

Connection

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Donna Shannon Receives Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence

Donna Shannon, a registered dental hygienist, certified dental assistant and department head for our Allied Health/Expanded Duty Dental Assisting program, was honored May 7 with the highest award presented to the faculty. She received the Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence at the College's spring commencement.

Dr. Booth presented the medallion to the Anderson resident. The medallion is presented each year to the instructor who has contributed the most during the academic year to the profession of teaching, to the development of the College, and to the students.

"As a department head, Donna demonstrates the consistent ability to balance and manage multiple areas of responsibility while maintaining great relationships with faculty, staff, and students," said Dr. Lynn Lewis, dean of the Health Education Division at the College. Donna oversees the College's Expanded Duty Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Medical Laboratory Technology, and Surgical Technology programs.

"Donna is known for her quality instruction," Janet Fuller, nursing department head at Tri-County, wrote in her nomination. "She continually has outstanding student evaluations. Her students pass their national certification exams at 100 percent. Based on the retention of the program and the pass rates on this national exam, it is evident that she is very knowledgeable about her area," added Janet.

Dental Assisting grads in 2011 and 2010 celebrated a 100 percent pass rate on all three parts (infection control, radiology, and general chairside) of the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) exam. Tri-County's program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

"Both Donna and her students attend professional development events, and she involves students in the national organization, the American Dental Assisting Association. With Donna's leadership, the Tri-County Dental Society sponsors continuing education units on the Tri-County Pendleton campus. This requires a great deal of time and effort on her part. It's a way to promote good will and partnerships with the students' clinical externships," said Janet.

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Donna Shannon was honored May 7 with the highest award presented to the faculty, the Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence, at the College's spring commencement.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Session C Begins.....June 20
Independence Day
(College Closed).....July 4
Graduation.....August 3

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

Connection

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Easley Campus

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Oconee Campus

Hamilton Career Center
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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

During our Spring Convocation in early May, I ended the academic year with a different kind of message than in past years. There was a deliberate tone of urgency which was intended to set the stage for a new way of thinking about how we must approach our daily operations. The higher education landscape has changed, along with that of the larger economy, and these factors require us to change the way we do business.

During the last five years, we've experienced a 43 percent cumulative increase in Fall Semester enrollment. As a result, we fell into a reactive, survival mode to get students processed and enrolled in classes. While we were successful, rapid growth exposed that our greatest strength of "easy-in" leads to our greatest weakness, "easy-out." We now must pay closer attention to the implications of open-door access.

Because of the national focus on student success rates, declining enrollment nationwide and at Tri-County over the last two years, predicted flat enrollment for next year, and a legacy of precipitously declining State funding, we must do a better job of ensuring that those students who need to be here are positioned for success upon enrollment. Adding to these challenges are our strategic student success agenda, changes to federal financial aid regulations, and local and national calls for institutional accountability.

Our world has drastically changed, and while we don't have the luxury of time to consider all the implications of our changing world, we cannot afford to settle into a reactionary mode. Consequently, we have already introduced numerous proactive institutional changes to ensure that we move beyond survival to a thriving future. But we must do more.

One aspect of being an effective and proactive institution is to revisit our organizational structure, policies, procedures, and practices on a consistent basis to ensure we are doing the best job possible for our students. Fortunately, with the assistance of our Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Office, we now have meaningful information available to assist in this process that has not been readily available in the past.

We've started to take a "deep dive" look at the way we have traditionally scheduled classes. In our review, we have discovered ways we can be more efficient in offering classes and, thereby, make more effective and efficient use of our full-time faculty. This review also has led us to ask hard questions about when we offer certain classes and will result in significant attention being given to "scheduling for success" for our students this fall. We want to ensure that our students can reasonably plan their academic career with us, while at the same time allowing us to better plan for teaching loads and, thereby, budgetary needs.

Our next step is a critical look at the student intake processes. We started this review of the matriculation process back in February by bringing in a consultant to review and evaluate our work. His quick review of all the departments that "touch" an incoming student revealed a lengthy list. Marketing, Admissions, Assessment, Orientation, Academic Advising, Financial Aid, the Business Office, the Campus Store, and others all interact with students between first contact and enrollment. With so many opportunities for "handoffs" to take place, it is inevitable that we will have missteps that could cause our potential students not to be maximally served.

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Spotlight on Rosenwald School Project

At least once a week, someone stops by a construction site on the Anderson Campus to view the work and ask instructor Tony Young about this reproduction of the early twentieth century Rosenwald Schools.

"People are always stopping by and asking questions," said Tony, an instructor in the Building Construction program. "Whether it's students, guests, or those who have knowledge of the construction industry, they brag on the quality of the work of the project, which is a one-room, 900-square-foot reproduction of the Rosenwald Schools, which were built primarily for the education of African Americans in the early twentieth century."

Students from the Building Construction program have been working on the project since last spring.

"This experience has been very rewarding for me and the students," said Tony. "We took dirt and turned it into this," he said, pointing to the historical project that will be ready by summer. "Students can stand back and be proud. They can say, 'I helped to build this'." By the end of the 10-week summer class, the exterior work will be completed, added Tony.

