Calendar of Events

5  Ambassadors, Noon, E-135
    Nuncrackers, 8 p.m., FPA Theater

6  Raleigh Ringers, 7:30 p.m., Civic Center
    Nuncrackers, 8 p.m., FPA Theater
    Men's Basketball, CCC&TI vs. Sampson CC, 3 p.m, Gym

7  Nuncrackers, 3 p.m., FPA Theatre

9  CCC&TI Chorus Concert, 12:15 p.m., FPA Theatre

What’s Happening?

Get in the Christmas spirit. Enter the SGA Door Decoration Contest this week. The contest is open to any club, faculty department, administrative department or any group who has the Christmas spirit. Decorations can be put up until Dec. 8. Judging will take place Dec. 9 through Dec. 12. The first place prize is $100; second place gets $75; and third place winners earn themselves $50. Judging will be based on style, originality, how well the theme relates to the sponsoring group and overall appearance. To enter, complete the official form and return to James Patterson or the SGA office (E-Building basement). You can decorate any door, but indicate which door you intend to festoon on the form. And follow the rules: no electric lights (battery power is OK); seasonal themes should relate to sponsoring groups; do not deface the door; doors must be able to open and close; decorations must be removed once the contest is over, only one door per entry and no double doors allowed; and decorations may not extend more than one foot around the door frame. Enjoy!

Faculty and staff: If you intend to bring a covered dish to Christmas luncheon Dec. 16, please contact Angela Kannup (dial 0) by Friday, Dec. 5 to let her know what you’re bringing.

The annual CCC&TI Chorus Christmas Concert will be held in the Foothills Performing Arts Theatre (B-Building) Tues., Dec. 9 at 12:15 p.m. Join director Kay Crouch and her students for a festive hour of vocal ensembles. Performers are sopranos Latisha Baker, Amanda DeRienzis and Lillie Evans; altos Jessica Ciencin, Tammy Greene, Kelly Griffith and Cathy Patterson; and baritones Jimmy Atkins, Richard Cassidy, Will Coffey, Brandon Oliver and Joseph Sumpter.

Don’t miss Nuncrackers at the Foothills Performing Arts Theatre Dec. 5-7 and Dec. 11-14. The characters from Nunsense are back, along with Father Virgil and four of Mount St. Helen’s most talented students. The nuns set out to tape a TV Christmas special in the Cable Access Studio built in the convent’s basement by the Reverend Mother, and from there things go hilariously wrong. This show is filled with typical Nunsense humor, some of your favorite carols and a “Secret Santa” audience participation. Nuncrackers is rated G. Show times are 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. on Sundays. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (828) 728-2318.

Take a break Wednesday, Dec. 10 and enjoy the arts. The Fine Line Drawing Class Art Exhibit features the work of drawing students headed by Thomas Thielemann and Jane Harrison. The opening reception will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. at Caldwell campus’ Seila Gallery located just below the tennis courts.

Happy Birthday

Celebrating birthdays from Dec 1 to Dec. 11:
Keith Money (2), Martha Zimmerman (4), Clara Johnson (4), Beverly Jaynes (5), Aaron Cook (6), Dan Cline (6), Michael Philyaw (6), Melodie Yancey (8), Cheryl Miller (9), Meghann Clayton (9), Cheryl Bolt (10)
Boham named NCCCS President of the Year

It is not hard to spot Dr. Ken Boham. At 6’4”, the slender, red-haired president of Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute stands out among his 58 counterparts across the state. Add to that a long list of accomplishments, and it’s easy to see why Boham stands out as the 2003 North Carolina Community College President of the Year. The award, presented by the State Board of Community Colleges at its Day of Recognition ceremony held last week in Raleigh, was established in 2001 to recognize outstanding presidents. The annual celebration honors individuals who have made important local, statewide, or national contributions to the community college movement.

