

# Connection

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## Al Young Named to Tri-County's Commission

J. Allard (Al) Young, of Honea Path, has been appointed to the College's Commission, the nine-member governing board of the College.

Governor Nikki R. Haley appointed Mr. Young to the Commission, effective in February. He takes the seat occupied by the late Rosemary Lindley, of Anderson. His term expires April 2013.

"Education is critical in providing quality growth and a way of life in our county. The technical education system is a key component in this process," said Mr. Young, who is a member of the first graduating class of Florence Darlington Technical College (1966). "Beginning my education at a community college was a good first step for me, as it is for many citizens in our area. It grounded me and prepared me for future educational opportunities," he said.

Mr. Young is president and CEO of The Commercial Bank in Honea Path, a position he has held since 1996. Prior to that, he was Senior Vice President of BB&T in Belton for 12 years and served as President of Latta Bank and Trust Company from 1977-84. He began his career in banking with First Citizens Bank and Trust in Dillon, SC, as a management trainee and was promoted to Vice President.

In 2010, Mr. Young was elected President of the Independent Banks of South Carolina at the organization's annual convention.

A native of Florence, he studied Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Technology at Florence Darlington Technical College and later graduated from the University of Alabama where he earned a bachelor of science degree in Administrative Sciences. He also is a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University, the National Commercial Lending Graduate School at the University of Oklahoma, the Graduate School of Bank Investments at the University of Oklahoma, and the South Carolina Bankers School at the University of South Carolina. In addition, Mr. Young served six years in the U.S. Army Reserves.

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Al Young

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Career Fair .....April 6  
Early Childhood Conference ..... April 16  
Student Awards Ceremony ..... April 19  
Spring Open ..... April 29  
Spring Faculty/Staff  
Convocation ..... May 3  
Spring Commencement ..... May 10  
Tri-County Road Race..... May 21

Check the College Activities Calendar in  
eTC for additional activities and events.

## Connection

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### Mailing Address

P. O. Box 587, Pendleton, SC 29670

### Pendleton Campus

7900 Highway 76, Pendleton, SC

### Anderson Campus

511 Michelin Blvd., Anderson, SC

### Easley Campus

1774 Powdersville Rd., Easley, SC

### Oconee Campus

Hamilton Career Center

100 Vocational Dr., Seneca, SC

Main Number: (864) 646-8361

Toll-free (864 area code): 1-866-269-5677

TDD/Voice: 1-800-735-2905

Website: [www.tctc.edu](http://www.tctc.edu)



Tri-County Technical College does not discriminate  
in admission or employment on the basis of race,  
color, religion, sex, qualifying disability, veteran's  
status, or national origin.

## Connecting



**Ronnie L. Booth**  
President

After much hard work and creative, insightful  
feedback from unit and department heads, we  
have completed our FY 2012-14 Three-Year

College Strategic Plan. Each division now is holding meetings to discuss the plan, and  
department heads, supervisors, and others are using the new plan to inform their FY12  
budgets and EPMS/FPMS planning stages.

Many of you will recall last year when we developed a Ten-Year Vision and our first Three-  
Year College Strategic Plan for 2011-13. This new plan is an update of the original three-year  
plan and moves us one step closer to achieving our vision. This whole process is about  
focusing our efforts on student success, a theme that resonates throughout the plan.

"The plan addresses student success from all angles, including things we  
need to start doing, stop doing, and improve upon."

- Dr. Ronnie Booth

One of our priorities is to identify roadblocks to student success and tackle them one  
at a time. For example, throughout our nearly 50-year history, our focus on accessibility has  
translated into practices that may undermine the ability of our students to be successful.  
Until last year we allowed new students to apply and enroll in classes through the end of  
the drop/add period. Yet, when we examine the data, we see that students who enroll last  
are most likely to withdraw or perform poorly. This tells us that hasty, last-minute decisions  
to enroll often result in failure. We now have earlier enrollment deadlines in place and  
are making a concerted effort to communicate all critical dates and deadlines more  
proactively. While we still remain accessible, our strategic focus has shifted from access to  
success, and we believe students will be better served.