"This project gives the students real-world experience and training on a large scale. You can't get this with just classroom studies. When they make a mistake, you stop, lay down the tools, and go into teaching mode. There's no stopping in the real-world construction business because time is money. I take the time to focus on correct methods – doing the work correctly the first time. If students take their time, and it's done correctly from ground to roof, there will be few problems. If you learn using correct methods, with time they can increase their speed," he said.

"They are eager to learn and have done a great job so far," added Tony.

Colin Allan, of Central, a Building Construction major, has worked on the project from the



"This project gives the students real-world experience and training on a large scale," said instructor **Tony Young**, center, reading blueprints with students **Colin Allan**, left, and **Barron Barkley**.



Colin Allan, of Central, a Building Construction major, has worked on the project from the beginning.

The Rosenwald Schools were the brainchild of Julius Rosenwald, CEO of Sears and Roebuck, and Booker T. Washington. The Rosenwald initiative, which began in the early 1920s, was to build new school buildings for the African-American communities throughout the United States. Over a 10-year period, Rosenwald would provide matching funds to build precisely designed buildings which would provide school buildings that enable the best environment for learning

Because of the segregated school systems in the early 1900s, Anderson County had more than 400 schools throughout the county, most of which were one-room schoolhouses.

The Anderson County African-American community would take advantage of this initiative to construct 19 modern school structures between the years of 1920 to 1930.

beginning. "This will be great for my resume," said Colin whose career goal is to work as a building contractor. "We've worked on this from the ground up. It's a hands-on class, and Tony is a great teacher. This is an historical learning experience."

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!



Stephanie Evans,
Academic Advisor, wrote:
"On behalf of the
Engineering and Industrial

Technology Division, I would like to thank **John Woodson, Dorian McIntire,** and **Tony Logan** for their part in helping to produce a short video showcasing our programs. This video was a collaboration between General Engineering Technology and Radio and Television Broadcasting students. Many hours were put into the creation of this short film – from modifying the robot, creating the custom wheels and undercarriage lighting, creating special effects, video taping, and editing. We are very happy with the results. If you haven't seen it yet, check out the video at <http://www.tctc.edu/EIT>."

Sara Crocker, former assistant Campus Store manager, sent this note:

"**Rachel Gunby** (Anderson Campus) won a \$100 credit in the Campus Store during our pet food drive in February. She recently came into the store to redeem her credit. Instead of going on a shopping spree for herself, she asked that some of the money be used to assist a student in need. Diana Walter from Connect to College (C2C) recently had expressed a need for book-bags for students in C2C who couldn't afford a book-bag. Rachel decided to buy two book-bags and donate them to the C2C program. The Campus Store and C2C appreciate her generosity!"

Dr. Kyle Williams, of the Anderson County P.A.W.S., sent this note to Dr. Booth:

"I am beginning to think of these as my annual letters of thanks to the Tri-County Technical College Veterinary Technology program.

In March, **Christee Williams** and the class officers of the Veterinary

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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.

Our College Family

excellence through service

Congratulations to Accounts Payable Technician **Deborah Norris**, who received her bachelor's degree in Business Administration through Anderson University's ACCEL Program; and to Campus Safety Officer **Jackie Howard**, who received her Criminal Justice Technology degree at our May 7 commencement.



Deborah Norris



Jackie Howard

Dr. Harriette Dudley was named Volunteer of the Year by the United Way of Anderson. She was recognized for her literacy tutoring group for children ages 4 – 12 that meets weekly at the West View Heights Community Center in Anderson.

"What a surprise," said Harriette. "I love working with these children every Monday because it takes me back to my K-12 roots. I'm able to see what techniques and strategies are relevant when teaching today's students."



Dr. Harriette Dudley

Tri-County Technical College: Five Decades of Distinction, written by **Lisa Garrett** and designed by **Denise Day**, received a 2012 Hermes Platinum Award in the Book/Publication category. Lisa also received a Gold Award for writing the 2010-11 annual report publication titled "Creating Opportunities for Student Success."

Hermes Creative Awards is an international competition for creative professionals involved in the concept, writing, and design of traditional and emerging media. Hermes Creative Awards recognizes outstanding work in the industry while promoting the philanthropic nature of marketing and communications professionals. The awards are administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communications Professionals (AMCP). This year there were approximately 4,700 entries from the United States and several other countries. Approximately fifteen percent received the Platinum Award, and nineteen percent received the Gold Award.

Rick Cothran, dean of the Corporate and Community Education Division, has been appointed to serve on the SC Work Ready Community State Leadership Team. Participation in the ACT® Certified Work Ready Communities initiative is by application from State-level leadership teams.

ACT®'s Certified Work Ready Communities (CWRC) Academy is a year-long series of workshops for State-level leadership teams on how to build Work Ready Communities. Rick is currently attending the Academy executive training program that will lead State leadership teams through successful start-up and deployment of a statewide Certified Work Ready Community initiative. The academy consists of four on-site, two-day meetings with monthly conference calls in between. Attendance at the



Rick Cothran

sessions is mandatory for all members of the State leadership teams accepted into the Academy. The kickoff meeting was held in Atlanta, Georgia, in February.

