

ccc&ti *The Caldwell* **Chronicle**

Issue 5: June, 2019

Congratulations!



CCC&TI Class of 2019

Inside: Photos from Adult Education & Curriculum Graduation Ceremonies, Foundation Celebration and much more!

June

17
Financial Aid Check
Disbursement 1

24
4-wk minimester I ends

25
4-wk minimester II begins

26-28
Bookstores closed for year-
end inventory

July

1
Last day to drop classes
without academic penalty

3-5
No curriculum classes

4
Independence Day, Institution
Closed

12
Deadline to apply for summer
graduation

Financial Aid Check
Disbursement 2

30
End of Summer Session and
4-wk minimester II

August

9
Financial Aid Check Dis-
bursement 3

13
Final Registration for Fall, Tui-
tion payments due by 6 p.m.

15
Fall Semester Begins

**For a complete
calendar of events,
including student
workshops and other
activities, visit
www.cccti.edu**

CCC&TI Celebrates 2019 Graduates

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute honored a total of 708 graduates from its Caldwell Campus in Hudson and Watauga Campus in Boone during two ceremonies held Friday evening at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir.

CCC&TI Board of Trustees member Tom Thuss opened the ceremony by welcoming special guests, congratulating the graduates and listing the college's accomplishments over the last year.

The Class of 2019, Thuss noted, included:

- 708 total graduates, including 306 first-generation college graduates

- Graduates ranging in age from 16 to 60, with the average age being 25

- Eight Dream Scholars; and

- 58 TRIO/Student Support Services graduates.



CCC&TI Board of Trustees member Ann Smith presented this year's Trustees' Student Awards of Merit to Lance Rotting and Kimberly Baldrich. The awards are selected based on faculty nominations for outstanding academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service.

Presented by Vice President of Instruction Randy Ledford, the Dr. Donald Lackey Award for Excellence in Teaching was awarded to Aaron Cook, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Programs. The award honors a faculty member who characterizes personal dedication, concern for student welfare and academic excellence.



The commencement speaker, Raleigh resident Courtney Chavez, shared her personal CCC&TI success story. Chavez enrolled

at CCC&TI in 2009 as a single mom who had recently lost her job. She went on to earn two associate degrees at CCC&TI before completing her bachelor's degree in accounting at Gardner-Webb University. Today, she's a senior loan origination quality services specialist at the State Employees' Credit Union in Raleigh and is pursuing a master's degree at UNC-Pembroke.

“You can accomplish great things because you are not average, you are not ordinary,” Chavez told graduates. “You’re seated here today because you triumphed. ... Make your dreams a reality and don’t forget to enjoy your journey.”

In his charge to graduates, CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch thanked the college’s faculty and staff for their hard work, and congratulated the Class of 2019 on a job well done.

“As you leave CCC&TI, my hope is you can leave with a great sense of pride,” Poarch said. “As alumni you will forever be part of the CCC&TI family. I hope you leave this place with a sense of fearlessness and passion ... Go with a boldness that will propel you to greatness.”



CCC&TI Honors Adult High School and High School Equivalency Graduates with Special Ceremony

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute held its annual Adult High School and High School Equivalency graduation exercises on Thursday, May 9, at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir. The ceremony honored 93 new graduates.

CCC&TI trustee William Stone opened the ceremonies with a welcome and spoke briefly about the class of 2019 and its accomplishments. Stone noted graduates hailed from communities across Caldwell and Watauga counties and ranged in age from 17 to 77.

Following Stone’s welcome, CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch recognized Kim Hinton, Adult Education Director, who is retiring from the college after more than 20 years of service. “She is an advocate of adult education who supports our program at the state level and has worked diligently to give students the resources and access to complete their education goals,” said Poarch. Poarch presented Hinton with a commemorative award and also announced that adult education faculty and staff made a donation in her honor to “Project Impact Tanzania,” to help provide clean drinking water to villages in East Africa, where Hinton and her husband served as missionaries prior to her time at CCC&TI.

