CCC&TI Goes Hawaiian! Don’t miss Spring Fling on the Caldwell Campus 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. Make note now of the lineup of scheduled activities:

Business Club - Jail Bail; Compensatory Education - craft sale; TRiO/Student Support Services - puppy giveaway; Ebony Kinship - frozen pizza sale; Cosmetology - pie throwing and raffle; Paralegal Club - dart toss; Early Childhood - craft sale; Blue Ridge Flying Eagles (aviation) - shirt sale; Physical Therapist Asst. Club - wellness checks, Biofreeze, rice sock and strawberry sale; Landscape Gardening - plant sale... and plenty more!

New to Spring Fling this year: Save your gas! Participate to win a free Enterprise Rental Car Giveaway. Career and Counseling Services, in cooperation with the State Highway Patrol, will be setting up a DWI experience simulation complete with orange cones, golf cart and goggles. Information will be provided from Burke County Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse. Members of the local 12-Step Recovery Programs as well as MADD will be on hand.

The Faculty-Staff intramural basketball team is now in third place, with a narrow one-point loss in overtime to Ebony Kinship last week. This puts the Lakers on top with Ebony Kinship in second. The season comes to a close this week with one game left on Tuesday, April 19. Don’t miss the tournament coming up soon on April 26, 28, and May 3. Look for a complete schedule in next Monday’s Chronicle.

Sign up now for the KICKS Big Truck Giveaway. CCC&TI has teamed up with Foothills Radio Group to giveaway a Ford Lincoln Mercury truck (compliments of Martin Family Ford) full of sponsor prizes, such as free dinner and movie tickets, tanning sessions, hunting equipment, golfballs and more - everything to make your summer complete. Listen for details on KICKS 103.3 FM. Registration box is located in the Student Lounge of the Caldwell Campus. Only one entry per person. Must be 18 years or older to enter.

Special guest, Roni Linser, will be speaking on Middle East Politics in F153 this Wednesday at noon. Mr. Linser has taught a variety of courses at the University of Melbourne since 1980, including Indian Political Thought and Movement, European Politics and Society, Western European Politics, Middle East Politics, The Arab-Israeli Conflict, Islamic Political History, Issues in American Foreign Policy and Theories of Power. In 1995-96, he helped organize and advised a new political party in Israel - The Hityashvut Party - whose major focus was on banking reform. Linser’s appearance on campus offers a rare opportunity to learn about Middle Eastern Politics from someone in that region.

Spring is Here! Don’t forget the Landscape Gardening Program’s Spring Plant Sale. Student grown flowering annuals, perennials, tomatoes, vegetables, herbs and much more will be available for sale. When: Monday, April 18, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; Tuesday, April 19, 2-4:45 p.m.; Thursday, April 21, 10-11:30 a.m. and 2-4:45 p.m.; Monday, April 25, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; Tuesday, April 26, 2-4:45 p.m.; Thursday, April 28, 10-11:30 a.m. and 2-4:45 p.m. Where: the Greenhouse at the north end of campus, beside J building

The deadline for spring graduation application has passed. Those who wish to apply for summer graduation should do so by July 8. Contact Student Services for details.
Author Billie Letts Visits CCC&TI

Award-winning author Billie Letts (pictured left) inspired hundreds of students, staff and visitors with her wonderful wit and wisdom at last week’s annual Writers Symposium at CCC&TI. Having penned such novels as Honk and Holler Opening Soon, Where the Heart Is and Shoot the Moon, Letts claims to have put a little of herself into most characters. Her entertaining presentation included readings and discussion of her novels, including insight into her personal writing process.

Letts admitted to drawing largely from her observations of everyday life, including snippets of conversation, gestures and scenarios from places like Walmart. In addition, she has been influenced by favorite authors, including Flannery O’Connor and William Faulkner.

"When I finish a book, I stop writing awhile and let the well fill up again," she said. When asked about sequels to her books, she said she doesn’t believe in them. "There are no sequels in the making, for a story never ends," she added. This was Letts' second appearance at CCC&TI. Her novels are still available in the CCC&TI Bookstore.

Carolina Raptor Ctr. Educates Students

Landscape Gardening students were treated to an hour-long presentation last Thursday by Carolina Raptor Center. Based out of Charlotte, the organization partnered with Grandfather Mt. and CCC&TI students in the award-winning exhibit at the Southern Spring Home and Garden Show. The center is dedicated to environmental education and conservation of birds of prey through public education, research and the rehabilitation of injured and orphaned raptors.