Kathy Sparks, geography instructor, is now Dr. Sparks. Kathy earned her Ph.D. from Clemson this spring term. Dr. Sparks' research analyzed the types of businesses in the center of Charleston, at 20-year intervals, to show the gradual transformation of the area from an industrial port to an internationally renowned tourist destination. The research also examined the roles of advertising, planning policy, historic preservation, beautification, transportation, and accessibility in tourism development during the last hundred years.



Dr. Kathy Sparks

in transition

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

Leigh Colombo

Sara Crocker

Carol Heaton

Administrative Professionals Discover “Passion & Purpose”



Roberta Sitton, Donna Gustin, Rachel Joye, and Janet Brdar, pictured left to right on the front row, were among those who attended the Administrative Professionals Day Conference held April 25 and hosted by the Corporate and Community Education Division on our Pendleton Campus. The theme of the conference was “Discovering Your Passion & Purpose.”

The conference was presented in observance of Administrative Professionals Week, and office assistants, executive assistants, office managers, clerks, coordinators, secretaries and supervisors were invited. The conference helped participants to focus on new ideas and techniques to stay motivated, effective, and successful in today's work environment. Participants had the opportunity to network, make new acquaintances, and interact with experts during the conference and luncheon.

Brag & Share

(continued from page 4)

Technology program traveled to Anderson County P.A.W.S. to present us with a desperately needed piece of surgical equipment. Christee led her students in fundraisers and enlisted the help of the South Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians in the effort to provide us with a state-of-the-art surgical monitor.

Until now, I had to rely on peripheral vision, a ‘sixth sense,’ and more than a little luck to watch over my patients' conditions during surgery. While at least one member of my staff was always within earshot, we usually could not spare anyone to monitor patients throughout surgery. With our new monitor, I can hear how my patient is doing, an alarm alerts me of complications and brings help running, and the display can easily be read from anywhere in the room. The reduction in staff stress levels is amazing!

This monitor is the second-best piece of equipment our shelter has received from Tri-County. The best ‘piece of equipment’ is your 2011 Outstanding Student, Alice Anderson. The addition of Alice to our staff has exponentially increased the amount and quality of care our animals receive. Alice is a perfect fit with the staff and the mission of our shelter. I brag on her, the quality of your graduates, and the close relationship we enjoy with Tri-County Technical College every chance I get.

I can't thank you and your Veterinary Technology program enough and have experienced first-hand the reasons this program is nationally recognized as one of the best.”

Faculty and Staff Receive Awards for Service to College and State

Debbie Nelms was recognized for more than three decades of service to the College at the annual spring convocation.

Debbie, who serves as Fiscal Analyst in the Economic and Institutional Advancement Division, received a 30-year pin for her years of service.

Honored for 25 years of service to the College were Linda Crowe, secretary for the Comprehensive Studies program; Lisa Garrett, an associate in the Public Relations Department; and David Walker, an instructor in the Machine Tool Technology program.

Receiving 20-year pins for service to the State and College were Mary Heyer, a financial aid counselor; Lynn Lollis, nursing lab coordinator for Practical Nursing; Tonia McClain, office manager for the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division; and Melinda Zeigler, administrative specialist for the Business and Public Services Division.

Recognized for 15 years of service to Tri-County were Sharon Colcolough, director of personnel; Dr. Thwanda Davidson, director of TRiO; Hubert McClure, Mathematics instructor; Jeanne Otey, technical/user support manager; and Franklin Smith, program coordinator for HVAC and Building Construction programs.

Recognized for 10 years of service to College and State were Herman Allen, coordinator of Educational Talent Search; Shelley Burgins, associate degree Nursing instructor; Sheryl Donovan, coordinator of instructional activities for the Social Sciences Department; Jane Gray, administrative specialist for the Corporate and Community Education Division; Jan Kempinski, web developer/programmer; Dr. Jerry Marshall, Mathematics department head; Scott Moser, coordinator of instructional activities for the Computer/Information Technology Department; Cathy Payne, applications analyst, Information Technology Department; Jackie Rutledge, associate degree Nursing instructor; and Donnie Winkler, Science instructor.

Beverly Thompson, Biology instructor, received a pin for 10 years of service to the College, and Carmen Lehmann, campus security officer, received a pin for 10 years of service to the State.



Debbi Nelms
30 yrs. TCTC



Linda Crowe
25 yrs. TCTC



Lisa Garrett
25 yrs. TCTC



Mary Heyer
20 yrs. C&S



Tonia McClain
20 yrs. C&S



Melinda Zeigler
20 yrs. C&S



Dr. Thwanda Davidson
15 yrs. TCTC



Hubert McClure
15 yrs. TCTC



Franklin Smith
15 yrs. TCTC



Herman Allen
10 yrs. C&S



Sheryl Donovan
10 yrs. C&S



Jane Gray
10 yrs. C&S



Jan Kempinski
10 yrs. C&S



Dr. Jerry Marshall
10 yrs. C&S



Cathy Payne
10 yrs. C&S



Jackie Rutledge
10 yrs. C&S



Donnie Winkler
10 yrs. C&S



Beverly Thompson
10 yrs. TCTC



Carmen Lehmann
10 yrs. State

James (Jimmy) Walker Receives Adjunct Faculty Presidential Award

James (Jimmy) Walker, a Math instructor in the Comprehensive Studies Department as well as the Arts and Sciences Division, received the College's 2012 Adjunct Faculty Presidential Award May 3.