Hinton then recognized the recipient of this year’s Distinguished Alumni Award, Mr. Larry Simonds. The award recognizes an alumnus or alumnae of the GED/AHS program who epitomizes the philosophy that the AHS or High School Equivalency diploma is a new beginning and who has worked to achieve additional credentials, a career with life sustaining wages, and who is representative of what hard work, persistence and motivation can achieve. Simonds earned his high school equivalency degree at CCC&TI in 2012 and went on to earn both an Associate in Applied Science in engineering technology and an Associate in Arts



in General Education at CCC&TI. Simonds joined CCC&TI's Learning Resource Center (LRC) staff in 2014. Simonds serves a technician maintaining the LRC's computers and electronic equipment and serves as a liaison to the IT and Technology Departments on behalf of the library and has also been instrumental in helping bring the college's Makerspace to fruition. "We are happy that Larry has become an important part of the Caldwell family," said Hinton. "It was a privilege for us to work with him in adult education and a joy to present him with this year's Adult Education Distinguished Alumni Award."

Hinton offered special thanks to the Foundation of CCC&TI for its help covering the cost of GED testing for students. "The Foundation has assisted every graduate on this stage with the cost," she said.

Hinton also recognized two honor graduates who were distinguished by their gold tassels. Honor graduates must either score above 3,000 on GED tests or maintain at least a 3.0 GPA in Adult High School courses.

Graduate speakers at the event were Selina Bartley, Audra Sue Isenhour, Ahn Pham, Marissa A. Seaman and Jenny Morin.

Bartley, a mom of two, attended classes at the Family Resource Center in Lenoir. Bartley shared that she struggles with learning difficulties and credited the Family Literacy Program with helping her obtain her high school equivalency degree and enroll in college courses at CCC&TI. "A few years ago, I never dreamed I would be standing here today, graduating. There were days when I thought I would never reach the levels needed to graduate, but with the support of my friends and teachers, I kept pushing forward," she said. "Now I have the desire to be and do more. I am working toward a college education that until now, I thought was out of reach."

Audra Sue Isenhour shared that she had dropped out of high school in her senior year and started a family. Over the years she said she had a variety of jobs and that most of her employers assumed she had a high school degree. Following the passing of her husband, she says she found herself with lots of time on her hands and in need of a purpose. "After much prayer, I decided to finish high school. I walked into the Adult Education wing at CCC&TI and met some of the most encouraging and friendly people. I left that day with lots of information and decided never to return," she said. "Obviously I went back." Isenhour shared that she quickly passed the social studies, reading and science tests but hit a roadblock with the math test. "The helpful staff and instructors didn't give up on me. Thanks to them I am a high school graduate at the age of 71."

Ahn Pham came to the United States two and a half years ago from Vietnam with very little English knowledge. She began classes at the Family Resource Center but said she got discouraged that worried that she could not complete her degree. "Last year I sat in class and watched my classmates who were graduating and thought I would never be like them and graduate," she said. "Now, one year later, I am graduating and working on my citizenship. To all my fellow students, I hope you realize your potential as I did and graduate as soon as possible."

Marissa Seaman attended classes on CCC&TI's Watauga Campus in Boone and shared that she had a great experience in the program. Seaman plans to continue her studies at CCC&TI and to work toward an Associate Degree in art. "I'd like to thank my mom and my teachers for helping me get through this. I appreciate all of you," she said. "I couldn't have done it without any of you. Thank you."



Jenny Morin shared that when she was younger, she didn't think that school was very important and that she didn't realize the value of education until she was older. "Eventually, it dawned on me that if I wanted to be a successful mother, wife, daughter and woman, I needed to further my education and that is exactly what I did." Morin says that there were challenges along way and that she thought about giving up several times. She credits her family and her instructors for encouraging her to continue. "You all knew just what to say to keep us going and never let us give up. You were always our biggest cheerleaders," said Morin. "Now, I stand in front of you with great pride and a sense of accomplishment. It was all possible with pure determination, love and support."



