CCC&TI and ASU Announce: Aspire Appalachian Co-Admission Program
January

9
Men’s Basketball home game vs. Clinton College, 7 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

11
Women’s Basketball home game vs. Milligan JV, 4 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

16
Men’s Basketball home game vs. USC Salkehatchie, 7 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

20
Men’s Basketball home game vs. Brunswick CC, 2 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

21
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, Institution Closed

23
Women’s Basketball home game vs. Spartanburg Methodist College, 7 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

29
Men’s Basketball home game vs. Combine Academy, 7 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

31
Women’s Basketball home game vs. Denmark Tech, 5 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

Men’s Basketball home game vs. Denmark Tech, 7 p.m.; Caldwell Campus Gym

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

CCC&TI, Appalachian State University announce Aspire Appalachian Co-Admission Program Agreement

Leadership from Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI) and Appalachian State University have announced a new co-admission agreement that will create a seamless pathway for students who want to start at CCC&TI and complete their degree at Appalachian State.

The Aspire Appalachian Co-Admission Program will provide students who complete a two-year associate degree at CCC&TI with a 2.25 GPA or higher with guaranteed admission to Appalachian State to finish their undergraduate degree. Joined by Appalachian State Chancellor Dr. Sheri Everts for the signing ceremony on Appalachian’s campus on Dec. 12, CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch described the agreement as “monumental.”

“I want to thank Chancellor Everts, Provost Kruger and the entire leadership team at Appalachian State University for your vision, for your leadership and for your partnership,” Poarch said. “This is a monumental day for Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute. It’s great to be able to demonstrate the collaboration and strength we have in Western North Carolina.”

This past fall, 1,278 transfer students enrolled at Appalachian — seven out of 10 came from a community college.

Describing Aspire Appalachian as an important collaboration, Everts said the agreement represents a continuation and strengthening of the partnership between the two institutions.

“Our strong transfer student numbers are due in large part to the intentional work we do with community colleges,” Everts said. “Appalachian is nationally recognized for the support we provide our transfer students, which leads to their academic success. The completion rate for Appalachian’s graduating students who transferred after graduating from N.C. Community Colleges is more than 20 percent above the national average.”

The agreement, which goes into effect immediately, will create a pathway from CCC&TI to Appalachian State that includes academic and financial aid advising support for students, which will prepare them for a successful transition from community college to the university.

Aspire Appalachian students will have up to three years to complete the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science or Associate in Applied Science degrees before enrolling at Appalachian State. Aspire students will also benefit from waived application fees at Appalachian State, coordinated financial aid programs, coordinated degree completion and on-site admissions and academic advising.

As co-chair of the Higher Education Task Force for My Future NC, a statewide commission on educational attainment, Everts said she is working with education professionals across the state to address issues of increasing access to education — and decreasing achievement gaps.
“As part of this work,” she said, “the commission is addressing transfer pathways from community colleges to four-year institutions. I am extremely proud to see this strategy put into action through this agreement between CCC&TI and Appalachian.”

Students seeking additional information or wanting to apply for the Aspire Appalachian Co-Admission Program can contact Dennis Seagle, CCC&TI director of enrollment management, at 828-726-2705, or Dr. Kim Van Wie, director of Student Services at the CCC&TI Watauga Campus in Boone, at 828-297-2185, or Jane Rex, director of Appalachian State’s Office of Transfer Services, at 828-262-7465.

Upcoming J.E. Broyhill Civic Center Events

FPA Presents “A Wrinkle in Time” based on the book by Madeleine L’ Engle
February 14-16 • Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Recently adapted into a major motion picture by Disney Studios, this beloved science fiction book for young audiences is brought to the stage through this spirited and imaginative adaptation. A Wrinkle in Time is the story of Meg Murray, a high-school girl who is transported on an adventure through time and space with her brother and friend to rescue her father from evil forces that hold him prisoner on another planet. Tickets for the show are $14 for adults; $12 for students and $7.50 for children 12 and under.

