

January

3
Final Registration for Spring Semester

5
Men's Basketball vs. Sandhills CC, 3 p.m.; Home

7
Curriculum Classes Begin

8
Recovery Meeting, 12 p.m.; E320

9
Watauga TRIO Deli, 12 p.m.; Student Lounge

Men's Basketball vs. Davidson CC, 7 p.m.; Away

12
Men's Basketball vs. Central Carolina CC, 3 p.m.; Home

13
Men's Basketball vs. Limestone College JV, 3 p.m.; Away

15
SGA General Assembly, 12 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Room B-118, Watauga Campus Highway Room

Recovery Meeting, 12 p.m.; E-320

**in this issue**

Former NFL Star Speaks to Students **P. 2**

Welding Upgrades **P. 3**

CCC&TI Christmas Luncheon Photos **P. 4**

Upcoming Civic Center Events **P. 7**

Chester Receives 2012 Great Teacher Award

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute has named DeAnna Chester its 2012 Great Teacher Award Winner.

The Great Teacher Award, an honor given annually to an instructor at CCC&TI, was named for the National Great Teachers Seminar, which is held in Hawaii. CCC&TI uses the award as a way to recognize excellent service among the college's faculty. Each year, nominations are made by faculty members, current or former students for the award. The previous year's Great Teacher chairs a committee that selects a new winner.

This year's recipient, DeAnna Chester, is originally from Caldwell County and is the daughter of Neil Hawn of Hudson and Doris McFarlin of Morganton. Chester graduated summa cum laude from Pfeiffer College with a bachelor's degree in English writing. She later earned her master's degree in communication from UNC-Greensboro. According to Chester, it was that experience as a graduate student that led her to teaching. After 18 years in the business industry, including 10 years in the newspaper business as a reporter for a local paper, she began graduate school in 2001 and rediscovered a love for learning. "When I went back to graduate school in 2001, I did not expect to begin a new career in a new field. I expected to continue my work in public relations and community resource on a corporate level. However, once I got back in the classroom as a student, my love for learning was re-lit, and as providence would have it, a teaching position

came open at CCC&TI. I applied, got the job and here I am," explained Chester.

Chester serves as Communications Instructor on the college's Watauga Campus and says that teaching is a rewarding profession because of her students. "Students, by far, are the best part of teaching. I know it sounds hokey, but to teach every day with enthusiasm and conviction, you have to believe people can do what they think they cannot do. I like being part of helping them discover that," said Chester.

When asked who inspires her in her teaching career, Chester again gives credit and recognition to her students. "I see myself in a lot of my first-generation college students, and so I have not only a professional, but a personal investment in seeing them succeed. I love my students. They inspire me." Chester also says that the generosity of others has had a deep impact on her life and her career. "When I graduated high school, I would not have been able to attend college had it not been for the generosity of others who were idealistic enough to believe education mattered – to individuals and to a community," said Chester. "I received a Coffey Foundation scholarship, an honors scholarship from my school, a Pell Grant and money from a Methodist foundation. People who had never met me, and in some cases, died before I was born, made it possible for me to have a better life. Because of that gift, I have always felt an obligation to give back to the community, to pay it forward so to speak. Teaching is a way for me to do that and still make a living."

16
Men's Basketball vs.
Louisburg College, 7 p.m.;
Away

19
Men's Basketball vs. Guilford
Tech CC, 3 p.m.; Away

The Water Coolers, 7:30
p.m.; J.E. Broyhill Civic
Center

21
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Holiday; Institution Closed

22
Recovery Meeting, 12 p.m.;
E320

23
Men's Basketball vs.
Wytheville CC, 7:30 p.m.;
Home

26
Men's Basketball vs.
Sandhills CC, 3 p.m.; Away

28
Elliot Engel Presents "The
Rise and Fall of F. Scott
Fitzgerald," 7:30 p.m.; J.E.
Broyhill Civic Center

29
Recovery Meeting, 12 p.m.;
E320

31
Watauga Blood Drive, 9:30
a.m. to 3 p.m. Student
Lounge

In their numerous nomination letters, Chester's colleagues at CCC&TI cited her love for her students and passion for teaching among the many qualities that make her a "Great Teacher." Nancy Risch, English Department Chair, noted "Ultimately, what makes DeAnna so special is her intense love of educational growth and learning. She has a true love of learning and she works hard to instill that in her students. She challenges them, yes, but she also cares deeply about them. She works tirelessly to make sure others, especially students, have the same opportunities in their lives as she has had in her own...and that they are academically prepared to meet those challenges and opportunities."

