

The Martin Messenger

A monthly newsletter for Martin Community College

May 2018

MCC Celebrates its 50th Graduation

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On May 4, Martin Community College (MCC) celebrated its 50th graduation ceremony in the Riverside High School auditorium in Williamston, NC. The capacity audience cheered on more than 100 graduates as they crossed the stage to receive 180 degrees, diplomas, and certificates.

As soon as the students processed in and were seated, graduate Aylonnah Woods started off the ceremony with a stirring rendition of the national anthem.

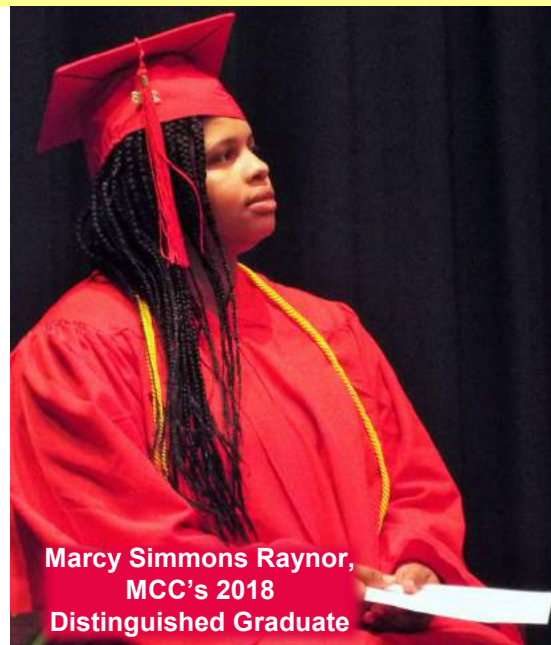
Reverend Roy A. Gray, Sr., Pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church in Williamston gave the invocation, and MCC President Paul C. Hutchins welcomed the audience and introduced the commencement speaker.

Dr. Deryl Davis Fulmer, Ph.D., MCC's Dean of Academic Affairs, gave the commencement speech. Fulmer, who joined MCC in July of 2017, holds a B.A. degree in Psychology from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, a M.S. degree in Cultural Foundations of Education, and a Ph.D. in Urban Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Dr. Davis Fulmer congratulated the students for having the persistence, courage, and confidence to earn their degree, and she reminded them that their journey is not over, but rather just beginning. "You might be thinking, 'I'm done. Nope. You're not!' You've closed one chapter and opened another."

She went on to cite the obstacles overcome by several MCC

Continued on page 2...



**Marcy Simmons Raynor,
MCC's 2018
Distinguished Graduate**



**Dr. Deryl Davis Fulmer,
MCC's 2018
Commencement
Speaker**



**Dr. Paul Hutchins,
MCC President**

New NCCCS President



On May 1, the State Board of Community Colleges elected Peter Hans to be the ninth NCCCS president.

Hans' experience with higher education includes 18 years of service on North Carolina's two governing boards for higher education. The N.C. House of Representatives elected him to a six-year term on the State Board of Community Colleges in 1997. He served as vice chair of the board and chair of the Policy Committee.

Hans earned a B.A. degree in political science from UNC-CH and a Master of Liberal Arts in Extension Studies from Harvard University.

His election occurred following a 6-month search. A 12-person Transition Committee reviewed more than 30 candidates. Six candidates were interviewed by the committee, and the names of three finalists were submitted to the full board for further review. Hans' annual salary is \$275,000.

Graduation cont. from pg. 1... students and reminded all of the graduates, "While you may think this a minor accomplishment, you are amongst a class of greats!"

"You, like George Lucas, creator of Star Wars, attended community college. Clint Eastwood, Morgan Freeman, Michael J. Fox, Tom Hanks, Hallie Barry, Steve Jobs all attended community college.... and there are more."

Dr. Fulmer closed her comments by thanking the graduates. "What a great honor that you chose Martin Community College to assist you in reaching your goals, where we strive to build better futures. You have helped us to live up to our mission!"

Dr. Brian Busch, MCC's Vice President of Student Services, then presented the program awards and recognized the Distinguished Graduate for 2018. To be eligible to receive a Program Award, a student must be a candidate for graduation, have a minimum overall GPA of 3.00, possess outstanding qualities in cooperation and initiative, and be nominated by a full-time faculty member (advisor). The "Program Award" denotes a student's excellence in a particular MCC program.

The graduates receiving Program Awards were as follows: Devan L. Fields for Associate in Arts, Mary Renee Angeles for Associate in General Education, Katrina Rabeler Potter for Associate in Science, Amanda Knipper Vick for Accounting, Byron D. Horton for Automotive Systems Technology, Freda Renee Harden for Business Administra-

tion, Matthew Swain for Commercial Refrigeration Technology, Brandi Michelle Whitley for Cosmetology, Marcy Simmons Raynor for Early Childhood Education, Mitch Moore for Electrical Systems Technology, Katlyn Noelle Ward for Equine Business Technology, Alexia Lynne Binns for Equine Training Technology, Kristin H. Buck for General Occupational Technology, Steve O'Neal, III for Industrial Systems Technology, James Christopher Holliday for Information Technology, Kayla Brittany Wilder for Medical Assisting, Ilesha Roshonda Leigh for Medical Office Administration, and Kaylee Grace Jackson for Physical Therapist Assistant.

The Academic Excellence Award was then presented to Abigail Spencer. In her essay, Spencer stated, "When I started at MCC, I was 14 years old, a high school freshman, and had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. At first, I didn't want to be different. I started out with two classes but it wasn't enough. Soon I was taking extra classes and moving myself ahead. Here I am today, graduating in May of 2018 from the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience (NERSBA) and MCC at the age of sixteen. I will be attending Campbell University this fall where I will be majoring in Nursing."

