

"Promote or Perish: Marketing Strategies for Small Business"

December 17

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Mooreville Center, Room 205

College CLOSED for Winter Break
December 21 through January 5

Spring Semester Begins
January 8

College CLOSED for
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
January 20

For an expanded version of
Mitchell Columns, including
archived articles, please visit our
Web page:
[http://www.mitchell.cc.nc.us/
columns](http://www.mitchell.cc.nc.us/columns)

Mitchell Columns

The newsletter of Mitchell Community College

Happy Holidays

Beautiful Christmas Decorations

Thanks to the maintenance staff for the beautiful Christmas Decorations at all locations. The Christmas wreaths on the doors and the greenery on the historic Main Building really reflect the holiday traditions of Mitchell. All of our decorations are of natural materials. Please give the maintenance staff a pat on the back for their good work in helping Mitchell celebrate the season.

—Submitted by Douglas Eason (12.17.02)

Snow and Ice Storm

The snow and ice storm the first week of December caused a great deal of damage to trees and shrubs on the Mitchell campus. It has been remarkable how quickly our grounds crew has cleaned up the mess. Special thanks go to Mike Brown who worked on campus throughout the storm and aftermath to make sure that our buildings and HVAC equipment was protected from power surges as the power came back on. We are fortunate to have in Mike and the maintenance staff employees who really care about the appearance of the College and about providing a very positive place for student and faculty to work. —Submitted by Douglas Eason (12.17.02)

Memorial Service for Carrie Fensel

A memorial service for student Carrie Fensel was held at St. John's Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 14 at 4:00 p.m. The Rev. Tom Corbel officiated. Carrie was in her second year at Mitchell as an associate in arts major. She was killed in an automobile accident in West Virginia on November 30 coming back to Statesville from the Thanksgiving holiday after visiting family in

Ohio. She is survived by her mother and stepfather, Donna and William Tazelaar, who live at 904 Davie Avenue here in Statesville (Post Office Box 943). For any of you who had Carrie in your classes or who knew her, you might want to send a card of sympathy to her parents. Carrie's mother told me at the memorial service that Carrie loved Mitchell and didn't want to transfer next spring when she graduated. She went on to say that Mitchell was much more caring and nurturing of students than other community colleges she was familiar with. During this holiday season, please remember Carrie's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers. —Submitted by Douglas Eason (12.17.02)

MIND Center Workshops

The MIND Center held 20 workshops with over 200 participants this fall. This Student/Faculty/Staff Workshop Series is one of the extraordinary things about Mitchell. We have

Continued on pg. 2

This is the last issue of *Mitchell Columns* for 2002.

The next issue (if there are enough articles submitted) will be January 7, 2003

The Inspiring Corner: Inviting Learning

Studies have shown consistently that the single most important factor in the learning environment is the teacher. Haim Ginott expressed this well in *Teacher and Child*, 1976.

—Submitted by Employee Development

Full-Time Employee Birthdays December 17 through January 6

Kim Bentley	19th
Wilma Lambert	20th
Yolanda Wilson	21st
Velva Stevenson	23rd
Kathy Rasnick	26th
Heather Jett	28th
Vicki Wolf	28th
Paul Klaene	31st
Randall Willie	31st
Peggy Murdock	January 1st
Alphaeus Iruka	2nd
Gary Johnson	2nd
Donald Horne	3rd

such talent and enthusiasm among our faculty, staff, and students for providing avenues of improvement for everyone associated with the College as well as in the community. Among the folks leading sessions were: SGA president Michele Pasko, counselor Doug Rhoney, campus minister Lynne Lepley, math instructors Mike Perry and Phyllis Bailey, MIND Center Coordinator Dean Blackwelder, Spanish instructor Eduardo Garcia, developmental writing and reading instructor Yolanda Wilson, business instructor Dr. Gloria Rembert, Director of Developmental Studies and Humanities Roxanne Newton, Computer Lab Monitor Vernon Shoaf, English instructor Bim Staton, therapist Dr. Allen Romeo from the community, developmental reading and English instructor Kim Bentley, and oral communications instructor Rob Walsh. This is an extraordinary achievement for our MIND Center and for our College. Congratulations to one and all. —Submitted by Douglas Eason (12.17.02)

MCC Board of Trustees Meeting

The MCC Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, December 11, after postponing their regularly scheduled meeting from December 4 due to the snow and ice storm. Among the items covered at the meeting were the following:

- Voted to send a COPS Request for \$1 million to the Iredell County Board of Commissioners. Funds to be used for the construction of the Workforce Development/Technology Building.
- SGA Report—Michele Pasko, President
- College Council Report—Sherry Clarke, Chair
- MCCEE Report—Dr. Ralph Bentley
- Report on Mooresville Expansion Project—Gary Johnson



From the President's Desk . . .

At least for me, the Christmas season is filled with contradictions. In spirit, it is a time of peace, of light, of joy, of fulfillment, of food and family, of gifts—real and symbolic. And yet as we look around our world, we realize that peace among humankind is an ideal that we have a very difficult time achieving—even here within our College community.

Bombs, assassinations, hunger, death, destruction and hate fill the daily reports from around the world. Weapons of mass destruction seem to be the litany of the day. And even in our smaller world of family, friends and colleagues hard words and unforgiving acts can echo the ugliness of the world at large. I had the very sad experience of attending the memorial service for one of our students this past Saturday afternoon. This young woman was 21 years old, a second year student at Mitchell and beloved by her family. An automobile accident at the end of the Thanksgiving holiday took her life. The parents and family have suffered a bitter loss. They are seeking peace in their grief. The memorial service reminded all of us present—young and old—that life is precious and can be short. And life is a **GIFT**. I would hope that all of us at Mitchell would aspire to learn and to teach peace along with all the other things we impart to our students. As the song says, "Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me." Let me wish each of you a *peace filled* holiday.

- Report on National League of Nursing Accreditation and North Carolina Board of Nursing—Dr. Eason
 - Update on Financial Aid Program—Candace Cooper
 - Report on State Budget Reversions—Mr. Lefevre
 - MCC reverted \$173,999 on December 5
 - Other Costs (non-salary expenses) not funded for December
- Next Board meeting: 11 a.m., Saturday, February 1, 2003 —Submitted by Margaret McNeely (12.17.02)

For photos of the MCC employee holiday luncheon, visit **Mitchell Columns** online at <http://www.mitchell.cc.nc.us/columns/Holidayluncheon02.htm>

Cheery greetings,
Holiday ribbons,
Real mistletoe,
Ice and snow.
Santa is coming
Trumpets sounding.
Merry days
Almost here.
Shouts of joy!

Kids are all dressed up.
We are sharing
And making promises.
Now is a good day.
Zap! goes the match
And another candle glows.
All is well for we are together.

Happy faces
All the family is here.
Now is the time to light the candle.
Up goes the menorah
Kisses and hugs, and good food
Kids spin the dreidel
All is right!
Hearts are glad!