Chester's students agree. "Mrs. Chester was a wonderful instructor a who helped instill in me the confidence I needed to continue with school," said CCC&TI Nursing Student Kenneth Thompson. "I am 51 with a 2-year-old and a 5-year-old and have spent the last 20 years in the construction industry. It took a special kind of person to motivate and encourage a student such as myself and I've seen her have the same effect on so many others."

Chester, who lives in Lenoir with John, her husband of 27 years, and their two dogs and cats, says that receiving this award was a surprise and an honor. "I did not have any inkling that I was going to receive this award. I was surprised, humbled and thrilled. It is encouraging to have your work recognized by your peers and your students," she said.

In her spare time, Chester says she enjoys reading, cooking and writing and hopes to one day write a book and travel more with her husband. But she says that her immediate future just includes more of what she loves: teaching. "It is my hope to teach for another 20 years. The good thing about teaching is it is never the same job. I get about 125 new students every semester. It's great," she said. "I am proud to be a part of CCC&TI as a whole and the Watauga campus specifically."

CCC&TI congratulates DeAnna Chester on receiving the 2012 Great Teacher Award.

Former NFL star guest of CCC&TI mentoring program

Former NFL running back and Greensboro-area high school standout Lee Rouson visited the campus of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute recently to give a motivational speech to students.

Wearing his No. 22 New York Giants jersey and his two Super Bowl championship rings, Rouson was the special guest of the Men2Men Minority Male Mentoring program at CCC&TI. He challenged the audience to consider the question: "Who are you?"

"There is no other present you can open up in your life that's better than knowing who you are," he said. "Knowing who you are changes everything in your life."

"If you know who you are, you have the ability to get over anything in your life," he said while sharing various challenges he faced and overcame during his life.

Rouson, 50, grew up in Greensboro and was a standout athlete at Page High School. He went on to play college football at the University of Colorado and was drafted by the New York Giants in 1985. He played on the Giants 1986 and 1990 Super Bowl championship teams and ended his football career in 1991 with the Cleveland Browns.

Today, Rouson is a motivational speaker with Sports World Ministries and travels the country speaking at churches and schools. He lives in New Jersey with his wife and is the father of four children. Rouson also has ties to the Lenoir area through his mother's family, he said.

Rouson's talk was part of a series of motivational speeches hosted by CCC&TI's Men2Men Mentoring program. The program provides free tutoring and mentoring through a grant from the N.C. Community College System Office, and is available at all 58 of North Carolina's community colleges.

CCC&TI's program is directed by Elaine Setzer-Maxwell, who provides mentoring, tutoring and academic advisement for minority males who plan to transfer to a 4-year college.

For more information about the Minority Male Mentoring Program at CCC&TI, call Elaine Setzer-Maxwell at 759-4687.



CCC&TI Upgrades Program, Offers Specialized Training in Welding

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute has made some recent updates to its welding program and continues to offer specialized training and certification for those interested in learning to weld, helping students qualify for job opportunities coming to the area.

CCC&TI has recently obtained three new machines, including a Stick Metal Arc Welder and Tungsten Inert Gas welders. According to Jeff Holman, Instructor and Vocational and Technical Director for CCC&TI's Corporate and Continuing Education Division, these upgrades bring the program to industry standards and will help students once they begin looking for employment. "TIG welding is used in many stainless steel and non-ferrous metal applications. These new machines have the thumb controls, which is what is used in industry," said Holman.



The program also now has Stick Metal Arc and Metal Inert Gas welders, which are wire-fed welders. In addition, the program has also obtained a small lathe and table top machining center to help teach fabrication as it relates to welding. "This allows us to create our own 'coupons,' which are the components that will actually be welded together for a welding certification test," said Holman.

In addition to new equipment, the welding classroom and lab spaces also have received new paint and new welding curtains for each welding bay. "The changes have made a noticeable improvement in the appearance of the welding lab," commented Holman.

