

Connection

In this Issue ...



College Hosts Pendleton's 225th Anniversary 4



U.S. Engine Valve Makes Contribution for CCE..... 7



Dr. Booth Challenges C2C Grads 12



Students Get Connected 14

Marine Veteran Receives VSF Scholarship

Christian Tellier, a Marine veteran who did multiple tours of service in Iraq and Afghanistan, enrolled in the College's Commercial Truck Driving certificate program this month after receiving a scholarship through Veterans Scholarships Forever.

Ron Demonet, the scholarship program's managing director, presented the check to the Anderson resident who is taking Truck Driving QuickJobs training through the College's Corporate and Community Education (CCE) Division.

The scholarship is helping with the amount that is not covered by Christian's VA education benefits.

Through contributions from individuals and organizations, scholarship funds (endowments) have been established at Tri-County and
(continued on page 13)



Ron Demonet, Veterans Scholarships Forever's managing director, right, presented the scholarship check to Marine veteran **Christian Tellier**, who is taking the Commercial Truck Driving QuickJobs training through the College's Corporate and Community Education (CCE) Division.



Spring Semester Gets Underway

Success Coach **Rachel Campbell**, right, and **Sidney Tucker**, of Simpsonville, an associate in Arts major, are seen during an orientation session held for new students prior to Spring Semester. As of the second week of classes, enrollment was 5,900 students, slightly lower than the same period last spring.

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

Main Number

(864) 646-TCTC (8282)

Toll-free

1-866-269-5677

TDD/Voice

1-800-735-2905

Website

www.tctc.edu



Tri-County Technical College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award the associate degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Tri-County Technical College.

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

PAC Leads Planning Efforts

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” This quote by Henry Ford, American industrialist

and founder of the Ford Motor Company, aptly describes the continuum of our strategic planning efforts, following a complete overhaul of the process two years ago.

Driven by our commitment to student success, we have shifted from a plan filled with isolated activities organized around our mission (153 activities only a few short years ago!) to crafting a ten-year vision and creating a roadmap for how to achieve it. We have constantly evaluated progress, made adjustments—and certainly learned a lot along the way.

Using the quote by Ford as a measure of improvement, I gauge we are at the “keeping together is progress” stage, with a foot solidly in the door of “working together is success.” All things considered, we have come a long way.

The President's Advisory Council, commonly called PAC, is the group responsible for developing the College Strategic Plan. Accomplishing this task is no small feat for this group of more than thirty individuals, including vice presidents, assistant VPs, deans, and directors—and we have experienced some growing pains along the way. Intelligent, passionate, and strong-willed individuals with different priorities and perspectives don't always see eye to eye, but our common goal to improve student success and achieve our ten-year vision to “transform lives and build strong communities one student at a time” has kept us on track. In addition, during the last two years, the group has built trust, engaged in open communication, held each other accountable, and set aside some admittedly territorial issues, which have helped us to stay focused on strategies that will ultimately move the College forward.

After two on-campus planning retreats this winter, the pieces of the 2015-16 Strategic Plan are starting to come together. If you have not yet heard from your unit leader about the priorities we are reviewing, be sure to ask.

More good news. We plan to limit our strategic initiatives to fifteen, possibly a few more or less. These fifteen initiatives are aligned with the four strategic directions we established two years ago—Driving Organizational Change through Our People; Reinventing Our Offerings to Address Changing Realities; Positioning and Equipping Students for Success; and Embracing Accountability for Students' Learning.

The nature of effective planning doesn't allow us to wait until the current academic year ends before developing a plan for the upcoming year. Work driven by the 2014-15 plan is currently underway, and many of the initiatives we establish in the new plan will build upon the work completed this year. While not yet finalized, we already know our new plan will include the development of High Impact Practices (HIPs) so all students can be actively engaged in learning beyond the classroom that can be applied in their personal and work lives; the implementation of a student loan default management plan; engaging in next steps for a new Student Success Center; and implementing a comprehensive cyber security plan.

From 153 good, but not necessarily strategic activities, to fifteen? Sometimes less is more. That's what I call progress.



Dr. Ronnie L. Booth
President

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D., President



Spotlight on...

AARP BACK TO WORK 50+ Scholarships

Loretta Cappiello had no idea it would be so tough getting back into the workforce full time when she began her job search in 2009.

She had just earned her bachelor's degree in Information Technology and with an associate degree in Accounting from Tri-County and 15 years of accounting work experience at local businesses and industries on her resume, she felt confident. Although she found sporadic part-time work, nothing materialized into a permanent position—until this year, when she completed the A+ Computer Service Technician Certificate through the receipt of an AARP BACK TO WORK 50+ scholarship at Tri-County. This is a new initiative aimed at putting unemployed individuals, age 50 and above, back into the workforce. Tri-County is one of 12 community colleges nationwide chosen to receive this AARP Foundation grant.

Since the new year, Loretta has secured full-time employment as IT Manager at Imperial Metrology, Inc. in Piedmont. In this position, she manages company e-mail communications, and handles other IT-related duties, such as the company's e-commerce store, website, Google+ pages, Facebook page and LinkedIn business page, as well as installing software and maintaining company computers.