Caldwell Traditional Musicians Showcase
Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.
Celebrating 21 years of promoting local music and talent, the Caldwell Traditional Musicians Showcase hosted by local favorite Strictly Clean and Decent will feature several local musicians who help keep the community’s rich history of traditional music alive today. Don’t miss the 21st Annual Caldwell Traditional Musicians Showcase. Tickets for the show are $11 for adults and $5.50 for students and children.

On Saturday, March 9, the Civic Center will host Dinner and a Show. A dinner of local favorites will be served at 5:30 p.m. at the Civic Center, prior to the 7:30 p.m. show. Cost for the dinner is $15 per person. (Price includes tax.)

Rhythm of the Dance
Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.
This two-hour dance and music extravaganza contains a wealth of Irish Talent. The show is an inspiring epic, reliving the journey of the Irish Celts throughout history. Using modern art forms of dance and music, this richly costumed show marries the contemporary and the ancient. Combining traditional dance and music with the most up to date stage technology, the show is a thousand year-old story executed with all the advantages of the modern day stage show. Rhythm of the Dance has heralded a new era in Irish entertainment, internationally rated as one of the most popular Irish Step Dance shows in the world. Be sure to experience Rhythm of the Dance when it performs at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center! Tickets for the show are $26 for adults and $15 for students and children.

CCC&TI Launches New ‘Night School’ Initiative

With local unemployment at its lowest level in decades, the demand for flexible scheduling for working adults attending school is increasing. In response to the growing need, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI) is launching a Night School program by expanding the number of classes available at night, as well as the number of degree and job training programs that can be earned at night.

“Our number one goal is to serve the needs of our students and the community,” said Dr. Mark Poarch, President of CCC&TI. “With the area at near full employment, there is a need for more non-traditional college and technical training options for students who work full-time jobs or have family responsibilities during the day.”

The new scheduling option will allow students to complete an Associate in Arts degree, which normally takes two years, at night in only three years. Both traditional seated and online classes will be offered. Though night classes are available on the Watauga Campus in Boone, the new Night School program will only be offered on the Caldwell Campus in Hudson with plans to expand it to the Watauga Campus in the future.

The program also will include short-term programs, such as Industrial Maintenance, Welding, Nurse Aide, HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) and other high-demand technical job training programs.

Spring Semester enrollment for degree programs will continue through Dec. 17 with classes starting on Jan. 7. Registration for short-term workforce training programs continues throughout the year.

For information or to register, please call 828-726-2200 or stop by campus.
CCC&TI Hires Frank Pait as First Baseball Coach

Building a college baseball program from scratch is no easy task. Fortunately for Caldwell Community College and Technical (CCC&TI), someone with more than two decades of coaching experience, including building a program from the ground up at a neighboring community college, was available.

Frank Pait, a native of Wilkesboro and a former head coach of baseball programs at nearby Lenoir-Rhyne University and Catawba Valley Community College, will be the new head coach at CCC&TI. His first day will be Feb. 1, but he has already started making plans for the team’s launch in Fall 2019.

“To come in and put your thumbprint on something that is happening for the first time is as exciting and challenging as it gets,” Pait said. “We want to create something that everyone in the community can be proud of.”

In November CCC&TI’s Board of Trustees approved the addition of baseball and softball to the college’s Athletic Department. Both teams are scheduled to begin play in Fall 2019. Competing in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), conversations are underway to determine in which division Caldwell will compete, but that decision has not yet been made.

For the baseball program, finding a coach with the right experience and connections to local baseball was important.

“We have hit an absolute homerun with Frank,” CCC&TI Athletic Director Matt Anderson said. “His reputation and track record speaks for itself. He is a proven winner and knows how to build a program.”

Anderson said the goal is to compete on a national level, and hiring Pait is a good first step.

