Congratulations to Judith Smith, recently named SGA secretary for 2005-06. Judith will assume her new position on July 1. Other officers will include President: Ashley Graham, Vice-President: Nicole Stough, and Treasurer: Jeremy Coffey.

Don’t miss the Caldwell Campus Spring Fling, April 21, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for day students and 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for evening students. This year the event will have a Hawaiian theme with hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs and all the fixings, baked beans, potato salad, desserts, tea and lemonade. Contests will include Jello eating, Jalapeno Pepper eating, and Hoola Hoop. Music will be provided by a DJ with dancing and karaoke. Come join the fun with activities, club fundraisers and prizes. Any campus club or organization that wishes to reserve a spot should see James Patterson.


If you are unemployed, underemployed or needing a career change, please check out the next Pre-Job class rescheduled for Monday, April 13th. The five-week class meets Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and is free for those who qualify. If you have any questions or would like to refer someone, please call Many Williams at ext. 2274.

Intramurals Update: Who’s in the lead now? With the latest score of 63 to 55, the Lakers now take the lead with Faculty and Staff in second. Games take place at noon in the gym on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Don’t miss the tournament coming up April 26, 28, and May 3.

Need financial assistance for college? Take note of the following scholarships now available. For more information, see the Financial Aid Office or check the bulletin board in the Student Lounge for applications. The Sallie Mae Fund Unmet Need Scholarship Program ($1,000 - $3,800) Deadline: May 31; Watauga Nursing Scholarship ($500) Deadline: June 15; Lewis-Gale Foundation, Deadline: May 15; Drum-Wilkinson Educational Foundation ($250 and $500) Deadline: April 15; Health, Science, and Mathematics Educational Loan ($3000) Deadline: June 1; Dottie Martin Teachers Scholarship ($500) Deadline: June 1; Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation ($1000) Deadline: May 13.

Want to know more about a career as a Speech Language Pathologist Assistant? Information sessions are scheduled Friday, April 15, at 2 p.m. in Room B-134. Plan your future now!
Writers Symposium to Feature Award Winning Author Billie Letts

The 2005 Laurette LePrevost Writers Symposium of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute will kick off on April 12. This year’s event, featuring award-winning author Billie Letts, will open with a discussion of Letts’ works followed by appearances by the novelist on April 14-15.

Letts has written numerous short stories and three novels. Her first novel, Where the Heart Is, crowned Letts as the winner of the Walker Percy Award and the 1996 Oklahoma Book Award. In January 1999, Where the Heart Is was chosen as an Oprah Book Club selection. A film based on the novel opened in April of 2000, starring Natalie Portman, Ashley Judd and Stockard Channing.

The Writers Symposium will begin on April 12 at 12:00 p.m. when CCC&TI English faculty members will hold a discussion of Letts’ book, The Honk and Holler Opening Soon. The novel, based on a screenplay written by Letts and her son Tracy, is about a small café and the characters that drift in and out. That same evening, the English faculty from the Watauga campus will be at the Watauga County Public Library at 6:30 p.m. to hold a discussion of Letts’ third novel, Shoot the Moon. Shoot the Moon is about a small Oklahoma town and the mystery that has haunted its residents for years. An American Library Association reviewer described Shoot the Moon as “a memorable tale of love, loss, humanity, and hope.”

Letts will hold readings and a discussion of some of her other works on April 14 and 15. Following selected readings, the audience will have the opportunity to ask questions. Letts will also be available after each discussion to sign books and talk individually with the audience. This will be the second year Letts has participated in the symposium; she was the featured speaker in 2000. “Billie Letts is back by popular demand; she was a great success when she came in 1999-2000,” said Margaret Hampson, Department Chair of English, Reading, and Communications at CCC&TI.

Letts was the first member of her family to go to college. When asked about her presentation schedule for the symposium, she said, “Schedule me for whatever is best for the students,” revealing her commitment to education and the humanities. Letts is a former professor at Southeast Oklahoma University. She currently resides in Oklahoma with her husband, Dennis.

This will be the 17th writers symposium held at CCC&TI. The annual event is named in honor of Laurette LePrevost, former Dean of Arts and Sciences and a major supporter of the symposium. “When Laurette retired last year we, the department of Arts and Sciences, decided to name the symposium after her since she had been so instrumental getting the symposium going,” said Hampson.

Featured writers in CCC&TI’s symposium throughout the years include Maya Angelou, Denise Giardina, Octavia Butler, Ernest Gaines, Peter Turchi, Doris Betts, Kathryn Stripling Byer, Fred Chapel, Wilma Dykman, Sharyn McCrum, Jerry Bledsoe and Margaret Maron. A plaque entitled the Laurette LePrevost Writers Symposium now hangs in E building on the Caldwell Campus, listing the names of each writer and the year that they participated in the symposium.

