

Mitchell Columns

The Newsletter of Mitchell Community College

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

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704.878.3200 • www.mitchellcc.edu/columns

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

Heart Health Week

The Wellness Committee would like to thank everyone for their support of Heart Health Week. We raised \$60 from our bake sale that will go directly to the American Heart Association. The next health screenings will be:

- February 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mooresville
- March 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Workforce Development Center
- March 22, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mooresville
- March 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Workforce Development Center
- April 4, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mooresville

Health Screenings are open to all Mitchell students, staff and faculty. —Submitted by Anita McGill (02.08.12)



Mitchell supports heart health

Phi Theta Kappa Now Accepting Early College Students

We are glad to announce that Phi Theta Kappa is now accepting Early College students. Early College students qualify if they have a 3.5 cumulative GPA AND 12 hours of course work completed. Eligible students should be receiving an email invite soon. These were sent out last week, so please advise students to check their MCC Google email account. Email arshinn@mitchellccmail.com or jjlip-pel@mitchellccmail.com with any questions or comments. —Submitted by Amanda Patterson (02.08.12)

Full-Time Employee Birthdays February 9 through 15

Jeff Benfield.....	Feb. 10
Chris Yockey.....	Feb. 10
Marc Davis.....	Feb. 11
David Drum.....	Feb. 12
Samantha Brown.....	Feb. 13
Joshua Young.....	Feb. 13
Amy Naylor.....	Feb. 14

Save the Date



Saturday, April 14 • Noon to 4 p.m. • Main Campus

Spring Writers Series: Anjail Rashida Ahmad

Dr. Anjail Rashida Ahmad will be the featured speaker for the Spring Writers Series on Thursday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m. in Rotary Auditorium. Award-winning poet and Director of the Creative Writing Program at NC A&T State University, Anjail Rashida Ahmad delivers moving and transformative readings. Her personable and heart-centered style encourages participants to find their own authentic poetic voices. As a blind poet, Dr. Ahmad supports participants in “seeing” themselves within the stream of history. She believes in the power of one’s own story and its catalytic ability to transform our lives. Dr. Ahmad is published widely in journals such as *Square Washington*, *The American*, and *The Black Scholar*. She has authored two collections of poetry, the color of memory and necessary kindling. —Submitted by Roxanne Newton (02.08.12)



February Small Business Center Offerings

Call today for seat availability as each class and seminar has a limited number of spaces.

Computer Classes (held in WFD-104)

- **QuickBooks 2010: Business Bookkeeping**
Thursday, February 16, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$65 plus book
- **Excel 2010**
Tuesday, February 21, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$65 plus book

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Phi Beat Open Mic

February 9

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Mooresville Center Auditorium

Inspirational Choir Concert

February 12

4 p.m.

Shearer Hall

Spring Writers Series: Dr. Anjail

Rashida Ahmad

February 23

7:30 p.m.

Rotary Auditorium

Microsoft Excel 2010 Class

2nd Class

February 27

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WFD-104

Spring Writers Series: Brenda Flanagan

March 1

7:30 p.m.

Contextual Teaching & Learning

CTL

HUM 120: Race in America

This week’s featured CTL project is a variant of HUM 120 entitled “Race in America.” Taught by Rita Taggart and Roxanne Newton, the course utilizes the arts and humanities to help students understand the cultural, social, economic, political, and personal aspects of race in the following cultures: African-American, Asian-American, Latino/a-American, Native-American, and European-American. “Race in America” is based entirely on CTL principles, incorporating meaningful projects that extend the students’ learning beyond the classroom: a collaborative multimedia project; a research paper on a race-related work of popular culture; field trips to museums, festivals, universities, and theatre productions; personal experience papers; and individual assessments, such as the “Talk Back Box” for weekly anonymous feedback. Surveys indicate that most students believe they will use information from Race in America in their personal lives and careers, and that they would enjoy taking more courses like this one. —Submitted by Todd Martin (02.08.12)