“He’s been through this exact process before. Not only did he build a program from scratch, he had them in the national tournament in the third year of the program,” Anderson said. “I truly believe we’re going to build something special here and I am so excited for our student athletes, our college and our community.”

Pait said he has been involved in baseball his entire life. He began playing at a young age and as a player at Wilkes Central High School he earned a scholarship to play at Wingate University. After earning his degree, he took a Graduate Assistant job with Lenoir-Rhyne University baseball. He then coached baseball at West Wilkes High School and served as an assistant coach at Wingate before landing the head coaching job at Lenoir-Rhyne. He went on to become the first head coach of the baseball program at Catawba Valley Community College, where he built a program that played in the NJCAA World Series and had a fifth-place finish in only its third season of existence. He left coaching in 2015, but is ready to return to the game.

Recruiting will begin immediately, he said, with a focus on local players first and expanding outward in the region and beyond.

“We’re not scared to recruit out of state, but we want local guys,” he said. “If they can play, we want them here.”

Pait said that the community can expect fundamentally sound teams that will be well prepared and will play aggressive baseball. It all starts, he said, with recruiting the right players and creating the right atmosphere.

“We’re going to bring in good guys and we’re going to try to make them better people. We’re going to bring in good students and make them better students. We’re going to bring in good players and try to make them great players,” he said. “If we do those things, the winning and success will take care of itself.
2018 CCC&TI Research Expo

CCC&TI hosted its annual Research Expo in December on the Caldwell Campus. Students submitted projects in three categories: Posters of Original Research, Informational Posters, and Models. Winners were named in each category and winning students received cash prizes. There was also an appearance by Albert Einstein - who might have been CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch in a wig, but we’re not sure. Congratulations to all of the students on their hard work and to each of the winners.

2018 Research Expo Winners:

Posters of Original Research:

1st place winner ($100 prize)
Title: Using DNA barcoding to identify different types of larvae
By: Shane Barnes, Macey Clark, Ashley Euceda, Sierra Lynn, and Tyler Swank from the STEM division

2nd place winner ($50 prize)
Title: How different dilutions of disinfectants affect bacterial resistance
By: Cassie Roberts from Middle College

3rd place winner ($25 prize)
Title: The difference in dissolution amounts between brand name and generic nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medication
By: Kristen Nadeau from Middle College

2 Honorable Mentions (tied)
Title: Music and the mind
By: Katelyn Paulsen, Dylon Wood, Trevor Willis from the Social Sciences division
Title: DNA Barcoding Bee Legs
By: Chloe Ledbetter from Middle College

Informational Posters:

1st place ($100 prize)
Title: Digestive System
By: Cinthia Garcia, Maritza Ramos, Elsa Trejo, Lorena Trejo, Amalia Andres, and Antonia Gutierrez from the Adult Education division

2nd place ($50 prize)
Title: Arachnids
By, Karla Estrada, Dina Caituuro, Jissela Guzman, Cristina Bravo, Rodolfo Baquiax, Araceli Juarez, Santos Chavez, and Jamilette Ampie from the Adult Education division

3rd place ($25 prize)
Title: Myriapods
By: Selina Zielinski, Erica Bristol, Anh Pham, Remi Goodman, and Auris Mejias from the Adult Education division

Honorable Mention
Title: Bees and Pollination
By: Rachel Hood and Shakiera Ferguson from the Adult Education division

Models:

1st place ($100 prize)
Title: X-ray machine schematic
By: Mallory Sutphin from the Allied Health division

2nd place ($50 prize)
Title: Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Cornea
By: Helena Lopez Yences from the Allied Health division

3rd place ($25 prize)
Title: Refractive Errors
By: Jessica Gomez-Santos from the Allied Health division

Honorable Mention
Title: X-ray machine schematic
By: Heather Wright from the Allied Health division
Love of Learning Leads to Success

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute alumnae Courtney Chavez has weathered many changes in her situation over the years but her love of learning has remained a constant motivator that has helped her reach her goals and propelled her to personal success.