Funding for the Laurette LePrevost Writers Symposium is provided by the Foundation of CCC&TI and the College Transfer Division. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information and specific times, contact Janet Palmer at 828.297.3811 or Margaret Hampson at 828.726.2361.
Beau Soleil to Perform at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center

The band that introduced Cajun music to the rest of the world, Beau Soleil, will perform at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center on April 16 at 7:30 p.m.

The group formed in 1975 and is led by Michael Doucet, a talented fiddler, singer and songwriter. Doucet also plays the violin, guitar and mandolin in Beau Soleil. Doucet’s brother, David has been with the band since its conception and plays the guitar and provides vocals as well. David blends Appalachian finger-picking with Cajun music to create a unique sound that is his own. Billy Ware provides percussion for the band, adding rhythmic textures to the sound. Tommy Alesi is the drummer of Beau Soleil and Al Tharp plays the bass, fiddle, banjo and electric guitar, while Jimmy Breaux plays the accordion.

Beau Soleil’s sound is a combination of Cajun French folk-rock, zydeco, jazz, Latin and Caribbean music, medieval European material and western swing. Beau Soleil has been honored with a Grammy award for their 1997 “L'amour ou la Folie” and has traveled the globe playing in concert halls and at festivals and dances. Beau Soleil has also provided music for numerous film and TV soundtracks. Beau Soleil was established nationally with several performances on “A Prairie Home Companion” as well as work on the soundtrack for the movie “The Big Easy.” Beau Soleil also contributed to the soundtrack of the movie “Belizaire the Cajun,” whose soundtrack was nominated for a Grammy award.

To purchase tickets, contact the J.E. Broyhill Center box office at 828.726.2407 or visit the web at www.broyhillcenter.com. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted.

CCC&TI Paralegal Students Hold Town Brief at Courthouse

Paralegal students from Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute held a Town Brief, a meeting between local legal professionals and paralegal students, at the Caldwell County Courthouse on Tues., March 29.

The Town Brief gave students the opportunity to meet with and ask questions of judges, attorneys, and other legal professionals, as well as discuss job opportunities in the profession. Students also answered questions about the Paralegal Technology program at CCC&TI and served drinks and refreshments to the guests of the Town Brief.

Amy Hall, director and an instructor for the Paralegal Technology program at CCC&TI, said that the Town Brief gives the students an opportunity to see the variety of jobs that a paralegal degree can bring. “It also gives the students a chance to showcase their talents and abilities by discussing our program with legal professionals,” said Hall.
Guests of the Town Brief included: Judge Gregory Hayes, the Caldwell County Clerks office, the Caldwell County Tax Department, the Caldwell County Register of Deeds office, Members of the District Attorney’s office, the Probation office and bailiffs, as well as local attorneys and their office staff.

The paralegal students also had the opportunity to sit in on actual cases from District Criminal Court under Judge Hayes. "Students were able to get a feel for how the court system operates on a daily basis," said Hall.

The Paralegal Technology program at CCC&TI prepares individuals to work under the supervision of lawyers and other legal professionals in the community. Upon graduation, the legal assistant will be able to assist on probate matters, conducting investigations, searching public records, drafting and filing legal documents, conducting library research, and office management. For more information on the Paralegal Technology program, contact CCC&TI at (828) 726-2200.

**Andy Burgess Steps Down from Program at Caldwell Correctional Center After 23 Years of Service**

In April, Andy Burgess will be stepping down from the Basic Skills program at the Caldwell Correctional Center after 23 years.

Burgess started teaching at the Caldwell Correctional Center at the beginning of the program on August 21, 1981. The Basic Skills program at the Caldwell Correctional Center offers inmates the opportunity to gain their GED while serving time in prison.

Over the last 23 years, Burgess has administered 1,250 individual GED tests. The GED consists of Reading, Social Studies, Science, English and Math components. Each student must successfully pass and have an average of 450 points on all five components of the test in order to graduate with a GED. During his tenure with the program, Burgess has seen 150 of his students graduate.

The students who participate in the GED program at the Caldwell Correctional Center are there because they want to be, none of the students are forced to enroll. "They want an education," said Burgess. Students are recommended for the program by the correctional officials and must go through an interview process before they can be accepted into the program said Burgess. Currently, Burgess has 12 students enrolled in the program and 21 inmates waiting to get into the class. Burgess said that the program has received tremendous support from the correctional officials and that 30 days will be knocked off an inmate’s sentence for successful completion of the GED program.

A recent study on Burgess’s students showed that 80 percent of the graduates have never returned to prison in North Carolina. "I make them promise that I will never see them in prison again," said Burgess. Burgess has seen a great number of his students go on to college. "We have had tremendous success, I love my students," said Burgess.

