



CAN YOU DIG IT?

Cobra Volleyball: 2023 Mid-Atlantic District Champions!



Cobra Volleyball Wins NJCAA Division III Mid-Atlantic District Championship; Advances to National Championship Tournament

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's women's volleyball team defeated Butler County Community College 3-2 in a five-set thriller on Saturday, Oct. 28 to win the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III Mid-Atlantic District Championship and advance to their first national tournament appearance in program history.

Caldwell, champions of Region 10, traveled to Butler, Pa. to face the host Pioneers, who were Region 10 champions, in a winner-take-all, best-of-five match.

Caldwell (21-5) dropped the first set 25-22, despite holding an early 9-5 advantage. The Cobras tied the set at 22, but Butler (18-6) scored the final three points to take the early 1-0 lead.

In the second set, Caldwell led 14-13 before finishing the set 11-4 to draw even with the Pioneers at one set apiece. The third set saw the Cobras build a 17-8 lead; however, Butler would battle back to tie the set at 20. Caldwell would win the next point to lead 21-20, but the Pioneers scored the last five points of the set to take a 2-1 advantage.

Set four saw Caldwell fall behind 7-1. Facing elimination, the Cobras would battle back, eventually tying the match at 16. The back-and-forth set would continue with Caldwell getting their first lead at 21-20. Butler tied the match at 21 before the Cobras closed on a 4-1 run to win the set and force a decisive fifth set.

Caldwell dominated set five, jumping out to a 3-0 lead. Butler would close the deficit to 4-2 but would not get any closer as the Cobras won the set 15-4.

Laney Craig led Caldwell's offensive attack with 32 kills over the five sets. Emma Grace Hiatt had 24 assists to go along with Josie Chappell's 20. Defensively, Emily Ramirez had 26 digs while Chappell finished with 12. Greenleigh Gleason added five solo blocks.

By winning the Mid-Atlantic District, Caldwell earned an automatic birth to the sixteen-team NJCAA Division III Volleyball National Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa November 9-11. Twelve district champions earn automatic berths to the National Championships. Four other teams will receive at-large selections. The NJCAA made a live announcement on Thursday, Oct. 31 that CCC&TI will be the seventh overall seed in the Division III Volleyball National Tournament and will face tenth seeded Dallas College-Brookhaven in the tournament's opening round on Thursday, November 9 at 12PM (EST) at the Alliant Energy PowerHouse Arena in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Cover Photo Credits: Jennifer Smith, Associate Athletic Director for Butler County Community College



CCC&TI Foundation Celebrates New Dream Award Recipients

With dreams of careers in fields from culinary arts to engineering to healthcare to education, a group of students got one step closer to achieving those dreams at the Foundation of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's annual Dream Award ceremony at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir on Wednesday, Nov. 1.

The Dream Award, which guarantees tuition for local students to attend CCC&TI upon graduation from high school, was presented to 41 students from Caldwell and Watauga counties who were nominated and chosen while in sixth grade.

Participants must be future first-generation college students who have demonstrated academic achievement and civic involvement, and who have the potential to succeed. The program, which is funded through private donations to the Foundation, has presented awards to 1,446 students since its inception in 1989.



CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch opened the ceremony by welcoming the students, their families and guests. "I would like to be one of the first to congratulate these students on being selected as Dream Award Recipients." Poarch also welcomed honored guests including CCC&TI trustees, local government officials, public school officials, school board members from both Caldwell and Watauga Counties, as well as the Foundation Board members and donors. "We could not do this without your support. Thank you."

Deborah Murray, Vice Chair of CCC&TI's Foundation Board, shared the criteria for the Dream Award as well as the history of the program. "As of tonight, and thanks to generosity of our donors, the Foundation of CCC&TI will have awarded 1,446 Dream Awards since the program was started in 1989." Murray recognized Dr. Tony Deal who brought the program to CCC&TI and who was in attendance at the event.



Dr. Dena Holman, Vice President of Student Services at CCC&TI, encouraged recipients to make the most of the opportunity. "With the promise of college in sight, it's now time to start setting goals and dreaming about your future. CCC&TI is here to support you and help you realize those dreams."