Educator Heather Lepinski of Carolina Raptor (pictured right) shares interesting facts about her unique “friends:” For instance, did you know...

* Birds have hollow bones
* The Great Horned Owl is named because the feathers on top of their head look like horns
* One foot of the Great Horned Owl is as strong as four men
* An owl's eyes take up 75% of the space in their head
* Owls can see 35 to 100 times better than humans
* An owl’s eyes are stationary. It cannot look side to side, but an owl can turn its head 3/4 the way around
* An Owls face acts like a satellite dish, moving sound directly into their ears
* Screech Owls screech to scare their predators away
* When a baby Screech Owl hatches, it is just a little bit bigger than a quarter
* The bones over a Hawk’s eyes act as a built-in sun visor
* The Carolina Raptor Center takes in about 700 injured birds every year
* Half of the injured birds the Raptor Center takes in have been hit by cars
* 63% of the birds that come into the Raptor Center are released back into the wild
* 100 birds live permanently at the Raptor Center
Foothills Performing Arts Theatre To Present Spring Musical, Snow White

Foothills Performing Arts will present the musical *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, written by Elsa Rael with music by Michael Valenti. Veteran director Keith Smith will direct the show.

“This show was written in 1963, and opened the week before Christmas, 1965 at Theatre East in New York City,” said Smith. “Not only was the show performed for the general public; for several years, schoolchildren were bused in for daytime performances. Over one million schoolchildren saw the play, and it ran continually longer than any other New York children’s theatre production, on or off Broadway, before or since. This show is not for children only, but also adults. The cast is made up of both adults and children as well. To obtain contrast in size, all the dwarfs are played by little girls between the ages of seven and 10, and they do a delightful job!” added Smith.

*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* will be presented in the FPA Studio Theatre in “B” Building on the CCC&TI campus in Hudson. Tickets are $10 for adults, $8 for students and $5 for students and children. The show will run Thursday, April 28th and Saturday, April 30th at 8 p.m. There will be a matinee on Sunday, May 1st at 3 p.m. Please take note that there is no show on Friday, April 29th. The second week of the show will run Thursday through Saturday, May 5th – 7th at 8 p.m., and on Sunday, May 8th, Mother’s Day, at 3 p.m. Due to the nature of the show, it is not recommended for children under the age of 5. Strobe lighting will be used, so anyone with a related heart condition or a pacemaker should know this in advance. For tickets, call 726-2318.

Math Contest “a Plus” for Area High Schools

Watauga High School grabbed top honors at the 2005 Edwin Troy Carpenter Math Contest, which was held recently at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute.

Second place went to Hickory High School and Freedom High School took third place. Other teams competing included West Caldwell High School, South Caldwell High School, Patterson School, Harris Chapel Christian Academy and Tabernacle Christian School of Hickory.

The annual contest is named in honor of the first math instructor to retire from CCC&TI, Edwin Troy Carpenter.

High schools may send two students to compete in each of the four categories: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry and Advanced Math. Participants have 80 minutes to complete a multiple-choice test composed by instructors from CCC&TI’s math department. The event gives students an opportunity to practice and showcase their math skills. It also gives the winning school bragging rights for a year.

In addition to the three school awards, the contest recognizes 12 individual students with first, second and third place awards for each category. Individual winners in each category were as follows:

Algebra I: First place, Su Youn Lee of The Patterson School; Second place, Hannah Reese of Watauga High School; and Third place, Jay Prevatt of West Caldwell High School.

Algebra II: First place, Sarah Schoenfeldt of Watauga High School; Second place, Rachel Powell of Hickory High School; and Third place, Michael Goff of Hickory High School.

Geometry: First place, Eric Choi of The Patterson School; Second place, Jared Greer of West Caldwell High School; and Third place, Chris Hollar of West Caldwell High School.

Advanced Math: First place, Byron Davis of Freedom High School; Second place, Warren Ashley of Watauga High School; and Third place, Jack Gage of Freedom High School.

Individual winners were presented with engraved plaques or ribbons and trophies were given to the top three schools. The Caldwell County Altrusa Club and the Troy Carpenter Math Fund of the CCC&TI Foundation sponsor the contest.
Lisa Rector Named Cosmetology Educator of the Year

Lisa Rector, a cosmetology instructor at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, was recently named Educator of the Year by the National Cosmetology Association of North Carolina in Winston-Salem last month.

