

# Connection

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## Partners Break Ground on Anderson QuickJobs Center

Legislators, county council members, and government leaders joined Tri-County Technical College officials March 9 to break ground for the Anderson QuickJobs Development Center located across from the College's Anderson Campus. The QuickJobs Development Center will allow Tri-County to meet the goals of employers and to provide the necessary training to build a strong, viable workforce serving Anderson County.



Breaking ground on the Anderson QuickJobs Development Center located across from the College's Anderson Campus, are pictured from left, **Tim Bowen**, director of the Anderson Campus; **Butch Harris**, College Commissioner; **Senator Kevin Bryant**; **Ham Hudson**, chair of the College's Commission; **Dr. Booth**; **Tom Allen**, Anderson County Council chair; **Rep. Don Bowen**; **Tommy Dunn**, representing Anderson County Council District 5; **Bonnie Ammons**, assistant director of Federal grant programs for the S.C. Department of Commerce; **Senator Billy O'Dell**; and **Dr. Brian Swords**, director of the College's Easley Campus and all three county QuickJobs Development Centers.

Construction for the 5,720-square-foot-building began in March. The facility will house classrooms and a large space for labs. Construction should take about six months, with a tentative opening date set for December.

The facility is funded by a \$500,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission through the S.C. Department of Commerce. The QuickJobs Development Center will be operated by the College. Instructors from the Corporate and Community Education Division will teach QuickJobs training courses, such as Certified Production Technician – MSSC training, workplace skills, pre-employment training, electrical wiring, and plumbing classes. In addition, the Center will offer customized training for area businesses and industries.

This is the College's third QuickJobs Development Center. Others are located at the Oconee Campus next to the Hamilton Career Center and at the College's Easley Campus.

"Many times we ask ourselves how we can make life better for folks in our communities. This is one of those examples," said Dr. Booth.

One of the goals of the grant funding is that one half of the residents served at the Center will be low to moderate income, said Dr. Booth.

He said the facility would take the pressure off of the College's Anderson Campus located across the street on Michelin Boulevard. "With these job training and skills enhancement classes here, we'll have

(continued on page 5)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

College Career Fair.....	April 4
Bluegrass Concert.....	April 7
Awards Ceremony.....	April 17
Spring Open.....	April 27
Spring Graduation.....	May 7
5K Road Race.....	May 19

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

## Connection

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### Mailing Address (All Campuses)

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

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TDD/Voice: 1-800-735-2905

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



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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

As we pause to celebrate our 50-year history, we not only celebrate our past, but begin to ask important questions about the next 50 years. What should we do now to ensure we can continue to provide outstanding programs and unparalleled service in the decades that lie ahead? How do we address the fiscal challenges that lie before us? I dedicated nearly our entire Spring Faculty/Staff meeting to this topic and now will reiterate the highlights of that discussion, particularly for those of you who could not be present.

Declining State funding, higher operational costs, recent changes to financial aid regulations, and slower enrollment growth present new challenges which require us to closely examine how we deliver our programs and services.

In just over a decade, our State funding has declined from 56 percent to 15 percent of our operating budget and is expected to continue to decline in future years. Our three counties are struggling to pay their fair share of our budget to operate our physical plant. Despite cutting costs, we have had to increase tuition several times in recent years to make up for lost revenue. Continuing to raise tuition is not a desirable option.

Additionally, our operating expenses are increasing in ways we cannot control. Health care and retirement premiums are up, insurance and utilities are increasing, and the State likely will approve an unfunded salary increase. Payroll, currently 74 percent of our cost structure, continues to rise, part-time employees will be eligible for benefits in two years, and our aging physical plant and equipment need to be maintained, upgraded, and replaced.

Current trends show new student enrollment slowing and returning student enrollment declining. While we continue to make modest gains in the percentage of high school students enrolling at Tri-County after graduation, that pool of new students is decreasing due to a population decline in that age category. Because 53.7 percent of our revenue comes from student tuition and fees, an enrollment decrease will have a negative impact on our budget.

New financial aid regulations mean that nearly 20 percent of students receiving aid this spring are in danger of losing their aid due to lack of satisfactory academic progress. Most of them cannot afford to pay out-of-pocket college expenses.