In the coming year, we will look at other areas where students have experienced  
problems and take action to help improve their probability for success. One is online  
courses. Our plan is to establish minimum criteria for enrollment in online courses, as well  
as a student readiness assessment. We'll also take steps to ensure that faculty have the  
technical knowledge and skills needed to successfully teach in an online environment.

We also are committed to doing more of what we do well, such as our Learning  
Excellence Initiative (LEI). Our new Title III grant (LC<sup>2</sup>) will take the successes of LEI and  
institutionalize and expand the program so all students have the opportunity to be part of  
a learning community. LC<sup>2</sup> also will enable us to identify "at-risk" factors before students  
start their classes and implement an Academic Support Network in a virtual environment.

In addition, our plan focuses on new opportunities for student success that haven't  
been our strategic focus in the past. For example, our partnerships with senior colleges  
are changing the way we define success for our students. In the past, it was enough to see  
them graduate from what we sometimes refer to as our "terminal degree programs," which  
are the career-ready programs in our Business and Public Services, Health Education,  
and Industrial and Engineering Technology Divisions. Defining new pathways that allow  
these students to take advantage of additional education beyond Tri-County without loss  
of academic credit was not factored into the curriculum planning process. Now, we are  
working closely with Clemson University, Anderson University, USC Upstate, and others  
to develop agreements that provide pathways to baccalaureate degrees for students in

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# Spotlight on Business Technology Advisory Committee

Students in the Business Technology programs got first-hand tips from local employers on the do's and don'ts of interviewing skills and workplace behavior at an annual seminar sponsored by the Business Technology Advisory Committee.

Billed as "The Steps to Success 2011," the session topics included the importance of how you present yourself on social networking sites (beware of what your employer may see), interviewing guidelines, career search tips, how to succeed on the job, and today's multi-generational workforce.

Presenters included Dr. Stephanie Lackey, coordinator of recruitment/retention for the School District of Pickens County, Bethany Wiley, human resource specialist in our Personnel Office, and Bill Phillips, campus relations and intern co-op manager for Duke Energy, who talked about the perfect interview. Kelly Davis, president of Upstate Staffing, Renee Anderson, human resource director for Sauer Danfoss in Easley, and Lindsay Franklin, senior human resource specialist at Duke Energy, discussed how to set yourself apart in today's job market. Alison Reynolds from our Career Services Office presented a session on how to secure a job in today's competitive workforce. Meg Allan, our Business Technology department head, talked about employees working together in today's multi-generational workforce. Erica Frost, employment manager for Elliott Davis, shared with the students protocols for social networking, including social networking websites.

Many students are nearing graduation and gearing up for the interviewing process, said Advisory Committee Chair Denise Bailey, an account resource manager at Elliott Davis LLC in Greenville, as well as a 2004 alumna of our Accounting program. "Our topics were relevant and will be beneficial in their job search and future careers. A lot of the topics were human resource-related and were presented by professionals who may one day be our students' employers. Presenters gave valuable real-life advice," said Denise.



**Alison Reynolds** from our Career Services Office presented a session on how to secure a job in today's competitive workforce.



**Denise Bailey**, chair of the advisory committee and accounting resources manager with Elliott Davis, LLC, left, talks with **Meg Allan**, our Business Technology department head, middle, and **Mary Fowler**, educational technology coordinator with AnMed Health, between sessions.



Longtime advisory committee member **Diane Watkins**, senior vice president for The Palmetto Bank, introduces members of a panel discussion. From left are **Kelly Davis**, president of Upstate Staffing, **Renee Anderson**, human resource director for Sauer Danfoss in Easley, and **Lindsay Franklin**, senior human resource specialist at Duke Energy. They discussed how to set yourself apart in today's job market.



Marketing major **Christian Elder**, of Anderson, standing, talks with panel members following their presentation about the perfect interview. From left are **Bill Phillips**, campus relations and intern co-op manager for Duke Energy; **Bethany Wiley**, human resource specialist in our Personnel Office; and **Dr. Stephanie Lackey**, coordinator of recruitment/retention for the School District of Pickens County.

"There was such a demand for these sessions," said Meg. We even overbooked and had to open three more sections. Our student population in Business Technology programs (Accounting, Administrative Office Technology, and Management) is diverse, ranging in age from recent high school grads to workforce veterans. Some have lost their jobs due to closures and position eliminations and have come back for retooling. Many haven't interviewed in 20 years while others are very young and haven't had the opportunity to practice interviewing at all. In this highly competitive job market, we want to do anything we can do to set them apart."