"This is a great beginning to 2015 after a really rough time," recalls Loretta, 53, in describing the past six years, when she has depended on subcontract and temp agency jobs to keep her and her husband, now disabled, afloat. "I had the IT degree but no related experience so I relied on these temp jobs. I was looking for anything and everything. But the goal always was to work full time," said the Six Mile resident.

In the A+ Computer Service Technician Certification class, students learn to install, upgrade, repair, configure, optimize, troubleshoot, and perform preventative maintenance on basic personal computer hardware and operating systems. The class is targeted to anyone with basic computer user skills who is interested in obtaining a job as an IT professional or PC technician. In addition, this course helps prepare students to achieve a CompTIA A+ Certification.

"When I found the A+ class, I knew I had found the answer. It has really turned things around for me," said Loretta.

Glen Morton, owner of Imperial Metrology, Inc. says she was exactly what he was looking for in filling this position of IT Manager for the company that is an accredited calibration laboratory offering electronic calibrations, physical and mechanical calibrations, optical calibrations and 2D/3D inspection



Loretta Cappiello

services, as well as a complete line of dimensional inspection and engineering services.

"I needed someone very detail oriented, committed, and dedicated. That's Loretta. The A+ certification was a major factor in my decision to hire her. She is doing well. Loretta is grounded and mature and self motivated. She is exactly what we were looking for. We're

a family here, and she really fits in," said Morton.

Our two-year, \$165,200 AARP BACK TO WORK 50+ grant targets the needs of low-income, older adult women, and offers training in healthcare support, office and administrative support, and computer occupations that leads to in-demand jobs.

"Specifically for the AARP BACK TO WORK 50+, our Corporate and Community Education Division will be able to offer a number of training scholarships in select QuickJobs certificates that include Computer Skills for the Workplace, Administrative Microsoft Office Specialist, Medical Office/Patient Access Specialist and Computer Technician A+ Certification," said Sandra Strickland, program manager for the grant.

Our two-year, \$165,200 AARP BACK TO WORK 50+ grant targets the needs of low-income, older adult women, and offers training in healthcare support, office and administrative support, and computer occupations that leads to in-demand jobs.

College Hosts Pendleton's 225th Anniversary Celebration

"This is a class act to start 2015," Carol Burdette, chair of the Town of Pendleton's 225th Anniversary Steering Committee and former mayor, said at the kick-off reception for Pendleton's 225th anniversary celebration. The College hosted a reception January 10 in honor of the anniversary. Around 150 town leaders, residents, and College faculty and staff celebrated the first of many events that are planned throughout the year.

Following a welcome by Dr. Booth, Burdette and Frank Crenshaw, Pendleton mayor and local businessman, delivered comments detailing the rich history of the town.

Also on the agenda were The Honorable Tom Allen, Anderson County Council; The Honorable Brian White, South Carolina General Assembly; and The Honorable Jeff Duncan, United States House of Representatives.

The 225 and Alive anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate and commemorate the town's culture and accomplishments. Each month is filled with special events, beginning with the community kick off and ending with "A Toast to the Future" Event in Cox Hall at the Pendleton Playhouse December 31 at 7 p.m.

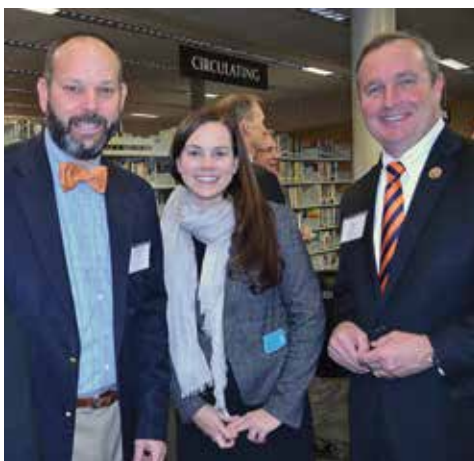
A full schedule of events is available on the town website at www.townofpendleton.org.



Dr. Booth, right, presented Mayor Frank Crenshaw and Carol Burdette, chair of the Town of Pendleton's 225th Anniversary Steering Committee, with a commemorative plaque.



ABOVE: Around 150 attended the kick-off reception for Pendleton's 225th anniversary celebration held in the Ruby Hicks Library.



LEFT: Rep. Brian White, left, and Congressman Jeff Duncan, right, both speakers at the event, are pictured with Elizabeth Edwards, a staff member in Congressman Duncan's office.

Job Fair Connects Participants with Potential Employers

Around 250 attended the January 9 Job Fair and Training Expo sponsored by SC Works and the College's Corporate and Community Education Division (CCE).

Thirty-five vendors were in attendance to talk with unemployed and underemployed individuals about job training and opportunities. The goal was to connect participants with potential employers.

Participants met and talked with area employers that have job openings in a wide range of businesses, including manufacturing, healthcare, transportation, and retail.

"This is an easy way for job seekers to talk with real potential employers about their career choices and to take the first steps toward a new career path," said Leanne Vaughn, recruiter for SC Works.

Employers attending the Job Fair included manufacturing, healthcare, construction, transportation, customer service, and office positions. Several local staffing agencies and workforce resources, such as SC Works, Palmetto Youth, and Vocational Rehabilitation, attended this event.