MCC's 2018 Distinguished Graduate award, which is based on scholarship, civic engagement, and demeanor, was presented to Marcy Simmons Raynor. Dr. Busch stated, "Marcy has demonstrated exemplary leadership skills in and out of the classroom setting."

Graduation cont. on next pg...



Pictured above is Reverend Roy A. Gray, Sr., Pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church in Williamston. He gave the invocation and benediction at MCC's 50th graduation.



MCC's 2018 Academic Excellence Award winner is Abigail Spencer. Spencer, a resident of Roper, is also a student at NERSBA (Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience) in Jamesville.



Graduation Cont. from pg. 2...

Raynor's nominator, MCC's Early Childhood Instructor Elaine Spellman stated, "When I needed a student worker for our annual KidsFest Event, Marcy was the first to sign up and volunteer. When I needed a student to work with the teachers and children in the pre-k classroom, this student participated in our work study program. In the 2016-17 school year, when our Literary and Creative Arts Club needed new members, this student not only signed up to join the club, she became the vice president."

The nomination letter went on to say, "When this student completed the practicum student teaching internship, she was immediately hired within the Martin County School System. This student is the true definition of an early childhood educator." Raynor was then invited to be seated on the stage and participate in the remainder of the Graduation Ceremony.

Dr.'s Fulmer, Busch, and Hutchins were then joined by MCC Trustee Board Chairman Helen Davis to confer 102 degrees, 39 certificates, and 8 diplomas to 124 graduates.

Reverend Gray then gave the benediction, after which the graduates processed out of the auditorium amid their congratulatory family and friends.

Five Marshalls were on hand to help make the evening run smoothly. They were Dustin Mann, Megan Johnson, John Gurganus, Katie Harris, and Shameka Best. Marshall's are non-graduating MCC students who have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.75 after completing at least 12 credit hours. Emily Spivey was also eligible to be a Marshall but was unable to attend.



Pictured above are three of MCC's outgoing Student Government Association (SGA) leaders. From left to right are: Senator Kayla Wilder, President Amanda Vick, and Senator Mary Angeles. This year's SGA leadership has been especially strong and effective. Thanks to all of the outgoing SGA officers and senators for their service!



Pictured above, from left to right, are the 2018 MCC Marshalls: Dustin Mann, Megan Johnson, John Gurganus, Katie Harris, and Shameka Best. Emily Spivey was also eligible to be a Marshall but was unable to attend.

MCC Trustees recognize Amanda Vick on April 17

The MCC Board of Trustees conducted their monthly meeting on April 17 at the College's campus in Williamston.

The business meeting got underway with a number of policy revisions ratified under the consent agenda.

Among the other topics of discussion were:

- ◆ President Paul Hutchins thanked the Trustees for their service to the College and noted several meetings he has attended in an effort to familiarize himself with the area. They include: 1) Met with Congressman G.K. Butterfield's assistant, Reginald Speight, on March 21; 2) Attended the Martin County Job Fair on March 28; 3) Joined in on Martin County Schools' and MCC's monthly Cooperative Leadership luncheon on March 28; 4) Met with Principal Hal Davis and toured the NERSBA campus in Jamesville on April 2; 5) Made a presentation to the Williamston Rotary Club on April 3; 6) Attended a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at BCI (Bertie Correctional Institute) on April 5; 7) Welcomed horse trainer and film star Beth Gouthro during her visit to the MCC campus on April 9; 8) Made a presentation to the First Christian Church Men's monthly dinner meeting on April 9; 9) Attended the NCCCS President's monthly meeting in Raleigh on April 11 and 12; 10) Attended a Carolina Gateway Partnership meeting in Rocky Mount on April 17.
- ◆ The Building and Grounds Committee did not meet in April,

but Chairman Rick Cowan noted that an awning would be installed over the café entrance this month, the electronic sign is well underway, and the new doors should be installed this summer.

- ◆ Trustee Dwayne Baker reported that the finance Committee did not meet last month. However, MCC's budget expenditures are on target for the year. The good news is that MCC has expended 14% of its purchases with HUB (Historically Underutilized Businesses). This is well over the state requirement of 10%.
- ◆ SGA President Amanda Vick reported that the SGA successfully sponsored Spring Fling on April 17. Aqua Massages and chair massages had been provided in room 14 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- ◆ Chairman Davis recognized and thanked Trustee Amanda Vick for serving as the student representative on the Board of Trustees for the past two terms. On behalf of the Board, she then presented Trustee Vick with a Jim Shore figurine named "In Fine Feathers." (pictured right at the bottom). Chairman Davis commended Vick on the work she has accomplished with the SGA. The board and the audience gave Vick a standing ovation.
- ◆ Chairman Davis encouraged the rest of the Board to join her on May 18 when she would introduce Dr. Hutchins to the State NCCCS Board as MCC's 8th president.



MCC's SGA President Amanda Vick was recognized for her service as a Trustee on April 17.

Sigma Six Students Visit Regulator Marine

In April, MCC Transition Advisor Brooke Mann was invited to participate in a tour of the Regulator Marine, Inc. plant in Edenton, NC. The tour was organized by Missy Griffin, Career Development Coordinator, with Martin County Schools. The purpose of the tour was to expose the students to different industries in our area. Those in attendance saw how Regulator boats are made from start to finish.

Regulator Marine, Inc. designs and manufactures deep-Vee center console offshore fishing boats. The company was formed in 1988 by Joan and Owen Maxwell. Regulator boats are well known for their durability, exceptional fit and finish, as well as their dry, soft, and comfortable ride.

Seven students, representing both South Creek and Riverside High Schools, participated. These students recently completed Six Sigma Yellow Belt Training and Certification at MCC (see April edition, page 5 of the Martin Messenger). The Sigma Six training was jointly sponsored by MCC, the Martin County Economic Development Commission (EDC), and the Martin County Schools.