Burgess is also the School Director of the Basic Law Enforcement Academy at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute. The Basic Law Enforcement Training Academy at CCC&TI is accredited by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Standards Division of the North Carolina Department of Justice. The course provides individuals with the background in the fundamentals of law as well as the procedures and techniques necessary for success as a law enforcement officer.

For more information on the GED program at Caldwell Correctional Center, or the Basic Law Enforcement Training Academy at CCC&TI, contact Andy Burgess at 726.1786.

**Greta Triplett Recognized for 30 years of Service**

Greta Triplett began working with Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute in 1970, fresh out of college. Over her years with CCC&TI, Triplett has worked within several areas of the college. Triplett was first hired to teach sociology, but she later began working in the Basic Skills and Continuing Education department, and again later moved to the Pre-Job program.

Triplett was a Pre-Job Instructor and Job Developer with the Pre-Job program at CCC&TI. Triplett commented that the Pre-Job program has remained fairly consistent over the years. "The goal was always the same," said Triplett. The goal was to help people get back to work or get more education in order to acquire work. Triplett says the changes that she has seen are that the program is now reaching out to more people who are making career changes due to layoffs and the ever changing economy. Recently, Triplett saw many college graduates come into the program because they had been laid off from jobs or needed help finding job placement.
Triplett has seen many students find success with the Pre-Job program at CCC&TI. "One girl still goes to classes at the Mulberry Center," said Triplett. This girl was placed with a job at Kincaid Furniture and is still working there to this day. "She stood out because she was determined," said Triplett. Triplett also recalls a homeless man whom the program helped and placed him with a job.

After 30 years of service with CCC & TI, Triplett taught her last Pre-Job class in February. "The college has impacted me most in personal growth and development. I had a lot of opportunities to learn academically and professionally," said Triplett.

**CCC&TI Announces Retirement of Coach Bill Payne**

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute recently announced the retirement of Head Men's Basketball Coach Bill Payne. During the six seasons under Payne's leadership, the Cobras have made two appearances in the national Division III tournament, including two district championships, three region titles and three conference titles.

"It's time," said Payne with mixed emotions. "I've loved every minute of it," he added, citing plans to take care of other priorities and focus on family obligations.

To help ease the transition, Payne will remain on staff, serving as full-time athletic director, physical education coordinator, and counselor/retention specialist while picking up additional instructional duties. He will continue to assist with recruitment efforts until a new coach is named.

"Six years ago, CCC&TI renewed its commitment to provide opportunities to student athletes in our region," said CCC&TI Executive Vice President Garrett Hinshaw. "We would have never made that commitment nor been as successful had it not been for one person, and that's Bill Payne. His leadership as head coach will be sorely missed."

Payne has coached at high school and college levels for 38 years. His 22-year JUCO career boasts an outstanding overall jr. college coaching record of 443-221. Selected as Coach of the Year 17 times, Payne was named the 31st winningest active coach in the National Jr. College Athletic Association last year.

In 1998, Payne was inducted into the Florida Jr. College Basketball Hall of Fame for his talent as both player and coach. As an athlete at Orlando Jr. College, Payne was recognized as an All-American and third leading scorer in the nation, averaging 32.1 points per game. In 1991, he was selected to coach at the U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles, CA.

As former head coach at St. Petersburg Junior College in Florida, Payne joined CCC&TI in 1998 after retiring in Boone with his wife Barbara. Barbara has served as official scorekeeper under his direction for more than 15 years.

Since Payne came on board, the Cobras have boasted a 114-53 overall record in six years, producing three All-Americans. Several former players in recent years have gone on to earn full scholarships to continue their athletic careers at four-year colleges and universities. CCC&TI remains the only Division III team in the southeast region to have competed at the national level.

It is Payne's leadership, contacts and reputation as a no-nonsense coach who puts academics and sportsmanship first that have created such high visibility for CCC&TI. Though the college does not award scholarships, opportunities to play at the next level have sparked much attention with athletes recruited from across the state. Inquiries have come from as far away as Washington, Australia, Canada, England and Africa.

"Coach Payne represents all the values that you look for in a coach, a leader, a faculty member and overall employee," noted Dr. Hinshaw. "His ability to teach student athletes and students has been invaluable to the institution, and we are elated that he plans to continue his services."