In addition, Tri-County spotlighted the short-term training options in the fields of healthcare, business, heavy-equipment operation, industrial/ manufacturing and truck driving—jobs in high demand in our region of S.C. Attendees met the instructors

and program managers and viewed demonstrations, as well as learned about available funding for instruction in these QuickJobs training programs.

Rick Cothran, dean of our CCE Division, encouraged job seekers to use this event as the first step to reaching their goals for 2015.

"It's a great opportunity for individuals to begin working on their New Year's resolutions to find great local employment or to start training for a new career through CCE classes or QuickJobs training programs," said Rick.



ABOVE: **Brandon Clark**, of Seneca, talks with **Sandra Strickland**, director of business training for CCE, about the 50-hour Personal Trainer certificate program.



LEFT: **Cheryl Allmon**, human resources and safety manager at Imperial Die Casting, left, reviews resumes submitted by **Reggie Young**, of Pendleton, and **Jason Smith**, of Central.

Foundation News

Celebrating Alumni Successes at Clemson Downs

One third of the Clemson Downs' workforce is Tri-County Technical College graduates, ranging from positions as health care providers, administrative assistants, business office managers, and its marketing director.

A crowd of alumni gathered before the holidays at a celebration arranged by Alumni Relations Director Mary Johnston, who, along with Dr. Booth and Foundation Executive Director Grayson Kelly, recognized the graduates' successes.

"The Alumni Association is very grateful for community partners like Clemson Downs, who has 33 Tri-County graduates working at the facility," said Mary.

"Thank you for your good work," said Dr. Booth. "What you do is a mission, ministering to people, helping to take care of them day in and day out. It's a calling, and you are a part of that. You're making a difference in people's lives. Not just one person but an entire family. That is huge for us and for family members."

"Tri-County Technical College produces graduates who share our commitment to excellence—both in the expertise they display and the compassionate care they deliver to our residents," said Dr. John LeHeup, executive director for Clemson Downs. "In early 2015, as we expand our skilled nursing center to include private rooms and open the Upstate's first-ever standalone Memory Care Center, we anticipate our friendship with Tri-County to become even more mutually beneficial."

"Clemson Downs is so important for our College and our graduates. Students completing clinical experience here benefit from learning about the care delivered to residents with varying medical needs," said Dr. Booth. "In addition, once our students graduate, Clemson Downs has proven to be an excellent, local employer dedicated to their professional development and success."



*A crowd of alumni gathered before the holidays at a celebration arranged by Alumni Relations Director **Mary Johnston**, far right, who along with **Dr. Booth**, back row, middle, Foundation Executive Director **Grayson Kelly**, far left, and **Dr. John LeHeup**, executive director of Clemson Downs, back row, right, recognized the graduates' successes.*

Alumni Association News

- The Spring Open Golf Tournament will be April 24 at 1 p.m. at Falcon's Lair in Walhalla. For more information, go to www.tctc.edu/golf.
- Discount Tickets are available: Biltmore Estate \$42, Georgia Aquarium \$35
- The Alumni Office is accepting nominations for 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award. To be eligible for this award, one must be a graduate of Tri-County (degree, diploma, or certificate), graduated at least one year ago, and made outstanding contributions to the College, community, or Alumni Association in the form of time, talent, or financial resources. If you would like to nominate someone for this award, contact Mary Johnston at Ext. 1808 for a nomination form.
- The next meeting of the Alumni Association Board of Directors is Friday, March 13, at noon in the Pendleton Campus Café.

For more information, contact Alumni Relations Director Mary Johnston at Ext. 1808.

McGee Continues Support of HVAC Program

McGee Heating and Air Conditioning, located in Anderson and Georgia, owned and operated by Walter McGee, third from left, pledged \$20,000 to name the Residential and Light Commercial Comfort Cooling Lab in the College's Industrial Technology Center. The 43,000-square-foot Center opened January 2013 and is home to the Welding and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning programs.

Here, **Walter McGee** presents a pledge payment to **Dr. Booth**, fourth from left. Also pictured, from left to right, are **Chad Ankerich**, manager of the Georgia Division; **Robert Kesler**, manager of the South Carolina Division; **Grayson Kelly**, executive director of the Foundation; and **Courtney White**, director of development for the College.



U.S. Engine Valve Makes Contribution for CCE Training



Pictured from left to right are **Courtney White**, director of development; **Bobby Dover**, plant manager, Westminster U.S. Engine Valve plant; **Myra Morant**, manager of human resources at U.S. Engine Valve; **Hiroyuki Akutagawa**, assistant plant manager; **Grayson Kelly**, executive director of Tri-County's Foundation; and **Rick Cothran**, dean of the Corporate and Community Education Division.

U.S. Engine Valve/Nittan Valve made a \$20,000 donation to the Foundation to purchase pneumatic suitcase trainers for the Corporate and Community Education Division. U.S. Engine Valve has been a member of the College's Center for Workforce Excellence (formerly the World Class Training Center) since 1989 and has been a strong supporter of the College Foundation, having endowed a scholarship and provided funding for professional development and equipment.