This award is given annually at the spring faculty/staff convocation to the adjunct faculty member who is recognized for excellence in teaching, who has consistently high student evaluations, and who supports the philosophy and goals of the College.

Jimmy, an Anderson resident, has taught at the College since 2007. Students and faculty praise Walker as being an invaluable asset to the classroom and the College.

"Many students will tell you that math is their least favorite or most difficult subject, which is why the right instructor is vital to developmental math students' success. Jimmy Walker has consistently been the right teacher for our students," said Comprehensive Studies Department Head Jennifer Beattie in her nomination.

In their evaluations, students say Jimmy is a patient, caring and concerned teacher. One student wrote, "He walks throughout the classroom, making sure that everyone is understanding and asks if anyone has any questions. He seems to care if you understand or not." Another wrote, "I give this man 10 stars - the best instructor I have ever had."

Jennifer added that he is always willing to go the extra mile. "Whenever we need someone to step in and teach for an absent teacher, Jimmy is the first to volunteer his time - even if it means driving to another campus."

She commended his willingness to try new teaching strategies and participate in professional development activities. "He takes what he learns from these experiences, brings them back to us and offers valuable suggestions and advice to improve upon student learning. He takes it upon himself to remain current on best practices in his field. This isn't required of him



James (Jimmy) Walker, a Math instructor in our Comprehensive Studies Department as well as the Arts and Sciences Division, right, received the College's 2012 Adjunct Faculty Presidential Award May 3. Presenting the award is **Dr. Booth**.

but he is always ready and willing to do what it takes to be the best instructor possible."

Jimmy holds a B.S. in mathematics from the University of South Carolina. He completed the master teacher program at Tri-County in 2008 and was one of the first adjunct instructors to do so.

During the 2010 - 2011 academic year, he served as adjunct representative for the Arts and Sciences Division to the Faculty Senate. In the fall of 2011 he was trained to serve as a small group advisor in the College's advising center. This semester, he served as a tutor in the Arts and Sciences Learning Lab. Since 2008, he has taught 23 university transfer mathematics classes. Says Dr. Jerry Marshall, Mathematics department head for the Arts and Sciences Division, "He is a dedicated, hardworking Math instructor. His students praise him. He sets the example for being a servant teacher."



Wallace Peebles
Engineering the Industrial Technology
Nominee



Kristen Hawkins
Health Education
Nominee



Jeff Sams
Business and Public Services
Nominee

The Eighties



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.

Renae Thomas (now **Frazier**) received a Secretarial Science degree in 1988 during summer commencement. She is pictured with her mother, the late **Iola Thomas**. After graduating, Renae was hired as an Administrative Specialist for the Admissions Office and today is Director of Recruitment and Admissions.



Melinda Lesley (today **Zeigler**), center, received the Don C. Garrison Scholarship in May of 1989. She was a Secretarial Science major and after graduating, she worked for the Institutional Development office and later moved into her position of Division Secretary for the Business and Public Services Division. She is pictured with **Martha Addis**, former Secretarial Science department head and now retired Business and Public Services Division chair; and the late President **Don C. Garrison**.

Carolyn Few Yarborough, widow of Tri-County Technical College's first executive director, William T. (Bill) Yarborough, wrote Dr. Booth a letter, following the receipt of a copy of the College's 50th anniversary publication, Five Decades of Distinction.

She writes:

Congratulations to Tri-County Technical College for 50 years as an institution dedicated to the promotion of knowledge and learning. What a blessing to the citizenry of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties for whom the College was established in 1962.

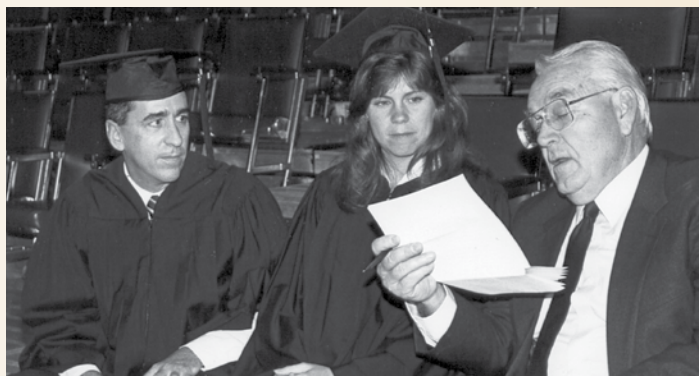
Never would one have imagined such a future for the "city set on a hill." I am so proud to have been a part of the vision Bill Yarborough shared in the fulfillment of Tri-County's role as a leader in technical education in the State of South Carolina. The College has devoted 50 years in building a history and tradition rising from a single building in 1962 to what was to become the heart of so grand a campus as that of today. When I think about those early days, I am humbled by the excellence with which the faculty, academic programs, learning environment, technological infrastructure, library resources, scholarship, and endowment, to name a few, have grown in proportion to the needs of the population. With the leadership of individuals like Dr. Don Garrison and yourself, the College continues its mission to enhance the industrial, economic and cultural potential of the area. You can be proud of an institution which has accomplished so much in so short a time, while maintaining the highest standards of honor and integrity.