*“While the success of our students always has been our top priority, we need to ensure that all of our policies and practices promote student retention and student success.”*

What does all this mean? While the success of our students always has been our top priority, we need to ensure that all of our policies and practices promote student retention and student success. It is not just the right thing to do for students; it is what will help to sustain us moving forward.

While our student success rate is the best in the State Technical College System, it is heavily weighted towards transfer success as measured among first-time, full-time students, which excludes the majority of our students. Our graduation and retention rates are much lower, which means we still have work to do in those areas, too.

What are the next steps? We don't have all the answers yet, but we do have a solid place to start – and everyone has a role.

Our new three-year strategic plan calls for us to focus on an ambitious student retention and success agenda that includes strategically marketing our programs; revising our matriculation and advising models; improving student learning in the classroom; implementing a robust retention plan that helps our students reach their educational goals; holding ourselves

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# Spotlight on LPN Patent for Simulators

This semester our nursing students began practicing their clinical skills outside of the classroom setting with a portable nursing kit that contains low fidelity simulators conceptualized and designed by fellow Practical Nursing major Tanya Mikkelson.

Mikkelson, of Easley, a Practical Nursing student at the College's Easley Campus, recently received a provisional patent for the kit that contains low fidelity simulators for a tracheotomy, male and female catheters, nasogastric intubation, wound care, an injection pad, and an IV pad.

Tri-County's Nursing Department bought 92 of the kits, which will be used by students this semester.

In just four short months, Mikkelson went from college student to entrepreneur, as her work progressed from an idea to a business – called SimuMed – and she has been pitching her products to nursing schools all over the state.

Her first sale was to Tri-County with several four-year universities agreeing to purchase kits for the fall 2012 semester.

"I'm learning as I go," said Mikkelson, of her first business venture.

She says she was inspired to create these simulators out of necessity. "We students were asking how to practice our skills at home, but there was no easy way to do so," she says. "The simulators were all in the College labs, and there weren't mobile units for students to purchase to practice on at home. There are simulators available to schools but not to individuals," she said.

Mikkelson says she didn't know just how great the need was until she started doing research on the Internet. "So I decided to design a part (or low fidelity simulator) to practice on," said Mikkelson, a self-taught artist who sells her stained glass, pottery, drawings, and paintings. "The more you practice these skills, the more confident you are in your lab check offs," said Mikkelson, also a former paramedic and patient care technician, and a married mother of three who returned to the classroom last year.

"Every time we would have a check off, I would make a prototype for that procedure. There were lots of late nights. It was definitely trial and error," she said. But after 12 weeks of design and lots of research, she perfected her design and found a manufacturer.

"I found Russell Todd, owner, of Widget Works in Pennsylvania, who has been working with me and manufactured the first round of orders for Tri-County," she explained.



**Tanya Mikkelson**, a Practical Nursing student at our Easley Campus, seated right, recently received a provisional patent for a portable nursing kit that contains low fidelity simulators used by our nursing department this semester. Pictured with her from left are Nursing Department Head **Janet Fuller**, Tanya's friend, **Jennifer Baynard**, and Nursing Lab Coordinator **Lynn Lollis**.

Along the way, she contacted the Clemson University Small Business Development Center to get advice and assistance with creating a business plan, acquiring a business license, and obtaining a patent.

When pitching her products, she began with Tri-County. "I showed them to my instructor, Practical Nursing Program Coordinator Julie Vernon, who advised me to make a presentation to Nursing Department Head Janet Fuller."

"I was blown away when Tanya presented her prototypes to me," said Julie. "These are the most realistic simulators I have ever seen. They are anatomically correct and are as close to real skin as you can get," she said.

"Tanya is so compassionate. At the root of this endeavor is her desire to help others. She used her artistic abilities to help herself and her classmates," added Julie.

"This was so exciting for me. I found out that the instructors want this as badly as the students do. As far as I can tell in my research, this product is a first of its kind. Every college I have approached has said, 'We need this,'" said Mikkelson.

In the future, Mikkelson wants to produce an instructional DVD to accompany the product kits and will continue to add prototypes as she completes her L.P.N. degree.

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!

# Seventh Annual Bluegrass Concert is Saturday, April 7

Tri-County Technical College's Seventh Annual Bluegrass under the Stars concert is Saturday, April 7, at the Pendleton Campus.