Holman then introduced guest speaker, CCC&TI Alumna Susan Neel, a 1991 Dream Award recipient from Hudson Middle School. Neel, a second grade teacher at Dudley Shoals Elementary School, shared the impact that the award had on her as a student. Neel earned a 2-year degree at CCC&TI and then transferred to Appalachian State University where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and later a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. "The Dream Scholarship helped me to not carry a load of student debt after the culmination of these years of college," said

Neel. “January 2024 will mark 21 years in teaching for me. It all began when I received the Dream Scholarship just like you. Take advantage of all the opportunities that CCC&TI will offer to you. This will serve as a base of your future learning.” Neel also encouraged students to set goals, work toward them, establish clear objectives and stay focused and motivated. “Again, congratulations on receiving the Dream Scholarship Award and welcome to the club,” she said. “The teachers that nominated you saw something special in you. Now it is your job to go out and make them proud and make this world a better place.”



Public School Partners Dr. Katrina McEllen, Caldwell County Schools Assistant Superintendent for Educational Program Services, and Dr. Leslie Alexander, Superintendent of Watauga County Schools were on hand at the ceremony and offered their congratulations and support to this latest group of Dream Scholars and encouraged students to make the most of the opportunities provided by the program.

To conclude the ceremony, Dream Award recipients were recognized and presented with a framed certificate while CCC&TI TRIO Director Emily Garrison read comments from their Dream nominations completed by educators at their schools. Each recipient also introduced themselves and shared their career goals with those in attendance.

A special reception for students, families, and attendees was held following the ceremony.

2023 Dream Award Recipients

Anna Lee Barnett, Cove Creek School
 Ava Beaver, Collettsville School
 Serenity Bolick, Hardin Park School
 Rileigh Burchette, Hudson Middle School
 Nicholas Causby, Collettsville School
 Jesse Christian, Hardin Park School
 Brayden Coffey, Granite Falls Middle School
 Paisley Cole, Cove Creek School
 Megan Craig, Blowing Rock School
 Aleah Cuellar, Hudson Middle School
 Maia De Gaona Cruz, Valle Crucis School
 Misael Diaz-Torres, Kings Creek School
 Ayden Dorsey, Hudson Middle School

(Harold K. Parsons Dream Award Recipient)

Sarah Earp, Parkway School
 Aubree Elliott, Green Valley School
 Addison Gadoury, Granite Falls Middle School
 Laila Garvin, Gamewell Middle School
 Conley Greer, Kings Creek School
 Zoey Harrington, Blowing Rock School
 John Harris, Mabel School
 Gavin Hatton, Kings Creek School
 Grayson Hodges, Happy Valley School

(Dwight and Rose Church Dream Award Recipient)

Jorge Lopez-Reynoso, William Lenoir Middle School
(Dr. Tony Deal Dream Award Recipient)

Lesly Lorenzo, Gamewell Middle School
 Todd Lunsford, Green Valley School
 Tuyerl Maxwell, William Lenoir Middle School
 Kiley Moody, Happy Valley School
 Kimani Moore-Price, William Lenoir Middle School
 Chloe Morgan, Collettsville School
 Dracus Parsons, Gamewell Middle School
 Mikalah Presnell, Bethel School
 Easton Prestwood, Happy Valley School
 Leandro Santos, Hardin Park School
 Grace Shore, Parkway School
 Maddox Sigmon, Gamewell Middle School
 Sophie Stanton., Bethel School
 Raleigh Tester, Valle Crucis School
 Magdalene Walker, Granite Falls Middle School

(Debbie Yount Dream Award Recipient)

Jaydin Wallace, Hudson Middle School
 Allison Watson, Bethel School
 Abigail Wilson, Mabel School

In Memory: Alicia Hartley

July 8, 1971 - September 21, 2023.

Alicia Hartley served as a Library Technician in CCC&TI's Caldwell Campus Learning Resource Center for more than 15 years. She passed away following a medical episode on Sept. 21..The following eulogy was composed by CCC&TI Colleague and friend, Matt Williams, and delivered during the remembrance services for Alicia on Monday Sept. 25.

