technology student Luke Williams (Class of 2016). He is representative of MCC's many enthusiastic Equine Technology students who will be assisting in the annual Open Show on Saturday, March 4, at the MCC Equine Indoor Facility on Kehukee Park Road in Williamston.

MCC's "Man Up" Students Attend Leadership Conference and prepare for trip to DC

Three members of MCC's Minority Male Success Program (MMSP, aka Man Up) traveled to the campus of Roanoke Chowan Community College (RCCC) in February to participate in the first Men Building Leaders Conference. The program consisted of morning, mid-day, afternoon, and evening keynote speakers seeking to engage students by delivering powerful messages on topics from overcoming barriers, strategies for academic study, future employment opportunities, economic empowerment, political action, and social change.

Lewis C. Hoggard, III, the HRD / Minority Male Program Coordinator at Roanoke Chowan Community College wrote, "The level of success we achieved (at this event) could not have been possible without your participation. It is our hope that we were able to touch the lives of the many students both men and women who attended from across this great state of North Carolina. It is imperative that we continue to work with our students to prepare them to be future leaders. Malcolm X once said, 'Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.' "

Twenty-two Man Up students have also signed up to participate in the educational excursion to Washington, DC, March 6 through 8. The group met on March 1 to review the itinerary and go over procedures. The group will be touring the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Air and Space Museum, Morgan State University, the US Capitol, Howard University and the National Zoo and Conservation and Biology Institute.



Another excursion is being planned to Atlanta, GA, April 11 - 13. Students interested in joining this group may contact MCC's Minority Male Success Coordinator, Crystal Waters at 252 - 792 - 0268 or by email at cpugh@martincc.edu. Water's office is located in Building 1, office 22B.

Pictured left are MCC Man Up students (from L to R) Johnnie Phillips (NERSBA), Maurice Perry (NERSBA) and Shamar Benson (Riverside HS) stand behind Crystal Waters during the Men Building Leaders Conference at RCCC on February 25.



SECU Foundation

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Four SECU Scholarships are now available for MCC's Continuing Education Students

The NC State Employees Credit Union awards ten \$750 scholarships per fiscal year (July, 2016 - June, 2017) to every community college in the state.

Martin Community College (MCC) has already awarded six of its scholarships. Thus far, Danielle Colon, Tyler Cooper, Darmecal Hyman, Latisha Holley, Danyell Little and Larry Cooper have received scholarships in the current fiscal year. (see picture at right)

The application deadline for the remaining four scholarships is Monday, April 3. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in a short-term training program of 96-hours or more. Also, the program must lead to a state-regulated or industry-recognized credential that is offered through Continuing Education. Lastly, in order to receive scholarships, students must successfully complete/pass their course of training PRIOR to the application submission date to the System Office in May.

Please note that these scholarships require students to pay all costs up front and reimburses them in the amount of \$750 at either completion of their course or upon college receipt of funds from the SECU Foundation after the appropriate reporting period.

Completed applications are to be turned in to Callie Northern Herring. If you have questions, please contact Northern-Herring at 252-789-0216 or via email at callie.northernherring@martincc.edu



Six Continuing Education Students received SECU Scholarships for 2016 programs

Pictured above are four of MCC's six 2016 recipients of SECU scholarships for Continuing Education students. From left to right are MCC's Interim President, Dr. Kenneth A. Boham, Danielle Colon, Larry Cooper, Tyler Cooper, Danyell Little and Brent Glover, Sr. Vice President of SECU's (State Employee Credit Union's) District 42. The Coopers, father and son, completed the BLET program together. Tyler Cooper is a Deputy Sheriff in Greene County. Colon, a resident of Edenton, is also a graduate of the BLET program and is now working as a deputy sheriff in Bertie County. Little, a graduate of MCC's Phlebotomy program is working as a Phlebotomist at Vidant Bertie Hospital. Darmecal Hyman and Latisha Holley also received scholarships but are not pictured. Hyman and Holley were both graduates of MCC's Health Care programs.

Name the Foal Contest Extended to April 7!