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SPOTLIGHT is a regular feature of CONNECTION that highlights College instructional programs, activities, and support services. Surveys show that our own faculty and staff play a significant role in influencing potential students to apply to the College. We're all ambassadors — so stay informed and keep doing a great job spreading the word that Tri-County is a great place to learn and grow!





**Kay Rhodes**, nursing admissions liaison, writes: "Thanks to the cooperative efforts of many departments,

the Nursing program now has an online presentation designed to offer general nursing information and specific program entry requirements to prospective nursing students. In the past, this information was shared several times each month in face-to-face sessions; now, students can access this important information online anytime at their convenience. This significant step forward in accessibility and service would not have been possible without the assistance and support of many talented people: **Janet Fuller, Jan Kempinski, Sarah Shumpert, Richard Smith, Denise Day, and Gayle Arries**. Thank you all!"

**Jennifer Beattie**, lead Freshman Seminar and College Skills instructor/English instructor, expresses her appreciation to **Kevin Steele** and **Sara Crocker** for "their help getting and synching my new Samsung Galaxy Tab. My life is now streamlined, more organized, and mobile (which makes my job much easier)."

**Janet Brdar**, administrative assistant for TRiO, commends our SGA President for her leadership abilities:

"**Wendy Sutton** deserves some recognition for what she does as Student Government Association President. When the Ladies Basketball team suggested a "Think Pink" week, Wendy was quick to jump on board and lend assistance. She did a great job contacting businesses and individuals for donations to be given out as raffle prizes, and she personally made the collection buckets and took them around herself to solicit cash donations to give to St. Francis Hospital for its cancer ward. When we asked her to do balloons for the College Fair, she had them blown up, tied up, and weighted down with lightning speed. She's a real go-getter, efficient, effective, and has an acerbic wit to boot. She's definitely an underutilized talent here at the College."

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# Our College Family

## excellence through service

**Wanda Morgan**, who has taught Interior Design classes for our Corporate and Community Education Division for 29 years, has been named 2010 - 2011 Woman of the Year by the National Association of Professional Women.

Wanda is the President and Designer of Wanda S. Morgan Designs, Inc., located in Westminster. Her recognition from the NAPW acknowledges her successful achievements, excellence, and dedication within her profession.

"It is truly an honor to be named a 2010 - 2011 VIP member and Woman of the Year from The National Association of Professional Women. I will do my best to uphold this prestigious award and strive to continue to do the best job possible in developing innovative business and social relationships through my business ventures and in the design world," she said.

Wanda S. Morgan Designs, Inc., is a full service interior and exterior design company servicing both the residential and non-residential market. The company provides complete turn key design services from consultation to contract design for both the new construction and the remodeling industry.

**Sarah Shumpert**, director of Instructional Support, and **Galen DeHay**, Science department head, were co-presenters at the annual conference of the League for Innovation in Community Colleges February 27-March 2 in San Diego, CA. Their session was titled "Creating a Learning-Centered Orientation: Curriculum, Assessment, and Student Services Intersect" and focused on developing an outcomes-based orientation program and building community between academic and student affairs to enhance student and organizational learning. **Katy Goforth**, Title III activity director, also presented at the League for Innovation annual conference. Her session was titled "Engaged Learner: Learning is Not a Spectator Sport," and highlighted eight behaviors that all college students need for their college career, along with tips for incorporating those behaviors into course material.

**Dr. Lynn Lewis**, dean of the Health Education Division, was the guest speaker for the induction ceremony for the Gamma Mu chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International at Clemson University Sunday, April 3.

## in transition

**Sally Stancell** retired April 1 after 26 years with the College. Sally worked in our IT department, providing technical support for desktop computer and peripherals on campus. For the past year, she served as Information Resource Consultant for the Help Desk service.



Wanda Morgan

## Executive Staff Updates

In the past she supervised all computer lab supervisors and their work studies at the College. She coordinated with division chairs the scheduling of all computer labs and was in charge of software and hardware maintenance.