Most of the Sigma Six students are planning to attend a 2-year college or go straight into the work force after graduation. During the tour, they discussed employment opportunities and education requirements for these jobs.

At the end of the tour, everyone was presented with Regulator Marine T-shirts.

According to Mann, "It was an awesome tour, and I definitely recommend it."

Information and pictures for this article were submitted by: Brooke Mann, MCC's Transition Advisor at South Creek High School in Robersonville.



Physical Therapist Assistant Program Pins 17 Graduates



Pictured above are the 2018 graduates of MCC's Physical Therapist Assistant program. From left to right on the front row are: Kasey Hall, Brittany Gibson, Taylor Williams, Kendra Spruill, Sarah Flanagan, and Evan Singlar. In the middle row are: Jessica Beacham, Julie Askew, Lauren Lassiter, Mary Stoneburner, and Richard Rowley. On the back row are: Lisa Armstrong, Christopher Hardison, Pristina Harrell, Kaylee Jackson, and Marques Jeffreys. Evan Singlar was elected to be the class president.

MCC's Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program celebrated its fifth annual Pinning Ceremony on May 4 in the campus auditorium. A near-capacity audience of family, friends, staff, and faculty were on hand to cheer them on.

The graduates included; Lisa Armstrong, Julie Askew, Jessica Beacham, Sarah Flanagan, Brittany Gibson, Kasey Hall, Christopher Hardison, Pristina Harrell, Kaylee Jackson, Marques Jeffreys, Lauren Lassiter, Clara Mosely, Richard Rowley, Evan Singlar, Kendra Spruill, Mary Stoneburner, and Taylor Williams.

The guest speaker was Dr. Bob Mull, a Physical Therapist at Caswell Center in Kinston. During his comments, Dr. Mull noted that the Physical Therapy profession

has its roots in WWI, with the addition of "reconstruction aides" to the Army's medical personnel. According to the U.S. Army Medical Department's Office of Medical History, the reconstruction aides were "directed toward the restoration of the wounded soldier to military duty as soon as possible, or if that was not feasible, to return him to civilian life in a physical condition which would enable him to function in the highest degree possible consistent with his injury."

Dr. Mull also referred to Stephen Covey's Book, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, encouraging the graduates to "be proactive, seek to understand and then to be understood, have a goal (begin with the end in mind), think win-win (work with others)."

Dr. Mull closed by encouraging the graduates to emulate General Colin Powell by practicing what he calls "perpetual optimism."

The program's Director, Dr. Dean McCall, then shared his personal reflections about the students and how they impressed him over their time at MCC. He followed his remarks with the presentation of the pins.

Dawn Parker, the program's Clinical Coordinator, closed the ceremony. She noted that the PTA graduates have formed some life-long friendships during their time at MCC. She also shared a quote from Maya Angelou: "People will forget what you said, what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel."

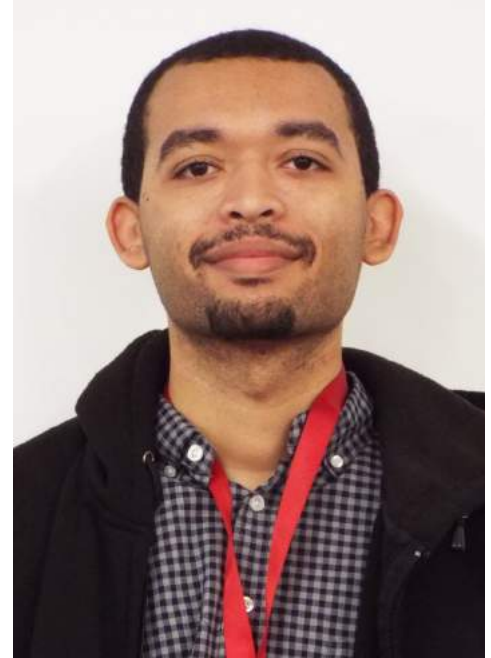
Matthews Completes Leadership Training



Kismet Matthews (pictured above and below), MCC's Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees / Foundation Liaison, recently graduated from the NC Community College Leadership Program (NCCCLP). She began the program on November 1 and completed it on April 27. The class met for two days, every month, for six months at various colleges across the state. When asked how she felt about the experience, Matthews said, "I would highly recommend it to anyone who is in the beginning or middle of their community college career. I know there were some future Community College Presidents in this group. I learned a lot about team building, making decisions, and defending them." Only 30 students are selected for the program each year. Congratulations Kismet!



Jermaine Smith Joins IT Department



Jermaine Smith (pictured above) joined the MCC family on May 1. He is a new Information Technology (IT) Technician. Smith had already been working in the IT Department as a part time IT Tech Assistant since September 2017. Prior to joining MCC on a full time basis, he also worked part time at Pitt Community College (PCC). Smith earned his A.A.S. degree in Computer Information Technology from PCC in 2012. Smith resides in Jamesville, NC. Welcome aboard Jermaine!



Hutchins formally welcomed to MCC



Dr. Paul Hutchins chatting with State Representative Shelley Willingham as Bear Grass Mayor and MCC Foundation President Charlotte Griffin looks on.

Dr. Paul C. Hutchins and his wife Tina were formally welcomed to Martin County on May 3. Several local and regional leaders attended the event and enjoyed light refreshments in room 14. Dr. Hutchins also met with MCC's faculty and staff on April 19. He told MCC's employees that, "It is an honor to be here, and excited to have this opportunity."

He shared three primary goals for MCC in the year to come: "1) SACSCOC Reaffirmation 2) Self Service implementation 3) Community involvement with schools, business leaders, Bertie county, etc." He also noted that, "MCC is an economic engine for the community it serves."

Dr. Hutchins also shared his primary goals as MCC's President; "1) To meet every full time employee. 2) To strengthen the MCC Foundation - starting with a campus fund drive in the near future. 3) To promote a positive outlook among the MCC employees and creating an atmosphere for team work. 4) To host student lunches with the President."