Miss Penny (pictured left), is expecting in March. Big Man Sam (pictured right) is the father. Miss Penny is a brood mare in MCC's Equine Technology program. The Student Government Association (SGA) is sponsoring a "Name the Baby" contest for the foal's barn name. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate in the Campus Café. The contest is open to all MCC students, staff and faculty. To enter, stop by the MCC Library, complete an entry slip and drop it in the designated box. All entries must be received by March 7. The winner will be announced in the May edition of the Martin Messenger.

Since Miss Penny has not yet had her foal and the sex of the baby is still unknown, the contest to name the newest addition to the MCC Equine Herd has been extended to April 7. The Equine Staff felt that knowing the sex of the foal may be helpful in selecting a name.

Miss Penny, a brood mare in MCC's Equine program, will foal in March. She is a bay colored, half Quarter Horse and half thoroughbred (referred to as an appendix horse in equine terminology). She was artificially inseminated by the equine students in April of 2016.

The foal's father is a North American Spotted Draft Horse Stallion named Big Man Sam. He is owned by Carey Stewart, one of MCC's equine technology instructors. Big Man Sam has sired many foals throughout the US.

Most horses have a barn name and a show name. The show name is typically a combination of the parents' names which is used on their paperwork. The barn name is their day-to-day name. Frequently, barn names reference the registered name. Miss Penny's name reflects her registered name "Certified Treasure."

With this naming protocol in mind, MCC's SGA is sponsoring a "Name the Baby" contest for the new foal's barn name. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate in the MCC Café. To enter, stop by the MCC library, fill out an entry slip and drop it in the designated box.

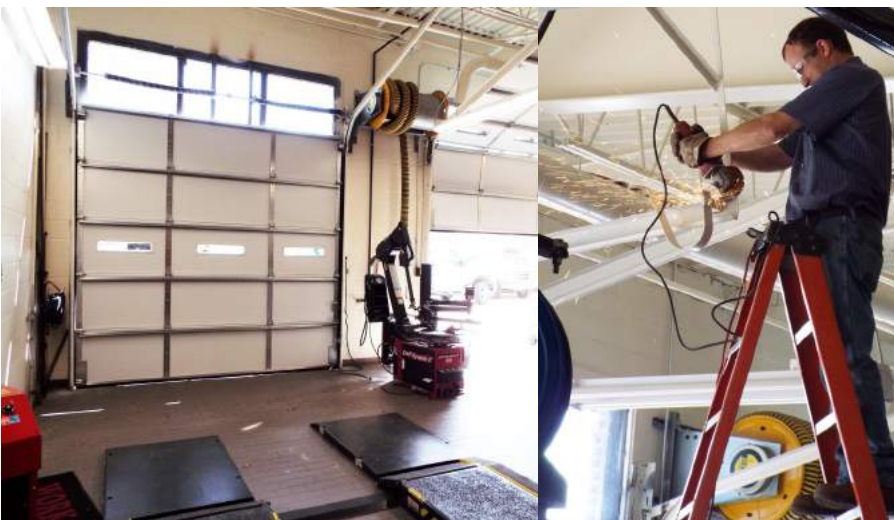
Once the foal is born, a picture will be taken and distributed across campus.

Members of the Equine Club and Equine Technology Faculty will select the winner. The winner will be announced in the May edition of the Martin Messenger. The contest is open to all MCC students, faculty and staff!

MCC's Automotive Program is opening doors... literally!



Pictured above is Mr. Chris Ongero, the regional representative for Snap On Tools. He visited Al Dawes' Automotive Technology class on February 28 to provide the students with an overview of the newly installed Snap On tools and equipment in the automotive shop. Eight new bay doors were also installed during the last week in February. Pictured below is one of the new doors in the wheel alignment bay and one of the installers making final adjustments to another door. The door replacements now complete the long awaited improvements to MCC's Automotive Technology Department. The program was recently re-accredited by NATEF. An open house for local automotive business owners and students is planned for April 20. A grand opening will be held during the Fall semester.



Michelle Griffin

Griffin is MCC's New Student Success Coach

A familiar face has been hired to fill MCC's new Student Success Specialist / High School Liaison position - Adjunct English and Communications Instructor, Michelle Griffin. She will be working through the Student Services Department to build close working relationships with our local public, private and charter schools and encourage new MCC students to complete their first year successfully.

