

Mitchell Columns

The Newsletter of Mitchell Community College

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

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500 West Broad Street • Statesville, NC 28677

704.878.3200 • <http://www.mitchellcc.edu/columns/>

Submit articles by every Tuesday at 9 a.m. to jphillips@mitchellcc.edu

Note from Dr. Tim Brewer's Father

Dear Dr. Eason and Friends: Thank you for the beautiful flowers. They are a reminder that life renews itself and better days are ahead. The surgery was successful and recovery seems to be on schedule. Again my thanks to you and many others for thinking of me at this time. Sincerely, Luther G. Brewer

MCC Chorus Concert

You are invited to the Mitchell Community College Chorus Spring concert on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. in Shearer Hall. The chorus is directed by Dan Pardue and is accompanied by Jane Pardue. There is no charge for this event and it is open to the public. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (04.18.07)

MCC Band Concert

You are invited to the Mitchell Community College Band Spring concert on Thursday, April 26 at 7:30 p.m. in Shearer Hall. The band is under the direction of Pam Helms. This program will also feature the Five 'Til Five Brass Quintet and the Mitchell Community College Jazz Band. There is no charge for this event and it is open to the public. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (04.18.07)

Night of the Stars

On April 27, at 6 p.m. in Shearer Hall, Phi Theta Kappa will host "Night of the Stars" talent competition. Several amateur acts will vie for prizes as they proudly display their musical and artistic talents, which include solo, instrumental music, dance and poetry. This show promises to be a night of entertainment you will not want to miss. Proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society. For ticket information, contact Annette Moore at 704.878.4340. —Submitted by Annette Moore (04.18.07)

Full-Time Employee Birthdays

April 19 through 25

Doug Knight 21st
Nikkole Davis 24th
Mary Wall 24th

MCCEE 5K Run/Walk for Excellence

The Mitchell Community College 5K Run/Walk and Fun Run for Children, benefitting the Mitchell Community College Endowment for Excellence, will be held on Saturday, May 5, on the Main Campus. The 5K Run/Walk begins at 9 a.m. and the Fun Run for Children at 9:30 a.m. Entry fees are \$15 with t-shirt and \$12 without (if postmarked by April 27) and \$20 with t-shirt and \$15 without on race day. For more information or to obtain a registration form, please call the college Development Office at 704.878.4321. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (04.18.07)

MCC Employee Lunch and Auction

It's that time again for the MCCEE Auction on Thursday, May 17, at 12 noon in the small gym. A lunch will be provided and College Council will host a sundae bar with all the toppings. An auction of donated items to the Endowment for Excellence will follow. Do your spring-cleaning early and please give items to Mitchell that would be suitable to auction. You may bring items to the Development Office or call 704.878.4321 to make arrangements to have your donation picked up if it is too large to bring. We look forward to seeing you there. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (04.18.07)

Building Community Through Writing & Art

A program entitled "Building Community through Writing and Art" will be presented by Ms. Jaki Shelton Green on Tuesday, April 24, at 12:20 p.m. in Rotary Auditorium. Ms. Green will explore and celebrate the shapes, colors, and musicality of stories—often unspoken—that serve as symbols and myths for communities. Ms. Green is the author of the poetry collections, *Conjure Blues, Mask, and Dead on Arrival and New Poems*. She teaches creative writing to marginalized populations such as the homeless, the newly literate, the incarcerated and the writer-as-survivor. In 2003 Ms. Green received the prestigious North Carolina Award in Literature and is recognized as one of North Carolina's outstanding authors.

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Tim Peeler Poetry Reading

April 19

12:20 p.m.

Rotary Auditorium

•
Phi Theta Kappa Spring
Induction Ceremony

April 26

12:20 p.m.

Shearer Hall

•
MCC Research Fair

May 2

9 to 11 a.m.

Old Gym

•
Student Graduation Pick-Up

May 3

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

4:30 to 7 p.m.

Montgomery Student Center

•
Book Buy-Backs

May 3, 7, 8 & 9

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

4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

May 4

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

(no evening hours)

Montgomery Student Center

•
5K Run/Walk for Excellence

May 5

9 a.m.

Main Campus

The Inspiring Corner: Inviting Learning

THE NEW GENERATION OF LEARNERS

The concept of loyalty is also different among generational groups. Traditionalists have affixed loyalty to the company/school and until recently expected that loyalty to be returned. X'ers and Millennials assign loyalty to individuals. If younger people don't "like" the boss/teacher they move on. Older generations don't expect to like those in authority; if they do it is a bonus. They were and are committed to the task and the benefits it ultimately awards them. Quitting because someone is not liked was and is not an option for this group; but for the younger generations it is the primary reason for leaving a job/school and sometimes for dropping an individual course. The challenge is not to become "friends" with workers/students; but rather to develop a mentoring, role-modeling, respectful two-way relationship where lines of authority are clear. —Submitted by Employee Development (04.18.07)

Sponsored in part by a grant from the NC Humanities Council. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (04.18.07)

Wage and Hour Laws

The Small Business Center and the Greater Statesville Chamber of Commerce are co-sponsoring a seminar entitled “Wage and Hour Laws” on Tuesday, April 24, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in WFD-205. Find out what is required by the NC Department of Labor and the US Department of Labor. Learn about minimum wage laws, record keeping requirements, overtime compensation, exemptions and more. Presenters are Ms. Larissa Murdock (NC Department of Labor) and Mr. John Blaine (US Department of Labor.) Cost is \$15, which includes lunch. Call the Greater Statesville Chamber of Commerce at 704.873.2892 to register or register online at <http://www.gostatesville.com>.