He concluded his remarks by saying, "Every day we have to be working toward excellence."



Sally Surface, Director of CADA (Choanoke Area Development Association)



Pictured from left to right are Martin County Commissioner Dempsey Bond, MCC Foundation Board member Jackie Gillam, and Martin County School member Barbara Council.



MCC President Dr. Paul C. Hutchins speaking with the faculty and staff on April 19.

Checking on Cash!



Cash at 1 day old and 70 pounds.



Cash at 1 year old and 785 pounds.

As we await the impending birth of Ritzi's foal and Cash prepares to spend the next 11 months in the field, we will see less of Cash in the *Martin Messenger*. Cash will be busy learning to be a horse from the rest of the MCC herd. When he resumes his training with humans next spring, we'll see him again and keep up with his progress. When his training resumes, he will be taking riding lessons - but he will be the one being ridden. We look forward to seeing Cash start school next year!

Still waiting on Ritzi!

The cameras are rolling in Ritzi's stall in preparation of the birth of her first foal. She is now entering her twelfth month of gestation.

Once again this year, MCC's Student Government Association (SGA) is sponsoring a "Name the Baby" contest for the new foal's barn name or registered name. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate in the MCC Café. The voting will commence immediately after the foal's birth. A picture will be taken and distributed across campus.

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. Ritzi's name reflects her registered name "Zips Ritz n Roll." The sire's barn name is Chubbs and his registered name is "Certainly a Vision."

With this naming protocol in mind, let your creative juices flow and think of a name for the soon-to-be-newest member of the MCC herd. Entry ballots will be located in the MCC library. Just drop your entry in the designated box. Members of the Equine Club and Equine Technology Faculty will select the winner. The winner will be announced in the Martin Messenger. The contest is open to all MCC students, faculty, and staff!



Pictured above is Ritzi, a 16-year-old mare in the MCC herd. She is expecting her first foal any day now. Chubbs, pictured below, is the sire. MCC's SGA is sponsoring a "Name the Baby" contest for their foal. Enter the contest in the Library. The creator of the winning name will win a \$25 gift certificate in the Campus Café.





Pictured above are 14 of the 15 students who participated in MCC's annual GED® (High School Equivalency) graduation ceremony on May 3 in the MCC auditorium. Receiving their GED® diploma from left to right on the back row are: William Jones, Jonathan Avila, Anthony Rodriguez, William Green, Damon Shawhan, Radarryl Pugh, Christopher Canfield, and Demetrius Faison. Seated on the front row are Ashley Gainor, Barbara Azuaje, Ashley James, Selena Sherrod, Danielle Thompson, and Brista Napier. Willie Davis is not pictured above but was in the ceremony. They were among 77 GED® graduates receiving their credentials from MCC during the current academic year. Avila, Davis, Gainor, Jones, Shawhan, and Sherrod are from Williamston. Canfield, Pugh, Rodriguez, and Thompson reside in Robersonville. Azuaje and Napier live in Windsor, and James is from Plymouth.

MCC's GED® Ceremony held on May 3

Martin Community College (MCC) celebrated its 42nd annual GED® graduation on May 3, in a ceremony held for a near-capacity audience in the MCC Auditorium. Family, friends, staff, and faculty were on hand to cheer on the graduates and congratulate them on their achievement. MCC's GED® program is administered through the Basic Skills department in the Division of Continuing Education.

The graduates who chose to participate in the ceremony were: Jonathan Avila, Barbara Azuaje, Christopher Canfield, Willie Davis, Demetrius Faison, Ashley Gainor, William Green, Ashley James, Wil-

liam Jones, Brista Napier, Radarryl Pugh, Anthony Rodriguez, Damon Shawhan, Selena Sherrod, and Danielle Thompson.

Not all of MCC's seventy-seven GED® graduates were able to attend the ceremony. Many of the graduates have obtained jobs or moved away since their successful completion of the program. Fifty-seven of the GED® graduates completed their course work and tests at the Bertie Correctional Institution (BCI) in Windsor.

After an invocation from MCC's Vice President Dr. Brian Busch, and a welcome from College President, Dr. Paul Hutchins, the audience was treated to a testimonial

from Anthony Rodriguez. Rodriguez, a first generation American, gave his remarks in both English and Spanish to demonstrate his pride in both cultures.

Rodriguez shared how he felt overwhelmed in high school and decided, much to the dismay of his family and friends, to drop out in the 11th grade.

After many months of struggling with his inner demons, Rodriguez "was in his room alone and began to cry and pray," and came to the revelation, "It ends here—all of the negative thoughts and doubts about myself—I will put a stop to it." The next week he signed up for GED®

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classes and re-committed himself to making his parents proud and to being a good example for his three younger brothers.

Rodriguez noted that it wasn't easy to return to his education. "By that time I had started working in a heating and air company, getting off late and then studying for hours. It was stressful but I was determined to do it and finish it. Giving up and saying 'I can't' wasn't an option for me anymore."

Rodriguez added, "If it wasn't for God, I wouldn't be who I am today or have made it this far. He's the one I owe it all to."

Now that Rodriguez has earned his GED®, he will return to MCC this fall and enter the Dental Assistant program. Once he completes this training, he plans to transfer to a university with a dental school and become a dentist. The audience gave Rodriguez a standing ovation at the end of his remarks.

The commencement address was given by Mr. Joe Phipps, a Basic Skill Instructor for MCC. "Mr. Joe" as he is fondly known by many of his students, began his remarks with the statement, "I am a proud GED® graduate."

Phipps noted that for a variety of reasons he dropped out of Jacksonville High School, but returned 15 years later, to accept a position as a faculty member. He was hired by the same principal who was there when he dropped out. Phipps offered this as an example of why it is important to keep pushing forward and taking the next step. "It doesn't matter if your next step is the military or college, it's just important to keep moving forward. You simply can't afford to shut yourself off. You have to avoid the negative voices in your head."