In 2000, Chavez faced an early layoff from her successful career as a midwife, as well as a move from her native Raleigh to the Lenoir area when her then-husband took a job with a Caldwell County furniture manufacturer. She spent several years at home with her young children and then after separating from her husband, decided to enroll in college courses at CCC&TI. “Finding myself single and unemployed, I knew that the corporate world would require credentials,” she said. “So I decided to enroll in the accounting degree program at CCC&TI for the Fall 2009 term.”

Despite the obstacles she faced as a single mom and a new college student, Chavez says the support and encouragement she received at CCC&TI helped her reach her goals and gave her the courage and determination to set new ones. “CCC&TI was my first college campus experience so the impact was life-changing,” she said. “All of my instructors were my personal cheerleaders. They had high expectations and I was determined to exceed them all.”

During her time as a student, Chavez was involved in several student organizations and also worked as a tutor with the college’s Minority Male Mentoring program, all experiences that she says helped set her on the right path for career success. “I gained a foundation of tremendous self-worth from my time at CCC&TI. Being a successful student gave me the boost in confidence I needed.”

Chavez earned her Associates in Accounting degree from CCC&TI in 2011 and an Associate in Arts degree in 2012. While still studying at CCC&TI, Chavez enrolled in Gardner-Webb University’s online Bachelors in Accounting program and was already working toward her next goal. “Thanks to the many distance-learning classes I had taken at CCC&TI, I was prepared for the road ahead with an entirely online bachelors of accounting program. I graduated from Gardner-Webb cum laude in May 2014 – the first in my family to earn a four-year degree.”

In 2012, Chavez relocated back to Raleigh and in November 2014, began a new career with the North Carolina State Employees Credit Union. Since that time, she has earned additional certifications and state licenses and received several promotions, as well. Currently, she serves as a Senior Loan Origination Quality Services Specialist and has obtained numerous state licenses. “I got there because I sat in the front row of my classes at CCC&TI and I was part of groups of people who cared about the successes of others,” she said.

And she’s not done yet. Chavez was recently accepted into the Masters Degree in Business Administration Program at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke and
hopes to one day teach at a community college, a dream inspired by her own community college experience and those of her children who’ve also studied at community colleges. For now, Chavez says she’s proud of all she’s accomplished and the example she’s set for her kids. “A goal I had when I enrolled at CCC&TI was to be an example to my children, to let them know that their mom is a survivor. I was determined to make it and thanks to my beginnings at CCC&TI, the encouragement of my instructors and family, I am exceeding career goals and feel I have become an extraordinary asset to society.”

For those who find themselves in trying circumstances, Chavez wholeheartedly recommends education, no matter what stage of life they’re in. “One is never too old to attend college. Knowledge is power. I strive to never let a day end without learning something new. Absolutely nothing bad can come about from becoming more educated,” she said. “Even if more education is not required, the desire to learn is compelling and worth the effort.”

Spreading Good Cheer

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute’s Student Government Association recently hosted a food and cleaning supply drive for the Caldwell Campus. By gathering donations from classes, clubs and individual students, the group was able to donate more than 200 pounds of cleaning supplies to the Lenoir Emergency Outreach Shelter (LEOS) and 186 food items for Yokefellow of Caldwell County. Pictured are CCC&TI students Shania Hamid, Yanderin Velasquez and Valeria Cruz posing with the collected items.