Griffin, a resident of Robersonville, earned her BS degree in Education with a concentration in English from ECU and her Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from UNC - Greensboro. She also holds an AAS Degree in Medical Office Technology from Lenoir Community College.

Griffin has worked as an Adjunct Instructor at MCC since 2013.

Griffin cont. on pg. 19...



Spring
Fling!
March 27



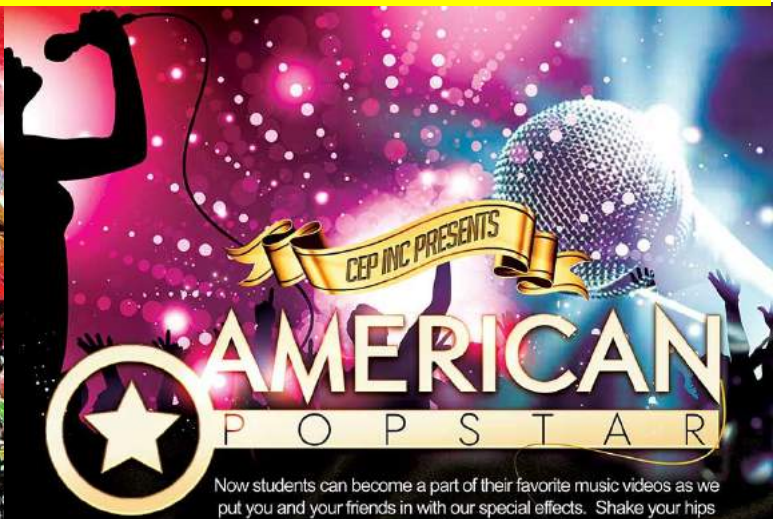
Fun activities throughout the day! Free lunch! Student Talent Show!

The SGA is seeking students to show off their talent during Spring Fling! Singers, dancers, musicians, poets, ALL are welcome! Sign up with Mary Ann in the Campus Café, Amanda in the Computer Lab or Dr. Dennis in Building 4.



This event is for the novice looking to have some fun, or the more serious gamer ready to dominate any competitor in their path.

Ultimate gaming package will include 2 games system of each:



Now students can become a part of their favorite music videos as we put you and your friends in with our special effects. Shake your hips and gyrate with Beyonce, or slip away into the background of Taylor Swift's latest hit. After all is sang and done, you will have up to three DVDs from our self-contained mobile recording studio.

Helping produce epic lip sync popstar, students are outfitted with small props and costumes.



Battle Ball!

MCC's SGA Continues to Grow!



Pictured from left to right above are MCC's SGA (Student Government Association) leaders; Devan Fields, Tammy Gedrimas, Amanda Vick (president), Amanda Saunders (vice-president), Kayla Wilder and Coral Johnston. Pictured below left are the SGA advisors Dr. Janay Dennis (Biology Instructor) and Christina Measamer (English Instructor). Below right are MCC students running a Bingo game as part of Martin County's Relay for Life fundraising activities.





Crystal R. Waters,
Student Services Counselor

The Counselor's Corner



"This college has great bones," said our interim president Dr. Kenneth Boham. I hadn't heard this phrase before, but it has stuck with me since that brisk Monday morning in the auditorium on February 13th during our faculty and staff meeting. In my experiences, I had heard the phrase "good bones" and it generally meant that a house had a good foundation and solid structure. However, in our case it challenges us to see that our current and prospective students have turned to us for help determining if Martin Community College has the potential to meet their academic and career needs. They want to know if our college has "great bones". Now that we have all heard the term, thanks to our interim President - What do we do? Here are my three recommendations:

