

Important Dates

- Electronics Day
(Iredell County Recycling Day)
March 6
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Iredell County Solid Waste/Recycling Facility
-
- Womanweb Conference
March 6
8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Continuing Education Center Auditorium
-
- MCC Band Concert
March 8
7:30 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

Thinking critically requires “open mindedness.” Dichotomous reasoning, thinking that everything is either black or white, prevents critical thought. In an all-or-nothing universe there is no middle ground. Anything less than perfect is flawed. People are either with me or against me. You may be living in this polar world if you think in terms of “never-always,” “everybody-nobody,” winners-losers,” “all-nothing,” “victory-defeat,” or “success-failure.” (Ways to combat this unproductive way of thinking will be covered during the month of March.)

—Submitted by Employee Development
(03.02.04)

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Mitchell Columns, including
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Web page:
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columns](http://www.mitchell.cc.nc.us/columns)

Mitchell Columns

The newsletter of Mitchell Community College

MCC Band Concert

The Mitchell Community College Band, directed by Jim Calabrese, will be in concert on Monday, March 8, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. in Shearer Hall. There is no charge for admission. Telephone 704.878.4321 for more information. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (02.24.04)

Repoussé Art Exhibit

The Art Department will be hosting an Art Exhibit featuring work by Rachel Compton and Carmen Carbajal on March 4, the show will end March 26. This is a unique exhibit of original metal repoussé art. Ms. Carbajal and Ms. Compton will talk and give a demonstration on Friday, March 5, from 12 noon until 2 p.m. The reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 4, 2004. Please come and join us at the Mitchell Community College Art Department, Wallace House, 420 Walnut Street, Statesville. For more information contact Don Moore or Leretta Parker at 704.878.3310. —Submitted by Leretta Parker (03.02.04)

Diversity Question of the Week

Q. Who were “code talkers”?

A. Navajo soldiers during World War II who developed and provided the only code that was never broken by the Japanese.

—Submitted by Mamie Houston (03.02.04)

Phi Beta Lambda Meeting

Phi Beta Lambda would like to welcome everyone back for another semester. We will be having a brief meeting on March 2, in VB-102 from 12:20 to 1:20 p.m. Come and have some fun, as we get ready to head to Raleigh for State Leadership Conference. This year is NCPBL's 50th anniversary and the theme this year is “Celebrating Leadership.” Our first hamburger and hot dog sale will be on Thursday, March 4, in front of the Montgomery Student Center from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and enjoy some good cooking. We would like to say congratulations to Dave and Jewelye Birkhofer on their new baby boy! Happy Birthday David Jr.! —Submitted by Cristy Hull, PBL President

Memorials and Honor Gifts to the MCCEE

Memorials and honor gifts given to the Mitchell Community College Endowment for Excellence by current and retired MCC employees, trustees, and/or MCCEE directors (February 1, 2004 through February 29, 2004):

- Ralph C. Brown—memorial for Mrs. Eva Troutman
- Sarah Davis—memorial for Mrs. Eva Troutman
- Douglas O. Eason—memorials for Mrs. Eva Troutman and Mr. James Poston
- William C. Findt—memorial for Mrs. Eva Troutman
- Pamela P. Stamey—memorial for Mrs. Eva Troutman
- Linda M. Stikeleather—memorials for Mrs. Eva Troutman and Mr. Carlton Wilkerson
- Lee Jan Waddell—in honor of Mrs. Sandy Cockerham and Ms. Kristen Abernethy
- Edward J. Wagner—memorials for Lt. Cdr. William R. Lawrence, USN (Ret.) and Mr. Mario Echazabal
- Betsy G. Yarborough—memorial for Mrs. Nancy Stanley and Mrs. Eva Troutman

—Submitted by Mary Johnson (03.02.04)

Womanweb Conference

The 2004 Womanweb Conference will be held on Saturday, March 6, from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon in the Continuing Education Center auditorium. The theme for the conference is “Finding Our Voices: Weaving Together Women’s Empowerment through Stories and Storytelling.” Sessions include “Women Weaving Communities through Stories” by Jaki Shelton Green, noted poet and winner of the 2003 NC Award for Literature; “Gathering Our Grandmothers’ Wisdom” by Kathryn Lucci-Cooper, author, artist, and diversity award winner; “Trials by Fire: Working in a ‘Man’s’ World” by Sharon Rouse, coordinator of the MCC Machining Technology program; and “Beneath a Balanced Rock: Hardscrabble Widows Search for

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Full-Time Employee Birthdays