Retirees Honored at Board Meeting

Several retiring CCC&TI employees were honored at the December Board of Trustees Meeting. Pictured with CCC&TI President, Dr. Mark Poarch are (from left) Charles LePrevost, Larry Stewart and Tony Bowers. Far right is Patty Brinkley. Congratulations to these employees on their upcoming retirement.
CCC&TI Holds BLET Graduation Ceremony

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

Graduates, pictured left to right with BLET awards in parenthesis, are: Front Row: Cesar Rubio of Lenoir, Jessica Beaver of Collettsville, Mackenzie Goforth of Hudson (Andrew J. Burgess Academic Award, Most Improved Award), Courtney Hull of Hickory (Gary Clark Driving Award, Overall Physical Fitness Award), Lindsay Griffin of Hudson, Amber Glenn of Hudson and Miguel Rodriguez of Granite Falls; Back Row: Jonathan Anderson of Lenoir (Platoon/Class Leader, Top Gun Award), Dylan Clemmons of Hickory, John Dibella of Deland, Fla. (POPAT Award), James Gordon of Lenoir, Joshua Blankenship of Granite Falls (GRIT Award), Wilson Elliot of Newton, Tyler Walker of Lenoir and Joseph Waters of Hickory.

CCC&TI Announces Spring Caldwell Cuisine Schedule

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute’s Culinary Arts program has announced the dates and menus for its spring semester installment of Caldwell Cuisine. Each of the meals will be served at 6 p.m. at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir and are priced at $21 plus tax per person. The events are open to the public, but diners are required to purchase tickets prior to the event.

In addition to providing an opportunity for the community to enjoy the gourmet Caldwell Cuisine menus at a reasonable price, the events also provide CCC&TI’s Culinary Arts students a chance to apply their classroom knowledge. The spring menus will each center around different cooking techniques and feature menu items prepared using the assigned technique.

Following are the dates and menus for the events:

**Thursday Feb. 21, 2019 - Stewing**

- Arugula Salad- smoked bacon, tomato, gorgonzola, blue cheese vinaigrette
- Beef Burgundy- French beef stew, carrot, mushroom, pearl onion, red wine, thyme demi, over mashed potatoes
- Chocolate Pots de Crème- rich chocolate custard, Chantilly crème

**Thursday, March 21, 2019 – Sauté**

- Potato and Leek Soup- sweet leeks, potatoes, garlic, thyme, white wine, crispy bacon
- Chicken Marsala- sautééd chicken breast, Crimini mushroom, Marsala pan sauce over rice pilaf
- Pecan Cream Pie- cheesecake custard, pecan pie topping

**Thursday, April 18, 2018 - Grilling**

- Panzanella Salad- fresh tomato, toasted focaccia, red onion, fresh basil, balsamic
- Grilled Atlantic Salmon, sweet corn relish, arugula, Creole mustard buerre blanc
- Caramel Apple Cheesecake

For more information or for tickets, visit www.cccti.edu/cuisine.
Truck Driver Training Graduation

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute celebrated 16 students from the Truck Driver Training program during a completion ceremony on Dec. 20 at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir. The participating students included, pictured below from left to right: (front row) Shye-Quina Dockery of Taylorsville; Samantha Reece of Spruce Pine, DeSean Pierce of Boone, Jim Tinney of Hudson. Middle row, left to right are Brent Dugan of Statesville; Claus Hohlen of Hickory; Adam Glasgow of Winston Salem; Walid Mohamed of Hudson; Anthony Villaneuva of Hudson; Back row, left to right are Nathan Bivens of Connelly Springs; Eric Ferguson of Wilkes County; Ronald Carter of Candler; Marcus Westfall of Lenoir; Chan Mattox, Jr. of Statesville; and Isaiah Soblotney. Not pictured: Chris Bentley.

Also at the ceremony, Truck Driver Training student Marcus Westfall received the NC State Employees Credit Union “Bridge to Career Scholarship” to help cover the cost of his training. The State Employees’ Credit Union (SECU) Foundation established the SECU Bridge to Career Program to help eliminate barriers for students seeking to earn state-regulated or industry-recognized credentials through the workforce continuing education division of their local community college. Pictured is recipient Marcus Westfall and SECU Vice President/City Executive Richie Patrick.