FOCUS Diversity



The Origins of Black History Month

What we now call Black History Month originated in 1926, founded by Carter G. Woodson as Negro History Week. The month of February was selected in deference to Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln who were both born in that month. Carter G. Woodson was born in New Canton, Virginia, on December 19, 1875, and was the son of a slave. He began high school at the age of 20 and then proceeded to study at Berea College, the University of Chicago, the Sorbonne, and Harvard University, where he earned a PH.D in 1912. He founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915 to train black historians and to collect, preserve, and publish documents on black life and black people. He also founded the *Journal of Negro History* (1916), *Associated Publishers* (1922), and the *Negro Bulletin* (1937). Woodson spent his life working to educate all people about the vast contributions made by black men and women throughout history. Mr. Woodson died on April 3, 1950 and Black History Month is his legacy. Source: inventorsabout.com/od/blackinventors/a/BlackHistory-Month.htm —Submitted by Diversity Task Force (02.08.12)

Small Business Seminars

- **Taxes for Your Small Business**
Thursday, February 16, 6-9 p.m., WFD-205
- **Marketing Your Small Business Using Social Media**
Thursday, February 23, 9 a.m. - noon, WFD-108
- **BASICS of Marketing Your Small Business**
Tuesday, February 28, 6-9 p.m., WFD-108

There is no cost to attend the above Small Business Seminars, however you will need to reserve your seat. For more information, contact Suzanne Wallace, Director, Small Business Center, (704) 878-3227, swallace2@mitchellcc.edu or Donna Worrell, Administrative Assistant, (704) 878-3226, dworrell@mitchellcc.edu. —Submitted by Donna Worrell (02.08.12)

2012 Business Plan Competition

Statistics show that most new businesses fail due to a lack of business planning. This competition provides training and educational opportunities to participants at no cost. If you have interest in starting a business in 2012, our Business Plan Workshop series begins on Thursday, March 8. Take the first step to make your dream a reality! For more information contact Suzanne Wallace at (704) 878-3227 or swallace2@mitchellcc.edu if you have any questions. —Submitted by Donna Worrell (01.25.12)

Diverse Expressions Club Coffeehouse/Open Mic Calendar—Spring 2012

- **Thursday, February 9**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Mooresville Center Auditorium
- **Thursday, March 8**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Iredell Arts Council, South Meeting Street, Downtown Statesville
- **Thursday, April 5**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sabine's News Cafe, Downtown Statesville
- **Saturday, April 14**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., *Melody Meets Lyrics: A Collaborative Workshop for Poets and Musicians*, facilitated by Karla Causey, Mitchell Community College, SSC-202. Cost: \$5.00. This workshop is limited to 16 (eight musicians and eight poets). Musicians must provide their own instruments (acoustic instruments only).

For more information about Diverse Expressions events, call Tony Ricciardelli at (704) 878-4286. —Submitted by Roxanne Newton (01.11.12)

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DEADLINE
Every Tuesday @ 9 a.m.

From the President's Desk



I regret that we did not plan a celebration for Charles Dickens' 200th birthday this week. His birthday was on Tuesday, February 7. We could have had

a birthday cake shaped like a book perhaps, or a day-long reading of one of his novels, or some other literary inspired event. Of all the novelists I have read, Charles Dickens is the one that is certainly most universally loved around the world. As for me, he is one of the few fiction writers whose books I have read more than once and enjoyed the second and even third time more than the first. I know I have read *David Copperfield* at least three times and look forward to reading it again in the future. If you have not

read a Dickens novel you certainly should in honor of his birthday. His novels are as



relevant to today's social and political environment as they were in his own 19th century Victorian era. *Great Expectations*, *Hard Times*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Pickwick Papers*, *Bleak House*—each and every one provides an exciting story filled with vivid characters who are real people with real problems. And this does not take into account the fact that Dickens is a masterful writer who knows how to tell a good story in simple but elegant prose. One of the things I look forward to in my retirement is the opportunity to spend the morning reading or rereading a Dickens novel with a pot of hot tea at hand. Happy Birthday, Charles!