Phipps went on to recognize several famous people who earned GED's. Jim Carrey, Christian Slater, 50 Cent, Eminem, Nicolas Cage,

Michael J. Fox, and Cyndi Lauper are just a few examples.

Charlotte Griffin, President of the MCC Foundation board, then announced the recipients of the Foundation scholarships for GED® graduates. William Jones, Selena Sherrod, and Anthony Rodriguez were each awarded a \$500 scholarship to attend MCC in the 2018-2019 academic year. These scholarships were awarded based on essays written by the candidates and will assist them with their tuition and books as they become college students.

Jones is planning to pursue his lifelong desire for a career in law enforcement. Sherrod will begin MCC's Business Administration program this fall. She hopes to open her own community center for young people. Rodriguez, as noted in his testimonial, is planning to become a dentist.

Sherrod noted in her essay, "For a long time, my attitude was 'I have a job, I don't need a GED®.' I thought that any job would help me

make it in life... Boy was I wrong. I had been settling."

Jones' essay highlighted how the loss of his job in October of 2017 jarred him into the reality that "Finding a job in today's society is tough and it's even tougher without an education. There are many jobs you cannot even apply for without a high school diploma or a GED®."

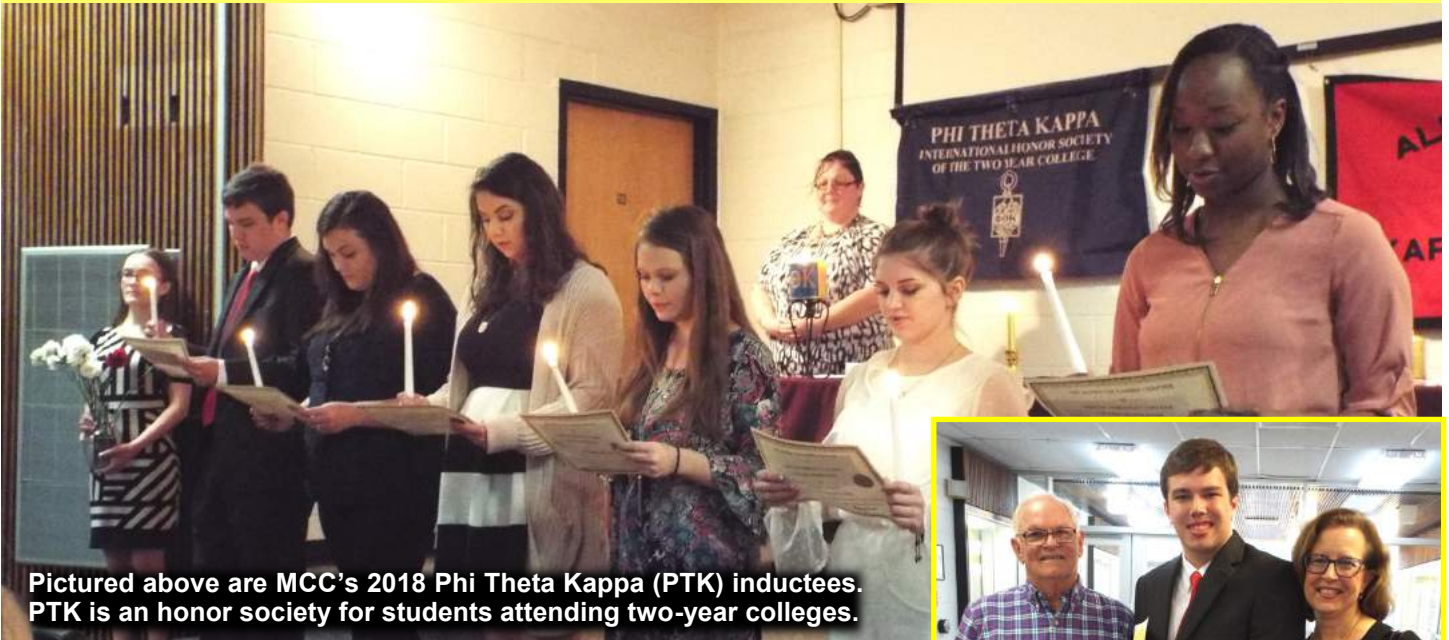
Jones went on to describe how "MCC was very encouraging, from testing all the way to graduation." He was able to earn his GED® quickly and already has a new job where there is room for advancement, great benefits, and day shift hours Monday through Friday. Jones noted that he had never had a job like this. It has enabled him to spend more time with his family and make plans in advance.

In addition to the three essay-based scholarships, the Foundation also provides each of the GED® graduates with an MCC tuition scholarship for two curriculum classes (up to six credit hours) in the upcoming academic year.



Pictured above right is Charlotte Griffin, President of the Martin Community College (MCC) Foundation Board of Directors, with the 2018 recipients of the Foundation's annual scholarships for MCC's GED® graduates. Pictured from left to right with Griffin are: Anthony Rodriguez, William Jones, and Selena Sherrod. They were each awarded a \$500 scholarship based on essays they submitted. The Foundation is also making available to each of this year's GED® graduates a scholarship in the form of six credit hours of tuition at MCC in the upcoming academic year.