Above, Pictured are the speakers featured during CCC&TI's Adult High School/High School Equivalency Graduation ceremony held on Thursday, May 9 at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir. Pictured from left are Selina Bartley, Sue Isenhour, Jenny Morin, Ahn Pham and Marissa Seaman. The ceremony honored 93 graduates.

Following the graduate reflections, CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch presented high school equivalency graduates with their diplomas.

Poarch was joined by Superintendent of Caldwell County Schools Dr. Don Phipps and Superintendent of Watauga County Schools Dr. Scott Elliott to make diploma presentations to Adult High School graduates from each county.

Poarch encouraged graduates to continue learning and to continue on their paths to success. "Don't let tonight be the end, let it be the beginning of a journey of life-long learning," he said. "Every single one of you has the talent and ability to succeed. Be proud and take the time to celebrate but also be willing to take those bold next steps and know that we will be here to support you every step of the way."

Poarch closed the ceremonies, congratulating graduates for their achievements and bestowing upon them the official rights and privileges associated with their degrees. Amidst the cheers and applause of graduates and audience members, Poarch had graduates ceremoniously turn their tassels to indicate their official graduate status.

A reception in honor of the Class of 2019 was held following the ceremony.

For more information on CCC&TI's Adult High School and High School Equivalency Programs, call 828-726-2230 (Caldwell) or 828-297-5253 (Watauga) or visit www.cccti.edu will be a dough-tossing contest.

Foundation of CCC&TI Exceeds 2019 Fund Drive Goal

The Foundation of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute held its annual Celebration Luncheon on May 14. Peg Broyhill, chair of CCC&TI's Foundation Board, announced that the group surpassed its goal of \$375,000, the highest yet for the Foundation.

The Foundation celebrated the efforts and success of volunteers, campaign leaders, board members and college officials. Those in attendance enjoyed a wild-west themed lunch at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center and remarks from several community leaders.

Deborah Murray, vice chair of the CCC&TI Foundation, offered a toast in honor of the successful campaign. "Every year you are successful and you get the job done," said Murray. "You are giants for your leadership and you are heroes for your heart."



Broyhill recognized and thanked campaign captains, team members, college officials, students and volunteers for their hard work during this year's drive. In addition to funds raised by community volunteers and leaders, CCC&TI's faculty and staff contributed more than \$30,000 to campaign. The college's Student Government Association also raised a record \$2,655 for the campaign with several projects throughout the semester.

Broyhill also announced that the Waters Family made a significant contribution to expand the Linda C. Waters Scholarship. The fund was established in honor of Marty Waters' mother, who was a long-time art teacher with Caldwell County Schools. The fund supports annual scholarships for art and culinary students.



Campaign Chair Alvin Daughtridge also offered remarks at the event. "It was so appropriate that this event follows a week of graduation ceremonies. At each of those events, there were students who were touched by the Foundation and this campaign," said Daughtridge. "On behalf of those students and graduates, thank you for not only reaching the goal, but exceeding it."

CCC&TI President Mark Poarch also commented on the graduation exercises and the impact of the campaign on CCC&TI students. "Over the last couple of weeks, we have been able to celebrate as more than 1,000 students walked across the stage to receive degrees or certificates. Your support is what put these students on the road to success and kept them there to reach the milestone of their graduation," said Poarch. "We could not do what we do without your support every year."

Contributions for the campaign are still being accepted through June 30. For more information on the Foundation at CCC&TI, contact Foundation Executive Director Marla Christie at 828-726-2203.

Nursing Graduate Wins 2019 Academic Excellence Award

When Rachel Plott's youngest son needed life-saving surgery at only 6 weeks old, it was the kindness shown by a member of the hospital staff that inspired her to go back to school.

"The admitting nurse left such an impact on me that I decided to go to nursing school to give back what was given to me in the form of comfort, encouragement and love," she said.