Our College Family

excellence through service

Amanda Blanton, director of high school engagement and outreach, is our nominee for the A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year Award. This award, to be given at the SCTEA Conference, recognizes individuals in the technical college system who employ innovative approaches to meet the ever-changing needs in the technical education arena and whose achievements assist in Statewide economic development and the education of students.



Amanda Blanton

Amanda's work with public school officials and industry leaders for more than two years led to the development of a unique technical career pathways pilot program with school districts to provide students with the employer-defined skills needed in advanced manufacturing and other STEM-related careers.

Each program is unique to each district and includes pathways for Mechatronics, Industrial Electronics, and HVAC.

A \$1 million state-funded proviso is making it possible for these high school students to take college courses in career pathways with little or no out-of-pocket cost this fall. More than 50 students are enrolled, a number that is expected to more than double in fall 2015. Tuition and related expenses are funded under the proviso.

The State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education established the A. Wade Martin "Innovator of the Year" Award in 1980. This award reflects the foresight and ambitious standards of excellence exemplified by A. Wade Martin, who was the first executive director of the technical and industrial training program in South Carolina. The State winner will be announced at the annual SCTEA conference in February.

Three Faculty/Staff Members Honored as Tri-County's Educators of the Year



Dr. A.P. (Hap) Wheeler

Three faculty/staff members have been honored as Tri-County Technical College's Educators of the Year and will be recognized at the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA) meeting in February.

Dr. A.P. (Hap) Wheeler, Dean of the Arts and Sciences Division, is the College's outstanding administrator;

Jennifer Beattie Hulehan, head of the Comprehensive Studies Division, is the outstanding instructor; and, Elizabeth Cox, administrative specialist for the Arts and Sciences Division, is the outstanding staff nominee.

SCTEA is a professional association of technical education personnel and others interested in post-secondary technical education.

Hap has served as the Dean of Arts of Sciences since December 2013. During this past year he has taken a leadership role with the humanities and English department heads in establishing an advising center for the division with the goal of improving student success. With a faculty team led by the social sciences department head and a faculty member, he has initiated steps toward the creation of an honors program, with an expected implementation date of fall 2015. With the mathematics department head, Dr. Wheeler has established an adjunct study committee to determine the needs and concerns of adjuncts on campus and to implement best practices for these faculty.

With the English department head, he prepared the three-year academic program review, including a vision-based narrative. As part of that review, he spearheaded the revision of the Division's associate degrees and certificate programs to make their goals more clear and consistent with practice as well as more suitable for transfer students.

Working with Clemson University and the science department head, he helped re-establish an articulation agreement between Clemson's B.S. in Biological Sciences and the associate of Science degree at the College. He and colleagues are working on additional articulations.

Jennifer joined the College's English Department in 2004 as an instructor in the Arts and Sciences Division. She was named Department Head for Comprehensive Studies, the academic department for the College Transitions Division, in 2012. The Comprehensive Studies Department offers developmental courses in math, reading and English to prepare students for success in their college-level coursework. The department also offers college skills and success courses that aim to teach students valuable college and life skills for success.



Jennifer Hulehan

In addition to her responsibilities as department head, she teaches developmental and college-level English, Freshman Seminar and College Skills courses.

In 2013 Jennifer and her team implemented a number of initiatives designed to increase student success and retention. Using the nationally known Emporium teaching model, she and her math, English, and reading faculty created a modified design to help students move through their developmental coursework as quickly as possible. The team redesigned pre-curricular courses to give students a smoother and shorter academic journey so they can move more quickly into their program of study.

She also created two new student success courses, an e-Learning Success course and a high school dual enrollment transition course. She piloted an early alert system to help increase student success.

Jennifer currently serves as President of the South Carolina chapter of the National Association for Developmental Education.

Elizabeth joined the College in 2010 as an Administrative Specialist for the Arts and Sciences Division. She has a wealth of experience, with nearly 20 years of service to the Greenville County School District, serving the final four years as secretary to the principal at Blue Ridge High School.



Elizabeth Cox

Before coming to South Carolina from Rome, Georgia, in 1986, she worked with the University of Georgia Agriculture Extension Service, as well as Berry College in the Office of Development and the Office of Financial Aid and Student Work Opportunity. Her early professional career includes working with a large CPA firm in Rome, where she served as the firm administrator for several years.

Her community involvement over the years includes volunteer work with The United Way, the Rome Chamber of Commerce,

the Episcopal Church and with her residential community association and special tax district.

An article written by **Dr. Chris McFarlin**, program coordinator/instructor for Criminal Justice, recently was published by Inpublicsafety.com. The article also is being featured on Policeone.com, a national law enforcement website. It is seen as the premier online source for all things law enforcement related by the U.S. Law Enforcement community.



Dr. Chris McFarlin

The December 16 issue of *The Greenville News* included a story featuring **Jeff Christmas**, music instructor, about what it is like to be named “Christmas” during the holiday season and applauding him for becoming “a fixture on the Upstate arts scene in just a few years. He has built the Music program at Tri-County and served as the Music Director for shows at Clemson University.” Over the holiday season, Jeff performed in the GLOW Lyric Theatre’s production of “Amahl and the Night Visitors” at the Fountain Inn Younts Center.