1. **We promote the quality education a student can gain here with us.** A college with great bones is well-built. A well-built college focuses on the whole student—the social, emotional, mental, physical, and cognitive development of each student regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or geographic location. It prepares the student for life. We must validate our students from the moment they enter our offices and classrooms by ensuring them that we provide access to a quality education and that we will offer them the learning tools necessary to guarantee a healthy lifestyle.
2. **We support innovation.** It's relatively simple to replace aging roofing shingles or update plumbing fixtures, but it is far more complicated if the basic infrastructure of the college is lacking. Innovation is not only for the tech industry; it is central to the success of any business and it must be an integral part of our strategy moving forward. Students have many choices these days, and Martin Community College needs to stand out from the rest. To succeed, Martin Community College needs to see innovation not as something special that only special people can do, but as something that can become routine and methodical. To put it another way, anyone can innovate, but practically no one can innovate alone. Hard work and focus is the vehicle that might get you there, but innovation is the gas necessary to keep your engine running.
3. **We encourage the culture of customer service.** If you were given a survey and asked to be completely honest how would you grade MCC's level of customer service? Colleges with great bones have personality. They don't look like they were stamped out by a developer with a cookie-cutter. We can improve efficiency and manage conflicts by funneling services through one point of contact. Meeting the demand for improved service does not have to entail sacrificing the rigor of our college's policies and procedures. Instead, what matters most is responsiveness, efficiency, clear communication, and conflict management.

I believe that once we implement doing the right things for our students at all times shows that we have great bones. In fact, we choose daily to work at Martin Community College so we can devote our time to serving the needs of our students. Call us crazy, but we're different than any other college out there and we like it that way. Martin Community College is beautiful, right? It's because we strive to make this place beautiful with our great bones.

Nearly 40 Employers Committed to Job Fair

With nearly 40 business and industry representatives already signed up to participate, this year's "GET THE LIFE YOU LOVE" Job Fair and Career Expo on March 9 promises to be another successful event. This year, it will be held in the Bob Martin Ag Center from 10 am to 2 pm. A number of local churches are providing free transportation to and from the Ag Center.

Sponsored by Martin Community College (MCC), NC Works of Martin County and Martin Enterprises, this event is designed to connect job seekers of all types - current and prospective college students, career changers, veterans, the unemployed, and the underemployed - to local and regional employers.

In addition to the employers, MCC faculty and staff, as well as NC Works and Martin Enterprises personnel, will be on hand to assist job seekers in developing the skills they need for particular careers.

It's not too late for businesses and industries to participate in this event. To register online, simply go to the Eventbrite web site at <https://www.eventbrite.com/>.

Job Seekers may want to prepare for this event by attending one or more of MCC's ongoing Human Resources Development (HRD) classes. These classes are free and are available in both Williamston and Windsor and provide individualized assistance in developing a resume, job application and interview skills. For more information on these preparatory

classes and workshops, contact Brenda Moore at brenda.moore@martincc.edu or via phone at 252-789-0236.

Participants are encouraged to bring props, photos, handouts, employment applications, or any other type of visual aids that will provide participants with a better understanding of their career/job opportunities. Job seekers are also encouraged to dress in business-like attire and make arrangements for child care.



Pictured above, MCC's Automotive Technology Instructor, Al Dawes, talks to a prospective student during the 2016 Job Fair and Career expo at MCC. Many of MCC's Instructors have committed to attending this year's Job Fair and promoting their programs.

Griffin cont. from pg. 15...

Prior to that, she worked as a teacher more than 12 years in NC Public and private schools.

Griffin is well known among MCC's students for her encouragement and kindness. Student success is her primary goal for her students.

Griffin's position is made possible with funding from MCC's Completion by Design Grant (CbD). MCC is one of five in a consortium of NC Community Colleges and one of nine US community colleges selected by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to participate in the CbD initiative.

Completion by Design (CbD) has a simple, pioneering vision: working collaboratively can create integrated institutional policies, practices, processes and culture at institutional scale that both provide personalized student experiences and improve student performance and completion outcomes. This is the driving force behind Griffin's work.

Griffin's office is located in Building 4. She can be reached via email at michelle.griffin@martincc.edu.