I think I can speak for all of us when I say that losing Alicia was quite a shock. I had enjoyed friendly chatter with her on the college's breezeway on the way to my 8 a.m. class on a Thursday morning and she was gone before my class was done.

Alicia was a fun coworker. We must have had a thousand friendly conversations over the last decade about whatever piece of homemade jewelry she was wearing that day or the book she was currently reading. She had a general sense of mischievous fun and an excellent sense of irony. If anything was ever a little offbeat or a little off kilter, you could see in Alicia's face that she had registered it and was making a note of it in her head. Her eyes would sparkle as if to say, "Well, okay then..."

I did a search through my college email and reviewed a decade's worth of emails where I basically said, "I know I am asking at the last minute, but I would really like to bring my class to the library," and Alicia replied, "Sure, bring them in!" followed by a smiley face.



Alicia was the kind of person who would remember the details of the conversations you would have with her later. It was easy to have little running jokes with her, and I know she was spot on making book recommendations for many of us at the college and letting us know when the library got a book she suspected we would enjoy.

She knew the students who were patrons in the library too and cared about them. Whenever I would email the faculty and staff for nominations for our student ambassador program, she would always nominate some folks and have a nice word to say about her nominees.

A couple of years ago, I had taken a class to the library and had them working at the computers close to Alicia's desk. Class had ended, and I was hanging around talking to a young man who was repeating the class for the fourth time, and we were talking about this mixture of personal and practical concerns: his dad was sick, his manager kept calling him into work extra shifts, he was frustrated by in-text citations, and he had chosen to write about "Schindler's List," which was a pretty depressing paper topic. I think I was listening pretty well and pretty empathetically, but I felt myself being pulled into the spiral of concerns he had laid out, and I was a bit speechless. I had almost forgotten Alicia was right there, but she started talking about her own experience of coming back to school as an adult and not being sure whether she could do it, about being exhausted and uncertain at times. She had made it, though. It was so genuine, nonjudgmental, and encouraging. I was grateful to her.



Sometimes it feels hard to reconcile the life of work with our spiritual lives, but I believe the Bible when it says that our main mission in this life is to love God and love one another. In so many ways, Alicia actively showed her love for us at the college, and we loved her.

As I have sorted out Alicia's passing these last few days, what I keep thinking is this: she was always kind to me, and I laughed with her more times than I can count. At the college, we are going to be sad about her passing and miss her, but I am grateful for the uncomplicated nature of this sadness. We will mourn and miss her, but the sadness will be undercut by all of the happy memories she has left with us.

CCC&TI Launches New Fast Track Health Career Programs for Spring

In response to community and industry needs, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute is adding two new health related training programs launching in January, 2024.

The programs, Medical Laboratory Assistant and Pharmacy Technician, are both fast track training courses designed to help students train for health careers and qualify for available jobs in the industry in just a few short weeks. Both courses begin in January and are open now for enrollment.

The Medical Laboratory Assistant program is a 320-hour program, which includes 120 clinical hours with a focus on the role of the Medical Laboratory Assistant in healthcare settings such as hospitals, medical clinics, research laboratories and more.

This course is scheduled to begin in January 2024 with classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Financial Aid may be available for those who qualify.

The Pharmacy Technician program is 16-week course that prepares students to sit for a national certification exam and to earn the Certified Pharmacy Technician credential (CPhT). With the certification, students qualify for employment in the pharmacy setting. The classroom portion of the program will take place online with an in-person lab each week on the Watauga Campus in Boone.

The course runs January 15 to May 10, 2024 with seated labs scheduled for Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on CCC&TI's Watauga Campus in Boone.

The cost of registration for these course is \$203 each. Additional costs include textbooks, uniforms, supplies, a background check, drug screening, and other supplies, Financial Aid may be available for those who qualify.

For more information on these programs or to register, contact Health Services Director Amy Swink at 828-726-2341 or aswink@cccti.edu or call 828-726-2242 (Caldwell) or 828-297-3811 (Watauga.)