“Being recognized as the 2003 President of the Year is a tremendous honor and certainly one of the highlights of my career,” said Boham. “I cannot feel like this award is for me individually. It also belongs to Caldwell Community College. To know that all 58 of our presidents were eligible for this award, to have people put so much work into the nomination process and to know that the selection was based on merit and accomplishments speaks well of the college and makes me proud to be associated with the group of individuals that make up Caldwell Community College.”

“Without question, I feel like it’s our accomplishment,” added Boham. “Thanks especially to those good friends who support the institution,” he remarked, recognizing 38 guests who attended the ceremony.

At age 40, Boham was the baby of the bunch when he first took office as CCC&TI president in 1995. However, Boham named NCCCS President of the Year. Pictured left to right at the Day of Recognition Ceremony are: Joseph Crocker of Wachovia, Sandra Hayes, member of State Board of Community Colleges, Dr. Ken Boham, and James Woody, Jr., Chairman of the State Board of Community Colleges.

CCC&TI president shaping the future of education

Stepping up as president of the North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents this year, Dr. Ken Boham has the daunting job of helping lead 58 community college presidents in one direction. The position has him shaking hands and sharing thoughts on education with many elected officials this semester, including Lt. Governor Bev Perdue, U.S. Congressman Cass Ballenger, Senator Patrick Ballentine, Senator Virginia Fox, representatives from the office of Senator John Edwards and even President George Bush.

“It is both an honor and a privilege to be selected by my colleagues to serve in this leadership role,” said Boham. “I am pleased to have the opportunity to make a contribution and to advance an agenda that will not only help Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute but the community college system and the future of education in North Carolina.”

One of Boham’s first tasks in leading the NCACCP was to attend a recent orientation session for new presidents as they were introduced to the community college system. But Boham is no newcomer to System. Into his ninth year as president of CCC&TI, he has had his hands in education for nearly 26 years as vice president of continuing education at Wake Technical College, interim president at Mayland Community College, assistant director of housing at North Carolina State University, continuing education coordinator at Halifax Community College and education specialist for the N.C. Department of Corrections.

Today Boham’s calendar is full with monthly meetings with the NCACCP, the association’s executive committee and CCC&TI’s own board of trustees in addition to monthly meetings with the State Board of Community Colleges. As a member of the

See Boham, page 9

See Future, page 10
Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute made minor aviation history when it became the first community college to ever win the Region X SAFECON championship. This is the first time that the trophy has gone to a North Carolina team, and CCC&TI picked the perfect year to snag it. This year marks the 100th anniversary of man in flight—an endeavor Orville and Wilbur Wright launched on the beaches of Kittyhawk, NC. CCC&TI unseated the Annapolis, Md.-based U.S. Naval Academy, which was the reigning Region X champions for the past three years.

SAFECONs, or Safety and Flight Evaluation Conferences, are air meets held by the National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA), an organization that focuses on helping pilots develop in-flight and on-ground competency, with the primary focus on safety. NIFA holds 11 regional meets each fall, and a national meet each spring. The SAFECONs are comprised of 9 events, five of which are conducted on the ground. The remaining four are conducted in air. SAFECONs Region X draws teams from Washington D.C., Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Students compete in events such as computer accuracy, simulated navigation, aircraft recognition, preflight inspection, instrument flight rules (IFR) proficiency, short field landings, power-off landings and a message drop, where competitors must hit a target on the ground with message container from an altitude of 200 feet.

The higher a student places in an event, the more points the student earns for his or her team.

CCC&TI won both the Marine Corps Aviation Association's Ground Event Team Championship and the Navy Annapolis Flight Center's Flying Event Team Championship. CCC&TI student Daniel Poit won Top Pilot, which means he earned the largest total number of points in and placed among the top five in either the power-off landing, short-field landing or simulated navigation events.

The Blue Ridge Flying Eagles beat out the U.S. Naval Academy, the reigning flight team for three years running, by 20 points. Last year, CCC&TI trailed the U.S. Naval Academy by 50 points to take third place behind Averett University in Danville, Va., which did not compete this year. They also won the prestigious Safety Award for Region X last year, an award given to one team in each region for demonstrating outstanding safety practices throughout the four-day event.

