



Transformation Realized

**CCC&TI celebrates
Watauga Campus Student Services Center
with virtual ribbon cutting ceremony.**

Calendar

April

16
Financial Aid Check Disbursement 4

May

5
Spring Semester Ends

6
Watauga Campus Graduation Celebration, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., drop in.

7
Grades due at 10 a.m.

Caldwell Campus Graduation Celebration, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., drop in.

12
Payment for Summer Term due by 6 p.m. in person or 11:59 p.m. online

17
Summer Term Begins

31
Memorial Day Holiday, Institution Closed

For a full calendar of events and activities, including Cobra Athletics events, visit www.cccti.edu

All information and events listed in this publication are subject to change according to institutional, local, state and national guidelines issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the most up to date information and CCC&TI's current guidelines and protocols, visit www.cccti.edu

CCC&TI, Boone Chamber Celebrate New Student Services Center

Though the building has been open and in use for more than a year, the general public got its first chance on March 22 to tour the new Student Services Center on the Watauga Campus of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute.

In partnership with the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce, CCC&TI hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a "virtual tour" of the 15,000-square-foot, \$5.3 million facility, which was streamed live on the Chamber's Facebook page. Two previous attempts to host an event celebrating the new building, which opened to students in January 2020, were canceled due to winter weather and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funded by the Connect N.C. Bond approved by voters in 2016, construction on the Student Services Center began in fall 2017 and concluded in late 2019. The building opened to students in January 2020.

"We're excited. This facility transforms this campus," CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch said prior to the tour of the facility. "It brings together all of the support services for students in one location. Previously, those support services were spread out across campus and students had to go to two or three buildings to access those. This is a facility designed with students in mind and to help them be successful."

Boone Area Chamber President and CEO David Jackson led a tour of the building that highlighted several of the buildings features and included conversations with college officials. The tour highlighted the Library, the Writing Center, the Academic Support Center, the Testing Center, the Academic Advising Center, Career Connections, Student Activities, the 3,000-square-foot Student Commons area and the outdoor seating area with a beautiful view of Grandfather Mountain.

The tour concluded with the official ribbon cutting at the building's entrance. In addition to college officials and Boone Area Chamber of Commerce staff, Watauga Board of Commissioners Chairman Jeff Welch also participated.



On the Cover:

From left to right: CCC&TI Board of Trustees member Bill Stone, Watauga Board of Commissioners Chairman John Welch, CCC&TI Watauga Campus Student Activities Coordinator Diane Mazza, CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch and Boone Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO David Jackson cut the ribbon at the virtual ceremony in March.

Above:

CCC&TI Watauga Campus Student Services Director Dr. Kim Van Wie participates in a virtual tour while Boone Area Chamber of Commerce Director of Communications and Marketing Katie Greene broadcasts the event.

Partnership with Google Improves Student Connectivity

Caldwell County high school students will now have better access to online learning and higher education thanks to a recently completed project by Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute and Caldwell County Schools, with help from tech giant Google.

Through the CONNECT Project, CCC&TI recently installed distance learning classrooms at Hibriten, South Caldwell and West Caldwell high schools that will allow connections to each other as well as classrooms at CCC&TI.

The new technology will allow a teacher at one location to deliver instruction to students at any of the three high schools. This includes college courses at CCC&TI, which provides tremendous cost savings for high school students, thanks to tuition-free classes through Career and College Promise. The goal of the project is improving online learning access, especially STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), and to remove barriers that may prevent a student from earning college credits.

“More than one-third of our enrollment is made up of high school students, and the tuition savings for local students totals about \$1 million each year,” CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch said. “This project will allow CCC&TI to provide more courses, and now that we can link to those schools directly, one instructor can reach students in multiple off-site classrooms. We can also deliver instruction from our campus while the students remain on their high school campuses. The opportunities with this technology are endless. We’re thankful for Google’s generosity and emphasis on opening doors for local students through technology.”

Use of the new classrooms began in January with the start of the spring semester. The project received \$100,000 in funding from Google’s Data Center Community Grants Program in 2020, with CCC&TI covering the remaining expenses. The project creates flexibility for local educators and many opportunities for Caldwell County students.