CCC&TI Celebrates IMPACT Institute

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute held a reception and dinner event in October to celebrate the completion of the college's IMPACT (Industrial Manufacturing Pre-Apprenticeship Customized Training) Institute.

The grant-funded program was a partnership with local employers that focused on providing students the skills and certifications needed for entry-level advanced manufacturing careers and scholarships to cover the cost for related CCC&TI programs of study. The program was designed to address the shortage of qualified advanced manufacturing workers while connecting local students with the training needed for high-paying manufacturing jobs in the region.

A reception was held at CCC&TI's Broyhill Center for Advanced Technologies that included tours of the facility and a chance to see students at work in the labs. Following the reception, a dinner was held at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir to recognize the employers and community partners who helped make the program a success. CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch welcomed those in attendance and recognized IMPACT's inaugural sponsors BEMIS Manufacturing Company, Woodgrain Millworks and Fleet Genius of NC (formerly Bakers Waste Equipment) for their support of the program.



Attendees also heard from several special speakers at the event. NC Vice President of Economic Development, John Loyack, spoke on successful partnerships between North Carolina's advanced manufacturing employers and community colleges across the state. CCC&TI IMPACT Graduate Meredith Wilson shared her student story and how the program led her to a successful career with local employer FleetGenius. Charlie Milling, NC Community College System Regional Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator, talked about the positive impact of apprenticeship programs for students and families across the state.

Special thanks to all of the employers who partnered with us on the IMPACT Institute and for your continued partnership in training local students for high-wage jobs throughout our service area.

Branches Reading and Receptions

CCC&TI hosted two Reading and Reception events in celebration of Branches Vol. 26 - CCC&TI's Literature and Arts Magazine. Attendees enjoyed refreshments and then were treated to a slideshow of art that was included in this year's publication. CCC&TI Visual Arts Program Director Tom Thielemann and art instructors Laura Aultman and Maggie Flanigan spoke on the strengths of each piece and why it was chosen for inclusion in the annual publication. Following the art presentation, English Instructor Jessica Chapman spoke about the many literary entries in the publication and read aloud the winning poetry entry, titled "Heavebound Innocents" by Peter Morris. Writer Stephanie Hutcheson was in attendance and read her short story, "Sam." Flanigan read an essay by Alabama McClellan titled "A Photo Not Taken," which was for an assignment in Flanigan's photography class.

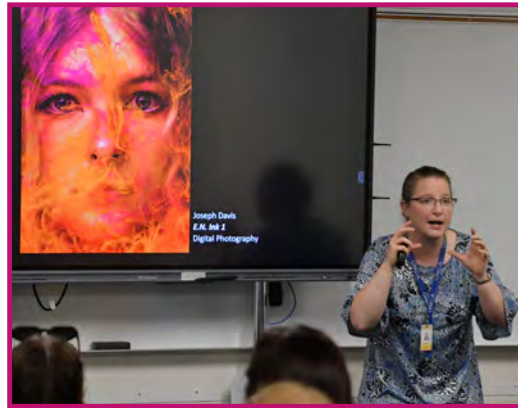
Other winners from among this year's submissions were all recognized.

Art Winners:

- Storm Miller • "Nymph"
Digital Photography • First Place (2-D Category)
- Kwame Crawford "Contentment"
Low-Fire Ceramics • First Place (3-D Category)
- Paige Keefer • "JB"
Acrylic • Honorable Mention (2-D Category)
- Sarah Stewart • "Bag"
Low-Fire Ceramics • Honorable Mention (3-D Category)
- Lea Calloway • "Schneider's Bakery"
Intaglio • Honorable Mention (2-D Category)
- Asael Lopez • "Despairæ"
Color Pencil • Honorable Mention (2-D Category)
- Lillian Adams • "Miss Kitty"
Foam, Faux Fur, Mixed Media • Honorable Mention (3-D Category)

Literature Winners:

- Dustin Bass, prose • "The Homework Goblin"
- Peter Morris, poetry • "Heavenbound Innocents"



Upcoming Fall 2023 Performing Artist Series

On Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 1 p.m. in the CCC&TI Recital Hall (B-100), the Caldwell Campus in Hudson will host Derek Gripper as he presents “African Kora Music Meets Solo Guitar.”