PTK and ABG Accept 21 MCC Students



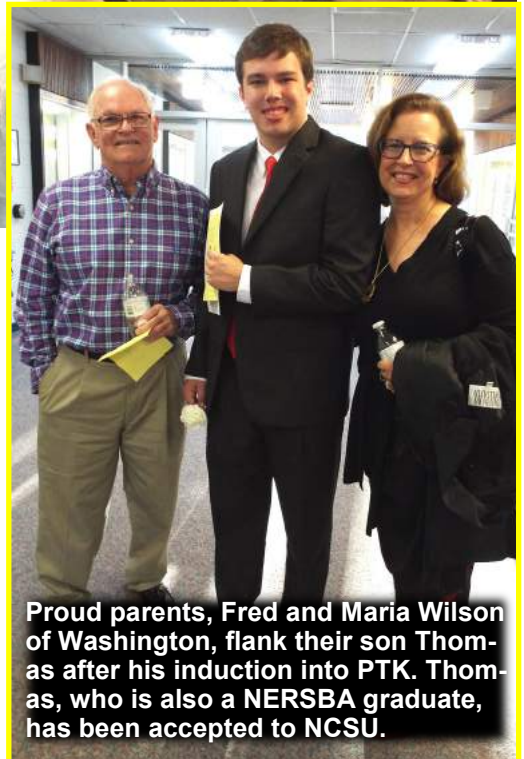
Pictured above are MCC's 2018 Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) inductees. PTK is an honor society for students attending two-year colleges.

On April 12, eight MCC business students were inducted into MCC's Chapter of Alpha Beta Gamma, and thirteen students from a wide array of MCC programs were added to Phi Theta Kappa chapter.

The ABG inductees included: Jasmine Bond, Freda Renee Harden, Elizabeth Hernandez, Crystal Holliday, James Holliday, Iesha Leigh, Kayla Wilder, and Nichole Williams. Dr. Deborah Wyman is the ABG Advisor.

Those inducted into PTK were: Zaria Brown-Williams, Brinson Edmondson, Sydney Gainey, Freda Renee Harden, Lauren Hardison, George Holliday, Alex Hooten, Caleigh Mason, Anthony Rascoe, Kendra Spruill, Amanda Whitehurst, Nichole Williams, and Thomas Wilson. Mary Carson is MCC's PTK Advisor.

Dr. Deryl Davis Fulmer was the guest speaker for the ceremony. **Congratulations to these hard working students!**



Proud parents, Fred and Maria Wilson of Washington, flank their son Thomas after his induction into PTK. Thomas, who is also a NERSBA graduate, has been accepted to NCSU.



Pictured above are MCC's 2018 Alpha Beta Gamma (ABG) inductees. ABG is an honor society for business students attending two-year colleges.

Cherry to fill Bertie School Board Seat



MCC's Director of the Windsor campus, Mr. Norman Cherry, has been selected to fill the unexpired term of Barry McGlone on the Bertie County Board of Education. McGlone had represented District 4 until his untimely death on March 4. He was in his first term and served as Vice Chairman of the board. Elected four years ago, McGlone was up for re-election this winter.

The Bertie County Board of Education elected Cherry to fill the seat at their Tuesday, April 17 regularly scheduled meeting. Cherry was one of four candidates considered as a replacement.

Cherry brings considerable expertise to the School Board. He is a former educator, retired principal of Bertie County High School, and a former county Commissioner.

Cherry earned his M.A.Ed. from ECU and his B.S. degree from ECSU.

ECSU seeks CC partnerships!

Several representatives from Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) visited the MCC campus on April 20 to meet with leaders from numerous Community Colleges in the region to discuss potential partnerships.

Among the community Colleges in attendance were: Martin Community College, College of the Albemarle, Halifax Community College, Roanoke-Chowan Community College, Carteret Community College, Edgecombe Community College, Nash Community College, and Beaufort County Community College.

ECSU is one of four universities in North Carolina that will offer the North Carolina Promise Tuition Plan. This plan, recently passed by the NC legislature, allows undergraduates enrolling at ECSU, UNC Pembroke, or Western Carolina University to pay only \$500 for in-state per semester. The remaining cost of education will be covered through NC Promise. This unique opportunity will certainly be attractive to students throughout the state, and ECSU is anticipating a significant increase in freshman enrollment this fall.

In an effort to manage this increased enrollment and to ensure that students transferring from Community Colleges make a smooth transition, ECSU is planning to allocate recruiters on the campuses of its partnering community colleges.



Pictured above are Dr. Vann Newkirk ECSU Provost and Dr. Evonne Carter from College of the Albemarle (COA).



Pictured above from left to right above are ECSU representatives; Luann Riddick, Dr. Geraldine Hill and Dr. Brenda Norman.



Pictured above, from left to right are; MCC's Dean of Academics Dr. Deryl Fulmer, Dr. Bruce Bugsby Halifax Community College and Dr. Tracy Mancini from Carteret Community College.

SGA Update

MCC's SGA elections were held in March, and the results will be announced at the beginning of the fall semester.

The new SGA president will be sworn in as an ex-officio (nonvoting) MCC Trustee at the August meeting and will begin their duties as a board member at that meeting.

Also, the SGA voted in March to allow high school students to run for any of the elected officer positions-except president. Thus, the positions of Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Publicity Officer are now available to high school students.

Eligible SGA candidates must be enrolled in an MCC curriculum program, maintain a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA during service as an officer, maintain a minimum 6 credit hour schedule while in office, have been enrolled at MCC for at least one semester, committed to fulfilling the responsibilities of the office, are willing to hold office for at least one academic year or two semesters, and submit an appropriate headshot with the application.

The new SGA officers will start their official duties during the 2018 Fall Semester. The SGA budget is generated by student fees.

If you are interested in serving on the SGA's governing board as a senator (a non-elected position), please contact the SGA Advisor, Kanon Nixon, in room 1-22 or online at kanon.nixon@marincc.edu.



Bertie Church Donates Funds

In March, a church in Bertie County made an anonymous gift of \$796 to MCC to assist GED® students from Bertie County with their test taking fees. Currently, the entire battery of GED® tests costs \$104, which often brings a GED® student's hard work to a futile end. This gift will make it possible for several Bertie County students to achieve their goal.