A representative from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) walks the competition and observes teams during and between various events. The representative also interviews one student on each team regarding the FAA Safety Manual and how contestants have employed the Safety Standards at their local airfield—CCC&TI’s case the Hickory Regional Airport in Hickory, NC. In the seven years CCC&TI has competed, it has won three Safety Awards and have field three Region X Top Pilots.

SAFECON is each team’s opportunity to put its classroom and practical training to the test. Practice and preparation for these events is an ongoing effort. Program director and instructor Dawn Sullivan said her team worked all week and then weekends to prepare for this regional competition. “Most of us are ready to go home and rest on the weekends, but these guys went out there Saturdays and Sundays after spending all week at school. They just showed so much dedication.”

“We spent a lot of time practicing landings and takeoffs,” says David Goldberg, who took first place in the power-off precision landing and preflight inspection events. “We also helped paint the helipad.”

Goldberg says CCC&TI’s strategy was to work hard and have fun. “Ultimately, I think that’s why we won because we were having so much fun.”

That each team member delivered his top
Chem professor works to spark early interest

Where’s the chemistry? That’s the question Dr. Dan Prasad has been asking Caldwell County school children lately. Like St. Nick and the Great Pumpkin, Dr. Prasad makes an annual visit to kids, but instead of candy and toys, he treats the children to good, old-fashioned chemistry. To aid his quest, Prasad uses an outreach program sponsored by the American Chemistry Society called National Chemistry Week to bring positive messages to the public concerning chemistry and its affect on everyday life.

Prasad, a chemistry instructor at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, enjoys getting involved with the annual event, which began in 1989, and has been visiting schools and demonstrating experiments every year since then.

“It has been my experience that children learn best when they are young,” said Prasad. “If we can get them excited about chemistry at a young age, then they may decide to pursue a career in the field.” Prasad pointed out that the state of North Carolina, along with the rest of the nation, is lacking science educators, which could be a possible career choice for the students. Another option Prasad mentioned was in the local furniture industry where there are job opportunities for applicants with an educational background in the sciences.

This year he is using an activity book, “Celebrating Chemistry - Earth’s Atmosphere and Beyond,” that contains fun chemical experiments that are easy for children to conduct and understand. The experiments include one on air pollution, which demonstrates how acid rain is formed when it is mixed with pollution in the air; and another one on volcanoes that teaches students the effects of volcanic eruptions on earth’s atmosphere.

Students in Prasad’s chemistry classes are often enlisted to assist him at the local schools by helping children perform the experiments. “My students really enjoy working with the children,” said Prasad, “because they have a chance to explain the experiments and answer questions from the kids.”

Prasad explained that his students benefited by helping the children because it was a learning experience for them as well. Prasad’s students provide more than assistance in the classroom, however. Horizons Elementary teacher Pat Church said Prasad’s volunteers serve as positive role models to the area’s young students.

Prasad finished his educational efforts for this year’s National Chemistry Week on Nov. 13 at Valmead Elementary School. Due to the number of schools interested in participating, Prasad extended the activities past the nationally recognized week of Oct. 19-25. Other schools that participated include Gamewell Elementary, Horizon Elementary, Gamewell Middle, Hudson Middle and several schools in Burke and Watauga counties.

For more information on National Chemistry Week, visit the American Chemical Society’s Web site at http://www.chemistry.org/ncw or contact Prasad at (828) 726-2325.
Can you hear those bells ringing?

One of the best-known handbell choirs in America, The Raleigh Ringers, will perform a Christmas concert at the Broyhill Civic Center on Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. These fantastic North Carolina musicians will give their unique sound to many holiday favorites.