Derek Gripper is a classical guitarist who has taken a unique path. As a South African classical musician, he found himself limited by the music of the traditional classical guitar. So, he went on a journey through different musical styles, returning always to the guitar to find ways of bringing what he learned onto the instrument. In 2012 he completed a 10-year project to understand and translate the music of the West African kora (21 string harp) virtuoso Toumani Diabate to solo guitar, resulting in two critically acclaimed albums and an international concert tour.



On Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. in the CCC&TI Recital Hall (B-100), the Caldwell Campus in Hudson will host The CCC&TI Chorus as they present “A Winter Festival of Vocal Music.”

The CCC&TI Chorus ensemble features students in the CCC&TI Associate of Fine Arts Music degree program as well as staff, faculty, and community members. The CCC&TI Chorus is directed by Professor Alexandria McNeely. Professor McNeely earned her master’s degree in vocal performance from the renowned Eastman School of Music, and she most recently performed for the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival as Diana in Orpheus and in Tosca with Opera Carolina. This performance will feature songs for the winter season.

For more information, visit www.cccti.edu.

CCC&TI President Inducted into Hall of Fame

Congratulations to CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch on his induction into the West Caldwell High School Hall of Fame. Dr. Poarch was officially inducted on Thursday night, Oct. 19 during halftime of WCHS’s home football game at Thuss Stadium. Dr. Poarch was recognized for his many years of service as an educator, contributions to the greater community and impact as one of North Carolina’s most influential leaders in higher education. Dr. Poarch was inducted alongside Mike Biggerstaff, Tom Brookshire, and John Thuss. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor to Dr. Poarch and all of the Fall 2023 inductees to the West Caldwell High School Hall of Fame.



TRUNK OR TREAT





Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrations!



CCC&TI Hosts Fulbright Teaching Scholars

On Oct. 5, Caldwell County Schools and Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute hosted a group of 22 international educators as part of the Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA) through Appalachian State University. The group spent the first half of the day visiting Caldwell Early College High School and Caldwell Applied Sciences Academy. In the afternoon, the group took a walking tour of the CCC&TI campus, visiting some of our Career and Technical Education areas. The Fulbright scholars also participated in an informal Q & A session with instructors from CCC&TI's Art & Sciences department. Countries represented by visiting students included: Bangladesh, Turkey, Venezuela, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, India, Vietnam, Nigeria, Chile, Thailand, Croatia, Mozambique, Ukraine, and Kyrgyzstan. Pictured are many of the visiting educators along with several CCC&TI Faculty members.



TRIO Celebrates “First Generation College Student Day

CCC&TI's TRIO/Student Support Services celebrated First Generation College Student Day with a special luncheon on the Caldwell Campus on Nov. 8 with CCC&TI's Board of Trustees, President Dr. Mark Poarch and several members of the college's Executive Council.



The group heard from a panel of First-Generation College Graduates about their experience being the first in their families to attend college. Special thanks to our panel participants Kristin Ring, Sarah Cuthbert, Meredith Wilson and Ashley Thomason.

First Generation College [Student Day] is celebrated annually on November 8 to commemorate the signing of the Higher Education Act (“HEA”) of 1965 by then-President Lyndon B. Johnson. This act created federal financial aid programs to fund students' educations and made key investments in colleges and universities. Many of the HEA's programs, particularly the Federal TRIO programs, promote postsecondary access, retention, and completion for today's limited-income, first-generation college students.





