

Important Dates

Bloodmobile on Campus

February 18

9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Outside Montgomery Student Center

•
Faculty/Staff Assembly

February 19

12:15 p.m.

Rotary Auditorium

•
College-Wide Book Read

February 24

12:20 to 1:20 p.m.

"A Lesson Before Dying"

Shearer Hall

"Hunger of Memory"

MB-210

•
Pre-Retirement Seminar

February 24

3:30 to 6 p.m.

Yadkinville Elementary School

•
Soul Food Tasting

February 26

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Montgomery Student Center

•
"Poetic Expression"

February 26

12:20 to 1:20 p.m.

Shearer Hall

•
Front Porch Reflections

February 28

2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Shearer Hall

•
"How to Develop a Business Plan"

March 9

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

South Statesville Skills Center

•
Awards Day Ceremony

April 8

11 a.m.

Shearer Hall

The Inspiring Corner: Inviting Learning

Accessibility and visibility are essential elements for creating a professionally inviting environment. Participate in college activities and keep office hours that do not impose hardship on others. *Closed and Do Not Disturb* signs are disinviting.

—Submitted by Employee Development (02.17.04)

For an expanded version of
Mitchell Columns, including
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columns](http://www.mitchell.cc.nc.us/columns)

Mitchell Columns

The newsletter of Mitchell Community College

Faculty/Staff Assembly

There will be a faculty/staff assembly on Thursday, February 19, at 12:15 p.m. in Rotary Auditorium. All faculty and staff are required to attend. If you must be absent from the assembly, please notify your immediate supervisor. —Submitted by Sarah Davis (02.17.04)

NC Arts Council

The NC Arts Council is accepting applications for all of its grant programs, which include funding for visiting artists, various artistic programs, arts in the public schools, and capacity building grants. Amounts vary. Deadline for applying for most programs is March 1, 2004. Visit its Web site at www.ncarts.org for more information.

—Submitted by Douglas Eason (02.10.04)

Diversity Question of the Week

Q. What is rosemaling?

A. Rosemaling is Norwegian painting that means, "rose or flower painting."

—Submitted by Mamie Houston (02.17.04)

Bloodmobile on Campus

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be parked in front of the Montgomery Student Center on Wednesday, February 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sign-up appointment sheets are in the hallway outside VB-201. Stop by and sign up for an appointment soon. Sponsored by Circle K. Please announce to your students. —Submitted by Gail Elmore (02.03.04)

Awards Day 2004

Mark your calendars for the annual Awards Day celebration on Thursday, April 8. Students with outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements will be recognized at 11 a.m. in Shearer Hall. Faculty, staff, and club advisors are encouraged to make nominations of outstanding students.

The deadline for submissions is Thursday, March 25. Please contact Nikkole Davis-Amerson with questions at ext. 3288.

—Submitted by Nikkole Davis-Amerson (02.17.04)

Veterans Office Compliance Visit

Join me in recognizing Karen Krider, Veterans Coordinator, for continuing to do an excellent job certifying our veteran students. Albert Stanley with the North Carolina State Approving Agency completed a compliance audit in the Veterans Office and found no discrepancies and made no recommendations to change procedures. Please congratulate Karen for all her efforts on behalf of our veteran students! —Submitted by Candace Cooper (02.17.04)

"Poetic Expression" Rescheduled

The black poetry reading hour entitled "Poetic Expression" has been rescheduled for February 26 during community hour (12:20 to 1:20 p.m.) in Shearer Hall. So, after you have nourished your body with some soul food in the Student Center, you can nourish your mind and soul with some black poetry featuring the interpretive readings of Glynis Autery, Matt Cashion, Elizabeth Dennis, and a host of talented students, including the soulful voice of Tanesha Watts, former Apollo Night winner. We hope to see you there!

—Submitted by Annette Moore (02.17.04)

Spring Court Election Results are in!