Thank you so much for including the Yarborough family in this celebration, and thank you for the beautiful publication. Bill Yarborough would not have desired such accolades. He was truly content as a teacher and pioneer public servant. May God bless you and all those committed to the future of Tri-County Technical College.

Famous Faces Visit College



When Vice President **George H.W. Bush** visited the campus on February 25, 1988, it marked the first time a President or Vice President of the U.S. had ever visited the College. Accompanied by then **Governor Carroll Campbell**, he greeted local dignitaries before touring the Industrial Electronics Technology Department, talking to students and reporters, and concluding with a standing-room only address to faculty, staff, students, and residents. The visit was arranged locally by Pickens County Councilman Neil Smith.



Dr. Dale Parnell, right, the founder of the Tech Prep/Associate Degree movement in the U.S., visited the area in 1987 to launch the Partnership for Academic and Career Education (PACE) and to promote this partnership between the seven school districts of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties, Tri-County Technical College, the Anderson County Business and Education Partnership, and Clemson University. He returned in 1997 as our spring commencement speaker and is pictured here with graduates **Joe Faia** and **Cindy McCullough**. Dr. Parnell served as president of AACJC and his 1985 book, *The Neglected Majority*, is credited by many with stirring national and local interest in educational reform. The book, chosen as the best association book in the nation in 1985, addresses the fact that three out of four high school students, the neglected majority, likely will not earn a baccalaureate degree. Tech Prep/School-to-Work links high school and two-year college programs by eliminating the gaps and overlaps between these two levels of education. The PACE Consortium helped to facilitate the development of Tech Prep (PREPARation for TECHnologies)/School-to-Work programs in the tri-county area.



Chris Costner Sizemore, whose personalities were exemplified in the Academy Award-winning film, "The Three Faces of Eve," presented her story on campus in October 1987. Ms. Sizemore, who endured 45 painful years as 22 personalities, talked informally about her 20-plus years of hiding in seclusion and finally the resolution of her illness – the rare disorder of multiple personality. An accomplished author and artist, she traveled around to lecture about successfully conquering mental illness and the importance of involving the family in the healing process. She is pictured with her husband.



Columbia native Astronaut **Major Charles Bolden**, pictured here, visited Tri-County in 1982. Since July 2009, retired Marine Corps Major General has served as the twelfth Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). As Administrator, he leads the NASA team and manages its resources to advance the agency's missions and goals.

The Alumni Association and the Athletics Department at Tri-County co-hosted the Tri-County Spring Open April 27 at Brookstone Meadows Golf Club in Anderson.

The event raised \$10,219 and proceeds from the Tri-County Spring Open benefit both the Alumni Association and the Athletics Department.



Score of 52 Wins Team First-Place Prize



A low score of 52 won the Stephen Tucker team the first-place prize in Tri-County's Spring Open golf tournament. From left are **Mike Lawrence**, **Todd Cox**, **Stephen Tucker**, and **Ronnie Hanks**, pictured with **John Lummus**, vice president of economic and institutional advancement.



Maintenance Staff members **Horace Perkins**, second from left, and **Terry Heg**, right, played on a team with former Maintenance Supervisor **Mike McCuen**, third from left, and **Dan Monahan**.



Interim Athletic Director **Stephanie Winkler**, seated, front, and **Mary Johnston**, administrative assistant for the public relations and marketing office, worked the registration table.



readySC Area Director **Bobby Brothers**, front, ponders a shot, as team member **Gregg Stapleton**, vice president for Business Affairs, looks on.



Terry Heg, an electrician on our Maintenance staff, prepares to shoot.

Dr. Booth Signs Girl Scouts Pledge



Five Scouts representing the Clemson/Central/Six Mile area of the Girl Scouts of South Carolina Mountains to Midlands met with **Dr. Booth**, seated, to ask him to sign the “To Get Her There” online pledge as part of the centennial celebration of Girl Scouts of the USA. The “To Get Her There” initiative is dedicated to girls’ leadership issues with the goal of creating balanced leadership among females and males in one generation. Pictured left to right are **Alyssa Howard**, age 12, a sixth grader at R.C. Edwards Middle School in Central; **Annjie Ficklin**, age 5, a kindergartener at Clemson Elementary in Clemson; **Dr. Booth**; **Finley Wiles**, age 18, a senior at Daniel High School in Central; **Haylie Ficklin**, age 8, a third grader at Clemson Elementary; and **Elissa Marshall**, age 10, a fifth grader at Six Mile Elementary.

Donna Shannon

(continued from page 1)

Lynn added that during the last 18 months, every program Donna is responsible for has had reaccreditation site visits, and all were successful.

Donna serves as president of the Faculty Senate and has served on numerous committees, where she is known for her thoughtful answers to problems that are for the good of the College.