Margaret Burdette, coordinator of SACS Compliance and Assessment, represented the College during a question-and-answer session at the 2014 SACSCOC Annual meeting in Nashville, TN. During this session, she shared the College’s processes for maintaining compliance with the SACSCOC requirements and standards. The College was asked to participate in this session as a result of having its Fifth-Year Interim Report chosen as a model for other institutions. The report was placed in the resource room at the 2013 and 2014 annual meetings so other institutions could view the report as an example of best practices. The College received no recommendations following the fifth-year review process.



CHE Recognizes College Recruiting Efforts

Congratulations to Recruiting Coordinator **Christina Houck** (second from left), who was recognized by the SC Commission on Higher Education (CHE) with a plaque “in Recognition of Distinguished Service and Support to SC High School Seniors throughout College Application Month 2014.” **Jenni Creamer**, dean of College Transitions, presented the plaque on behalf of the CHE. Also pictured are **Dr. Booth**, left, and **Galen DeHay**, senior vice president, right.

Our College Family

in transition

Student Affairs Division

Linda Jameison joined the College's leadership team January 2 as Assistant Vice President for Student Support and Engagement.

She is leading the student engagement and support efforts and serves as the Chief Student Services Officer. She provides leadership to student development, community campuses, student records, tutoring services, and the library.

Linda comes from Presbyterian College (PC) where she served as the Dean of Student Development for four years. Prior to that, she was Director and later Dean of Career Programs and Student Development at PC for five years. She began her career working in retail, then merchandising and product development at three specialty sporting goods apparel manufacturers. She was Senior Director for Apparel Category Management for the National Basketball Association in New York from 1996–2002, Merchandising Director for Benetton Sportssystem Active for a year, Director of Design and Merchandising for le coq sportif for four years, and Manager of Product Development and Production Planning for CB Sports for four years.

Her varied work experience includes organizational management, data-driven student engagement program design and implementation, and various risk management functions.

Linda, who resides in Simpsonville, holds a B.S. in Clothing Studies from Syracuse University and a master's degree in Education Counseling from Clemson University. She also is a Certified Global Career Development Facilitator.

She is president of the SC College Personnel Association. Other professional affiliations include the American College Personnel Association, Southern Association for College Student Affairs, SC Association of Colleges and Employers, and the National Association of College and Employers.



Tammy Brock

Tammy Brock is the Coordinator of Student Support for Dual Enrollment and Career Pathways. Tammy spent 32 years as an educator, teaching at Westside High School in Anderson and Socastee High School in Horry County, and working as a Career Specialist at Seneca Middle



Linda Jameison

School from 2005–2014. She was named the 2013 Career Specialist of the Year for South Carolina.

She holds a Secondary Education degree from Southern Wesleyan University and an M. Ed. from Clemson University. She earned an associate in Arts degree from Anderson University. She is a member of Return Baptist Church, as well as the Golden Corner Woman's Society, and served on the board of directors for the Hospice of the Foothills from 2008–2011. Tammy currently chairs the Middle School PACE Committee.

She and her husband, Tracy, live in Seneca, and have two adult children, Nick and Katie.

Corporate and Community Education Division

Lynn Addis is the Coordinator and Instructor of the Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.) program. She worked as a Charge Nurse for 13 years at Hospice of the Upstate and prior to that was the Nurse Manager for 17 years at Medicus Ambulatory Surgery Center. She started her career as a Registered Nurse at Anderson Hospital.



Lynn Addis

She earned a B.S. from the Medical University of SC and is an alumna of Tri-County's Medical Assistant program (1979). She received Tri-County's Outstanding Nursing Assistant Award in 1979 and in 1983 was the recipient of the Outstanding Nursing Student Award at MUSC.

She is a member of Concord Baptist Church. She and her husband, Stan, have two sons, Seth and Caleb. They live in Anderson.



Jason Hart

Business Affairs Division

Jason Hart is the new IT Operations Manager. He comes to us from Anderson School District Five where he was Systems Engineer for three years. Other work experience includes Technology Specialist for the Hart County Board of Education and Technology Administrator for Harbin Lumber Company.

He has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (Computer Information) from Anderson University and currently is pursuing an M.B.A. in Technology Management from the Florida Institute of Technology.

While in college he was a member of the Delta Mu Delta international honor society in business administration and the Gamma Beta Phi honor society.

He and his wife, Courtney, live in Dewy Rose, Georgia, and have three children, Caroline, 1, Cameron, 3, and Carson, 5.

Vonyshisa (Von) Shefton, a familiar face in IT Department, became the full-time Information Resource Consultant for the Service Desk late last year. Since graduating from the Computer Technology department in 2005. Von has worked part time for IT as a PC Technician and in Technical Support, as well as an adjunct instructor for the CIT department since 2009. In addition to her CPT degree, she earned an associate degree in Business Management from Tri-County in 2006 and received a B.S. in Computer Programming from Limestone College in 2009.

While a Tri-County student, she was a tutor for Student Support Services. Von also is a linked learning community designer. She and her husband, Tyrone, live in Anderson.



Vonyshisa (Von) Shefton

Services, LLC, in Pendleton. He began his career in industry as an Engineer at North Georgia Engineers and later was a Project Engineer at Armour Cape and Pond and Senior Project Manager for APM Technologies.