CCC&TI's welding program consists of four different courses in Basic Stick, MIG, TIG and Pipe welding. Those trained in these areas may qualify for welding jobs with Bakers Waste, a new industry coming to the Caldwell County area that produces construction size dumpsters and waste management products, as well as other local employers in need of welders.

These courses are designed to provide the beginner and professional the opportunity to gain or develop skills and to achieve certification.

These courses are ideal for a student with varied interests and skills. "If somebody is intrigued with the sciences and the arts and has good dexterity, they would be an excellent candidate for this program," said Holman. "You have to have an interest in and an understanding of the science behind welding and have an eye for what looks good."

CCC&TI has also recently received a Back to Work Grant, which will cover the cost of tuition for welding and other programs for those who have exhausted their unemployment benefits. Up to 100 percent financial aid is available for those who qualify.

Upcoming welding classes will be offered Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and begin on January 15. For those who qualify for Back to Work funding, Basic Welding classes will be offered Monday through Thursday, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and begin on January 7. Additional sections are also being offered and will begin in January.

For more information or to register for classes, call Jeff Holman at 828.726.2382.



CCC&TI Christmas Luncheon



Watauga Women Learn Self Defense

On Dec. 6 and Dec. 13, students and staff endured a vigorous self-defense training course taught by Master Rick Ward of the Blue Ridge Kung Fu Arnis Academy in Boone. Participants kicked, punched, grunted and laughed. The class was assisted by several of the brown belts and black belts who voluntarily allowed participants to practice moves on them.

During these sessions, participants were able to learn several techniques allowing the women to disarm knife and gun attacks, to get out of different types of choke holds and to fight off attackers. Scenarios included various situations such as rape, robbery and abduction. Some of the strategies taught were hair grabs, pinches, pressure points, kicks, punches and slaps.



Watauga Campus Christmas Cheer

The Watauga Campus of CCC&TI held a Christmas gathering for students on Wednesday, Dec. 12th. Students were able to enjoy fresh brewed coffee, cookies, juices, sodas, and candy canes. The students also enjoyed Christmas music throughout the event.



Watauga Campus Annual Food Drive

The Watauga Campus of CCC&TI held a food drive that benefitted local charities. The students, faculty, and staff brought in a grand total of 206 items to be donated. The food drive ran through the month of November into the beginning of December. The Watauga Campus Student Government Association would like to thank all of the students, faculty, and staff that brought in food items and for making this drive successful.

Watauga Campus Coat Drive

The Watauga Campus of CCC&TI will be hosting a coat drive beginning on Dec. 6th and running until Jan. 31st. We are asking students, faculty, and staff to donate old coats and warm clothes. There will be a collection box in the lobby of the main building on the Watauga campus that these items can be put in. The coats and warm clothes will benefit the Watauga County Hospitality House as well as Oasis Women's Shelter. Kids coats and warm clothes are also appreciated.



J.E. Broyhill Civic Center presents The Water Coolers

If you need a laugh to start out the new year, The Water Coolers will quench with your thirst for a night of comedy on Saturday, Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's J.E. Broyhill Civic Center.

The Water Coolers show is a quirky comedy revue by a troupe that highlights what is talked about at work. The Water Coolers will offer their unique blend of comedy, original songs and song parodies based on the gaffs and experiences everyone talks about around the water cooler at work...or just wish they could.



Conceived by one of the creators of the long-running New York hit "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," The Water Coolers celebrate – and skewer – work, life, and balancing the two.

The Water Coolers describe their unique comedy show as both unique and universally appealing. "People like to talk about themselves. They also love to hear stories about experiences familiar to them. The Water Coolers take that concept, add hilarious comedy, original music and parodies of familiar songs, and use NYC comics and singers to celebrate the crazy, funny, maddening and yet somehow universally comforting insanity of every day life."

Tickets for the show are \$18.50 for adults and \$12 for children. CCC&TI student tickets are \$8 with a valid student ID. For more information or for tickets, contact the Civic Center Box Office at 726.2242 or visit www.broyhillcenter.com.