"Sally worked in many areas of the College through the last 26 years. From the TRiO program to Business Affairs Division, she was with us through many key changes, including the first labs with Internet access for students, the old Campus Pipeline days, the addition of our Anderson, Easley, and Oconee campus areas, and many moves and changes," said Jeanne Otey, technical operations manager. "From thin wire to wireless, Sally made an impact on everyone she worked with. The IT desktop support team won't be the same without her."



Sally Stancell

## Tree Planting Ceremony Honors the Late Rosemary Lindley



Friends and family gathered at the Anderson Campus March 24 to celebrate the life of the late Rosemary Lindley, who served on the College's Commission from 2001 until her death in September 2010. The event was hosted by the Anderson Garden Club, who planted a magnolia tree in Mrs. Lindley's memory as a tribute to her friendship and longtime membership in the club. Pictured are members of Mrs. Lindley's family who were present for the ceremony (front, from left), **Jackson Lindley**, age 11, **Walker Lindley**, age 7, **Mary Pruitt**, age 4, and **Elizabeth Pruitt**, age 3, all grandchildren of Mrs. Lindley. Also pictured are (back, from left), **James and Tamara Lindley**, son and daughter-in-law; **Charles Lindley**, Mrs. Lindley's husband of 44 years; and **John and Carrie Pruitt**, son-in-law and daughter. Carrie is holding the youngest grandchild, **Sara Grace**, age 1.

- **Fiscal Transparency on Public Website:** The College now has its fiscal transactions posted on the public website. Legislation requiring such postings by all public colleges and universities is currently being considered by the SC General Assembly.
- **Financial Aid Compliance:** Bill Whitlock, financial aid director, presented options for consideration that will help protect students' financial aid status when they must withdraw from the College due to extenuating circumstances.
- **CCE Project:** Rick Cothran, dean of the Corporate and Community Education Division, presented a proposal to retrofit and equip a lab to use for a new SCDOT Asphalt Quality Certification Program that will be taught through CCE.
- **Pilot for Modified Drop/Add Period:** The Academic Delivery Group recommended piloting changes in the Session A drop/add period so that students are allowed to drop classes for five days and are allowed to add classes for three days. For Sessions B and C, the add period will be shortened from three days to two days. Exceptions will be handled by the Registrar. The modification will be piloted for Fall Semester, 2011.
- **Strategic Planning:** In 2012, Strategic Planning will be more closely aligned to key dates on the Colleges' academic calendar.
- **Other topics:** Campus signage; FY 12 budgeting process; S.C. Technical College System Leadership Academy; Commission workshop; value proposition discussion; enrollment calendar; revisions to policies and procedures (final copies are posted in eTC).

## Computer Readiness Class Held at Watkins Center



The College offered a “Computer Readiness for Job Seekers” class for WIA participants at the College’s classroom at the Watkins Center. The One Stop Center sponsored these classes in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties. Instructor **Fredda Gilmer**, standing, who serves on the Honea Path Town Council, taught the three-week series. Class members included (pictured from front to back) **Greg Seigler**, of Craytonville; **Calvin Fant, Sr.**, of Belton; **Tammy Allen**, of Honea Path; and **Kimberly Johnson**, of Belton.

## Brown Inducted into AZB



**Nancy E. Brown**, of Pickens, right, was one of 55 Tri-County students inducted recently into Alpha Zeta Beta (AZB), a chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Presenting her with a certificate is **Kenneth Yates**, AZB president at Tri-County. Initiates into the Alpha Zeta Beta chapter must have completed at least 12 hours of college work leading toward an associate degree and have attained a grade point ratio of 3.5 or better. Initiates also must be judged of good moral character and possess demonstrated qualities of good citizenship and service.

## Itron Pledges \$100,000 to Major Gifts Campaign



Itron pledged \$100,000 to the College’s major gifts campaign—the company’s largest gift to the College to date. The gift will support the Improving Technology and Equipment fund by providing a gift of \$20,000 per year for the next five years. Pictured from left are (front row) **Dr. Booth**; **John Lummus**, vice president for economic and institutional advancement; and **Mike Higgins**, Itron plant manager; and (back row) **Sue Gray**, human resources manager for Itron; **Elisabeth Gadd**, director of development; and **Ken Ambory**, Itron comptroller.