The free concert and fireworks event for the family is held annually in conjunction with the town of Pendleton's annual Spring Jubilee celebration. The event will be held from 6 - 9:30 p.m. in the amphitheater. It will be held rain or shine (rain location is College's Student Center).

Performing bands (in order of appearance) include Last Road, Nitrograss, Volume 5, and The Little Roy and Lizzy Show. Links to the performers' websites can be found at [www.tctc.edu/bluegrass](http://www.tctc.edu/bluegrass).

A pre-concert performance by the Young Appalachian Musicians (YAM) Sweet Potato Pie Kids will begin at 5:30 p.m. To learn more about the YAM program, visit [www.YAMupstate.org](http://www.YAMupstate.org).

The concert will end with a fireworks extravaganza. Concessions will be sold during the event.

Several of Tri-County's academic departments will offer information and fun activities for concert-goers. Look for face painting by the Early Childhood Development department and robotic displays and student projects by the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division. Other departments represented will be Connect to College and Veterinary Technology. In acknowledgement of the College's 50th anniversary, the Public Relations office will have a 50th anniversary trivia wheel game. (Governor Ernest Hollings signed Act 905 of the General Assembly on April 7, 1962, creating what would eventually become Tri-County Technical College.)

For more information, visit [www.tctc.edu/bluegrass](http://www.tctc.edu/bluegrass).

# Barry Phillips Ordained as Deacon In Catholic Church

Six years ago Barry Phillips began his journey toward ordination as a deacon in the Roman Catholic Church.

Every Saturday, beginning in 2006, Barry, who has worked as our Offset Printing Technician in our Printing Services Department for 22 years, traveled to Atlanta to attend formation classes which included prayer, class work, and several practicum experiences.

A total of 123 trips, more than 30,000 miles, and countless study hours later, Barry was ordained February 11 as a deacon at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Atlanta by Archbishop of Atlanta Wilton D. Gregory. Barry has been assigned by the Archbishop to serve at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Hartwell, Georgia.

Ordination is the process by which individuals are consecrated as clergy to perform various religious rites and ceremonies.

As a deacon, he is an ordained minister of the Roman Catholic Church. He can perform various services at the parish level, including performing baptisms, presiding at weddings, delivering sermons, offering blessings, and conducting funerals and wakes.

"The ministry of Christ the servant is the focus of the deacon," said Barry. "The most notable difference between priests and deacons is I can't hear confessions or celebrate mass, but I can assist the priest at the altar."

He performed his first baptism several days after ordination, followed by a house blessing and a wake. In the coming weeks, he will be performing three baptisms and two weddings.

Barry, who began work in youth ministry, said he was approached by his pastor, who suggested he consider becoming a deacon.

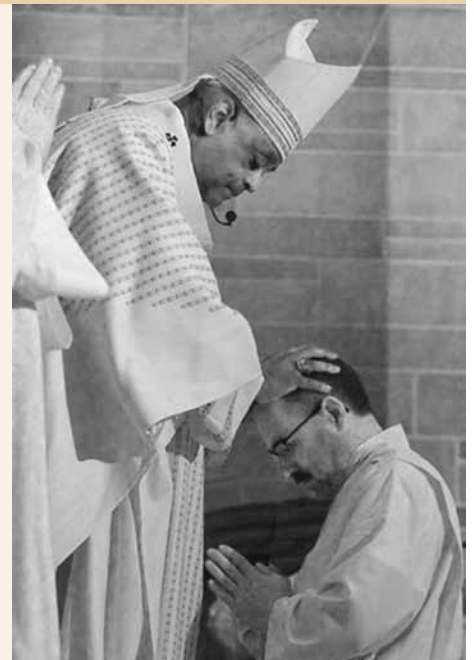
"I had been thinking about it. I felt a calling, and he saw it. I began to think becoming an ordained minister was the right thing for me to do," he said. He and his pastor contacted the Archdiocese and after a rigorous screening process, he was among the 16 selected out of 50 applicants.

"With my ordination, I received the sacrament of holy orders. My faith is very important to me. With the grace given through ordination, I am able to help people in a different way than before," he said.

Most deacons in the Catholic Church hold secular jobs, and many are retired. Barry plans to continue working at Tri-County at least until his retirement. Since he is not a parish priest, he is currently able to perform his ministry primarily on weekends and after hours.