Eight years later, Plott has completed Nursing school on Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's Watauga Campus and already has a job at Watauga Medical Center. During her time at CCC&TI, Plott's positive attitude and hard work so impressed her instructors that she was chosen as winner of the college's annual Academic Excellence Award.

"She is one of the most considerate and respectful students on the Watauga Campus," Nursing Instructor and Clinical Coordinator Jane Arendas said. "I would want her taking care of my sick family members."

Plott, who lives in Fleetwood with her husband and two children, graduated on May 10 with an Associate Degree in Nursing and is preparing to take a licensure exam to become a Registered Nurse. On May 15, she was presented with the college's Academic Excellence medallion and plaque, one of 58 community college students statewide to receive the award.

As a wife and mother, balancing the rigorous Nursing program with family and work responsibilities was challenging. But she credits the college's faculty and staff, as well as financial help from the Foundation of CCC&TI, for helping her succeed.

"I feel that I would have been left behind at any other college nursing program," she said. "I looked at various colleges and CCC&TI was the most welcoming and helpful. They encouraged me and gave me the tools I needed to pursue the career I desired."



Science Olympiad Team

Congratulations to the CCC&TI Science Club/ Caldwell Early College High School Science Olympiad Team. The team took 14th place out of 350 teams from across the state in the Science Olympiad State Championship at NC State University.

The team was coached by CCC&TI instructors.



CCC&TI Honors BLET Graduates

In a May 15 ceremony at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute honored its newest group of Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) graduates. Five graduates completed more than 640 hours of training over 17 weeks and successfully complete a rigorous physical exam as well as the standardized state tests.

Graduates, pictured left to right with BLET class awards in parenthesis, are: Noah Barrett of Lenoir (Most Improved), Tiawan Harper of Lenoir, Richard Helderman of Granite Falls (GRIT, Top Gun, Top Driver), Jason Rhoney of Granite Falls and Jesse White of Conover (Class Leader, POPAT – Police Officers Physical Abilities Test, Physical Fitness). The group had a 100-percent pass rate on their state exam.



The Fall 2019 Basic Law Enforcement Training program will continue taking applications until Aug. 1 with class beginning on Aug. 15. To apply for CCC&TI's Basic Law Enforcement Training program, please contact Program Director Andy Day at 828-726-2750.

Nurse Pinning Ceremony

CCC&TI celebrated a new class of Nursing graduates Tuesday, May 7 at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir with the annual Associate Degree Nursing Pinning Ceremony. The Nursing Class of 2019, from both the Caldwell and Watauga campuses, includes: Amber Bath, Britainy Brown, Moriah Burnett, Michaela Chaffin, Emily Cook, Rachel Crawford, Crystal Enriquez, Kristin Flahart, Joseph Gilmore, Shannon Gragg, Michelle Gwyn, Angelica Harris, Cheyenne Isaacs, Alex Jarvis, Kathleen Jones, Lexi King, Gabrielle Leserra, Mackenzie Matthews, Kristi McGlamery, Sean Mendoza, Sonya Parlier, T.J. Pennell, Rachel Plott, Trina Rader, Tiffany Robinson, Angela Rowe, Megan Shongut, Brooke Sigler, Sarah Stroker, Kaley Tipton, Mindy Trivette and Amber Williams.



Culinary Graduates Receive Toques

Congratulations to the Culinary Arts Class of 2019. The students were honored Wednesday May 8 with a Toque Ceremony at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir. All graduates received their own toque, the tall, round, pleated, starched white hat worn by professional chefs, to commemorate their accomplishments, the completion of their formal training and the beginning of their careers as chefs.