She joined Tri-County in 2002 as Dental Assisting department head with 20 years of experience in dental hygiene. She had worked at Anderson Periodontics for 11 years. She also had experience as a dental hygienist for Dr. Laura Parra and Dr. John McKee. She holds an associate degree in Dental Hygiene from Florence-Darlington Technical College and a B. S. in Health Science from the University of North Carolina.

She is a member of the American Dental Educators Association. She is a member of St. John’s United Methodist Church in Anderson.

She lives in Anderson and has two children, Rachael and Tresco.

Food, Fellowship Enjoyed by All at Annual Picnic



Admissions Counselor **Brian McGuinness**, and family: from left, daughter **Grace**, 6, son, **Logan** on his lap, 2, and his wife, **Shiho**.



Tom Lawrence, department head for Public Services and instructor for the Criminal Justice program, with wife, **Bridgett**, son, **Caden**, and daughter, **Payton**.

College employees gathered at the Anderson Campus May 18 to enjoy barbeque and games at the Annual Employee Picnic. The event was coordinated by the Staff Advisory Board and funded by the Tri-County Technical College Foundation.



Science instructor **Marianne Yohaman** is pictured with her four- year-old son, **Matthew**.

CONNECTING

(continued from page 2)

As a result of the consultant's work we have formed a Matriculation Project Charter Team to assist in improving our processes. To ensure that we make timely and meaningful progress, I have assigned Kevin Steele, director of Administrative Services, to oversee this review. Kevin will report directly to me on this project and will supervise the process, but not all of the departments. At this time there are no immediate changes in the formal reporting lines; however, I do expect for each person who has responsibility within the process to be accountable for his/her areas within the process to Kevin.

We have much work to do, and there should be a place for everyone when the dust settles. But the individual positions, jobs, and departments may look totally different in 18-24 months. As we review all of our processes related to enrollment, we must continue our day-to-day work. Working in a matrix model may be difficult for some, but we must do so in order to continue to serve students while at the same time reform our functions in order to take our matriculation process to the next level. The success of our students is of paramount importance to us, and the work we do in improving our interaction with them is well worth the extra effort to get the process right.

Our strategic focus now is on success and access, and this review is only the beginning. I realize there are many other required changes to ensure our future vitality. What I ask of everyone now is to consider how you can contribute to improving our processes and student success. To ensure our future sustainability and vitality, we must embrace change, with all the uncertainty it brings, and leverage our resourceful and innovative energy as we re-invent ourselves for the benefit of those we serve.



Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President

Five Foundation Board Members Recognized

BOARD SERVICE: MAY 10, 2000 – MAY 2012

Julie Collins has represented Anderson County on the Foundation Board since May 10, 2000. Throughout her 12 years of service, Julie has supported the Foundation by giving of her time to serve on committees and participating in the identification of potential donors and by being a loyal donor herself. Julie also has hosted and catered, in her home, several President's Club receptions.



Julie Collins

BOARD SERVICE: JULY 31, 1997 – MAY 2012

Larry Yuda has represented Oconee County on the Foundation Board since July 31, 1997. At the time he was owner of Compact Air Products in Westminster, now known as ITT Corporation, Larry established two endowments – the Compact Air Products Instructional/Staff Excellence Endowment and the Yuda Family at Compact Air Products Scholarship. In 1998, he and his wife, Sandy, established the Larry and Sandy Yuda Endowed Scholarship, and they also have made major unrestricted and technology endowment gifts. Larry has served on committees and participated in the identification of potential donors.



Larry Yuda

BOARD SERVICE: JULY 31, 1997 – MAY 2012

Rhett Evatt has represented Oconee County on the Foundation Board since July 31, 1997. During his 15 years of service, Rhett has served on committees, has helped in the identification of potential donors, and has made personal gifts. Rhett has also made gifts possible through Oconee Federal Savings and Loan Association, including an endowed scholarship and sponsorships for the Spring Open and Fall Classic Golf Tournaments. In December of 2011, the Oconee Federal Charitable Foundation gave an additional \$8,000 toward the endowed scholarship, creating a total investment of \$23,000 in the endowment.



Rhett Evatt

BOARD SERVICE: JANUARY 1, 1994 - MAY 2012

Joe Hooper has served on the Foundation Board since January 1, 1994, representing Pickens County. Throughout his 18 years of service, Joe has served on numerous committees, has assisted in the identification of potential donors, and has established an instructional/staff excellence endowment through his company (Pride Mechanical) to support mini-grants for professional development activities. Joe also has supported the Spring Open and Fall Classic Golf Tournaments, and his most recent contributions have been for the Institute for Manufacturing Competitiveness.



Joe Hooper

BOARD SERVICE: JULY 1, 2008 - FALL 2012

Jaime Herrera-Torres resigned from the Board in the fall. Jaime joined the Board on July 1, 2008, and he was a loyal supporter of the College and the Foundation. From the time he joined the Board until this year, Jaime's company, Sandvik, has given a total of \$28,000 to support various special events and scholarships.