"The college is committed to maintaining the quality Payne has built for athletics at CCC&TI," he added. "We don't plan to miss a beat."
Tributes and Memorials

The Foundation Office gratefully acknowledges the following tributes received February 1 through March 24, 2005:

In honor of Dr. William Aiken of Sampson Community College:
Walter and Melissa Bartlett

In honor of Bill and Vivian Armfield to the Bill and Vivian Armfield Endowed Scholarship:
Ms. Loretta S. Annas

In honor of Dr. H. Edwin Beam to the Dr. H. Edwin Beam Scholarship:
Mr. and Mrs. Granville Myers

In honor of the CCC&TI Faculty and Staff for their warm welcome to the college family:
Walter and Melissa Bartlett

In honor of Joseph L. and Bertha Ellis:
Walter and Melissa Bartlett

In honor of Helen J. Hatley, CCC&TI Controller Emeritus, to the Helen J. Hatley Achievement Award:
Ms. Rebecca M. Bentley

In honor of Jimmy Hemphill, CCC&TI retiree, to the Jimmy Hemphill Scholarship:
Ms. Donna Church

In honor of Greg Hollar, 2005 RN graduate of CCC&TI, to the Nursing Hospital Fund:
Clay and Janette Bollinger

In honor of Dr. William Ingram of Durham Technical College:
Walter and Melissa Bartlett

In honor of Lorraine Minton, CCC&TI retiree, to the General Scholarship Fund:
Sue and John D. Bolick

In honor of Dr. Lorraine Minton, CCC&TI retiree, to the Minton Student Professional Image Project:
Ms. Donna Church

In honor of Beverly Neuville, former CCC&TI English Instructor:
Mr. Stephen B. Neuville

In honor of William and Violet Rogers, parents of Scott, to the Dream Program:
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Rogers

In honor of Dr. Ralph Soney of Pitt Community College:
Walter and Melissa Bartlett

In memory of Marie Anderson to the Child Care Program Funds:
Caldwell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary
Granite Falls Lions Club

In memory of Guy V. Bailey, husband of Weyburn:
Weyburn R. Bailey

In memory of Margaret and William Bartlett, Sr.:
Walter and Melissa Bartlett

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Below, parents of Donna, to the Donna and Bob Belk Scholarship:
Ms. Ann Hancock

In memory of Lawrence Church, stepfather of Paul Quickel, to CCC&TI Academic Support Funds:
Faculty Senate of CCC&TI

In memory of Grace Coffey, mother of Lloyd Coffey, to the Troy Carpenter Math Contest:
Camille and Darryl Annas

In memory of M. L. DeVane to the M. L. DeVane Memorial Scholarship Fund:
James and Lorraine Patterson
Ms. Elaine Setzer

In memory of Ophelia Fox, former CCC&TI Bookstore employee, to the Dream Program:
Alice and James Whisnant

In memory of Elaine Cook Greene, sister of Diane, to the Watauga Dream Scholarship:
Ms. Diane Barefoot

In memory of Dr. Harry S. Hickman, grandfather of Tom Sloop, to the Landscape Gardening Program:
Ms. Avis S. Coppening
Larry and Linda Craig
Charles and Devanna Downs
Johnny, Hughleta, and Chris Edmiston
Ms. Deborah E. Hage
Marcus and Debbie Hickman
Darrell and Cheryl Keener
Jack and Mary Nell Moore
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Moore
Ms. Mary Emice Query
Bill and Lois Riggs
Mrs. Jeannette H. Smoot
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Smoot
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Smoot
Ms. Kimberly Turk

In memory of T. C. and Annie M. High, parents of Thomas, to the T. C. and Annie M. High Memorial Scholarship Fund:
Phyllis and Thomas C. High, Jr.

In memory of Beverly Holt to the Beverly Holt Scholarship Fund:
Ms. Cathy B. Brice
Billy and Jennifer Clanton
Ms. Tammy S. Cline
Ms. Patty Coley
Ricky and Nancy Deal
Larry and Donna Fleming
William and Kerri Humphrey
William and Andrea Massey
Mr. Gary A. Mims
Mr. Jonathan Nix
Mike and Donna Williams

In memory of Raymond M. Huckabee, former CCC&TI History Instructor, to the Arts and Science Scholarship Fund:
Mrs. Ray [Ute] Huckabee

In memory of Clifford James, father-in-law of Laurie:
Mickey and Laurie James

In memory of Connie Jenkins:
Johnny, Hughleta, and Chris Edmiston

In memory of Sara Moore, former CCC&TI Career Services’ Counselor, to the CCC&TI Child Care Program:
Camille and Darryl Annas
Dr. Shelda and Mr. Richard Aultman
Ms. Johanna Coffey
Mrs. Doris and Dr. Patrick Conn
George and Donna Kripner
Ms. Linda Lawson
Wanda and William Terry
Thad and Reva Tunmire
Janice and Ronald Van Osdom

In memory of W. Michael Pearson, son of Marjorie, to the W. Michael Pearson Memorial Scholarship:
Mrs. Marjorie Pearson

In memory of Dr. Robert and Mrs. Joan Rogers:
Alwin and Judy Daughtridge

In memory of Blanche Cox Self:
Mildred and Penny Whisnant

In memory of Ms. Eldred Wells, mother of Jane Harrison:
- Faculty Senate of CCC&TI