CCC&TI Hosts Joint Meeting with Trustees, Board of Education and Commissioners

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute recently hosted a joint meeting with college Trustees, Caldwell County Commissioners and members of the Caldwell County Board of Education. Attendees enjoyed lunch prepared by the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center Catering Group and heard several updates from college leaders about new programs, upcoming expansion projects and recent enrollment numbers and trends. Athletic Director Jeff Link and Associate Athletic Director and Student Engagement Director Maggie Murray also gave a special presentation about Cobra Athletics that included an overview of current athletic stats, a look at our student athletes' many academic honors, highlights from recent seasons and a preview of upcoming athletic events and activities. Special thanks to all of the Board of Education members and Commissioners who joined us for the

meeting and for your continued support and partnership with CCC&TI as we work to fulfill our mission of providing educational opportunities for everyone in our community.



Trustee Sworn In

In a ceremony held during Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's October Board of Trustees meeting at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir, a Trustee was sworn in as a new member.

Donna Church, assistant to the Board of Trustees and the college president, administered the oath to Mr. James M. Bradshaw, who was appointed by the Governor to replace Ron Beane. Bradshaw will serve the remainder of Beane's term, which ends June 30, 2025.



Tributes from the Foundation of CCC&TI

Memorial gifts and Honoraria are meaningful ways to recognize someone on a special occasion or to express sympathy to a bereaved family. An individual's legacy will continue to live on through the educational opportunities made possible by these special gifts. The Foundation of CCC&TI gratefully acknowledges the following tributes received July 27, 2023 to November 2, 2023

Honoraria

In honor of Dr. Jason Chaffin on the occasion of his birthday: Lauren Saunders

In honor of Patrick Crouch to the Kay and Patrick Crouch Music Scholarship: Harriet Hines

In honor of Jimmy Hemphill to the 2023 Annual Fund Drive: James and Alice Whisnant

In honor of Dr. Mark Poarch, on the occasion of his birthday, to the Dr. Mark and Tracy Poarch Scholarship:

Lauren Saunders

Memorials:

In memory of Spencer Bruining, on the occasion of his birthday, to the Spencer Bruining Memorial Scholarship: Brenda Morse

In memory of Virginia Sauer to the Virginia Sauer Scholarship: James and Virginia Brown

In memory of Jon Bryant to the Electrical Lineworker Institute: Scott and Rita Triplett

In loving memory of Alicia Hartley to the Learning Resource Center:

Alison Beard
Marla Christie
Cobra Athletics
Normen Cook
Jimmy Council
Kay and Patrick Crouch
Laurin Dula
Shaina Dyson
Janet and Fred Hill
Virginia Hollars
Tonja Horn
Craig Howard
Gregg Inscore
Jay and Melissa McCarraher
Melody Reeves
Lanny Smith
The West Family
Sherry Wilson

In memory of Nancy Hemphill to the 2023 Annual Fund Drive: James and Alice Whisnant

In memory of Harold Parsons to the Harold K. Parsons Dream Award: Caldwell County Rotary Club

In memory of Barbara Smith: Dr. and Mrs. Ron Kiziah



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Cobra Cares Award Winners - September

Nominated by students, our September Cobra Cares Award winners are part-time employees who bring full-time heart into the classroom. Congratulations to **Amanda McLean** (Coordinator, Adult Secondary Education, Caldwell Campus) and **Nancy Corliss** (Part-Time Nurse Aide and Medication Aide Instructor, Caldwell Campus).

Amanda consistently goes above and beyond for students. The nominator said “I left my high school in 2008 after having a child. You can easily look at my revolving door of a record at CCC&TI to see that I was having trouble finishing. That is, until the last orientation for my GED that I walked into. This was also the same day I met Amanda McLean. We took our placement tests, and after reviewing my scores, she really pushed and encouraged me to just go for taking the state test since I already had the knowledge to pass, and I did. She did everything in her power to help me schedule and prepare for these tests. Even after, she helped me sign up for my college classes which I am now in the process of. I truly owe it all to her. I definitely had no idea what I was doing. She is amazing at her job, and in my eyes, deserves all of the recognition. She believed in me enough to make me believe it also. The future my kids and I will have is all thanks to her for going well past her line of duty. For that, I am forever grateful.” The core value Amanda best portrays is student success.