CCC&TI Truck Driver Training classes are offered in Avery, Caldwell, Forsyth, Iredell, Richmond, Rowan, Rutherford, Union and Yadkin counties. Tuition assistance is available for those who qualify. To register for Truck Driver Training at CCC&TI or for information on class schedules, please call 828-726-2380 or visit www.cccti.edu.
Attention:
Writers
Poets
Artist
Painters
Sculptors
Designers
Authors
Creators

Branches
Call for submissions

Students, employees and members of the community are invited to submit prose, poetry and/or art work for possible publication in the twenty-third volume of Branches, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's literary arts magazine. All students of CCC&TI are eligible for entry, as well as any resident of Caldwell or Watauga counties.

Entry forms may be picked up at the LRC or Writing Centers on both campuses or downloaded from the CCC&TI web page. The direct link is https://www.cccti.edu/Publications/BranchesSubmit.asp.

For more information, contact Jessica Chapman at 726-2624 or Laura Aultman at 297-3811.

Submission Deadline is March 29, 2019. Good Luck!

Summer Study Abroad Opportunity

CCC&TI is offering an opportunity for students to study abroad during the second summer session of 2019. Students will travel from Charlotte to Barcelona from June 25 to July 13. Cost of the trip is $2,500 which will include the cost of an international flight, a domestic flight, two bus trips, dinners, all accommodations.

Students will spend part of the trip walking Spain’s famed Camino Trail and will walk approximately 175 miles.

Students who participate will earn credit for Hum-180 and PED-Walking for Fitness for a total or 4 credit hours total.

Preference of acceptance will be given to students who have taken SPA-111 or 112 and/or a PED course.

For more information, contact Jasyn Klamborowski at jklamborowski@cccti.com
Holiday Fun at CCC&TI
Students Prepare Christmas Meal for Shelter Home

CCC&TI’s Culinary Arts program continued its tradition of preparing a hot meal for residents of the Shelter Home of Caldwell County in Lenoir. Students delivered the meal on Christmas morning.

Pictured at left, from left to right are Culinary Program Director Chef Keith Andreasen and students Zoee Falder, Erica Setzer and Dawson Clark.

Participating students not pictured were Makayla Hammond, Shyane Keller, Misty Lail and Jesus Vicente.

Electrical Lineman Graduation

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute celebrated a new class of Electrical Linemen with a completion ceremony on Friday, Dec. 21 at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir. Those recognized at the ceremony were: Front row, left to right, Austin Guy of Lenoir; Jare Gustin of Taylorsville, Matt Grogan of Granite Falls; William Brice Freeman of Sanford; Jacob Bowman or Statesville; Kolton Barr of Ashe County; and Cameron Bailey of Granite Falls. Second row, left to right are: Lineman Program Coordinator David Coffey, Joshua Wilson of Lenoir; Dalton Snyder of Taylorsville; Riley Welch of Morganton; Isaak Rodgers of Morganton; Robert Reid of Lenoir; Richard Parkhurst of Burke County; Zachary Johnson or Lenoir; Instructor Scott Murray, Instructor Dean Ford; and Instructor Marty Walker. Back row from left to right are Instructors Steve Stillwell and Kim Sluder. For Electrical Lineman program information or to register, call 828-726-2242 or email dcoffey@cccti.edu.

Several Electrical Lineman students were also presented with the NC State Employees Credit Union “Bridge to Career Scholarship” to help cover the cost of their training. The State Employees’ Credit Union (SECU) Foundation established the SECU Bridge to Career Program to help eliminate barriers for students seeking to earn state-regulated or industry-recognized credentials through the workforce continuing education division of their local community college. Pictured below are the recipients. Front row, left to right are Richard Parkhurst, Jare Gustin, and Dalton Snyder. Back row from left are Robert Reid, William Brice Freeman, Josh Wilson, Kolton Barr and Bryan Johnson, State Employees Credit Union Senior Vice President.