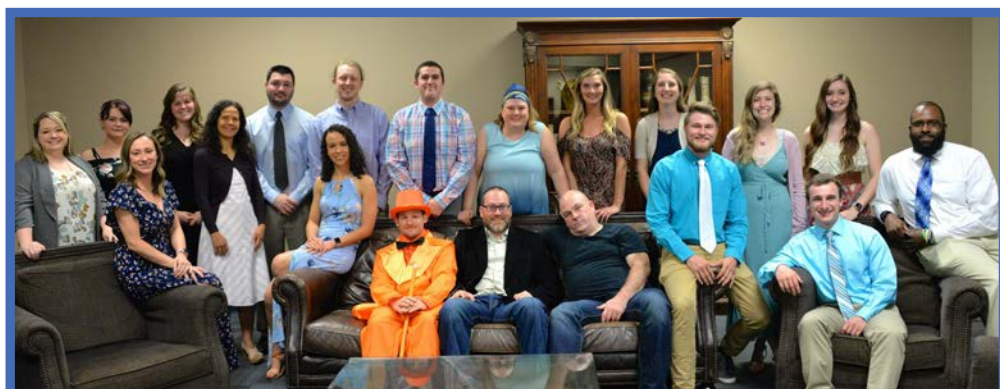


Pictured are: (front row, left to right) Taylor Phillips, Nathalie Munoz, Lorena Powell, Logan Hundley, Jennifer Fuller, Vanessa Howerton, (back row, left to right) Robert Back, Corey Hooks, Michael Porter, Harrison Horton, Justin White, Brock Ledford, Cody Biggs, Cody Thompson, Keith Andreasen, Paige Welch, Ray Kirby.

PTA Pinning Ceremony

Congratulations to the Physical Therapist Assistant Class of 2019. The students were honored Tuesday evening at a pinning ceremony at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir.

The PTA Class of 2019 includes Jacqueline Baker, Jarret Benner, Amanda Borders, Elizabeth Branch, Katie Buchanan, Brittani Cartner, Brady Deal, Rob Hardenburg, Bryan



Kilpatrick, Melissa King, Joshua Kiziah, Whitney Laney, Megan Redford, Shyana Reeves, Brock Sales, Devon Simmons, Anthony Steele, Sabino Storiale, Tyler Watson and Rebecca Workman.

System President Visits Caldwell Campus

NC Community College System President Peter Hans visited CCC&TI's Caldwell Campus on May 9 for a tour. Hans visited several program areas and the on-campus health center, President Hans also met with local leaders, CCC&TI trustees, faculty and staff members.



CCC&TI Receives Golden LEAF Foundation Grant

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's efforts to develop a Centralized Advanced Manufacturing Center have received a financial boost from the Golden LEAF Foundation.

The \$152,250 Golden LEAF grant will fund the purchase of two new pieces of equipment for the college's Centralized Advanced Manufacturing Center – a coordinate measurement machine and a CNC (computer numerical control) turning center.

"We're excited to continue the upgrade of our Advanced Manufacturing programs," CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch said. "The generous grant awarded by Golden LEAF will help ensure that our students are able to use the newest high-tech equipment, and will enable us to provide a higher level of training that will greatly benefit our local companies."

The Centralized Advanced Manufacturing Center project will create state-of-the-art simulated work environments, designed to provide students with direct pathways to high-paying careers.

The nearly \$1 million investment, which includes in-kind equipment donations from multiple industry partners, will provide high-tech training in the fields of Industrial Systems Technology, Electronics Engineering Technology, Electrical Systems, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Furniture Technology and Industrial Maintenance.

The project began in 2018 with the renovation of classrooms on campus and the addition of new high-tech equipment, including a CNC mill, CNC lathe, a CNC cutting machine and an industrial robot. The project's second phase begins this summer and includes additional classroom and building improvements, along with the addition of new training equipment.

The Golden LEAF Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1999 to receive a portion of North Carolina's funding received from the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement with cigarette manufacturers. For 20 years, Golden LEAF has worked to increase economic opportunity in North Carolina's rural and tobacco-dependent communities through leadership in grantsmaking, collaboration, innovation, and stewardship as an independent and perpetual foundation.