One way he is of service is through his weekly visits to Greenville Memorial Hospital. Barry spends every Friday afternoon performing pastoral care to patients. "I get the list of Catholic patients, and I visit with them. Part of my education was to take a course in hospital ministry and to participate in a practicum. When the course was over, I asked to stay on at Greenville because one of the prime responsibilities of the deacon is to be a servant of Christ. Visiting and caring

*(continued on page 5)*



Barry Phillips

## Plan Ahead Is Theme of Open House

The College hosted an Open House on its Pendleton Campus March 9. Around 380 prospective students, including high school students and their parents, displaced workers, and those seeking retraining for new careers, attended the event. 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.

**Danny Stovall**, Mechatronics Technology/Automotive Technology program coordinator, right, talks with **David Scott**, of Anderson.



## Partners Break Ground on Anderson QuickJobs Center

*(continued from page 1)*

more seats for our credit classes. It's a good opportunity for everybody," he said.

"Prospective companies always want to know what we can provide for them. They want to know if we have a workforce that is properly trained. This facility can do that," said Anderson County Council Chairman Tom Allen. The Army and Air Force veteran added that Clemson and Anderson universities are the valuable flagships of the community but like battleships, they are slower to turn around. He likened Tri-County Technical College to "the PT boat guys. When we need something done, they can do it."

"This Center really is key to the economic development of this region," said Allen.

"Government and education came together to meet the critical needs of business and industry," said Anderson County Councilman Tommy Dunn. "We found ways to work together for the common goal of meeting the needs of the people of this community. Anderson County can do nothing but go forward."



**Kay Rhodes**, health education admissions liaison, middle, watches as Liberty High School seniors **Brandi Jones**, left, and **Kelsie Kimbrell**, right, participate in a demonstration on a human patient simulator in the nursing lab at the College. Kelsie is interested in the associate degree Nursing program, and Brandi is interested in Criminal Justice.

## Barry Phillips

*(continued from page 4)*

for the sick is a way to be of service. And, of course, I am there to serve anyone who may be in need, regardless of faith affiliation or no religious belief at all. One of the huge roles of the ministry is to listen and go with people on their journeys and to offer comfort, hope, and life experience," said Barry. Catholic deacons are permitted to be married, and Barry has been married to his wife, Donna, for 20 years. They have a son, Tyler, 18, a biology and secondary education major at Clemson.



Each month throughout 2012, CONNECTION will devote two pages to celebrating the College's golden anniversary. Through photos and articles, we will highlight the events which have shaped the College into the role model for community college education that it is today.

## President Don C. Garrison (1971-2003)

Dr. Don C. Garrison began his career at Tri-County as its second president on November 1, 1971. During his leadership (1971 – 2003), the College expanded from three buildings covering 89,000 square feet to 14 buildings covering 389,828 square feet. Under his direction, enrollment increased from 919 to more than 5,000 degree, diploma, and certificate students and nearly 13,000 continuing education students. At his death in 2010, Dr. Garrison still had a profound impact on the lives of countless people both within the College and the community. (Dr. Garrison suffered a fatal massive stroke and passed away February 28, 2010.)

Dr. Garrison was a leader of innovation for the Technical College System for more than three decades and was known widely in the State and nationally for his commitment to advancing the quality of life of the citizens of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties through excellence in education, contributions to economic development, and for attracting international industry to the tri-county area.

Tri-County was the only technical college visited by BMW during the site selection process for the South Carolina plant. When Plastic Omnium announced plans in December, 1993, to locate a plant in Anderson County to manufacture BMW components, the president of the French company praised Dr. Garrison as “an important influence on our decision to locate here.”

When Venture Packaging announced plans in December 1994 to locate a plant in Anderson County to employ 400 people making plastic food packages, the president of the company said, “Our final decision to locate in Anderson was based on South Carolina’s pro-business environment, Anderson’s proximity to I-85, and to the guidance and professionalism of Dr. Don Garrison whose influence proved vital to our commitment.”

His leadership in community college and technical education was recognized numerous times with local, state and national honors. One of his most coveted awards came in 1983 when he was named President of the Year by the American Association of Community College trustees (the premier association representing more than 1,200 community and



Dr. Don C. Garrison

technical colleges). He received the Order of the Palmetto from Governor Carroll Campbell in 1988 and was recognized by his technical college peers for outstanding leadership through the prestigious A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year Award, the highest honor bestowed upon staff or faculty members in technical education, by the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education.