He has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering from Clemson University. He is a Registered Professional Engineer for the State of SC.

He and his daughter, Mary, 13, live in Pendleton.

The following have departed the College to pursue other opportunities. We wish them well in their endeavors.

Kay Crocker
LaKishia Dinkins
Lori Ford
Brian Gaines
Dan Holland
Beth Marsh

Robin McFall
Amy Jo Rieck
Kathy Sparks
Kevin Steele
Courtney Tillet
Blythe Winburn



Robin Phelps

Health Education Division

Robin Phelps is the new Surgical Technology Program Coordinator. Robin is an alumna of two of our Health Education Division programs. In 1997, she received a Surgical Technology diploma and in 2006 received an associate degree in Nursing. She began her career at Oconee Memorial Hospital as a Surgical Tech in 2006 and became

a Staff Nurse in 2010. For the next two years, she was Surgical Services Educator and from 2012–2014 was OR Clinical Coordinator. She and her children, Madeline (Maddie), 10, and Miles, 2, live in Walhalla.

Engineering and Industrial Technology Division

Gregg Corley is an instructor in the Engineering Graphics and General Engineering Technology programs. He has taught as an adjunct for the past four years. Gregg's teaching experiences includes 16 years at Clemson University, serving as an Assistant Professor and later Associate Professor in the Colleges of Architecture, Art and Humanities and the Department of Construction Science and Management. Gregg also has taught at Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, GA, and at Auburn University in its College of Architecture, Design, and Construction.

Since 1989 Gregg has been owner of Lanista Consulting



Gregg Corley

In Memoriam

We were saddened by the death of Maintenance Supervisor **Gregg Rowe**, 62, who passed away January 14 at Rainey Hospice House after a short illness.

Gregg joined the College in 2008 after a 36-year career in the textile industry. Over the last six years, Gregg maintained the campus facilities and supervised numerous campus renovation projects, including the Industrial Technology Center, the Pharmacy Tech lab, and Pickens Hall office areas. "He managed many behind-the-scenes items that most of us take for granted—fire alarm and suppression systems, pest control, elevator maintenance, and landscaping were all part of his purview," said Ken Kopera, director of College facilities. "He also was instrumental in making sure we were ready for major College events, such as the annual Bluegrass under the Stars concert, groundbreakings, and the 5K Road Race, often working after hours to make sure every detail was taken care of, and he was devoted to making the College a better place. Gregg was reliable, often taking calls day and night to address maintenance and safety concerns," said Ken. "Gregg was the consummate facilities manager, always willing to do whatever was necessary to ensure our students had the best learning environment possible."



Gregg Rowe

Student Shares Career Pathways Experience with Legislators



Justin Parnell, Industrial and Engineering Technology student, middle, shared his experience in the career pathways program with area legislators during a breakfast in Columbia January 21. Justin is pictured with **Rep. Mike Gambrell** (left) and **Senator Billy O'Dell**. He lives in the district they represent in the State House and Senate.

Justin Parnell spoke to members of the legislative delegations of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties about his experience as a participant in the College's career pathways pilot program with Crescent High School during the 2013-14 academic year. Dr. Booth asked Justin to speak to the legislators during an annual breakfast meeting held January 21 in Columbia.

The Career Pathways Program with Crescent High School includes four hours of Technical Advanced Placement credit based on competencies earned in high school level Electricity courses, along with 16 college credit hours earned as a dually-enrolled senior in Electronics classes on the Anderson Campus. The program allows participants to earn two credentials by the end of their senior year – a high school diploma and a TCTC Basic Electronics Certificate. Currently Justin is enrolled in the Industrial Electronics Technology program.

Following the successful pilot, a State proviso was passed to provide funding for the program for a two-year period (2014-15 and 2015-16). Currently the Career Pathways Program includes more than 50 high school students from all seven school districts enrolled in Industrial Electronics, Mechatronics, and HVAC.

Dr. Booth Challenges C2C Grads to Fulfill Their Purpose

Before the Connect to College (C2C) December graduates walked across the stage to receive their long-awaited high school diplomas, keynote speaker Dr. Booth congratulated the group on their accomplishments and encouraged them to develop a plan and engage it, to fulfill their purpose, and do it with a passion.

"This is a large step and a significant event in your life," he noted. The Connect to College program has evolved to meet the diverse needs of area students by offering academically capable youth between the ages of 17 and 20 the opportunity to simultaneously earn their high school diploma and college credit, up to and including a postsecondary credential. The first of its kind in South Carolina, C2C is a program for students who, for a variety of reasons, have faced difficult challenges in traditional high school environments.

Dr. Booth also challenged the graduates "to give back in ways you couldn't do before. It's not about what you get, but it's about what you give. Your next step is to connect to life, to your next step, whether it is continuing your education at Tri-County or entering the workforce. Identify your gifts and what you do well. Figure it out and own it. Don't forget the people who helped you get here."

C2C Director Diana Walter said, "I'm so proud of

what you've accomplished. I know the journey you've been on, but it's worth every minute of it."