“The distance learning classrooms are designed to be versatile to provide as many opportunities for students and teachers as possible,” Caldwell County Schools Superintendent Dr. Don Phipps said. “The rooms will eliminate some barriers that we have to deal with and will allow greater access to courses for students. We will also be able to serve students in various locations with this synchronous format of instructional delivery. It has great potential, and I am excited about how it may be used to benefit our students, teachers and community.”

The CONNECT Project is the latest in ongoing collaborative efforts between local educators and Google to support students of Caldwell County. Recent examples include using Caldwell County Schools buses as rolling hotspots to provide Wi-Fi access throughout the community and the donation of Chromebooks for students lacking the equipment to access online learning.



Above:

Hibriten High School students receive instruction from CCC&TI Math Instructor Jennifer Fisher (shown on screen to the right) through an online connection between a classroom on the CCC&TI campus in Hudson and a classroom on Hibriten’s campus. AIG Facilitator Amanda McLean observes the class in person and is available to help students face-to-face.

“Google, CCC&TI and Caldwell County Schools have been partners in education and economic development for well over a decade,” said Lily Hester, Head of External Affairs and Public Affairs - Southeast, Google. “Our latest initiative will help ensure that more budding minds have access to the tools they need to succeed. The entire Google team in Lenoir and around North Carolina is grateful for the teamwork that is a hallmark of Caldwell County.”

For more information about Career and College Promise tuition-free offerings in Caldwell County, students and parents can visit www.cccti.edu or contact the CCC&TI Transition Advisor or the school counselor at any of the county’s three high schools.

CCC&TI Announces Funds for Students Pursuing Firefighting, Emergency Management Careers

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, in partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of North Carolina, has announced that funds are available to help cover training costs for students pursuing firefighting and emergency management careers.

Through the initiative, \$500 stipends or \$1,000 scholarships are available for students pursuing credits, certifications or degrees in the following CCC&TI programs or courses: Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, N.C. Driver Operator Pumps, Emergency Vehicle Driver Certification or an Emergency Management Associate Degree.

The purpose of the initiative, funded by BCBS Foundation, is to assist North Carolina fire and rescue departments with recruitment and retention of firefighters. A particular emphasis is in supporting the recruitment and training of individuals in achieving their Firefighter I & II certifications to impact the number of firefighters within the state.

The BCBS Foundation Firefighter stipends and scholarships are intended to offset the out-of-pocket expenses such as materials, travel and personal expenses a student could incur in order to participate in training.

Students who plan to enroll in any of the designated programs can apply for funds. For more information or to apply, visit: www.cccti.edu/BCBSfire

Foundation Awards Culinary Scholarship

The Foundation of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute recently presented Emily Norwood, a first-year Culinary Arts student from Newton, N.C., with the Linda C. Waters Scholarship. The scholarship was established in memory of Linda Waters, a local artist, Caldwell County Schools art teacher and mother of Marty Waters, a former Foundation of CCC&TI Board member. The scholarship is awarded to one deserving Culinary Arts student annually. Pictured from left to right: CCC&TI Culinary Arts Director Keith Andreasen, Culinary Arts student Emily Norwood and Foundation of CCC&TI Executive Director Marla Christie.



Watauga Campus adds New Piano Lab

CCC&TI's Watauga Campus has a new digital piano lab featuring 11 professional level Casio digital pianos with fully weighted keys to give them the feel of a tradition acoustic piano.

The lab will allow for expansion of the Associate in Fine Arts Music (AFA Music) degree program on the Watauga Campus. The lab will be used for the Class Piano, Music Theory, Aural Skills, Piano Lesson, and Voice Lesson courses, which are open to all students and community members.

"The lab set up is similar to any digital piano lab that you would see utilized in a university music degree program and the set-up will allow more seats for all of these courses on the Watauga Campus," said AFA Music Program Director Justin Butler. "I hope to see as many students from the community and other degree areas in these courses as I do AFA Music degree students."