Tri-County was the second technical institution in the State to gain approval to offer college parallel courses after the South Carolina General Assembly enacted Act 1268 on May 25, 1972, making it possible for technical education centers to add Associate in Arts and Associate in Science to schedules. Some of the early department heads of the Arts and Sciences Division are pictured from left, **Harry Woeffel**, English; **Carol McCombs Anderson**, humanities; **Dr. Jim Wood**, science; **Jim Lamb**, math; and **Linda Elliott**, division chair.

## Jan Murray Moore Proud to Be Tri-County Graduate

Every time Jan Murray Moore passes by Tri-County Technical College on Highway 76, headed to Clemson football games, the Atlanta resident points out her alma mater to her husband and two sons, amazed at how much it has changed since the 1970s when she was a medical assisting student.

"I'm a proud Tri-County Technical College graduate," said the Chester, SC, native. "Attending Tri-County was a turning point for me. It made me realize I could do it. I received positive reinforcement from my teachers who believed I could do well and I did," she said.

"When I think back on my days at Tri-County, they are among my fondest memories because it changed my direction at a young age. At 18, I was unsure of a career choice. I spent one year at Clemson, but I was overwhelmed. I was from a small high school in Chester, and I didn't know how to apply myself. I knew I had to make a change and researched my options and entered Tri-County's medical assisting program where I found small classes and caring instructors. We had an all-female class.



*Miss TEC 1973 and her court*

My fondest memories are the personal, lasting relationships that were made. Mrs. Wilma Bell and Mrs. Juanita Mouchet (instructors) made learning fun."

While a student at Tri-County, she was named Miss TEC 1973.

"I never thought I would win," she said. In 1974 she transferred to the University of South Carolina where she majored in Nursing. At USC, she was crowned Miss South Carolina USA.

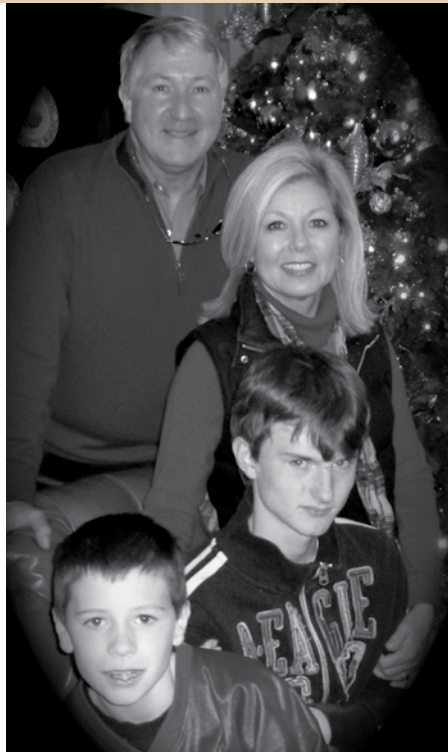
She progressed to the national pageant where she was named third runner up in the 1976 Miss USA pageant.

After graduation she began working as a registered nurse at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina. Next she moved to Columbia and worked at Midlands Center in the infirmary area for the state.

In 1978 she left nursing and made a career move to the airlines.

For 11 years she was a flight attendant for United Airlines. In fact she had a dual career — an ideal career, she said, a flight attendant who practices nursing during days off from the airlines.

But on July 19, 1989, on a flight from Denver to Chicago — now infamously known as Flight 232 — her life changed. "It was a defining moment for me," said Moore, who was working the day the DC-10



### TRI-COUNTY TRIVIA

TEC was accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Upon the recommendation of the Commission on Colleges, delegates to the annual SACS convention in Miami unanimously voted December 1, 1971, to grant the College a 10-year accreditation.

was disabled by an engine explosion and crashed and burned while attempting an emergency landing at Sioux City, Iowa. The engine fan assembly had failed, sending engine parts through the right horizontal stabilizer. The flight crew quickly realized that they had lost all three hydraulic systems that powered the aircraft's flight controls.

The flight was full with 296 passengers, a crew of 10, and three pilots, recalled Moore.