The Raleigh Ringers play many kinds of music and perform with drill-team precision on more than a hundred beautiful bells in motion. The group performs on a seven and one-half octave set of Malmark hand bells, five octaves of White Chapel bells, four octaves of White Chapel cup bells, three octaves of Petit and Fritsen hand bells, two octaves of Silver Melody bells, and five and one-half octaves of Malmark choir chimes.

The Raleigh Ringers, Inc., is a community handbell choir consisting of auditioned musicians under the direction of David M. Harris. Under his leadership the choir has matured from an unknown community handbell group to an internationally acclaimed ensemble.

Harris is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and has studied conducting privately with Dr. William A. Payn of Bucknell University, an eminent expert in the field. Kryn Krauthem serves as assistant director, Fred Gramann, of Paris, France, serves as honorary associate director, and Dr. William A. Payn is the artistic consultant.

Choir members include Bob Aucutter (president), Carla Batchelor, Brenda F. Byrd, Angela Chiatello (secretary), Kevin Dietzschold, Stephanie Drerup (vice president), Sandra Hopson, Paula Joyner, Barbara Marley, Cindy Massey, David Metz, Andy Punch, Nancy Ritter (treasurer), Brian Roberson, Katherine Shaver, and Ann Lowe Vodicka.

The Raleigh Ringers was established as a non-profit organization in January of 1990. The organization believes in and works toward the following goals: bringing advanced, sacred and secular handbell music to the widest possible audience; promoting the art of handbell ringing through sponsoring and participating in workshops, tours and other educational and performing opportunities; encouraging handbell composers and arrangers to create works for advanced handbell choirs through commissions and other means; and helping less experienced handbell musicians to develop their ringing, directing and organizational skills.

Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. performance range in price from $10.00 in gold seating to $12.00 in platinum seating. To purchase tickets or reserve seats call the Civic Center's box office at (828) 726-2407. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express are accepted. For information on upcoming events, visit http://www.broyhill-center.com.

Season sponsors for the Broyhill Civic Center include the Broyhill Family Foundation, Comfort Inn, Foothills Radio Group, Golden Corral, Jem Clean and Triangle Communications.

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**Foundation Tributes**

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following tributes received July 1 through August 31, 2003:

- In honor of John A. Forlines, Jr. to the John A. Forlines, Jr. Educational Scholarship Fund:
  - Mr. John A. Allison of BB&T Charitable Foundation
  - Mr. Hugh Almond
  - Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Anderson
  - Mr. Travis and Dr. Sandra Anderson
  - Ms. Loretta Annas
  - Ms. Patricia Annas
  - Dr. and Mrs. Bill Armfield
  - Representative Cass Ballenger
  - Mr. David W. Barlow
  - Rev. and Mrs. Fred D. Barnes
  - Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beam
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  - Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Beane
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  - Dr. and Mrs. Robert Belk
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  - Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Bolick of The Bolick Foundation
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  - Mr. And Mrs. Bud Brown
  - Mr. and Mrs. Lee G. Brown
  - Ms. Gina Brownell
  - Mr. Hunt Broyhill
  - Senator and Mrs. James T. Broyhill
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  - Mr. Paul H. Broyhill of Broyhill Family Foundation
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  - Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cannoles
  - Dr. and Mrs. Gene Carpenter
  - Mr. and Mrs. Marc Carpenter
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  - Mr. and Mrs. Harold Clark of HAC Sales
  - Jeffrey Clark
  - Mr. Don Coleman of Hickory Springs Mfg., Inc.
  - Dr. Patrick and Mrs. Doris Conn
  - Mr. Charles Connor, Ill of First Security Company, Inc.
  - Ms. Ann Cook
$30K scholarships available to transfer students

It’s a lot of money and it’s very competitive. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation based in Lansdowne, Va., is accepting nominations for its Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship Program, which awards each recipient up to $30,000 for undergraduate expenses, and the scholarships generally last two years. Only 30 scholarships are awarded annually.