Happy Belated Birthday

Theresa Spencer February 24

March 3 through 9

Carolyn Turner 3rd
Kirsty Schenkel 3rd
Phyllis Bailey 9th
Wanda Corriher 9th



From the President's Desk

By now I would assume that everyone would agree that these various "snow events"—as one of the Charlotte TV announcers describes them—have knocked a significant hole in our Spring Semester. Before last Thursday, I think most of us had all assumed that spring was on its way. I had noticed my first crocus blooming on February 11 and the green quills of jonquils are up wherever you look. I knew spring fever was running pretty high the other day when I saw a woman walking a dog on a leash and pushing another one in a baby carriage down Davie Avenue. Who would have thought we would have a real snow measured in inches, for goodness sake, after the high hopes of the sunny days of early February? I should have known this would be a winter for the record books when I bought a snow shovel, a strange item this southerner had never owned before in his life. The big metal scoop made an awful noise against my concrete driveway this past Friday when I tried to dig my way out of our backdoor. What a rude awakening after the total silence of a world in white fluff. Well, life is like that; it is often filled with inconvenience and even hardship while revealing great beauty. My yellow and white and purple crocus are still blooming even though the hillside they inhabit is muddy and wet.



Justice" by Rebecca Montoya Bragdon, a doctoral candidate at UNC Greensboro. Admission is free, and the public is invited. The conference is co-sponsored by the Statesville Branch of the American Association of University Women and is supported by a grant from the NC Humanities Council. For more information, or to register, contact Roxanne Newton at x4319. —Submitted by Roxanne Newton (02.24.04)

Electronics Day 2004—Iredell County Recycling Day

Saturday, March 6, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Iredell County Solid Waste/Recycling Facility, 354 Twin Oaks Road, Statesville. For more information call 704.878.5430 or 704.928.2023. Why should we recycle electronics? Recycling yields the following benefits: a cleaner environment, Giving computers and electronic equipment to schools, senior citizens and non-profit organizations and low-income families. Provides computer equipment training and is a tax benefit to donors. Electronic products are made of valuable resources. We do not need to waste our resources. There are precious metals, engineered plastics, glass and other materials that all take energy to manufacture. Many electronics also contain parts that could be profitably refurbished and reused with little effort. When we throw away old electronics we are throwing away resources and generating additional pollution associated with accessing virgin materials for manufacturing new products. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (02.24.04)

How to Develop a Business Plan

The Small Business Center will be sponsoring a seminar entitled "How to Develop a Business Plan" on Tuesday, March 9, 2004. This seminar will meet from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. at the South Statesville Skills Center, 1415 Shelton Avenue, Statesville. Business planning is a prerequisite for success! Business plans are a requirement to get a business loan and are recommended for all businesses. This seminar will show you how to write a concise yet complete plan for your business. The information to be covered will include: a business plan outline; a model business plan from a retail business; and a worksheet for generating financial information and cash flow

Faculty/Staff Profiles



Cabanna Pierce (Administrative Assistant, Occupational Extension & Community Service Departments)

Mitchell has been my second home since spring quarter of 1995 when I enrolled on the Main Campus as a displaced worker. I began working at the Continuing Education Center in February 1996 part time as the afternoon receptionist. After many courses and some wonderful instructors, I graduated in June 1997 with high honors and an AAS in Administrative Office Technology and an Accounting Certificate. On June 1, 1998, I began my full-time employment with Mitchell as the Occupational Extension Secretary & Data Specialist. The job title has changed a little; however, the mission remains the same: helping students, instructors, and coworkers. My husband of nine years and counting, Allen, and I recently moved closer to Statesville. We have a spoiled Basset Hound/Beagle mix named Cookie who thinks she's human. I enjoy cooking and am looking forward to trying my hand at gardening/landscaping.

projections. The presenter is Mr. Philip Moore, Senior Vice President of Business Banking with Wachovia Bank in Hickory, NC. Please call Mike Tucker at 704-878-3220 to pre-register or for additional information. (This seminar was rescheduled from January 27 due to inclement weather). —Submitted by Donna Worrell (03.02.04)

DID YOU KNOW?

The MCC Policy Manual Policy #06-01: Inclement Weather

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures to be followed in case inclement weather necessitates canceling classes (Plan A) or the closing of the College (Plan B). When inclement weather or other unforeseeable emergencies arise that necessitate the closing of the College, students and employees should consult the designated news sources including but not limited to TV and radio stations and the College Web site, <http://www.mitchell.cc.nc.us>, as to the official status of College activities. If these sources do not list the College as "closed" or as having a "delayed opening," the College is open for regular business hours. On occasion, bad weather occurs during the day after you have arrived at work. Depending upon the circumstances, you may be directed to a place of safety within the building or you may be told to leave. An announcement will be made regarding cancellation of any classes due to inclement weather by 6 a.m. In the event that it is necessary to cancel evening classes, a decision will be announced by 3 p.m. on the day in question.

—Submitted by Jodee Fulton (03.02.04)

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