Jaime Herrera-Torres

Welders Take Six Awards at Competition



Winners, along with instructors, are pictured from left to right: (kneeling) **Justin Carver**, of West Union, won first place in Category 6; **Jimmie Prince**, of Easley, won first place in Category 2; **John Pressley**, of Walhalla, won first place in Category 5; **Bryce Thomason**, of Anderson, won second place in Category 4; **Cassandra DeGive**, of Anderson, won second place in Category 1; and **Daniel Foster** of Westminster, won second place in Category 3. Standing from left are **Matt Woodall**, instructor; **Scott Brabham**, instructor; **Larry Hembree**, adjunct instructor; **Mark Hester**, adjunct instructor; **Randy Price**, adjunct instructor; **Paul Phelps**, program coordinator; and **Fernando Arenas**, adjunct instructor.

Tri-County Technical College's Welding students took home three first place and three second-place awards at the annual State Welding competition last month.

Hosted by Trident Technical College in Charleston April 26 and 27, six Tri-County students competed against seven other technical colleges: Trident Technical College, Greenville Technical College, Spartanburg Community College, Aiken Technical College, Central Carolina Technical College, Florence Darlington Technical College, and Piedmont Technical College.

Weaver Receives SCAVT Leadership Award



Brittany Nicole (Nikki) Weaver, of Long Creek, left, participates in the pinning ceremony held May 4 for the Veterinary Technology graduates. Pictured with her is **Dr. Peggy Champion**, department head for the program. Weaver also was presented the Leadership Award from the South Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians.

First Heavy Equipment Operations Class Graduates 15

The College's Corporate and Community Education Division launched its first Heavy Equipment Operations class this spring with the first group set to complete the courses and enter the job market this month.

Tuition for the inaugural class was funded by a Transportation Careers Training Program (TCTP) grant aimed at training females, minorities, the unemployed, and the underemployed. The grant funded training for 30 individuals, all of whom participated in core construction skills training. Fifteen of those also were trained in heavy equipment operation, while 10 others were trained in commercial truck driving.

"The South Carolina Department of Transportation received the TCTP grant and placed the work of the grant out for bid. A² Consulting won the contract, and Tri-County is the training supplier," said Mary Corley, program manager for our Highway Construction Program. "We were preparing to start a heavy equipment training class, and the grant gave us a guaranteed full starting class."

Students learned equipment applications, attachments, operating controls, preventive maintenance requirements, and basic operating techniques through a combination of classroom and hands-on training. Upon successful completion of the testing requirements for all modules, the students will receive NCCER certification in both Core Curriculum and Level 1 Heavy Equipment Operations, plus a certificate of completion from Tri-County.

"A² Consulting recruited and screened applicants and we trained them. A² will help with placing them in jobs," said Mary.

Record-Breaking 624 Graduate at Golden Anniversary Commencement



Senator Graham Addresses Graduates

A degree from Tri-County Technical College means something because of the quality of graduates it has produced over the past 50 years, **Senator Lindsey Graham**, pictured here middle, with **Commission Chair Ham Hudson**, left, and **Dr. Booth**, told the record-breaking 624 graduates receiving degrees at the College's golden anniversary commencement. "It's up to you to guard that and continue a tradition of providing valuable service to our community," added Senator Graham. "You're well prepared to have good opportunities to fill the workforce in the 21st century," he said.



General Assembly Honors College's 50 Years

Representative Brian White, right, presented **Dr. Booth** with a resolution, passed by the S.C. General Assembly earlier this year, honoring Tri-County for 50 years of service to the community. The presentation was made at the College's spring commencement held May 7.



SGA President Congratulates Daughter

Student Government Association President **Wendy Sutton**, left, gives daughter **Angie**, a Medical Laboratory Technology graduate, a thumbs up before the commencement. Wendy gave an emotional welcome to commencement guests, telling the crowd a personal story about how education can change lives. Wendy is pursuing an associate in Arts degree.



Faculty Host Surprise Retirement Party

Retiring administrators **Dr. Gwen Owens**, dean of the Arts and Sciences Division, left, and **Dr. Phil Buckhiester**, provost, react to a surprise reception hosted by faculty just prior to graduation. Both will retire June 30.

Jackie Howard, campus security officer, received her Criminal Justice degree from **Dr. Booth**.

Faces of the Decades Honored During Ceremony



President Booth recognized an outstanding alumnus from each decade (1960s – 2000s). The following were honored as the Faces of the Decades: from left, **Wanda J. Johnson**, Class of 1995 (Criminal Justice), Probation Agent and Victim Services Coordinator for South Carolina's Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services (SCDPPS); **Walter Hays McGee**, Class of 1967 (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning), owner of McGee Heating and Air Conditioning in Anderson and Georgia; **Tracy Whitten Bowie**, Class of 2003 (Business Technology with major in Accounting), Executive Director of Foothills Alliance, Anderson; **Ethel C. Pettigrew**, Class of 1980 (Business Technology with major in Accounting), Certified Public Accountant and Partner at Whitener, Pettigrew & Company, LLC, Clemson; and **Carl Anderson**, Class of 1975 (Criminal Justice), Deputy Chief at Anderson County Sheriff's Office. For detailed feature stories on our honorees, go to our News Releases page on the College's website: http://www.tctc.edu/Content/About_TCTC/Media/News_Releases.xml.