The following courses will be offered this Fall in the new Watauga Campus digital piano lab:

- **Class Piano** - (MUS-151P-680WA) Tuesday/Thursday, 9:30 am-10:20 am
- **Music Theory I** - (MUS 121-780W) Tuesday/Thursday, 11am-12:15 pm
- **Aural Skills I** - ear training (MUS 125-780W) Monday/Wednesday, 9:30 am-10:20 am

Fall registration is ongoing. Students are encouraged to sign up early for these courses as space is limited. For a full schedule of courses, visit: www.cccti.edu/Schedules



Mobile Food Pantry to be Available on Caldwell Campus

CCC&TI is partnering with South Caldwell Christian Ministries to host a mobile food pantry on the Caldwell Campus for students. The Food Pantry will be available beginning in the fall and will give out donations via a drivethru once monthly.

Following are the scheduled dates that the pantry will be on campus this fall:

Thursday, September 9
Thursday, October 7
Thursday, November 4
Thursday, December 9

For more information on resources for students in need, contact South Caldwell Christian Ministries at 828-396-4000 or contact CCC&TI Student Activities Director Kim Lackey at 828-726-2301 or email klackey@cccti.edu.



CCC&TI Watauga Campus to Offer Kids in the Kitchen Camps

This summer, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's Watauga Campus will offer "Kids in the Kitchen" camps for kids ages 9 and up and cooking classes for teens. The programs will feature week-long courses and daily activities Monday through Friday except where noted*. The cost for each week-long camp is \$200. Following are the dates and themes for the camps:

Baking Magic

June 7 – 11; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

July 6 – 9*; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday

July 19 – 23; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Learn the science behind the magic of baking and pastries. Students will prepare and enjoy items such as cupcakes, puff-pastry desserts and tarts and finish the week off with their own "specialty" cake. This camp is for ages 9 and up.

Pizza! Pizza!

June 14 – 18; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

June 28 – July 2; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Learn to make a different pizza every day including gourmet pizzas, dessert pizzas and calzones. Topping the week off will be a dough-tossing contest. This camp is for ages 9 and up.

Teen Cooking 101

July 12 – 16; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

July 26 – 30; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

This class is perfect for the teen who loves to cook or wants to learn more. Students will learn how to create different types of bread, discuss and practice basic cooking techniques and make sauces and handmade pasta. This class is for ages 13 to 18.

Space is limited for each class. Students will be required to complete a health screening and temperature check prior to the start of each class and before parents can leave their student on campus. Campers will also be required to wear a mask during the class except when eating.

Registration for Kids in the Kitchen is ongoing and space is limited. To register or for more information, call 828-297-3811.

CCC&TI Global Students Club Supply Drive

to benefit women's shelters in Caldwell County

Donations will be accepted through the end of the Spring Semester. Items can be dropped off in the LRC or in Room A-210 on the Caldwell Campus or see Cate Shiles for more information.

Items Most Needed

- Towels and washcloths
- Sheets (full and twin)
- Toiletries
- Cleaning Supplies
- Paper Products
- Socks and women's underwear
- Eating Utensils
- Salt & Pepper shakers (disposable)
- Canned Meats

For more information, contact Cate Shiles at cshiles@cccti.edu or 828-726-2258.



Upcoming CCC&TI Training: Mental Health First Aid

Monday, May 24 and
Tuesday, May 25
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
CCC&TI Caldwell Campus
Hudson
Cost: \$75 (includes textbook)



This training will help participants learn to recognize and intervene during a mental health emergency. Excellent training for human resource professionals, medical professionals, business staff, faith community leaders, law enforcement personnel, educators and more.


Led by Tuesday Sigmon, Certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor
For more information or to register, call 828-726-2242.

CCC&TI art Class @ the HUB

The Art of Etching

Learn the basic process of line etching in the printmaking media of intaglio with instructor and local printmaker Matt Strawn.

April 26 - June 7
Mondays, 6 - 8 p.m.
HUB in Hudson
Cost: \$100



For more information or to register, call 726-2242

Student Finds Passion for Speech Language Pathology at CCC&TI

As Amara Cromartie was completing her Bachelor of Science Degree in Exercise Science at UNC-Charlotte, she wasn't sure if the career path she had chosen was the right one. Then she observed Speech Language Pathology at a skilled nursing facility and found her calling.