The scholarship program is the legacy of Jack Kent Cooke, who died in April 1997 and was the former owner of the Washington Redskins during their Super Bowl heyday in the 80s. He was also one-time owner of the NBA’s L.A. Lakers (he signed Kareem Abdul Jabar and Magic Johnson), the NHL’s L.A. Kings and the Los Angeles Daily News. He built what is now referred to as the “Fabulous” Forum in 1967 for his L.A. teams and owned the Chrysler Building in New York City.

According to the foundation’s guidelines, scholarship recipients are chosen based on academic ability and achievement, unmet financial need, their will to succeed, leadership and public service, critical-thinking ability and appreciation for or participation in the arts and humanities.

Recipients also must agree to comply with several requirements for the duration of the scholarship, which include the attendance of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholars Weekend Aug. 6-8, 2004. The foundation pays for travel expenses, lodging and meals.

The foundation accepts two nominations from each two-year college in the United States. The students, who must be nominated by someone in their institution, can be either currently enrolled or recent graduates (May 1999 or later) of accredited two-year institutions who plan to enroll in a four-year institution in fall 2004 to complete their undergraduate degree. Students must have a cumulative college grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale.

In its third year, the scholarship program is one of the largest and most competitive available to CCC&TI students, says Dianne Henderson, financial aid director for Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute. Two CCC&TI students have received this scholarship in the past.

Students who wish to be nominated for the scholarship can get an application packet from CCC&TI’s financial aid office or download it from www.jackkentcookefoundation.org. Completed applications must be returned to the financial aid office by January 14, 2004.

All scholarship programs, including the Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer program, are looking for committed students, Henderson says.

“Other than meeting the requirements, students need to take the application process seriously. They should treat the scholarship application process the same as applying for a job. Type the application, edit it or have someone else edit it, and be honest and sincere about financial need,” she advises.

Other scholarship opportunities at CCC&TI

The Association of Community College Business Officers (ACCBO) is offering scholarship for second year students majoring in business-related programs. Students must be enrolled full-time and have a GPA of 3.0 or better. Award amount: $600 to $300 each semester. Deadline: Applications must be completed and returned to the Financial Aid office no later than December 15, 12 p.m.

The Datatel Scholars Foundation offers several scholarship programs for which CCC&TI students currently enrolled in at least 6 credit hours are eligible. The deadline for all scholarships is January 31, 2004. Scholarship awards are for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Datatel Scholars Foundation Scholarship: Available to all students currently enrolled for at least 6 credit hours. Award amount: $1,000 to $2,400 depending on the cost of a students undergraduate tuition. Requirements: Personal Statement Essay.

Angelfire Scholarship: Available to students who are Vietnam War veterans, students who are spouses or children of Vietnam veterans, or students who were refugees from Vietnam, Laos, or Cambodia during the 1964-1975 timeframe. Award amount: Fifteen students are awarded $700 to $2,000, depending on the cost of their undergraduate tuition. Requirements: Documentation proving eligibility, and personal statement essay.

Returning Student Scholarship: Available to students currently enrolled who have experienced a five-year or more absence from school. Award amount: $1,500. Requirements: Personal statement essay.

Nancy Goodhue Lynch Scholarship: Available to students majoring in Information Technology-related degrees. Award amount: Two awards of $2,500. Requirements: Personal statement essay.

For more information on any of these scholarships or for information on other available scholarships, contact the Financial Aid office at (828) 726-2713.
performance didn’t hurt either. “This is the first time every member of the team placed in the top 10 of all the events,” Poit says. “This year, we really worked together as a team and it paid off. We also had several members who competed for two years and that helped.”

Aside from having a blast, the students were able to see who they were going to be up against not just in the competition, but in the job market. “That’s probably one of the best things about the competition is to see who you’re going to be up against when you’re looking for jobs. Knowing that those [other students] work at such a high level of precision makes you realize you have to be that much better,” Goldberg says.