"It was unique because we were in the air for about an hour knowing we were going to crash. We spent the hour preparing for an emergency landing. It was the middle of the summer and there were children who were traveling alone. We paired them with adults. We went into a mode of survival. We were too busy to be scared. I had flown for 11 years and had never had anything alarming happen to me. When we attempted to land in Sioux City, Iowa, the plane broke apart and was thrown in various directions away from the wreckage. It was a miracle that 184 survived with 116 casualties."

She took time off to re-evaluate her life. "You get to know yourself. I didn't know my own strength," she said. She stopped flying for a year and a half. She returned for nine months but said, "It was never the same so I decided to stop," she said.

She reactivated her nursing license in 1993 with the intention of going back to work in hospitals. That same year her best friend from Chester introduced her to Dr. John E. Moore, a cardiac and thoracic surgeon. The couple married in 1994 and has two sons, ages 14 and 11. She is a stay-at-home mom now. "I keep my nursing license current and would like to return to the profession when my sons are older," she said.



Chris McFarlin, J.D., a faculty member in the Criminal Justice/Paralegal Studies program, sent this note:

“**Stephanie Winkler** went above and beyond her assigned job responsibilities in assisting with the startup of the Paralegal program here at Tri-County Technical College. She has been instrumental in textbook review and Paralegal Advisory Committee meeting facilitation. Neither of these ventures would have run so smoothly without her assistance and time. For that, I wanted to say, Thank You!”

Chris Marino shared this note from Kay Rhodes to **K.C. Bryson**,

“Just a note of thanks for the huge favor of attaching T numbers to our data recently. This task would have taken hours and hours. I was willing but would have had to put everything else aside for it.

Your ability to go straight to the need and do your magic always amazes me. Thanks to your work, our department can move on with the analysis, now that the grade books are useable. It is always such a pleasure to work with you. We all appreciate you!”

Glenda Heaton praised the Nursing program and one of its students, **Katie Youngblood**, in her letter to Dr. Lynn Lewis:

“I just wanted to take a moment and send a thank you note for all the wonderful things going on in the Nursing program and, in particular, to praise one young lady, Katie Youngblood.

My granddaughter, Hailey Woessner, was recently hospitalized at AnMed Children’s and Women’s Hospital. She was very sick and scared because she never had never been in the hospital.

Katie was her nurse. She was very supportive, caring, and thoughtful. Not only did Katie take care of Hailey’s medical needs, but she comforted her and checked on her periodically to make sure she was okay. Katie’s actions never will be forgotten by Hailey or me. She is destined to be a wonderful nurse, and I credit a lot of that to your teachings.”

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# Our College Family

## excellence through service

The **Expanded Duty Dental Assisting** program received extended accreditation following a recent site visit by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Based on this review, the Commission adopted a resolution to grant the program the accreditation status of approval without reporting requirements. The next site visit for the program is scheduled for 2018.



Dr. Gwen Owens

Jeff Christmas

**Dr. Gwen Owens**, dean of the Arts and Sciences Division, has been appointed to the Palmetto Area Economic Development Committee chaired by Dr. Mack Durham. She also accepted the nomination to participate in the AnMed Health 2012 Ambassador Program.

Music instructor **Jeff Christmas** will sing the baritone solo in Haydn’s Lord Nelson Mass when Clemson’s combined choirs (and orchestra) perform the work on April 24 at 8 p.m. at the Brooks Center at Clemson.

**Tim Bertoni**, an instructor in the Social Science department, is the first author of “Dead Men Do Tell Tales: The Apotheosis of Celebrities in 20th Century America,” Bertoni, Timothy and Patrick D. Nolan, *Sociation Today*, Spring/Summer 2012. The article explores the decline in the influence of theistic ideologies as compared to the rise in importance of secular ideologies, concurrent with the industrialization of America during the last 100 years. Societal implications of the trend are presented.

Congratulations to Campus Safety Officer **Carmen Lehmann**, of Seneca, right, who was one of 34 students inducted recently into Alpha Zeta Beta (AZB), a chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Presenting her with a certificate is Dana Chappell, AZB president at Tri-County.



Carmen Lehmann

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.