After completing her bachelor's degree, the Laurinburg, N.C. native entered Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) program in Fall of 2019. She'll graduate in May with an Associate Degree and a clear path to an exciting career as she was recently accepted into the Master of Science in Communication Disorders program at North Carolina Central University.

"I enjoy working with children," she said of her current SLPA clinical experience at The Cyzner Institute in Charlotte, a private school for children on the Autism spectrum. "No child is the same and you have to approach each child differently."

Thanks to a service agreement with Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, Amara was able to complete some of her CCC&TI course work close to home on CPCPC's campus. She completed her remaining coursework online and her clinicals took place in Charlotte. CCC&TI is one of only two schools in North Carolina to offer the SLPA program, the other being Fayetteville Tech.

"There are many options for pursuing a path in Speech Language Pathology," said Jessica Raby, CCC&TI's Speech Language Pathology Assistant Director. "A student can access our program after high school and utilize the 2 + 2 agreement with App State, for example. This would allow a student to graduate in 4 years with a Bachelor's in Communication Sciences and Disorders, as well as have the ability to practice as an SLP-Assistant while continuing their education. Like in Amara's case,

a student can also complete our AAS program after completing a 4-year degree in another field. This gives a student experience in the field and then the opportunity to apply into a Master's program."

For more information about the Speech Language Pathology Assistant program, please call 828-726-2370 or visit: <https://www.cccti.edu/SLPA/Default.asp>

CCC&TI will host virtual information sessions at 12 p.m. on Monday, April 19 and Thursday, April 22 for anyone wanting to learn about the program and careers in the Speech Language Pathology Assistant field. To RSVP for a session, visit: <https://www.cccti.edu/SLPA/InfoSessionRSVP.asp>



CCC&TI is Hiring!

CCC&TI has a number of full-time and part-time employment opportunities available now. For a complete list of openings and how to apply visit:

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cccti>

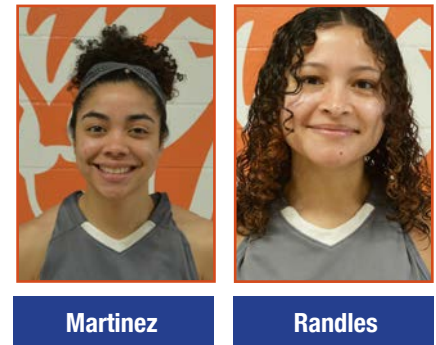
Men's Basketball: The Cobras finished in third place in the Region 10 Division One regular season standings but made a run to the championship game of the Region Tournament the week of April 6-10. The Cobras defeated Spartanburg Methodist in the quarterfinals 77-62 before taking down USC-Salkehatchie 108-99 in overtime of the semifinals. The Cobras fell in the championship game to Brunswick by a score of 98-89.



Caldwell landed two student-athletes on the men's basketball all-region team. Jalen Crowder and Demitri Dixon were named all-region, the first time since Caldwell has been competing at the division one level that multiple players have made the all-region team in the same season. Crowder (6'-3" Guard, Asheville, NC) averaged 14.1 points per game. He started 16 of Caldwell's 17 games and reached double-digits in scoring in 12 of those games. His season high was a 33-point performance in an 87-79 win at Brunswick on Feb. 27. He shot 41.2% on his 3-point field goal attempts. Dixon (6' Guard, Charlotte, NC) averaged 16.7 points per game, starting and appearing in 15 games for the Cobras this season. He scored in double digits in 11 games, including a 30-point outing in the Region 10 tournament semifinal victory over USC-Salk on April 8.



Women's Basketball: Paola Martinez was selected as the Region 10 Division One Women's Basketball Player of the Year and named to the all-region team. Martinez (Guard, Fort Mill, SC) averaged 13.9 points per game while also averaging 3.4 rebounds and 2.9 assists per game. Her season high performance came in Caldwell's 84-58 win over Denmark Tech on March 27, where she scored 32 points. Martinez appeared in 17 games for the Cobras this season, starting in 11 of those games and posting double digits in scoring in 13 games.