During the year, CCC&TI aviation students attend various FAA lectures and participate in extracurricular training sessions to further hone their skills. Last month, FAA representatives presented information on how to reduce accidents on airport runways, referred to as runway incursions. In addition students recently attended High Altitude Training at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina. The training helps aviators recognize the effects of oxygen deprivation, which occurs in high-altitude flight. This is the same training military special operation forces, such as Army Rangers and Navy SEALS, undergo. After 6/2 hours of classroom work and a half hour of orientation, the students spent an hour and half in an oxygen deprivation chamber, which recreates conditions at 25,000 feet (Asia’s Mount Everest tops out at 29,035 feet). Students had to remove their masks and then recognize the effects of oxygen deprivation, which is often a feeling of euphoria. “Oxygen deprivation can become debilitating because at some point, you don’t care,” says Tom Crouse, associate dean of industrial technologies at CCC&TI. Goldberg adds, “You get to a point where everything gets funny. They give you simple math problems to do and you can’t even do simple addition.” After that training, Goldberg says the training has made him more aware of his physical and mental state during his subsequent lower altitude flights.

Sullivan says that while the team’s regional win not only reflects CCC&TI’s aviation program’s success and evolution over the years, it helps strengthen the program as well. Good things are happening for the program because of her students’ efforts. For instance, the program will be offering night classes in January 2004, which Sullivan hopes will draw new students who traditionally couldn’t attend the program’s day classes. “The program is the students, and these students have helped strengthen the program,” she says.
Foundation Tributes

Dr. Harry and Mrs. Marischa Cooke
Dr. and Mrs. William Corpening
Ms. Adelaide Austell Craver
Dr. and Mrs. David Crosby
Ms. and Mrs. George Crowell, Jr.
Ms. Helen Crump
Mr. and Mrs. James Culberson
Mr. and Mrs. John Henson Dailey
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Dr. and Mrs. Tony Deal
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James and Dawn Sullivan
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Mr. and Mrs. Wesley W. Sturges
Ms. Linda K. Story
Mr. Everett Stiles of Macon Bank
Ms. Kay Stern
In Honor of Michelle Haas, Koinonia Activity Director, on the occasion of her success in school: Koinonia Residents Council
In Honor of Martha Hollar, Dean of Basic Skills Department, on the occasion of her July 29th birthday: Edie and Jim Hipp
Beverly and Steve Jaynes
Mr. and Mrs. Wanda Prince
Mr. and Mrs. Gary D. Prewitt
Dr. Dan Prasad
Mr. and Mrs. M. Lee Pennell
Ms. Cindy Parsons
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Patterson
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Pennell
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keith Orrell
Dr. and Mrs. Ron Kiziah
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Richard, to the occasion of his retirement:
Ms. Linda Lawson Turnmire
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mitchell
Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Moore, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Morton
Mr. Steve M. Mull
Mrs. Lorraine Mummet
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Mr. and Mrs. James C. Sullivan
James and Dawn Sullivan
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sullivan
Mr. and Mrs. James V. Tarlton, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Larry W. Taylor
In Honor of Mark Richard, on the occasion of his retirement:
Ms. Eloise Harren
In Honor of Gilma Roberts, on the occasion of her retirement:
Ms. Eloise Harren
In Memory of Margaret Lee Austin, sister of Jimmy Hemphill, to the Jimmy Hemphill Scholarship:
Dr. Gene and Mrs. Linda Carpenter
Dr. and Mrs. Tony R. Deal
Ms. Brenda Goble
Dr. and Mrs. Shirley Kiazish
Mark and Ann-Marie Richard
Ms. Linda Lawson Turnmire
Alice and James Whitman
In Memory of Robert Earl Beam, brother of Dr. Ed Beam, to the H. E. Beam Scholarship:
Dr. Gene and Mrs. Linda Carpenter
Ms. Brenda Goble
Alice and James Whitman
In Memory of Melinda Carlson, to the Dream Program:
Dr. Harry and Mrs. Marischa Cooke
In Memory of Pauline Deal, mother of Dr. Tony Deal:
Ms. Brenda Goble
Alice and James Whitman
In Memory of Margaret Ferguson, mother of Elaine Setzer, to the Dream Program Book Fund:
Mr. Timothy L. Andrews and Ms. Maggie White
In Memory of James Robert Goode, father of Robyn StClair, to the J. E. Broyhill Gateway Foundation:
Alice and James Whitman
In Memory of Samuel W. Orlando, Watauga Instructor, to the Samuel W. Orlando Memorial Scholarship Fund:
Andrew and Ann Elliott
Ms. June H. Orlando
In Memory of Mrs. Grace Scott, aunt of Inez Jones - CCC&TI Trustee:
Ms. Brenda Goble
In Memory of Elizabeth D. and William White, Sr., parents of Maggie, to the Dream Program Book Fund:
Mr. Timothy L. Andrews and Ms. Maggie White
During his eight-year tenure at CCC&TI alone, Boham has quickly moved the institution forward with his fresh approach and vision for the 21st Century. It is a job he takes seriously as evidenced by the phenomenal success of the college.