The following have departed the College. We wish them well in their new endeavors:

- |                      |                      |                   |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Angie Abraham</b> | <b>Vicky Graves</b>  | <b>Jenny Dean</b> |
| <b>Kris Coleman</b>  | <b>Amanda Spacil</b> |                   |



## More than 450 Attend Cat in the Hat Ball March 15

In celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday and the College's 50th anniversary, the Inspiring Futures student club hosted a Cat in the Hat Ball March 15 in the Student Center Café on the Pendleton Campus.

More than 450 children and their parents and grandparents joined the celebration which featured fun children's activities like face painting, cake walks, arts and crafts, and more. Many participated the crazy hat contest.

The entrance fee was the donation of new or gently-used book that will be donated to local agencies that serve children and families.

The event was sponsored by the Early Childhood Development Program and Inspiring Futures Student organization.



*Daniel Lee posed with the Cat in the Hat.*



*Melinda Zeigler, right, and husband, Raymond, holding their grandson, Riley Addis, are pictured with Debra Nodine, ECD program coordinator, left.*



*Whitney Porter, two-and-one-half-year-old granddaughter of Dr. Lynn Lewis, dean of our Health Education Division, shows off her face painting by Early Childhood Development major Evans McClintock, of Greenville. Whitney is the daughter of Lindsay and Sean Porter, of Easley.*



*Veterinary Technology major Holly Moore, of Westminster, brought her children, Carli Turner, 10, and Mikah Davis, 6, who are seen reading Dr. Seuss books.*

## Brag & Share

*(continued from page 8)*

Tasheka Johnson, enrollment counselor/recruitment coordinator, thanked two groups of people this month:

"A very special thank you from the enrollment counselors in Admissions to **Mandy Orzechowski, Danny Stovall, Franklin Smith, Dave Walker, and Dorian McIntire** for taking the time to present to a tour group from Belton-Honea Path (BHP) High School. Each of them presented to four different groups of 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students from BHP. The presentations were interesting, informative, and entertaining. The students and teachers were beyond impressed. But most importantly, they felt that they were important to Tri-County. None of that would have happened without the help of **Stephanie Evans**, who coordinated it all. 'They really love what they do,' 'I would love having a teacher like her,' and 'This is way cooler than high school,' are just a few of the comments I heard from students."

"Thank you to **Emily Danuser, Shan Smith, and Kay Rhodes** for taking time away from their duties on campus and accompanying me to Liberty High School for its 1st Annual Career Fair. It made a huge difference that there was division representation. I am so appreciative that when I asked for their help they did not hesitate, and the students really enjoyed being able to talk with people from specific divisions."

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.

## Annual Vet Tech Seminar Attracts 170



The annual Vet Tech Continuing Education event, held February 12, attracted 170 attendees and was sponsored by Upstate Veterinary Specialists and Pfizer. **Dr. Teresa DeFrancesco**, an associate professor of cardiology and ICU at North Carolina State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, pictured here, conducted one of the seminars, titled *Practical Cardiology for the Veterinary Technician*. Her class focused on various aspects of cardiology, including how to handle cardiac emergencies, decision making when anesthetizing the cardiac patient, and a detailed review of common cardiac medications.

## CONNECTING

(continued from page 2)

accountable with appropriate and informative measures of our performance; increasing productivity without sacrificing quality or desired service levels; and revising our academic programs to ensure they reflect the realities of the new economy.

The past several years have been devoted to making higher education more accessible to students. We have been strategically focused on building new campuses and learning centers. Our primary focus now shifts from access to success.

One of our Anderson County Council members recently described Tri-County as being like a PT boat when responding to the needs of the community – lightning fast and on target. We need to take the same approach to improving student retention and success.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.  
President

## Student NAVTA Chapter Donates Surgical Monitor to PAWS



The S.C. National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) chapter purchased a SurgiVet handheld pulse oximeter (surgical monitor) for the Anderson County Pets and Worth Saving (PAWS) shelter. The group presented it to PAWS Staff Veterinarian Dr. Kyle Powell. Pictured from left are **Cassy Skinner**, of Piedmont; **Arty Giles**, of Simpsonville, vice president of the freshman class; **Greg Brown**, PAWS assistant; **Alice Anderson**, of Piedmont, a licensed veterinary technician at PAWS and a 2011 alumna of Tri-County's Veterinary Technology program; **Robyn Smith**, of Anderson, freshman day class president; **Christee Williams**, a licensed veterinary technician and instructor and the faculty advisor to the student chapter of NAVTA; **Nikki Weaver**, of Long Creek, president of the NAVTA student chapter; and **Katie Fricks**, of Westminster.