## Brag & Share (continued from page 4)

**Faye O. Allen**, CGFO, director of Fiscal Affairs, writes:

“Thank you to **Bob White** in the Information Technology department and **Ann Hall** in Fiscal Affairs department, who developed the State-mandated financial transparency report and loaded it to the College’s public website in record time. You can find the financial transparency reporting link by clicking on ‘About TCTC.’”

Congratulations to **Debbie Nelms**, whose eldest son, **Alan**, married **Torie Varner** March 19. Alan is a 2006 alumnus of the Industrial Electronics Technology program, and Torie is a current TCTC Nursing student. Alan is currently working at BASF in Seneca. They reside in Anderson.

Congratulations to **Katy Goforth**, Title III activity director, who married **Alex Propst** on March 13. Best wishes to the new couple!

**Tina Crowe**, a 2009 Associate in Science alumna and daughter of **Linda Crowe**, discovered an 18th century Cherokee trade bead while working on an archeological dig at the site of the historic Cherokee town of Quanassee near Hayesville, N.C. Last summer Tina was part of a joint effort by Western Carolina University Archaeology Lab, Clay County Schools, Warren Wilson College, the Tribal Historic Preservation Office of the EBCI, and the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology. Tina, an enrolled member of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, will graduate from Western Carolina in May with a B.S. in Anthropology and a minor in Cherokee Studies. Her future includes graduate school in Anthropology and Forensic Studies.

If you wish to thank someone publicly, share personal news, brag about a recent accomplishment in your unit, or any other highlight, send it in for our “Brag & Share” column. E-mail your submission (65 words or less) with “Brag & Share” in the subject line to Lisa Garrett at [lgarrett@tctc.edu](mailto:lgarrett@tctc.edu).



# Open House Draws High School Students, Those Seeking Retraining

Around 250 prospective students, including high school students and their parents, displaced workers and those seeking retraining for new careers, attended the College's February 25 Open House at its Pendleton Campus.

Guests were introduced to the College, saw program presentations, toured the campus, observed interactive department lab stations and spoke one-on-one with instructors about career opportunities. Admissions and financial aid counselors were on hand to assist with financial aid questions.



**Jenni Evans Creamer**, director of Bridge and Educational Partnerships, right, talks with the Rosa family, of Connecticut, about daughter, **Amanda's**, pictured third from left, entrance into the Bridge to Clemson program whereby selected students invited by Clemson University will attend Tri-County for their freshman academic year and then seamlessly transfer to Clemson, provided they successfully complete 30 hours of university transfer credit and have a 2.5 GPA. Pictured with Amanda from left are **Trish Rosa**, **Nicole Rosa**, and **Steve Rosa**.



Radio and Television Broadcasting Program Coordinator **John Woodson** talks with **Amber Holcombe**, of Iva, a junior at Crescent High School, about camera work.



**Mandy Orzechowski**, an instructor in Engineering Graphics Technology, standing, talks to **Madison Stone**, a senior at Seneca High School, pictured seated on a chopper, which is a custom motorcycle designed and built by Engineering Graphics Technology students.



Expanded Duty Dental Assisting instructor **Betty Morgan**, right, talks with **Caleb Ellenburg**, of Anderson, and **Anna McCallum**, of Iva, both seniors at Crescent High School.



**Kristi Cantrell**, a senior at Easley High School, is the winner of the iPod raffle. Congratulating her is Financial Aid Counselor **Kevin Woods**. Kristi is enrolled in an English 101 dual enrollment class.

## Connecting

(continued from page 2)

career majors. A recent example is a new articulation agreement with Clemson University that allows graduates of our Medical Laboratory Technology program to transfer into Clemson as juniors in the Microbiology/Biomedicine program. That degree, along with two years working in the field, will allow them to be certified as Medical Laboratory Scientists.

Not every activity in our plan is tied directly to student success, but all will ultimately strengthen our institution and the role we play in the communities we serve. For example, the economic crisis of 2008 and recession that continues today has forever changed our funding model as a State agency. Gone are the days when more than half of our operating budget was funded by the State. Now, State funds comprise only 16 percent of our budget. As such, one of our most pressing priorities is to ensure we can survive (and thrive) in this new paradigm. Our Commission has spent countless hours studying different budget scenarios and the impact of variables such as State funding, tuition, enrollment, and facilities needs. By preparing to operate without State funding, we ensure we control our own destiny and can continue to fulfill our mission. This doesn't mean we won't continue to be a State agency; it means we realize we need to remain viable even in difficult economic times.