Another Successful MCC Blood Drive

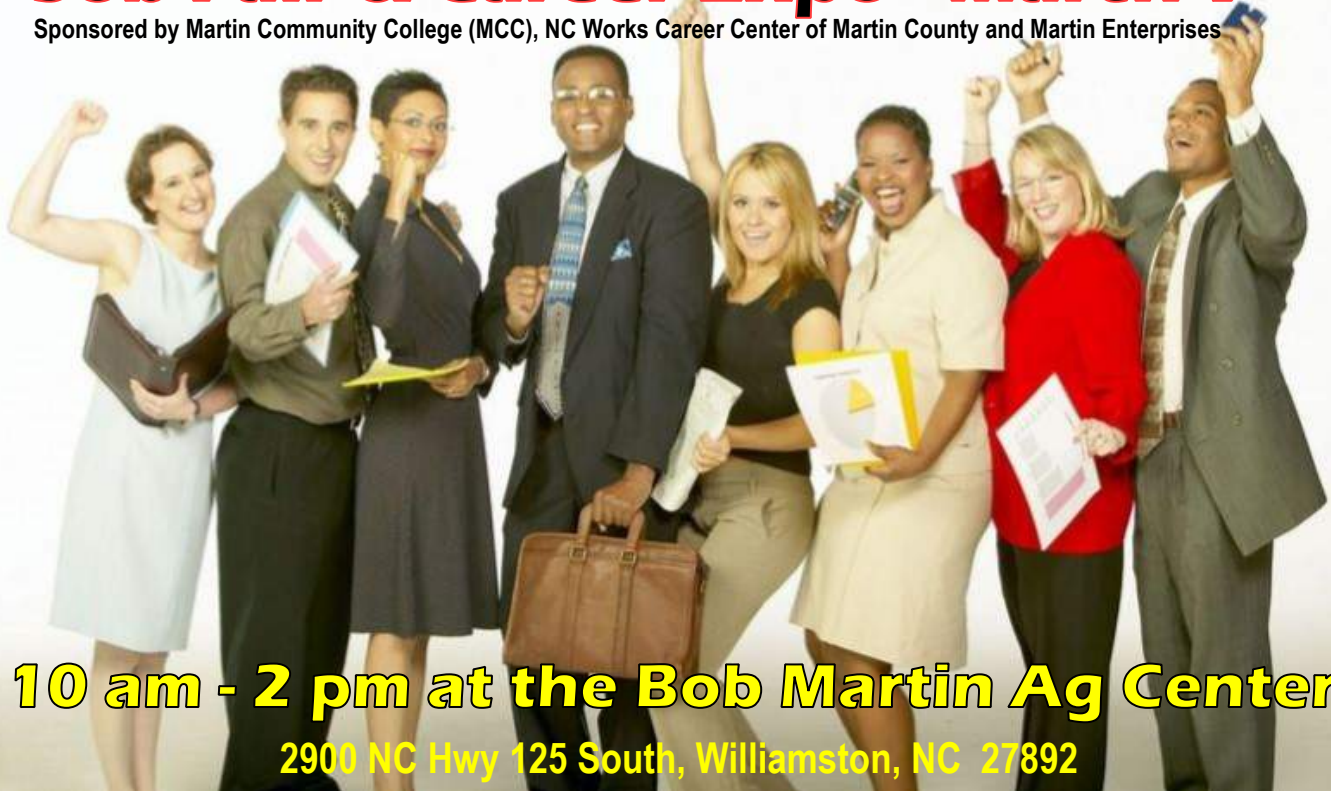


Pictured above is SGA President Amanda Vick giving blood during the Red Cross Blood Drive on February 27. Almost 20 pints were collected! PTK members assisted!

Get the Life You Love!

Job Fair & Career Expo - March 9

Sponsored by Martin Community College (MCC), NC Works Career Center of Martin County and Martin Enterprises



10 am - 2 pm at the Bob Martin Ag Center

2900 NC Hwy 125 South, Williamston, NC 27892

Martin Memos

March 4 - MCC Equine Open Show, starting at 9 am in the MCC Horse Arena

March 6 - 8 - Man Up Excursion to Washington, DC

March 6 - 10 - Annual MCC Library Book Sale

March 9 - Job Fair and Career Expo at the Bob Martin Center, 9 am until 2 pm

March 16 - ATM Machine goes live at Martin County Farmer's Market site

March 27 - SGA sponsored Spring Fling

April 1 - KidFest, 10 am - 1 pm, Bob Martin Center

April 3 - Deadline for SECU Scholarships for Continuing Education Students

April 6 - PTK Honors Society Induction ceremony at 6:30 pm in the MCC Auditorium