Joining Martinez on the all-region team from Caldwell was Amiya Randles (Guard, Conover, NC). Randles averaged 7.8 points per game while dishing out 2.2 assists per game. She scored a season high 18 points in a 91-85 loss at Denmark Tech on March 13. Randles appeared in 18 games for the Cobras and scored double digits in seven of those games.

Baseball: The Cobras earned their first national ranking in program history on March 29 when they checked in at number ten in the NJCAA Division Three Baseball Poll. The Cobras rose in the rankings two weeks later to number eight. As of April 16, the Cobras were 17-7 overall, 7-0 in Region 10 Division III play (1st place), 13-1 at home, winners of six games in a row and 12 out of their last 13 games. Noah Love is currently 17th in the nation with RBIs, collecting 27 in 24 games.



Softball: The Cobras swept a double header vs. rival Catawba Valley on March 30, winning by scores of 5-1 and 7-2. As of April 16, the Cobras were 18-10 overall and in first place Region 10 D-2 Western Division play with a record of 8-2. Mackenzie Johnson (Newton, NC) had a walk off solo homerun vs. Spartanburg Methodist on Wednesday, March 24, leading the Cobras to a 1-0 victory in the bottom of the 7th inning. Johnson's homerun was ranked seventh in the NJCAA's Plays of the Week for the Week of March 22-28.

To follow all the action and get the latest updates, follow CCC&TI Athletics on social media:

#CobraNation • Facebook: Caldwell Cobra Athletics

Twitter: @CaldwellCobras • Instagram: caldwelcobras

For more info and complete schedules, visit www.cccti.edu/gocobras

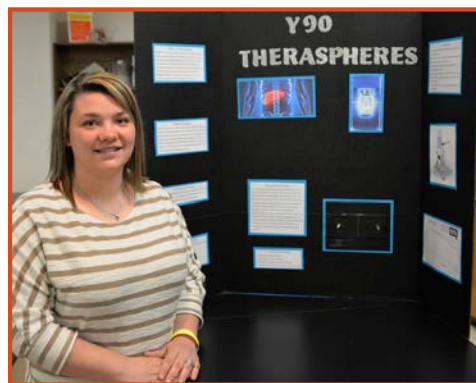
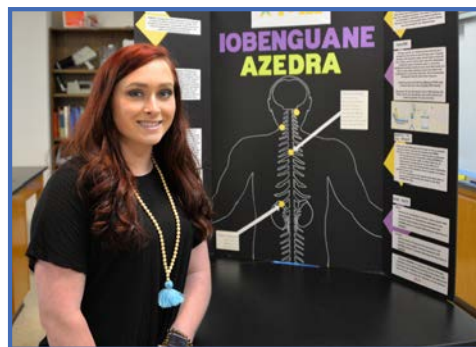
Nuclear Medicine Students Shine at Virtual Meeting

Congratulations to our Nuclear Medicine Technology students, who excelled at this year's North Carolina Nuclear Medicine Technology Spring Virtual Meeting.

In the Vincent Fox Student Exhibit contest (named for former CCC&TI Radiography program director, who passed in 2015), Madison Phillips took first place with a presentation on I-131 Iobenguane Azedra. (Pictured top right.)

Student Courtney Foster (not pictured) took second place with a presentation on Vizamyf Flutemetamol F18.

Victoria Cleary, pictured bottom right, won the J. Marion Eddy Outstanding Student Award. Cleary was nominated by Nuclear Medicine Technology Program Director Leslie Deal.