“Occasionally a leader comes along who has the ability to take ideas and turn them into magic, transforming the lives of those he serves,” wrote Caldwell County Public School Superintendent, Dr. Tom McNeel, who nominated Boham for the award.

“Dr. Boham’s visionary leadership, out-of-the-box thinking and ability to move a group to unified action have enabled him to create model programs that transcend traditional thinking and transform how Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute serves its community,” he added.

While CCC&TI is not the largest in the state system (it ranks 17th in enrollment and size), it is huge in accomplishments under Boham’s leadership. The college’s planning process has sparked state and international attention from China to the United Kingdom in recent years. Future Search Conferences in 1998 and 2002 gathered input from hundreds of statewide leaders who forecasted trends and anticipated changes in business, industry and education.

Results later became the driving force behind the college’s strategic plan, the Caldwell County Career Center and the future ASU Center.

Teaming up with McNeel, Boham was key in the development of the state’s first Career Center located on a community college campus in 1999. Organized by a task force of 100 business leaders and educators, the center offers specialized vocational training at the high school level by day and parallel community college programs in the evening. The concept and its success serve as a model for the nation.

Completing his vision of seamless education, Boham helped initiate another innovative and cooperative venture with Appalachian State University. The opening of the ASU Center on CCC&TI’s Caldwell Campus in 2006 will expand educational opportunities for local residents even further. While the center will focus primarily on teacher education, additional programming options are being explored. Support from the community has been huge. Likewise, the center has captured attention at the federal level as an answer to community need and one possible solution to the area’s projected teacher shortage.

Add to these innovative efforts, a steady enrollment increase over the past five years with a record number of nearly 3,800 curriculum students this past fall, the most in the institution’s history. Continuing education and basic skills students up that tally to more than 14,000 students that the college serves on average each year.

Under Boham’s leadership, CCC&TI is one of only four community colleges in the state to be awarded a superior rating by the NCCCS for the first two consecutive years of the state’s newly mandated performance measures. The rating is based on quality instruction, student and employer satisfaction. The growing number of students from outside the state is also a testament to the college’s quality instruction.

Selection criteria for the award was based on outstanding accomplishments in leading the institution in workforce education and economic development; commitment to expansion and improvement of services through technology and other innovations; excellent leadership of faculty and staff; effective advocacy at local and state levels; commitment to and effective use of partnerships; commitment to professional development; contributions of time and expertise to outside organizations; and innovation in program development which becomes a model for the community college system or meets a unique community need.

In addition to McNeel’s support, Boham’s nomination garnered recommendations from several other key leaders, including John Forlines, chairman and CEO of the Bank of Granite, Phil Kirk, president of North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry, State Superintendent Mike Ward, Paul Broyhill, chairman of the Broyhill Family Foundation, and CCC&TI’s founding president, Dr. Ed Beam.