In addition to this tremendous assistance, the MCC Foundation has also earmarked funds for every GED® graduate to receive a scholarship for up to six credit hours of curriculum classes at MCC. It should also be noted that nearly 80% of MCC's student's are eligible for financial aid.

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of others, a College degree is now more attainable than ever!

If you, or your church, or civic club, would like to support this effort as well, please contact Kismet Matthews, MCC's Foundation manager, at 252-789-0223 or via email at kismet.matthews@martincc.edu. The Foundation also manages a number of endowed scholarships (see page 16).

REAL Crisis Intervention

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



Need help?

Center for Family
Violence Prevention

24 Hour Crisis Line

(252)752-3811

TOLL FREE (800)537-2238

Greenville, NC

FFA and 4H Students Compete at MCC in April

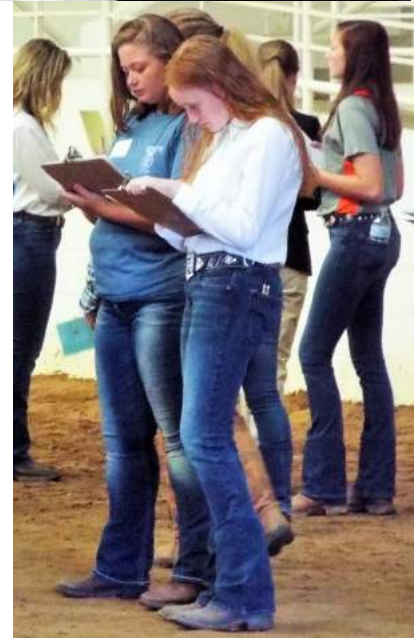


On April 14, more than 300 collective members of 4H and FFA (Future Farmers of America) descended on the MCC campus for a day-long equine judging event.

According to the 4H website, "The Horse Judging Contest is designed to teach participants good conformation (structural correctness, balance, and muscling), breed character, and performance ideals in different breeds of horses. Additionally, the Horse Judging contest teaches participants how to evaluate horses based on knowledge and fact, make a decision, and defend it. The contest also teaches participants horsemanship terms

that can be used in a logical, systematic way to defend placings and will help participants gain confidence in their ability and use of the English language by giving oral reasons to a judge while learning to speak clearly, decisively, and convincingly through the use of oral reasons."

After viewing the horses in the MCC arena, the students gathered in building 1 to defend their selections. MCC's equine students and faculty assisted in showing horses and managing the facilities that day. It was a great way to show off MCC's equine program!



BGCS students tour MCC Campus



On April 17, several students from Bear Grass Charter School (pictured above in the MCC Automotive Department) toured the MCC campus. The event was organized by MCC's Director of High School Programs and Advising, Michelle Griffin. While on campus, the students viewed a PowerPoint presentation about MCC, followed by visits to: the Registrar's office, Industrial Systems/Welding lab, Cosmetology labs, Bookstore, Campus Café, Business Office, Counselor offices, Library, Medical Assisting labs, HVAC classrooms, Arts and Sciences labs and classrooms, and the Automotive Department. Instructors were on hand to answer questions and provide general information about their programs. Each student received a gift bag and folder of information. Several students won door prizes.

Apply now for MCC Foundation Scholarships

The MCC Foundation has recently announced that students may now apply for a number of scholarships that will be available during the 2018-19 academic year.

The endowed scholarships and their applicant criteria are available as follows:

Leman Barnhill - established for a second year MCC student who resides in Martin County and maintains a 3.0 GPA

Jerry Bembridge - designed for a second year, economically disadvantaged MCC student who resides in Martin or Bertie County, maintains a 2.5 GPA and/or is

handicapped and enrolled in the PTA program

AB Ayers - endowed for a first year student who has earned a High School Equivalency/GED at MCC and has applied for a vocational education program

MCC Equine - annual Rodeo proceeds fund a scholarship for a second year MCC equine student who maintains a 2.5 GPA

HVAC/Commercial Refrigeration - provided for a second year MCC HVAC or Commercial Refrigeration student who maintains a 2.5 GPA

The application form for any of these scholarships is available on the MCC website or in building 1, office 1. The application requires a 300 to 500 word essay. **The deadline to apply is June 30.**



NCC tours MCC Equine Facilities

On April 18, several representatives from Nash Community College visited the MCC campus to tour the equine facilities. The group, comprised of NCC faculty, staff, and Trustees, are partnering with MCC in offering a Vet Tech program. MCC will provide the facilities and training for large animals. Pictured below is NCC President Dr. William Carver addressing the group during an informal lunch meeting prior to the tour. Below is MCC's Equine Technology Program Director Tammi Thurston describing the facilities.



NCC President Dr. William Carver



MCC's Equine Technology Director
Tammi Thurston

SECU offers 'People Helping People' Scholarships

The NC State Employees Credit Union (SECU) 2018 'People Helping People' Scholarships are now open for application. These significant scholarships of \$5,000 each are distributed in \$1,250 increments per semester for a total of four semesters. Every NC Community College is allocated two SECU scholarships. **The deadline to apply is June 25, 2018.**

These scholarships are made possible by the SECU Foundation which is supported by all SECU members.

All eligible recipients must meet the following requirements:

- * Must be a United States citizen and resident of North Carolina;
- * Must be attending one of the 58 North Carolina Community Colleges;
- * Must be an applicant or full-time student who is a high school graduate (or has completed the GED program, enrolled in an associate degree, diploma or certificate program);
- * Must have demonstrated scholastic achievement with a 2.5 or higher unweighted GPA;
- * Must have demonstrated leadership, excellence of character, integrity and community involvement.

Applications are available in the MCC Financial Aid Office or may be downloaded from the Financial Aid page on the MCC web site. For more information, visit the Financial Aid office in Building 1, room 204.