Nancy cares about student success inside and outside of the classroom. One nomination read “Any Instructor can read and teach the material from the text. Mrs. Nancy, however, teaches the course from her heart. I have taken this course before through another community college and completed it not really knowing what the job was going to entail or require from me. If only I was given the same material from an instructor like Mrs. Nancy, I would have been far more prepared. She provides the lesson and provides a scenario in which that lesson is applied along with real-life outcomes, additional variables we should consider, and an in-depth discussion of whether any of the variables would have made a difference for the patient/resident. You can see and feel that she wants us to not only pass the course but that she wants us to be successful towards our chosen profession. That drives the class to try harder lesson after lesson. The class as a whole knows that we have been blessed to have her as our instructor.” The core value Nancy best portrays is teaching and learning.

Join us in congratulating Amanda and Nancy!

Cobra Cares Award Winners - October

Our October Cobra Cares Award winners do a lot of unseen work to make CCC&TI amazing. Congratulations to two incredible women: **Melissa Smith** (Dean, Health Sciences, Caldwell Campus) and **Stacy Styles** (Administrative Assistant, Admissions, Caldwell Campus).

Melissa is a hands-on, supportive supervisor who goes the extra mile to engage and inspire faculty and students. The nomination said: “I want to nominate Melissa for this award due to her encouraging spirit! She makes it her duty to be available for all of her staff and students. Even when she is having family emergencies, her availability is always open to us. Many days I felt as if I was going to drown in all I had to do, she always finds the right words to say or just a simple smile to make you feel that you are doing a great job. Melissa goes over and beyond the call of a Dean. She is truly a blessing from God!” The core value Melissa best portrays is integrity.

In her many nominations, Stacy is complemented for the integral role she plays in a student’s journey. One nomination read: “She helps students coming into CCC&TI and then helps them prepare to walk across the stage each May. An asset to Student Services, she is always willing to lend a helping hand.” “Stacy is the backbone of Student Services. Through the applications and incoming transcripts Stacy processes, she touches every single CCC&TI student. Stacy’s plate is full, but she always greets students and her coworkers with a smile. Stacy is a gift to CCC&TI with her Colleague knowledge and passion for student success.” The core value Stacy best portrays is student success.



CCC&TI, Caldwell County Schools Present To Granite Falls Town Council

At the Oct. 16th Granite Falls Town Council meeting, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute President Dr. Mark Poarch gave an update to the Council on the community college and Caldwell County Schools Superintendent Dr. Don Phipps gave an update to the Council on the school system.

Every year, the Council invites Dr. Poarch and Dr. Phipps to give these updates because of the importance of the college and school system in strengthening our communities and for their roles in driving future growth through economic development.

The Town Council also recognized Dr. Poarch for being selected as the 2023 Wells Fargo North Carolina Community College President of the Year and Dr. Phipps for being selected as the 2023 A. Craig Phillips North Carolina Superintendent of the Year.



CCC&TI Students Sign Apprenticeship Agreement with Local Employer

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute and FleetGenius, LLC recently announced the latest group of students to sign a formal apprenticeship agreement with the local employer. Students and officials from both CCC&TI and FleetGenius were on hand for a special signing ceremony on Thursday, Oct. 5 on the college's Caldwell Campus in Hudson.

CCC&TI Students Anna DeBeve, Jacob Helton, Carter Hinton and Caldwell Applied Science Academy alumnus Rebekah Wood all signed agreements and will begin on-the-job training at FleetGenius in the coming weeks. DeBeve and Hinton will work as Apprentice Welders; Wood will serve as Apprentice Maintenance; and Helton will serve as Apprentice Service Technician.

CCC&TI's Apprenticeship Program is an employer-based program that helps workers learn specialized skills needed in today's work environment, combining on-the-job learning with related classroom instruction. Students earn nationally recognized credentials, while employers develop a talented team and close the skills gap. While many people start apprenticeships immediately after graduating from high school, an apprenticeship program may also work well for veterans leaving active-duty military service, those looking to change careers, or people whose jobs are being replaced by technology. CCC&TI's goal is to help connect and support employers and apprentices.