Boham earned his bachelor’s degree in history and political science from East Carolina University prior to obtaining his master’s and doctorate from N.C. State. A member of the Lenoir Rotary Club and Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce, Boham is a recipient of the L.E. Ready Distinguished Graduate Award from N.C. State University. He and his wife Betty currently reside in Lenoir with their two children, Stephen and Chelsea.

“We honor today’s recipients who have always encouraged us to reach to the next level of excellence,” said N.C. Community College System President H. Martin Lancaster at Friday’s ceremony. “They have made a better community college system today because of the example they have set for us that will make us an even better system tomorrow.”
NCACCP’s policy committee, Boham also talks weekly and in person once or twice a month with the president and executive vice president of the Community College System to present problems and propose or provide input into State Board policies. Despite the sometimes hectic pace, Boham is pleased with the progress of the organization and is committed to the focus it has chosen.

The forum of the NCACCP provides support for the System to pull all the presidents together, so we’re not head-ed in 58 directions, said Boham. “My job is to make sure we meet and come together to reach a consensus. There are about four to five items we’ve developed to present to legislators in the upcoming short session in January.”

“We need to take a hard look at the System budget, especially regarding the funding formula and equipment allocations,” said Boham. “Most people don’t realize we receive separate funding for summer,” he added. “That disappears this year. We are also asked to justify equipment needs annually. That funding is not continued.”

Boham also noted that salaries within North Carolina’s community colleges rank near the bottom in the nation. “If we don’t do something, we’re going to be in trouble,” he said. “The NCACCP plans to ask the North Carolina Community College System to request a five-year salary plan. Even if its not fully funded, it would recognize the need and show were making progress,” said Boham.

The goal of the NCACCP is to foster the growth and development of the state’s community colleges. The association works in concert with the North Carolina Community College System and the state trustees association. Through the NCACCP, Boham is able to enhance the visibility of community colleges with the General Assembly. The opportunity to work one-on-one with state leaders increases the awareness of issues the System faces as it moves ahead.

“It was amazing to be on hand for President Bush’s address on North Carolina’s growing biotechnology industry at Forsyth Technical Community College last week,” said Boham. “The industry is the fourth largest in the nation, and we hope to tap into that at CCC&TI as a midpoint between the Asheville and Greensboro markets,” he commented.

The manufacturing of the vials, containers and supplies for the medical industry has proved to be among the most promising new ventures for North Carolina, piggybacking off the huge medical profession in the Research Triangle area.

Boham said he had the opportunity to talk with President Bush about the differences between community colleges in North Carolina and Texas. Bush is the first president he has met personally.

Boham talked about the direction of the Community College System. “Our mission hasn’t changed,” he said. “We have a local and community focus and remain committed to workforce development. When the economy is troubled, we see an influx of students, and when the economy is good, we see people putting work first. It speaks to our relevance in helping citizens gain skills for another job or a new job.”

CCC&TI has seen record enrollment growth, up as much as 15 percent higher each semester for the past five years, with enrollment at some state community colleges up as much as 40 percent.

Boham noted that the face of education is changing. “The students appear younger these days,” he said, with an average age of 29 among CCC&TI’s curriculum students. “The implementation of college transfer courses has been a major change in opening the door for access to education within community colleges over the last decade. Also, we are seeing a growing multi-cultural aspect of the basic skills population with English as a Second Language offerings soaring over the past few years.”

“We’re probably struggling harder than we used to with financial support,” said Boham. “But we’ve come a long way with our successes within the System and the NCACCP... We’re not seeing as much rivalry among urban versus rural schools, small campuses versus large. However, we will have to address funding for the growing number of multi-campuses, and our Watauga Campus is one of them. There is money allocated for this, but it has not grown, and more and more colleges are forced to tap into the same piece of pie.”

Joining Boham, this year’s officers for the NCACCP are: Vice President Kathryn Johnson of Nash Community College, Secretary Don Reighard of Johnston Community College, and Treasurer Gordon Burns of Wilkes Community College. Larry Norris of Fayetteville Technical Community College is the association’s immediate past president.