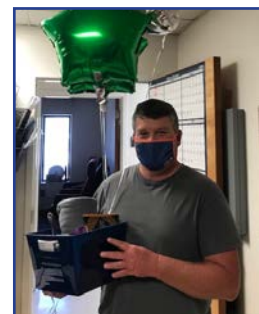
Intentional Connections: Cobra Cares Awards

As part of this year's Mini Grant program sponsored by the Foundation of CCC&TI, employees Laura Benton and Tuesday Sigmon applied for funds to start an initiative they called "Intentional Interactions." The program outlines intentional steps to reinvigorate the cobra community and provide opportunity for connection among CCC&TI employees. After a challenging year of social distancing and limited face-to-face interaction, the goal of their initiative is to infuse a greater sense of community and positivity into the CCC&TI culture. "Through this mini-grant, we want to provide an opportunity for connection," said Benton. "We spent so much of 2020 physically keeping our distance, and this mini-grant is our attempt to reconnect and reinvigorate the CCC&TI community."

One aspect of the program is the Cobra Cares Award. All employees are eligible to receive the Cobra Cares recognition. Certain months are designated for students to place nominations, and others are open to faculty and staff. All nominees receive a small token of appreciation, and winners receive a prize package containing a gift card. Following are the recipients of the Cobra Cares awards thus far:

November 2020: Jonathan Ritch

Our first Cobra Cares Award winner was Jonathan Ritch from Facilities Services. Often the guy behind the scenes and running from place to place, Jonathan has recently adapted to new processes, duties, and employees, always with a smile. The CCC&TI core value he best portrays is community.



December 2020: Heather Barnett

Nominated by many students, English Instructor Heather Barnett is beloved. She truly cares about each student, and they feel it. One student commented, "She really seems to care about our welfare in her class and in life. For example, I do not have internet access all the time, so she has worked with me in those times where it has been an issue. As students walk into class, she generally greets them by name and asks how they've been. Sitting in her class is a highlight of my week." The CCC&TI core values she best portrays are student success and teaching & learning.





January 2021: Michelle Powell Reece and Marcia Potts

Our January Cobra Cares Award winners were Accountant Marcia Potts and Michelle Powell Reece, Math Instructor on the Watauga Campus. Both ladies were nominated both someone outside of their area, which speaks volumes about their impact across campus.

Michelle Powell Reece was recognized for how she positively contributes to the CCC&TI culture. “Michelle is always upbeat and positive and makes sure that everyone she works with feels appreciated. She is the person who collects money and gets gifts for staff for the

holidays, anyone who has experienced a tragedy, or anyone who is very sick or experienced a loss, etc. She is one of the most selfless colleagues I have ever worked with!” The core value Michelle best portrays is community.

Marcia “goes above and beyond her job everyday. She makes the business office accessible to everyone.... She is also a goodwill ambassador for all new employees. She goes above and beyond to make people feel welcome and she follows up with people when she knows they are having a hard time. We need more Marcia-like behaviors and people in today’s world.” The core value Marcia best portrays is communication.

February 2021: Amy Huffman and Rachele Powell

Amy Huffman, far left, was nominated for the “hard work and dedication that she has given CCC&TI. She has always been there to help in any way she can.” The student who nominated Amy specifically recalled, “When



Covid happened she was prompt to answer emails and get me started when there were learning curves.” The core value Amy best portrays is student success.

Rachele Powell was applauded as “a teacher who challenges you for growth.” The student who nominated her said, “Every week Mrs. Powell is prepared with lessons and instructional aids that both aid in learning the material while adding a bit of personal expertise.” The core value Rachele best portrays is teaching and learning.

March 2021: Barbara Norris and Greg Watson

March Cobra Cares Award winners were Barbara Norris (Administrative Assistant on the Watauga Campus) and Greg Watson (Coordinator, Technical Support Services on the Caldwell Campus).