CCC&TI has a variety of apprenticeship opportunities for students and workers, as well as partnerships for local employers wanting to hire apprentices. Also, the state is offering incentives for businesses who sign an apprentice through CCC&TI. Anyone wanting to learn more about apprenticeship opportunities can visit: www.cccti.edu/apprentice/



Pictured seated from left to right, are FleetGenius Apprenticeship participants alumnus Rebekah Wood and students Jacob Helton, Anna DeBeve, and Carter Hinton. Back row from left are CCC&TI's Associate Dean of Business and Career Services Rick Shew, Chief of Staff Jason Chaffin and Workplace Learning Coordinator Jimmie Griffith.

Time to plan your next move!

College Transfer Fair

Monday, Dec. 4 • 12 p.m to 1:45 p.m.

Caldwell Campus LRC

Visit and talk with representatives from area 4-year institutions about your college transfer options. Reps from the following institutions will be on hand to meet and talk with you:

*UNC-Charlotte • Western Carolina University • Lenoir-Rhyne University
Lees-McRae College • Appalachian State University • and more!*

Upcoming Events and Activities

November


- 10 Veteran's Day, Institution Closed
- 13-14 Priority Registratrion for Current Students
- 15 Spring Registration Opens for all Students
- 16
 - Music on the Mountain, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., Watauga Campus
 - ASU Guitar Ensemble and Gospel Choir, 7:30 p.m.; J.E. Broyhill Civic Center
- 21
 - Let's Talk Tuesday, Drop in 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., LRC Multipurpose Rm.
 - Home Basketball Game vs. Cleveland CC, 6 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym
- 22 No Curriculum Classes
- 23-26 Institution Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- 28
 - Shelter Home on Campus, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; LRC
 - Let's Talk Tuesday, Drop in 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., LRC Multipurpose Rm.
- 29
 - Performing Artist Series, Derek Gripper, "African Kora Music Meets Solo Guitar," 1 p.m., CCC&TI Recital Hall, B-100
 - Home Basketball Game vs. CVCC, 7 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

December

- 1 Fall Graduation Application Deadline
- 4 College Transfer Fair, 12 - 1:45 p.m.
Caldwell Campus LRC
- 5
 - Let's Talk Tuesday, Drop in 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., LRC Multipurpose Rm.
 - Winter Session Begins
- 6
 - Cobra Pride Day
 - Performing Artist Series. CCC&TI Chorus, "A Winter Festival of Music," 1 p.m., Recital Hall, B-100
- 12
 - Let's Talk Tuesday, Drop in 11 to 1 p.m., LRC Multipurpose Rm.
- 14 End of Fall Term
- 18 Grades Due at 10 a.m.

Events are subject to change.

For the latest information and a full calendar of events and activities, including both home and away athletic events, visit www.cccti.edu



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Communications &
Public Relations
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*CCC&TI is an equal
opportunity educator
and employer.*

Annual Cobra Classic Golf Tournament

CCC&TI's 2023 Cobra Classic Golf Tournament fundraiser for Cobra Athletics was a huge success! Thanks to our generous sponsors, beautiful venue, talented organizers, outstanding teams of Cobra family and friends, students supporting students, local business leaders and community partners for making this year's event the best one yet!

Congratulation to the winning four-some: Jack Taylor, Nick Brown, Tyler Johnson and Josh Bolick.



Congratulations, Recent Retirees

Two long-time employees of CCC&TI recently announced their retirement after many years of service to the college and the community.

CCC&TI's Chief Financial Officer, David Holman, retired in September after nearly three decades of service at CCC&TI. We appreciate your work on behalf of CCC&TI, our students and the communities we serve. David is pictured here with the Presidential Legacy Award, which was presented to him in August 2023 by CCC&TI President, Dr. Mark Poarch.



Donna Church, long-time Executive Assistant to the President and the Board of Trustees, announced her upcoming retirement in November. Church has served the college for more than 30 years. Pictured above are from left, Jimmy Hemphill, Dr. Mark Poarch, Dr. Ken Boham and Dr. David Shockley.



Congratulation to both of these colleagues on their retirement!