Minges Scholarship



MCC's Financial Aid Director Terri Leggett, has announced the availability of the Thomas E. Minges Memorial/Pepsi Scholarship application. The Minges Bottling Group is providing MCC with two \$1,500 scholarships. **The deadline to apply is August 2, 2018.**

These scholarships are made possible by the Minges family and the Minges Bottling Group based in New Bern.

All eligible recipients must meet the following requirements:

- * Must be a US citizen residing in Martin, Bertie, Washington, Beaufort, Pitt, Hyde, Tyrrell, Pamlico, Craven, Lenoir, Greene, Craven, Jones, Carteret, or Onslow counties;
- * Must be enrolled as a full time student at MCC;
- * Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale;
- * Demonstrate a commitment to academic achievement through special awards, job experience and community activities;
- * Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED certificate;
- * Must be able to demonstrate unmet need.

Applications are available in the MCC Financial Aid Office or may be downloaded from the Financial Aid page on the MCC web site. For more information, visit the Financial Aid office in Building 1, room 204.

Applications will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Financial Aid Director.

Let's Talk about SACS!



On the way to the SACSCOC Small College Initiative in Atlanta, Maureen Green, third from right, had the opportunity to meet the cast of *The Color Purple*. The cast had just wrapped up their performance at the DPAC and were flying to the next location on their national tour.

Submitted by Maureen Green

On April 10, Maureen Green, Director of Institutional Research & Effectiveness and SACSCOC liaison, and Dr. Deryl Davis Fulmer, Dean of Academic Affairs, attended the thirteenth annual SACSCOC Small College Initiative in Atlanta, Georgia.

The theme of this year's initiative was "Educational Quality in a Time of Uncertainty." The invitation-only event is intended to provide small colleges with an informative and hands-on program to help them to continue to provide high-quality education with fewer resources than larger colleges have.

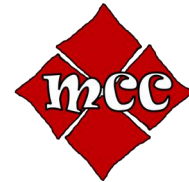
There were workshops offered in four areas: finance, student achievement and learning, maintaining educational quality, and faculty. Ms. Green and Dr. Fulmer

each went to two of the workshops in order to attend each workshop offered.

On the reaffirmation front, the SACSCOC Vice President responsible for MCC, Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover, will be visiting campus on June 4th and 5th to help us prepare for our October visit. She will help us prepare our focused report, which is the response to the off-site committee's evaluation of our compliance, and she will give us advice on our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The QEP is a project that MCC will work on to help students. We have chosen improving success and retention online education as our focus.

MCC seeks continuous improvement in order to help students build better futures!

And the winner is...



MOXIE

Martin Online eXcellence in Education

Part of the campus-wide project involved in the SACSCOC reaffirmation process is the QEP which stands for Quality Enhancement Plan. This cycle's QEP is called MOXIE (Martin Online eXcellence In Education). It will be focused on improving retention and success in online classes. The QEP committee recently sponsored a campus-wide election to select the best logo for MOXIE. The voting was open to students, faculty and staff. One hundred and nine votes were cast and the photo finish winner was the above design by three votes! This logo will be used on a variety of promotional items, like T-shirts, as well as screen savers in the computer labs. Since the SACSCOC review team will be asking us about our QEP during their visit this fall, it is important for everyone to become familiar with it. More about MOXIE will be covered during the fall convocation!

MCC Campus continues to get better every day!

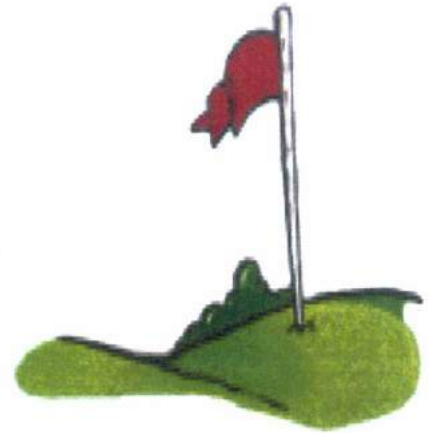
The Campus Café's new canvas awning (pictured below on the left) was installed on May 3. It immediately made an improvement to the appearance of building 1 and prompted the removal of the "old school" antenna attached to the edge of the building. It is also inspiring the administration to consider painting the green roof trim the same color as the awning. Paint colors are currently under consideration. Once selected, MCC's equine barns will be painted the same color.

The ceiling in Tammy Bailey's office has been replaced and new lighting installed. Pictured right is MCC Maintenance Worker, Jerry Wilson, installing the new lighting. MCC has saved several thousands of dollars by converting to LED lighting. Steve Taylor reports that he plans to convert all of the campus lighting to LED. A grant from Dominion Power spurred the conversion.

The bases for MCC's new electronic signs (pictured below left) have been built and are awaiting the arrival of the screens and lettering. The contractor has adjusted the completion date to late May.



27th Annual MCC Foundation Golf Classic



Roanoke Golf and Country Club - Thursday, May 17, 2018

Rain date is May 24!

Check In Day Of Tournament - 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Lunch - 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Welcome/ Tournament Instructions - 12:45 p.m.

Shotgun Start - 1:00 p.m.

MAIL CHECK AND REGISTRATION FORM TO:

MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.

1161 Kehukee Park Road, Williamston, NC 27892-8307

Martin Memos

May 7 - Summer schedule begins for MCC employees (closed on Fridays)

May 21 thru Aug. 16 - Fall Semester registration continues

May 16 - Summer Semester begins

May 17 - MCC Foundation Golf Tournament (see above for details)

June 25 - Deadline to apply for SECU Scholarships (see pg. 17)

June 30 - Application Deadline for MCC Foundation Scholarships (see pg. 16)

July 24 - New session of Basic Law Enforcement Training begins

Aug. 2 - Deadline to apply Thomas E. Minges Memorial/Pepsi Scholarship

Aug. 13 - Convocation

Aug. 16 - Fall Semester begins