—Submitted by Donna Worrell (04.18.07)

Seven Secrets of Successful Selling for the Sales Superstar

The Small Business Center and the Greater Statesville Chamber of Commerce are co-sponsoring a seminar entitled “Seven Secrets of Successful Selling for the Sales Superstar” on Tuesday, May 1, from 12 to 3 p.m. in WFD-205. The seminar discusses the elements of successful selling, characteristics of the good salesperson, importance of knowing the product or service, researching the competition, understanding the customer and measuring success. Also discussed: positioning, customer service, word-of-mouth marketing, publicity, networking, telephone techniques that get results and closing the sale. The presenter is Ms. Denise Ryan, MBA, FireStar, Inc. The cost for this seminar is \$15, which includes lunch. Call the Greater Statesville Chamber of Commerce at 704.873.2892 to register or register online at <http://www.gostatesville.com>.

—Submitted by Donna Worrell (04.18.07)

Poetry Reading

There will be a poetry reading by Tim Peeler on Thursday, April 19, at 12:20 p.m. in Rotary Auditorium. Mr. Peeler has published two baseball poetry books entitled *Touching All the Bases*, which was a finalist for the 2000 Casey Award for best baseball book, and *Waiting for Godot's First Pitch*. He has written two local baseball history books: *Baseball in Catawba County* with Brian

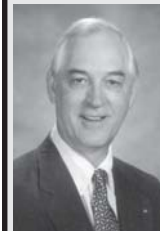
McLawhorn and *Outlaw Ballplayer* with Hank Utley. *Blood River: New and Collected Poems* is a compilation of his poetry from 1983 to 2005. His latest book of poems, *Fresh Horses*, will be released in 2007. A native of western North Carolina, Mr. Peeler is the director of the Learning Assistance Program at Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory. —Submitted by Vicki Holland (04.11.07)

Memorials And Honor Gifts to the MCC Endowment for Excellence

Memorials and honor gifts totaling \$640 given to the MCC Endowment for Excellence by current and retired MCC employees, trustees and MCC Endowment directors during the months of February and March:

- Sarah Davis—in honor of Dr. Douglas Eason
- Douglas Eason—memorials for Mr. Cordell Sturghill; Mr. Grady C. Shoe; and Mrs. Margaret Gray Ford
- William Findt—memorials for Mrs. Dot Nance and Mrs. Margaret Gray Ford
- Carolyn Gray—memorials for Ms. Ann E. Hass; Mr. James Walter Willie, Jr.;
- Mr. Cordell Sturghill; and Mr. Charles Edward Adams, Sr.
- Stephen Herman—memorials for Mr. Cordell Sturghill and Mrs. Margaret Gray Ford; in honor of Mr. Rex Klett, the MCC Music Department; and Mr. Duffy Herman on his 98th birthday celebration
- Gary Johnson—in honor of Ms. Marcella James and Mr. Terry Braddock
- John M. Karriker—in honor of Mrs. Judy Erickson, Mrs. Karen Krider and Mrs. Phyllis Mayberry
- Pamela P. Stamey—memorials for Mr. Donald Horne and Mr. Cordell Sturghill
- Linda M. Stikeleather—memorials for Mr. A. G. Campbell; Mr. Paul C. McCampbell and Mrs. Norma Reimann
- Lillie B. Van Hoy—memorial for Mr. J. Pierce Van Hoy
- Hazel G. Waugh—memorials for Mrs. Beryl Haynes and Mrs. Shirley Harmon
- Betsy Yarborough—memorials for Mrs. Melba Barker and Mr. Charles Dockery

—Submitted by Mary Johnson (04.18.07)



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The news media are filled with all sorts of negative stories on a daily basis but no media folks were interested last week when

the state-wide Minority Male Mentoring Conference was held in Durham with 700 persons attending, the vast majority of whom were college-aged African-American males. It was an awesome experience to see a very large hotel ballroom filled with young black men who are moving forward with their lives and their careers. This was the second year for this conference which focuses on programs that encourage young men to complete college and to help other minority males achieve their dreams as well. Excellent speakers didn't just motivate the attendees; they also challenged them to help find solutions to the issues that minority males and young males in general face. Two Mitchell folks—Manuel Dudley and Randall Willie—were members of the planning committee for the conference both last year and this year. We can all be proud of their contribution to this significant effort to address the needs of minority males not only at Mitchell but across our state. I was honored and humbled to receive an award at the conference in recognition of my “leadership and outstanding contribution to the North Carolina Community College System Minority Male Mentoring Program.” As many of you know, Mitchell has been involved in a minority male mentoring program—along with several other mentoring programs—for several years. We have or have had programs for nursing, biology, teacher training with the recent “Think College” program for high school juniors and seniors as an example of this broad-based effort. All of these creative initiatives support our institutional objective of increasing the participation of males in the college experience at Mitchell. As long as there are more African-American males in prison than there are in college, we must continue to seek ways to encourage minority males to achieve academically and we must help all young males realize that education—especially post-secondary educational achievement—is an essential ingredient to social and economic success in 21st century America.

See photos of the **2007 Awards Ceremony** at <http://www.mitchellcc.edu/columns/Awards07.htm> and the **2007 Spring Court Ceremony** at <http://www.mitchellcc.edu/columns/Spring Court 07.htm>