As a reminder, the FY 2012-14 Three-Year College Strategic Plan is posted in eTC for easy access. Each division also has a detailed unit plan that provides timelines and areas of responsibility.

Looking ahead, I am confident we have the right focus – student success – and the right team in place to undertake and achieve what is set forth in this ambitious plan. I look forward to tackling these new challenges with you.



Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.  
President

## Group Survives 21-Day Fitness Boot Camp



This group of eight ladies (and four others not pictured here) survived a 21-day Total Body Fitness Boot Camp led by Jason Nutting, center, a personal trainer with Performance QSA in Greenville. After sampling Jason's class on professional development day last November, many expressed an interest in having a fitness class offered during lunch. Fourteen signed up and began the program, which included both indoor and outdoor fitness exercises (also known as torture by some). Pictured from left are **Courtney Tillet**, **Lisa Saxon**, **Mary Johnston**, **Margaret Burdette**, **Cathy Cole**, **Lisa Anderson**, **Wanda Marshall**, and **Jessica Raymond**. Not pictured are **Sharon Colcolough**, **Courtney White**, **Kay Rhodes**, and **Debbie Thrasher**.

For those interested in more on-campus fitness classes, contact Lisa Anderson or Sharon Colcolough with your comments and/or suggestions.

## CRJ Job Fair Connects Students and Employers



The College's Criminal Justice (CRJ) students had a chance to talk to law enforcement agencies about potential jobs and hiring practices at the department's Annual Criminal Justice Career Fair. Representatives from all levels of law enforcement agencies (municipal through federal), probation and parole agencies, private investigation and security were on hand to answer questions and to talk about job opportunities. Here, **Ryan Borders**, who is from Aiken, talks with Deputy **Anthony Sampson** about opportunities with the Aiken County Sheriff's Department.



## Awards Banquet Salutes Officers



**Lt. Richard Gooch**, of the Clemson Police Department and a 2001 Criminal Justice graduate, right, receives Tri-County's Criminal Justice Alumnus of the Year award from Clemson Police Chief **Jimmy Dixon** at the Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Banquet.

Tri-County and Anderson University co-hosted an annual awards banquet March 3 to recognize all of the deputies, officers, and probation agents in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties.

The Law Enforcement Appreciation Banquet also honored the top officers of the year for each county and Tri-County and Anderson University's Criminal Justice Alumnus of the Year recipients.

Lt. Richard Gooch, of the Clemson Police Department, was named Tri-County's Criminal Justice Alumnus of the Year.

In 1992 Lt. Gooch began his career in the Military Police, serving in Germany, Cuba, Panama, and Virginia, all within five short years. After leaving the military and moving to South Carolina, he enrolled at Tri-County to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice. He graduated in 2001.

While still a student at Tri-County, Richard began working as a Reserve Officer with the Clemson Police Department. After just eight months as a Reserve, he decided to take his career a step further by accepting a full-time position as an officer at Clemson PD. His hard work and dedication proved his commitment to the agency and to the law enforcement field. In 2005 Richard was promoted to Sergeant, and continued his rise through the ranks to his current position of Lieutenant in 2007.

"Richard has proven an invaluable asset to the Clemson Police Department over the years by providing guidance for young recruits and developing into a strong, well-respected leader. His experience and knowledge have made him an effective instructor, specializing in driving, firearms and high-risk tactics," his nomination read.

In addition to these accomplishments, he has been the recipient of two merit awards, the first for his actions that thwarted a robbery and the second for saving the life of a subject that attempted suicide.

Several years ago Tri-County and Anderson University entered into a first-of-its-kind partnership, making college attainable and available for law enforcement officers. Students first earn an associate degree at Tri-County, then go on to complete the final two years of a bachelor's degree at Anderson University.

Both programs provide great flexibility in that students can be full time or part time and can take classes in the traditional classroom setting or online.