"I just try to make the cosmetology profession exciting and knowledgeable," said Rector, adding that she was very surprised, honored and humbled by the award. "It just shows you are being recognized for the work you do," said Rector.

A native of Morganton, Rector began teaching Nail Technology classes on a part-time basis at CCC&TI through the Adult, Corporate and Continuing Education Department five years ago. She currently teaches full-time cosmetology curriculum classes. Continuing her own education, Rector voluntarily attends cosmetology classes and workshops in Raleigh and Greensboro one weekend a month, sharing what she learns with other educators and students.

Rector became interested in the cosmetology profession about 15 years ago, after working a job that required long hours and very little income. "I told myself if I ever got to where I could go back to school, I would get an education, so I could control some of my hours and income," said Rector.

Rector began her cosmetology training at McDowell Technical Community College in Marion, NC. From there, she began working at Salon Professionals, where she met her mentor Ron Poteat. He suggested Rector go back to school in order to obtain an instructor's license. "Soon I was back at MTCC taking my teachers training," said Rector.

Rector joined CCC&TI soon after obtaining her teaching degree. "I love teaching and I love this college," said Rector. "I love seeing the beautiful, eager-to-learn faces of my students."

For six years, Rector has been a member of the National Cosmetology Association of North Carolina, serving on the executive board as Second Vice President. As a member of the NCA of NC, Rector helps develop classes so that instructors and cosmetologists can receive their CEU credits. She also attends legislation in Raleigh to "voice anything that may help protect the profession," said Rector. She also serves on the Continuing Education Committee for the NCA of NC. "I perform platform trend release hair cuts at our annual convention, judge competitions, and develop classes for cosmetologists to have hands-on workshops," said Rector. Rector meets with the NCA executive board and the CEC board once a month.

It takes a lot of dedicated people to make any organization successful, and I am proud to be working with some of the best in my field," said Rector.

The cosmetology program at CCC&TI is designed to provide competency-based knowledge, scientific and artistic principles and hands-on fundamentals associated with the cosmetology industry. For more information on the cosmetology program at CCC&TI contact (828)726-2200, or visit the web at www.cccti.edu.

Connor Named New CCC&TI Basketball Coach

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute has named Matt Connor as new Head Coach for the Cobras. Connor moves into the position after serving as associate head coach for six years under the leadership of Bill Payne who will remain at the college as athletic director. Together, the two led the Cobras to two national tournaments, two district championships, three region titles and three conference titles.

Connor served as CCC&TI's head coach for one year prior to the college's expansion of athletic programs and affiliation with the NJCAA. CCC&TI took second place in the conference and tournament under his direction in 1998.

Connor brings 12 years of coaching experience at high school and college levels to CCC&TI. He has spent ten years as athletic director at Covenant Fellowship School, serving as commissioner of the CCAA (private school league) conference for three years and head basketball coach for five years.

A graduate of Freedom High School in Morganton, Connor earned his associate's degree at Montreat Anderson, his bachelor's degree at Oral Roberts University and a master's degree from Asbury Seminary. He played basketball for Freedom High before finishing his college career as forward at Montreat College.

Having served as an instructor for 16 years, Connor will continue to teach World Religion and other curriculum courses in addition to hosting the college's cable show, Connections, while he takes on the role of head coach.

"I am excited about the opportunity and look forward to continue a program of this caliber established by Bill Payne," Connor said. "I am glad he is staying as athletic director and am thankful to have him as both a mentor and a friend."
Mike Hainrihar will remain at CCC&TI as associate head coach. Hainrihar joined the athletics staff last year as assistant coach, bringing eight years of previous experience at the high school level in Ohio. A graduate of Cleveland St. Joseeph High School, Hainrihar went on to attend Bowling Green State University. In his first two seasons as head coach at Cardinal Stritch High School in Ohio, he led the Cardinals to 28 wins, the most wins for a two-year span in school history.

The Cobras will kick off next season on November 2 on the road against Spartanburg Methodist College. “We're already busy on the recruiting trail, talking with guys from all over the state,” said Connor, optimistic about the abilities of recent prospects and several sophomores expected to return.

“Matt did an outstanding job as my associate head coach,” said Athletic Director and former Head Coach Bill Payne. “He is very capable and loyal to this program. We will pick up right where we left off.”

For more information on CCC&TI athletic programs, contact Payne at 726.2388 or visit www.cccti.edu.