J.E. Broyhill Civic Center presents "The Rise and Fall of F. Scott Fitzgerald"

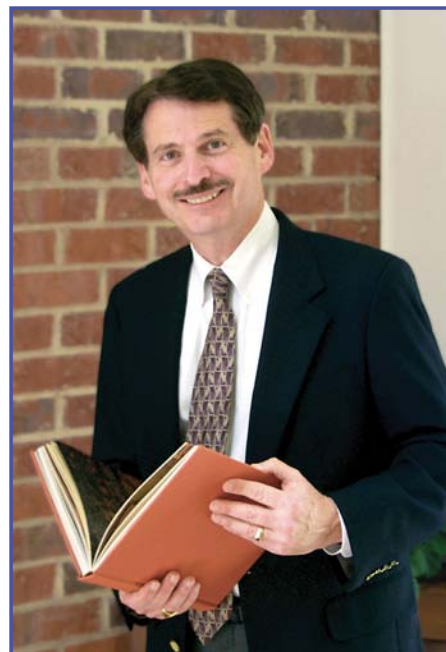
Dr. Elliot Engel will be on hand this year for another fascinating presentation on Monday, Jan. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's J.E. Broyhill Civic Center.

This year's presentation, "The Rise and Fall of F. Scott Fitzgerald" will be an in-depth look at the life of F. Scott Fitzgerald, who has been called one of the greatest American authors of the 20th century.

Fitzgerald authored four novels including "The Great Gatsby" and "The Beautiful and Damned," and garnered much critical acclaim during his life and career. However, Fitzgerald's personal life was riddled with struggles compounded by alcoholism and the mental illness of his wife, Zelda. Explore the life and work of this fascinating figure from America's literary history.

Engel lives in Raleigh, N.C., where he has taught at the University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University and Duke University. He has lectured throughout the United States and on all the continents including Antarctica. Engel continues to teach outside the classroom and give literary and historical programs throughout the world.

Don't miss this interesting and informative presentation on American author F. Scott Fitzgerald. Tickets for the show are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. CCC&TI students are admitted free with a valid student ID. For tickets or for more information, contact the Civic Center Box Office at 726.2242 or visit www.broyhillcenter.com.



Basic Skills Lunch and Learn

Basic Skills hosted the GED + Automotive Degree Lunch and Learn session in early January, which was well-attended.

Future Automotive Technology students learned how they could start working on a college degree while completing their GED - free of charge, as well as job opportunities in the automotive industry. The group also toured the Automotive Systems Technology on the TAPS campus in Hudson.

Pictured at right, Career Pathways Coordinator Jennifer Foster speaks to potential students about the program.



OMA Activities

Students in the Ophthalmic Medical Assistant program recently participated in an eye dissection, affording them the opportunity to see the internal structure of an eye up close and practice eye dissection first-hand.

Students also recently visited Graystone Eye in Lenoir to learn more about careers in the Ophthalmic field.

Pictured, below left, students work on dissecting an eye during class. Below, right, students at Graystone Eye.



Joe Looney nominated for Excellence in Teaching Award

CCC&TI Instructor and Electronic Engineering Director Joe Looney was recently nominated for the NC Community College System Office Excellence In Teaching Award.

The Excellence in Teaching program was established in 1985 to recognize instructors who exemplify the highest quality and standards throughout the NC Community College System. One nominee is eligible from each college. The award identifies and individually recognizes North Carolina Community College System faculty who have consistently demonstrated excellence in teaching to their students and college.

CCC&TI congratulates Joe Looney on his nomination for this prestigious award.

At right, Joe Looney demonstrating components of the college's Electronics Lab to campus visitors.



CCC&TI Basketball



Upcoming Games:

Sat., Jan. 5, Sandhills CC, Home, 3 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 9, Davidson CC, Away, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 12, Central Carolina CC, Home, 3 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 13, Limestone College, Away, 3 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 16, Louisburg College, Away, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 19, Guilford Tech CC, Away, 3 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 23, Wytheville CC, Home, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 26, Sandhills CC, Away, 3 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 2, Central Carolina CC, Away, 3 p.m.

Mon., Feb. 4, Moravian Prep, Home, 7 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 9, Davidson CC, Home, 3 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 13, Limestone College, Home, 7 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 20, Wytheville CC, Away, 7 p.m.

Mon., Feb. 25, Clinton JC, Away, 7 p.m.

March 1-3: Region X Tournament at CVCC, Game Times, TBD

The Caldwell Chronicle is a publication of CCC&TI's Marketing & Communications Department, a division of Instructional Support Services.

Find us on the web at:
www.cccti.edu/chronicle

Have news or information for the Chronicle?

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