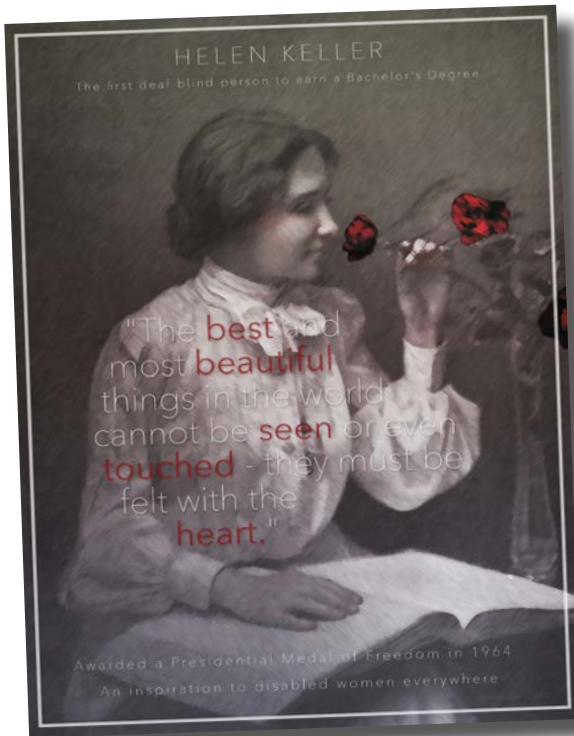
Barbara supports Watauga faculty and is an irreplaceable asset on campus. “Barbara is always doing little things for faculty. She keeps up with our snow days. She cooks for us. She makes sure we have all of the supplies we need. She takes students where they need to go. If it needs done, Barbara will just do it.” The core value Barbara best portrays is community.

Described as having “an infinite amount of patience,” Greg is the go-to, can do computer expert on the Caldwell campus. “It’s obvious Greg cares about the college, employees, and students. He always has a positive attitude and is willing to go out of his way to assist others.” The core value Greg best portrays is integrity.

Congratulation to these award recipients. Be on the lookout for opportunities to nominate CCC&TI faculty and staff members for Cobra Cares awards in the future.



SGA Women's History Month Poster Contest Winners



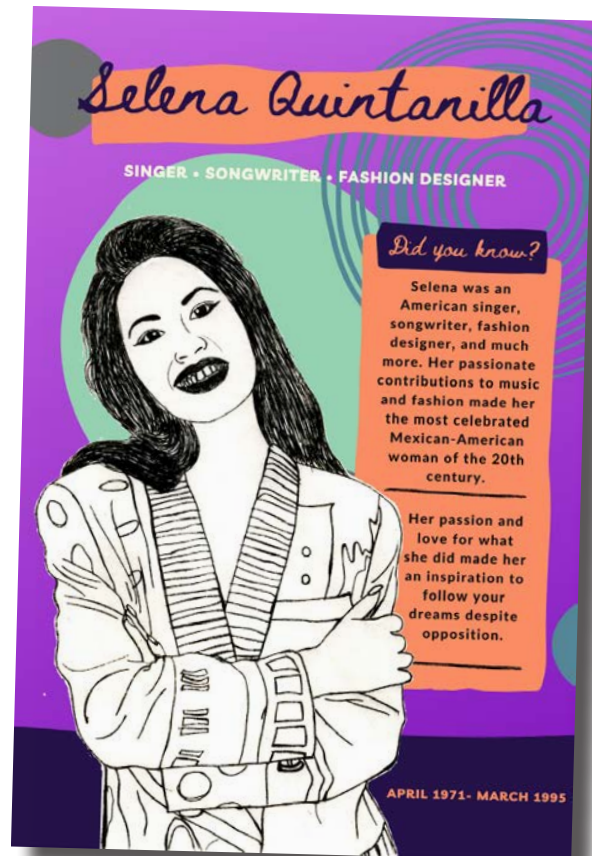
Winner for Most Creative and Tied for Best Overall
Helen Keller
 by Callie Stinson



Winner for Best Information
Rosa Parks
 by Sarah Wallace



Tied for Best Overall
Harriet Tubman
 by Jade Annas



Winner for Original Art Work
Selena Quintanilla
 By Alexis Orozco



Fall and Summer 2021 Registration

Now open for all new and current students!

For more info, see your academic advisor
or contact Student Services.

**Summer Curriculum Classes begin May 17.
Fall Curriculum Classes begin Aug. 18.*

Apply Today!

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www.cccti.edu/chronicle

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CCC&TI is an equal
opportunity educator
and employer.



Graduation Celebration 2021 Save the Dates

Watauga Campus • Boone
Thursday, May 6 • 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (drop in)



Caldwell Campus • Hudson
Friday, May 7 • 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (drop in)