## 23 Pets Adopted at Paws to Celebrate

**Brooks Gray**, of Easley, a University Transfer major, adopted Bruce, a boxer mix, one of the pets that was available for adoption through our Veterinary Technology Department's Pet Adoption Day March 15. He is pictured with **Shealy Melton**, of Liberty, a Veterinary Technology major. Another adoption day is scheduled for April 18.

All animals have been spayed or neutered, received current vaccinations, have been dewormed and checked for heartworms or feline leukemia. The dogs are trained with basic commands on a gentle leader head collar and have been socialized with many people. The cats are handled constantly for socialization and enjoy playtime together.

There is a \$45 fee, which includes a microchip and registration, payable at the time of adoption.

For more information, contact Ashley Brady at 864-646-1547.



## Bill Willard Discusses Tales from Titanic



Titanic expert **Bill Willard**, pictured at right, presented “Tales from Titanic,” a mixed-media program telling the true stories about the individuals who survived the sinking of the ocean liner and those who did not. Willard, an adjunct astronomy instructor at Tri-County, gave the presentation at the College’s Pendleton Campus. The event was sponsored by the College’s Enrichment Series Committee.

Willard’s presentation included the ROV T-Rex, a remotely operated vehicle that he developed and was used during the 1998 Titanic expedition. He is pictured here with **Hunter Yates**, of Clemson, a University Transfer major and one of Willard’s astronomy students at Tri-County.

## Business Technology Sponsors Annual Steps to Success Seminar



**Lisa Bryant**, director of human resources at Cannon Memorial Hospital, standing, was among the presenters at a Steps to Success seminar offered to students in the Business Technology programs. Attendees got first-hand tips from local employers on the do’s and don’ts of interviewing skills and workplace behavior at this annual seminar sponsored by the Business Technology Advisory Committee. Ms. Bryant’s topic was “The Perfect Interview.”

## Executive Staff Updates

- **Fiscal Sustainability:** Our ten-year vision and strategic plan call for the College to develop a progressive, forward-thinking plan to ensure fiscal sustainability in the face of new budget challenges. A focus group was held to complete a first-level analysis, and Executive Staff provided the next level of input. Work on this project continues.
- **Retention Project:** A project charter was approved to develop a comprehensive plan to improve student success and retention.
- **Print Management Solution Update:** The College is in the process of implementing a print management plan to promote environmental sustainability and reduce printing costs through the use of highly-efficient, centrally located printers that are much less expensive to operate than desktop printers.
- **Other:** Diversity training, progress on updating the College’s mission and vision; revisions and updates to policies and procedures.

# Students Meet Candidates at Voter Registration Drive

The Student Democrats and Student Republicans Clubs sponsored a voter registration drive Wednesday, March 14, at the Pendleton Campus.

“The purpose of this event was to register new voters, inform all voters of current voting rules and regulations and to allow prospective voters the opportunity to meet some candidates and learn about the issues,” said Mary Geren, advisor for the Student Democrats Club.

The College extended the invitation to all candidates and the following individuals were in attendance: Rick Clark, our public safety director, a Republican candidate for Pickens County Sheriff; Anderson County Sheriff John Skipper, who is running for re-election; Cason Gaither, Democratic candidate for 3rd Congressional District; and Jeanne Van den Hurk, a Democratic candidate for the 3rd Congressional District. They met students and answered questions.

Also present was a representative from the Anderson County Election Office to answer questions about voter procedures and regulations.



**Rick Clark**, our campus safety director and a Republican candidate for Pickens County Sheriff, addresses the students.



**Jeanne Van den Hurk**, a Democratic candidate for the 3rd Congressional District, standing, meets **Donald Joslyn**, of Pelzer, a Criminal Justice major.



**Cason Gaither**, Democratic candidate for 3rd Congressional District, left, poses with **Naomi Plummer**, of Anderson, a University Transfer student.



Anderson County **Sheriff John Skipper**, who is running for re-election, talks with **Terri Smith**, an adjunct instructor.