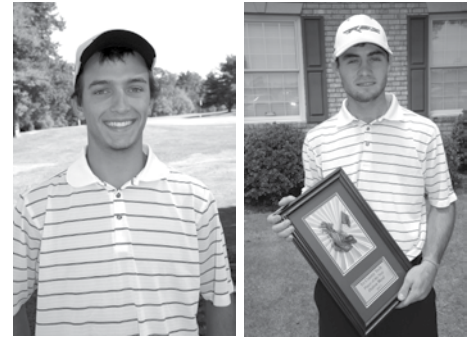
Connect to College Graduates Seven

Spring 2012 high school graduates through the Connect to College program at Tri-County are pictured here, from left to right, **Will Baxter** (Westside High School); **Jordan Walls** (Westside High School); **Daniel Williams** (Pendleton High School); **T. Cody Duncan** (Seneca High School); and **C. Alexis Burdette** (Crescent High School). Not pictured are Jaye Crowe and Kaitlyn Smith, both graduates from West-Oak High School.

The program's purpose is to serve academically capable youth age 17 to 20 who, for various reasons, have not been successful in a traditional high school environment but who have career goals that require postsecondary education. Using a dual credit model, students earn both high school and college credit and may simultaneously complete both the high school diploma (meeting all requirements of the South Carolina Department of Education) and a postsecondary credential (meeting all requirements of Tri-County Technical College).



Golf Team Places 14th in Nationals



Andrew Harvey

Dalton Ward

The Tri-County Hawks Men's Golf Team made its first national championship start in Newton, Kansas, May 15 -19. The Hawks posted a 14th place finish at the end of the 72-hole championship.

The team started well with a 296 first round good enough for a fourth-place start. Low rounds of 69 by Landon Garrett led the team backed up by Andrew Harvey's 18 pars for a 72 and Dalton Ward's 75.

The next three days saw the wind pick up and the Hawks drop back. "We have very little wind like we saw. The guys played very hard, but the wind got the best of us," said Coach Clint Wright. "The teams from the mid-west and west played very well in wind they would call normal."

The bright spot for the week was the play of Andrew Harvey. His rounds of 72, 74, 70 placed him within one shot of the lead going into the final round. "Andrew got a little unlucky with the wind up to 30 to 40 mph during the middle of the day. In the afternoon the wind dropped, making the course easier for the later players. Andrew played well, but the wind and high grass forced his score to 80," said Coach Wright.

Andrew's 296 72-hole total placed him sixth. This finish earned him the honor of being TCTC's first All-American.

Although Coach Wright was a little disappointed in the 14th place finish, he said, "The event will give our program great exposure and a future to look forward to."

Earlier in the season, Dalton Ward, of Sumter, was named Player of the Year and All Region at the District Championship, played at Rockledge Country Club in Rockledge, Florida, in April.

Executive Staff Updates

- **Global Diversity and Inclusion**

Benchmarks: The Executive Staff completed a benchmarking exercise as the first step in identifying categories we want to focus on for development as a College.

- **Student Success in On-campus and Online Courses:**

Dr. Chris Marino, director of Research and Evaluation, presented the results of an analysis of student success rates in on-campus delivered courses versus the same courses delivered in a distance format. Findings led to the need for more exploration of the topic, and results will be discussed and used in faculty development activities.

- **Strategic Dashboard – Enrollment:**

Amanda Blanton, dean of Enrollment Management, presented an update on the work of the “Enroll for Fall” task force and the new strategies in place to help the College reach its goal to increase enrollment by two percent.

- **Weekend College:**

Tim Bowen, director of the Anderson Campus, presented a project charter to undertake a feasibility study to determine the desire/need for a weekend college program. A major decision factor will be implications for student success.

- **Disaster Recovery Program:**

Lee Tennent, director of Information Technology, presented a project charter to implement a program to recover technology systems in the event of a disaster. Our plan is to house backup data in an alternate location.

- **Virtual Desktop Project:**

Lee Tennent also presented a project charter to explore the possibility of replacing personal computers with lower cost virtual desktops (also called zero clients). Functionality would not be lost, and security and privacy will not be compromised.

- **Other:** Approved updates to College policies and procedures; approved fee changes; discussed peak time hours of operations.

Runners, Walkers Enjoy 3rd Annual Road Race



Runners take off on the course that starts and ends at the Anderson Campus located at 511 Michelin Boulevard. One hundred-and-eighty-eight runners and walkers competed.



Matt Shock, of Greenville, was the overall race winner with a finish time of 16:33:20. Matt currently holds our course record.



The AnMed Health LifeFlight, which offers state-of-the-art lifesaving transportation to the residents and visitors of Upstate South Carolina and Northeast Georgia, was on display for runners and guests to view. LifeFlight staff explained their goals which are to improve the timeliness of care for heart attack, stroke, critically ill, and traumatically injured patients.

Tri-County ROAD RACE
5K for Five Decades



The **Science Department Team**, known as *The Science Geeks*, won the Race's Faculty/Staff Team Award.