## SSS Honors Students



Student Support Services (SSS) honored thirty-six students for academic achievements at an awards reception and dinner held April 1 at the Madren Center in Clemson. **Lisa Embry-Franklin**, a mental health counselor with the Greenville Mental Health Center and former SSS participant while a student at Tri-County, was the keynote speaker. She shared stories about the important role TRiO and Student Support Services played in her educational experience and encouraged the students to work hard to achieve their dreams.

## Senator Graham Visits Campus



**Senator Lindsey Graham**, right, addressed an audience of manufacturing, government, and business leaders and gave them a Washington legislative update at a meeting sponsored by Oconee Alliance and held in partnership with the Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens county chambers of commerce and county economic development departments. The meeting was held in the Marshall Parker Auditorium. Here Sen. Graham talks with **Rep. Bill Sandifer**, left, and **Dr. Booth**.

## TCTC Family Supports Vet Tech Adoptions

Jan Kempinski, web developer/programmer in our IT department, and Denise Hall, printing services manager, adopted animals through the College's Veterinary Technology Pet Adoption Day held March 16 in Halbert Hall on the Pendleton Campus.



**Jan**, who added Carbo, a beagle mix, seen here, to her menagerie, is pictured with **Leanna Terry**, of Central, a senior Veterinary Technology student.



**Denise** adopted Berrie, a female, year-old domestic shorthair.

Pet adoption days are held in the fall and spring. The dogs are trained with basic commands on a gentle leader head collar and socialized with many people. The cats are handled constantly for socialization and enjoy playtime together. All animals have been spayed or neutered and received current vaccinations. There is a \$30 fee payable at the time of adoption.

## Students Connect with Colleges at Annual Fair

The College's March 2 Annual College Fair was an opportunity for many to make direct contact with admissions counselors from more than 20 colleges and universities.

College reps were available to speak with students about their educational goals, said Cindy Trimmier-Lee, coordinator of Student Support Services, which sponsored the annual event.

"This was the ideal time to talk one on one with counselors from several colleges and universities -- without the travel time," said Cindy. "Students picked up applications, catalogs and handbooks from the colleges and universities they are interested in and set up an appointments to tour their campuses," she added.

**Maine Dawkins**, of Central, a 2010 Business Management graduate of Tri-County, attended the 18th Annual College Fair to talk with college representatives about transferring options. Here, he talks with **Bonnie Duncan**, an admissions counselor with Clemson University.



**Lorenzo Hickson**, of Seneca, left, talked with college representatives about his educational goals. Here, Admissions Counselor **Allyson Brown** gives him information about Furman University. Lorenzo is a University Transfer major at Tri-County.

**Danielle Simpson**, of Anderson, back, right, and **Mariana Parra**, of Simpsonville, front, get information about the University of South Carolina-Aiken from **Amanda Platt**, an admissions counselor. Representatives from colleges were available to talk individually with students who are considering transferring to a senior institution. Danielle and Mariana are associate degree Nursing majors.



## Spotlight (continued from page 3)

"Tri-County is a good place to start. Your degree sets you apart and is the first step to continuing your education," said Denise, who was the first student from Tri-County to transfer to Franklin University where she earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting and a master's in Business Administration.

She says the committee members wanted to focus on careers in business technology and preparing students for the job interviews – essentially life beyond college. "It's important to know how to present yourself on networking websites, as well as social networks like Facebook. We also wanted to cover the job interview and how to dress appropriately for it. It's important to stress what will set you apart in the workplace. The job market is tight, and employees need to be the best team members they can be," she said.

"If a student is not in an ideal job now, for instance, if he or she is working a part-time job to support him or herself while attending school, we stress that they put these practices into place now. You will need a reference from your present employer when you graduate and begin seeking a permanent job. We gave them information they can use today."

As instructors, we share this knowledge with them in classes," said Meg, "but hearing this from experts – people from real-world jobs — makes all the difference in the world. Students learned that some of the companies represented are hiring now. They heard first hand about the do's and don'ts of choosing an appropriate e-mail address, and that inappropriate social networking behavior can come back to haunt you," she said.

"The diversity of the sessions was what made the event so good," said Meg, who praised the advisory committee, who brought in the experts for the program. "Members didn't make the presentations themselves this year. Instead, they reached out to those they know in business and industry – many of whom will be hiring soon. Advisory Committee members made themselves available to students for questions between sessions."