Matthew Morrison was elected King and Christi Johnson was elected Queen. The following students were elected as Sophomore Court Attendants: Shannon Brown, Patrice Hamilton, Amanda Long, and W. Allen Stephenson. Freshman Court

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Full-Time Employee Birthdays February 18 through 24

Raul Crisan	18th
Ralph Soney	19th
Gloria Rembert	19th



From the President's Desk

Dealing with winter weather can be both frustrating and exhilarating. We've certainly had a good deal of opportunity to experience both emotions this winter. Trying to keep schedules going—whether for classes and work at Mitchell or for family needs at home—can certainly be challenging. The beauty of the huge snowflakes last Thursday morning was some compensation for the frustration of dealing with a delayed opening of school and of worrying about safety on the roads. And there is something exhilarating about the pristine beauty of the earth covered with a blanket of snow. We can see the world as though created anew and fresh and full of hope. Of course, the inconvenience and danger of snow and ice can take a lot of the fun out of it. One point to consider, however, is that we are getting a lot of moisture this winter. You may recall that only a short time ago we were suffering from a severe drought and water shortage here in Statesville. In fact, Mitchell was closed one day at the request of the city to conserve water. All this pretty, wet stuff can help replenish the ground water and make the spring bloom even more vigorously. Balancing the positives and negatives of the winter weather are perhaps a lesson with wider application. Most of the issues we face in our personal and work lives can be seen in a similar frame of reference. The challenge is balancing the opposing elements and often accepting the "facts of nature." I'm sure we would all make much better use of our time and energy if we found more effective ways to do so.

Attendants include: Rich Nguyen, Marianne Rogowski, Tiffany Walker, and Erin Waugh. Congratulations to all and thanks to everyone who participated in the elections! An important meeting of all Spring Court participants is scheduled for 12:20 p.m. on Thursday, February 19, 2004, in MB-110. Please make every effort to attend. Please contact Bonnie McCurry at 704.878.3281 if there are any questions or a need for additional information. —Submitted by Bonnie McCurry (02.17.04)

Front Porch Reflections

Saturday, February 28; 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Shearer Hall; MCC students—Free, MCC faculty/staff—\$5, all others—\$10. Written by

DID YOU KNOW?

The MCC Policy Manual

Policy #01-17: Records Retention

The Records Retention and Disposition Schedule lists various documents that Mitchell Community College is required to maintain and the schedule for retaining them. The schedule was developed in conjunction with the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. Please refer to such document for disposition instructions of all records subject to audit or those legally required for ongoing official proceedings. Public records including machine readable records not listed in the schedule are not authorized to be destroyed.

—Submitted by Jodee Fulton (02.17.04)

Faculty/Staff Profiles



Mark Niswonger (*Institutional Technology Coordinator*)

I was born in Camp Springs, Maryland on December 25, 1974. My father was in the Air Force so I was a "military brat" growing up. I've lived in so many places and attended so many schools, I really have no idea where home is. After graduating from high school, I joined the Air Force and served for five years.

I was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio Texas, Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, and Spangdahlem Air Force Base in Germany. I left the Air Force in July of 1998 and utilized my GI Bill to attain my associate degree in information technology here at Mitchell Community College. After graduation, I became a contractor for the town of Cornelius, Cornelius F.D., Cornelius P.D., and the Carolina Medical Center working as an IT technician. I would not be where I am today if it were not for my mother, sister, and girlfriend Julie. They have supported and motivated me to accomplish all my goals in life. I'm truly grateful for Mitchell Community College hiring me as the IT Coordinator—I will give 110% to meet the technical needs of everyone here.

Statesville native, T'Afo Feimster, this production chronicles the life of a rural, North Carolinian African-American family through the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's. For Feimster, the front porch he knew as a child was a place of refuge, recreation and education, as well as a place for gossiping. Feimster chose the front porch as the setting for this play since this is where most of family life happened in rural America.

—Submitted by Kirby Moore (02.17.04)

DID YOU KNOW?

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEPARTMENT

Early Childhood students from Mitchell will be reading a Dr. Seuss book every 15 minutes at the Mooresville Library from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday March 2. Come celebrate Dr. Seuss and his 100th birthday! He wrote 44 books which are still published today. His first book was published in 1937 and in 1990 his last book was published. He sold over 500 million copies. To help celebrate 100 years of Dr. Seuss, a commemorative stamp will be issued on March 2. Be sure to come to the Mooresville Library with your children and family and hear Dr. Seuss books being read by MCC students. —Submitted by Dede

Dunst (02.17.04)

Deadline for article submissions to *Mitchell Columns* is every Tuesday at 9 a.m.
Send articles to Judy Phillips (jphillips@mitchell.cc.nc.us)