December 2014 high school graduates through the Connect to College (C2C) program are pictured here, from left to right, **Brittney F. Scurry**, Easley High School; **Orell J. (Ques) Galloway**, Pendleton High School; **Briana S. Ferguson**, Pickens High School; **Valerie M. Bellas**, D.W. Daniel High School; **Malcolm J. Reeder**, Westside High School; **R. Bailey Stone**, T.L. Hanna High School; and **Edward (Eddie) Sidorov**, T.L. Hanna High School.



President's Advisory Council Begins Strategic Planning

Members of the President's Advisory Council recently participated in two planning retreats during December and January to begin developing the College's Strategic Plan for 2015-16. The College's four strategic directions were reaffirmed, and new activities were identified that will advance the

College's effort to achieve its ten-year vision to "Transform Lives and Shape the Community." Here **Galen DeHay**, senior vice president, talks about key performance indicators that enable the College to measure its progress in improving student success.



Employees Step Up to Staff Call Center

Several employees stepped outside their normal roles to staff a Call Center during peak enrollment periods in December and early January to answer questions from prospective students. Pictured is **Lisa Saxon** (front), administrative assistant in the Research and Evaluation Office **Annette Thomas**, a part-time employee in Admissions (back, left); and **Anne Bryan**, executive assistant in the Senior Vice President's office, during one of their shifts in the Call Center. Other full-time staff who assisted in the Call Center include Margaret Burdette, Debbie Nelms, Roberta Sitton, Alydia Sims, Lisa Poore, Debbie Norris, Cathy Strasser, Matt Whitten, Kristal Doherty, Rosemary Howlin, Gigi Ward, Kehl Hudson, Christy Lawless, Candy Rains, Mary Johnston, Marilyn Angoli; and temporary employee Jessica Hollifield. Patricia Neff developed a reference for use in the Center with assistance from Roberta Sitton and others. Many thanks to Cathy Cole, Cara Hamilton, and Scott Harvey for organizing this effort.

Marine Veteran Receives VSF Scholarship

(continued from page 1)

Greenville Technical Colleges and Spartanburg Community College through the CCE Divisions to benefit veterans training. The goal is to put veterans to work quickly, said Demonet. Each college will manage its VSF endowment, which will enable them to provide scholarships to veterans with the most need. As the endowments grow, more scholarships will be

awarded to veterans for training to enter the workforce.

People interested in applying for the scholarship should contact the College's Corporate and Community Education Division. Individuals interested in donating to the scholarship fund can contact www.scholarshipsforever.org.

Dr. Booth Hosts First President's List Reception

Dr. Booth hosted a reception January 27 for the students who were named to the President's List for Fall 2014. These individuals have a perfect (4.0) grade point average and are enrolled in a degree, diploma, or certificate program.

This event was a chance for Dr. Booth to talk one on one with the students and to offer a word of congratulations for a job well done.

"It's a big deal, from my perspective, to make the grades you have," he said. "I encourage you to learn the textbook material and how to apply the knowledge. In today's workforce, employers are asking job candidates 'what can you do?'" He suggested they seek co-op and internship opportunities that can connect them with future employers. "I encourage you to find ways to engage in work-based learning through our Career Services office. It's a great way to connect your academic field to the world of work."



Dr. Booth, middle, poses with students who were honored for their 4.0 grade point average at a President's List reception.

Students Get Connected

Student Life and Counseling Services holds Get Connected events at the beginning of each semester for students to come out and enjoy free pizza, drinks, and freebies. It's a great time to meet other students, check out student clubs/organizations, and more.



ABOVE: **Ross Hughes**, quality assurance coordinator in the Financial Aid office, far right, set up a table to introduce students to "Aunt Fae." Instead of waiting on hold or e-mailing questions, students can get instant answers via social media through a new Tri-County Twitter Account called @AuntFAE (Financial Aid Expert). Students who connected through Twitter received a coffee mug featuring Aunt Fae. From left are **Kevin Kelley**, of Liberty, a Computer Technology major; **Sidney Key**, of Clemson, a Bridge to Clemson student; and **Charles Sowell**, of Westminster, a Computer Technology student.

RIGHT: **Tyson Young**, a bridge to Clemson student, right, plays the College Trivia Contest at the Success Coach table. He is pictured with Student Success Coach **Rachel Campbell**, left, and **Coreea McCoppin**, success coach, middle.



ABOVE: Friends gathered outside to enjoy the pizza and play music during the Get Connected event. From left are **Darian Rogers**, of Westminster, a University Transfer major; **Aaron Underwood**, of Walhalla, a University Transfer major; **Ben Lewin**, of West Union, a Criminal Justice major; **Celia Cary**, of Walhalla, an associate degree Nursing major; and **Rebecca Kilby**, of West Union, a University Transfer major.



Student Veterans' Donations Benefit Veterans Nursing Home



Stacey Frank, psychology instructor and faculty advisor for the Student Veterans of America, front, second from the left, is pictured with students and nursing home staff.

The Student Veterans of America (SVA) chapter, with the help of Mary Dunkel and the Anderson Campus staff, conducted an Angel Tree donation collection to benefit the Richard M. Campbell Veterans Nursing Home in Anderson. “Students, faculty, and staff adopted an angel from the tree and provided more gifts than we could hope for. This collection has taken place for the past two years, and the results of our efforts have been very humbling,” said Stacey Frank, psychology instructor and faculty advisor for SVA. “This was a wonderful experience and we are grateful to those who have helped us so tremendously,” said Stacey.