The Foundation has provided lasting impact to tobacco-dependent, economically distressed and rural areas of the state by helping create 64,000 jobs, over half a billion dollars in new payrolls and more than 77,000 workers trained or retrained for higher wages.

SLPA Grads Earn 100% Passage Rate

Congratulations to the Speech Language Pathology Assistant program Class of 2019 on achieving a 100-percent pass rate on the NC SLPA Registration Exam. We're proud of these students and the faculty and staff who have supported them.



Athletics News

Softball

CCC&TI Softball Signee Alyssa McCrary (front, center) is joined by her mother April Pilkenton (front, right), CCC&TI Softball Head Coach Scott Triplett (front, left), CCC&TI Director of Enrollment Management Dennis Seagle Jr. (back, left), CCC&TI Athletic Director Matt Anderson (back, center) and CCC&TI Vice President of Student Services Dena Holman (back, right). McCrary is a 2017 graduate of Bunker Hill High School in Claremont, where she played right field.



Men's Basketball

CCC&TI Men's Basketball signee Keishawn Massey (front, center) is joined by his mother Danielle Gardin (front, left), CCC&TI Minority Male Mentoring Program Director Elaine Setzer-Maxwell (front, right), CCC&TI Athletic Director Matt Anderson (back, left), CCC&TI Men's Basketball Head Coach Jamison McIver (back, center) and CCC&TI Director of Enrollment Management Dennis Seagle Jr. (back, right). Massey will soon graduate from Stuart Cramer High School in Belmont, where he played power forward and center.



CCC&TI Club Inducts New Members

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) recently held an induction ceremony for new members.

The event, held Friday, May 3 in CCC&TI's Caldwell Campus gym, was the culmination of nearly a year of training and attending events for members. The society is open to students who maintain a specific grade point average and who are invited to join by the chapter's advisor, however students do not become full-fledged members until completing a series of requirements. In total, 58 students were officially inducted into the club during the ceremony.

Honorary memberships were also conferred during the ceremony. Culinary Arts Program Director Keith Andresen and Media Director Amy Bowman each received an honorary membership into the society.

The Society also presented several awards during the ceremony. Excellence in Teaching Awards were presented to CCC&TI Instructors Jennifer Fisher, Ronald Holste and Renee Yount. Excellence in Service to Students Awards were presented to Mathematics Instructor Jennifer Fisher, Workforce Development Instructor Jimmie Griffith and Medical Assisting Program Director Melinda Laws.



Each new student member in attendance was then recognized and received their membership packet, plaque and NSLS membership pin.

CCC&TI congratulates the newest members of the National Society of Leadership and Success.



CCC&TI Announces Music Program Transfer Agreement With UNC-Charlotte

Local music majors will now have an easier path to a 4-year degree, thanks to a new agreement between Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI) and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC-Charlotte).

Taking effect in Fall 2019, the new bilateral articulation agreement will allow students who complete the 2-year Associate in Fine Arts in Music degree at CCC&TI to transfer their credits to complete one of several music bachelor's degrees at UNC-Charlotte.

"Basically, it guarantees admission into Charlotte's program and helps students avoid several general education classes that they would have to complete if they pursued a Music degree at other universities," CCC&TI Music Program Director Justin Butler said, adding that students will be able to enter UNC-Charlotte as a junior. "This is a great opportunity for a student who wants to study music, while enjoying the benefits of completing the first two years of a 4-year degree at a community college."

Though students will still have to meet UNC-Charlotte's admission requirements, including a formal audition, the transition from community college to the university will be seamless thanks to the new agreement, Butler said.

For students wanting to learn more about the agreement or to enroll in the Music program at CCC&TI, please contact Justin Butler at 828-726-2457 or visit the program website at www.cccti.edu/Programs/AFAMusic.asp.

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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CCC&TI 2019
Graduation Ceremonies:
Now airing in Caldwell County on
Spectrum Cable Channel 192
and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99.

Also, check out the college
YouTube Channel Livestream:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/CCCTIMandC>