Business Technology has been named the College's Advisory Committee of the Year eight times, the first time being in 1981. "They are a great responsive group to work with. They unselfishly give their time, effort and expertise. They provide internship opportunities for our students, as well as conduct mock interviews when asked. They want to see the best possible employees in the workforce so they give their time generously. It's a win-win situation - the more we do collectively and collaboratively helps everybody."

The advisory committee consists of community business leaders who meet quarterly for discussion and to provide input about keeping the Business Technology curriculum relevant to today's ever-changing work environment.

### **BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Doug Alexander, Vice President-Relationship Banker, Capital Bank

Denise R. Bailey, Accounting Resources Manager, Elliott Davis, LLC,

Tracy Whitten Bowie, Assistant Director, Anderson Interfaith Ministries

Danny Fahey, School to Work Facilitator, School District of Pickens County

Mary C. Fowler, Educational Technology Coordinator, AnMed Health

Costas Petromichelis, owner, Costas

Diane Watkins, Senior Vice President, The Palmetto Bank

Donald White, Technology Programs Specialist, Tri-County Technical College

## Al Young (continued from page 1)

Mr. Young is active in his community and was instrumental in bringing the Watkins Community Center to Honea Path by initially serving as chair of the organizing committee. In 2009, residents and Tri-County Technical College officials gathered at the Watkins Community Center in Honea Path to celebrate the dedication of the College's new Learning Center named in honor of Senator Billy O'Dell. As a way of thanking Senator O'Dell for his continued support in the community and his assistance with obtaining state funding for renovations, the Center is named the Senator Billy O'Dell Learning Center and offers corporate and community education classes for the citizens of the Honea Path area.

"Tri-County Technical College is a major player in our Upstate area and serving on the Commission will allow me to help the citizens throughout Anderson County to be presented with many educational options, like the Watkins Community Center," said Mr. Young.

In addition, he is a member of the board of directors for the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce and the Jennie Erwin Library. He is president of the Watkins Community Center, Inc., is a member and past president of the Honea Path Civitans, and serves as chairman of the South Carolina Bankers Association Community Bankers Council. In 2000 and 2006, he was recognized as the Civitan of the Year by the Honea Path Civitans.

He is a member of Belton Presbyterian Church, where he serves as an elder. He is married to the former Judith Allen. They have a son, Carl, and a daughter, Carrie.



# Bluegrass under the Stars

An estimated 1,000 people attended the 6th annual “Bluegrass Under the Stars” concert held April 2 in the outdoor amphitheater at the Pendleton Campus. Appreciation is extended to the many people who helped make the event a success, especially the volunteers from nearly every division who set up, greeted guests, handed out programs, manned display tables, and assisted the bands.

Many thanks also to our primary concert supporter, Clemson Area Transit. In addition, many sponsors helped make the event possible, including (Leader Category) American Services, Blue Ridge Electrical Cooperative, Inc., and The Villages at Town Creek; (Supporter Category) Dr. Arthur Bruce, First Citizens Bank, Pendleton Area Council, Piedmont Natural Gas, Representative Dan Cooper, TCTC Alumni Association, Wachovia Bank of South Carolina; (Friend Category) Bob and Ruth Edwards, Dr. Teddy Martin, Sandy Springs Water, The Commercial Bank, Tri-County Ace Hardware in Seneca; and (In Kind Sponsors) Action Septic Tank, Bi-Lo of Clemson, Bi-Lo of Pendleton, Lodge’s Greenhouse and Nursery, Pendleton Ice Company, Subway of Pendleton, and [www.cheapmandolins.com](http://www.cheapmandolins.com).



*This year’s concert drew close to 1,000 attendees.*



***NewFound Road**, a bluegrass group from Johnson City, Tennessee, headlined the concert.*



*Retiree **Betty Dean** and her grandson, **Wylie**, 3.*



*The Gateway to College program was among those who offered information and fun activities. Pictured here are **Mandy Davidson**, resource specialist, fourth from left, and **Glenn McAtee**, instructional/testing specialist, with his daughters, **Claire** and **Caroline**, at right.*