Look for details on the upcoming Tri-County Patriot Run 5K race coming May 16, as well as a Poker Run and more collections for our veterans home, said Stacey. “The Student Veterans of America club is busy, and we need to recruit more members to help with these activities,” she added.

Patriots' Place Relocates

Patriots' Place, the student veterans' lounge and resource center, has relocated. It is now located in Room 109 in Anderson Hall (former Advising Center). Upstate Warrior Solution is a new non-profit outreach organization in the Upstate that locates veterans and addresses their needs and issues. Representatives from Upstate Warrior Solution are available every Thursday from 9 a.m.–noon in Patriots' Place.

Derrick Popham, a Marine Corp veteran who serves as Tri-County's outreach for the organization, said the organization performs intakes and then assigns the veteran(s) to a local mentor who is in charge of their paperwork and can serve an advocate for them in the VA system and help them to get through the process.



Pictured from left are **Stephanie Winkler**, disabilities services coordinator, who led the College's efforts to open Patriots' Place; **Major Charlie Hall**, executive director of Upstate Warrior Solution; **Ryan Hulon**, Army veteran and University Transfer major who serves as the Anderson outreach for Upstate Warrior Solution, Popham; and **Sgt. Rob Clinedinst**, Army veteran, associate degree Nursing major, and president of the Student Veterans' Association.



Fall Classic Proceeds Create Patriots' Place Fund

Proceeds in the amount of \$20,000 from the TCTC Fall Classic Golf Tournament will be used to create a Patriots' Place Fund that will allow TCTC to expand its services to student veterans. Pictured here, from left to right, are **Grayson Kelly**, executive director of the College's Foundation; **Stephanie Winkler**, disabilities services coordinator, who led the College's efforts to open Patriots' Place; and **Tammy Stout Fiske**, manager of annual giving and the tournament director.

Bosch Sponsors FLL Tournament for Seventh Year

The Dream Team, an independent group of students (comprised of children who are home schooled, neighbors, or from churches), received the Champions Award at the Seventh Annual Tri-County Technical College FLL Regional Qualifying Tournament held January 24 in the Marshall J. Parker Auditorium. The event was hosted by the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division and was made possible through a generous donation from Robert Bosch LLC.

Fifteen teams, representing middle-school students from Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties public and private schools, competed in a regional qualifying event for FIRST LEGO League teams. Around 150 students, along with coaches and parents, attended.

FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is a program created by the FIRST organization. It introduces younger students to real-world engineering challenges by building LEGO-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. FLL teams, guided by their imaginations and adult coaches, discover exciting career possibilities and, through the process, learn to make positive contributions to society.

In this year's "World Class: Learning Unleashed" challenge, FLL teams competed with robots on obstacle course tables. They scored points based on the challenges accomplished. The event is comprised of the robot game, robot design, research project, and core values.

"Bosch Anderson has been



Many thanks to **Scott Jaeschke**, academic advisor for the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division, who planned and coordinated the event.



The Dream Team won the Champions Award at the Seventh Annual Tri-County Technical College FLL Regional Qualifying Tournament held January 24. Pictured with them is **Dr. Trish Hayner**, technical manager at Bosch, who has sponsored the event for seven years.

supporting FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) programs for 16 years and has sponsored the FLL tournament at Tri-County for the last seven years," said Dr. Trish Hayner, Bosch production system manager at the Bosch Anderson facility. "FIRST LEGO League is a great way to show that fun and learning go hand in hand and that an inspired mind can accomplish anything it sets out to do. We want children to experience engineering, science, and technology at a hands-on level. Plus, it's really cool to see the culmination of each team's hard work and showing off what they have done. I always walk away from this event feeling great!"

Awards were given in five areas: Champions Award (overall performance), Robot Performance, Robot Design, Project and Core Values. Two special awards, the Rising Star and the Against All Odds Awards were given.

Advancing Teams (Golden Ticket Winners) will go to the next level of competition, the Western State Championship, in Lexington March 21.

Executive Staff Summary

- **STRATEGIC PLANNING:** Worked with the President's Advisory Council to begin developing initiatives for the 2015-16 Strategic Plan.
- **FULP HALL SCIENCE LAB DESIGN STUDY:** Approved renovation plan for Fulp Hall to add an additional science lab to meet growing demand.
- **MILLER HALL SPACE ALLOCATION/UTILIZATION:** Approved a project to develop a space utilization plan for Miller Hall that will allow the College to develop, implement, and refine the one-stop enrollment and services center concept prior to the construction of a new Student Success Center.
- **JOB REDESIGN PROJECT REPORT:** Approved revised job descriptions for Academic Deans, Department Heads, and

Program Coordinators resulting from a project team effort to revise the descriptions based on changes in administrative duties that have occurred over time as the College's plans and procedures change.

- **SPRING ENROLLMENT:** Enrollment is down slightly for Spring Semester. In addition, the offices involved in the enrollment process made some changes during this cycle in an effort to streamline the enrollment process. They group is now in the process of debriefing and evaluating the impacts of those changes and identifying opportunities for improvement.
- **OTHER:** Financial aid policies and practices; review of College policies and procedures.