Graduation Edition 2014

CAMPUS Connections

Beaufort County Community College

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Digital Sign Campaign total to date $38,143.32

Graduation a family affair for some

For two Beaufort County Community College graduates, the 2014 commencement exercises on May 15 were a family affair.

Veronica Korman of Chocowinity and her son, Daniel Wright, both earned associate in arts degrees, walking across the stage within minutes of one another. Korman plans to transfer to East Carolina University to pursue a bachelor's degree in education. Wright hopes his degree will lead to a better job.

While at BCCC, the two encouraged each other, studied together, pointed each other to interesting classes and compared notes on the best teachers.

"When we would see each other in the hallway, we would slap hands," Korman said.

But when they found themselves in the same classroom, they would not let the other students know they were mother and son.

"She would sit on one side of the room and I would sit on the other side of the room," Wright said. "Nobody knew we were related."

They were just two of the record 298 students who were awarded degrees, diplomas, certificates and high-school equivalency degrees at BCCC's 47th commencement exercises.

Veronica Korman and son, Daniel Wright, sit together during Graduate Recognition at BCCC. Both graduated with associate in arts degrees.

The graduates received advice from former state Treasurer, Richard Moore. Moore began his public career in 1989 as a federal prosecutor in the Eastern District of North Carolina. In 1992, he was elected to the N.C. House of Representatives, where he sponsored bills to reform government, expand child care tax credits, help small businesses provide health care coverage and increase unemployment benefits.

Moore served two terms as State Treasurer of North Carolina where he oversaw more than $80 billion in pension funds, earning "top two" public system honors nationally during the last five years of his tenure.

In June 2012, Moore was named President and Chief Executive Officer of First Bancorp, the fourth largest bank in North Carolina. Moore also serves on the Board of North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company and is a former trustee of Wake Forest University.

He spoke to the graduates about making smart financial decisions regarding

SEE **GRADUATION**, PAGE 4

ADN graduates pinned in May 15 ceremony

Forty-four graduates of Beaufort County Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program received their nursing school pins Thursday, May 15, in a ceremony, which is a traditional rite of passage for nursing school graduates across the country.

The ceremony was held at the First United Methodist Church in Washington before an audience of about 350 BCCC administrators, faculty and staff as well as family and friends of the graduates.

Four students received awards honoring their academic and nursing success. The Leadership Award was presented to Carolyn Heitman, Associate Degree Nursing Senior Class President, of Chocowinity. The Outstanding Senior Student Award was presented to James Allen Menke of Washington. The Katie Paul Award for Clinical Excellence was presented to Jade Leonard of Greenville. Michelle Carter of Plymouth received the Academic Excellence Award.

The 2014 Associate Degree Nursing graduates, carrying lamps in honor of Florence Nightingale, recite the Nursing Pledge at the end of the ADN Pinning Ceremony May 16.

2014 Associate Degree Nursing Class President Carolyn A. Heitman receives her pin from Instructor Angela Boyd during the pinning ceremony.

In his faculty address, Kent Dickerson, director of nursing at BCCC, told the graduates that they had changed from their first day of orientation and are ready for the challenges ahead.

"You are ready to become these nurses that you can be," he said.

In welcoming remarks, Heitman said the graduates "began as a class of strangers pursuing a common goal. . .We have worked hard together helping each other out and cheering each other along."

"From now on, we are a breed of super hero called nurses."

In remarks on behalf of the graduating class, Kati Howdy of Washington thanked the nursing faculty and the family members of the graduating class for their support.

"This particular program and all the people I have come to know over the years have truly changed my life," she said.

Pinning ceremonies in their currently recognizable form began in 1893. The pin is awarded to the nurse to recognize the achievement of entering the profession and to signify a nursing school graduate's affiliation with a specific nursing school.

The graduates are now qualified to take the state licensure examination.

The graduates are Elizabeth Dawn Alligood, Matthew

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Beaufort County Community College

is a public comprehensive community college committed to providing accessible and affordable quality education, effective teaching, relevant training, and lifelong learning opportunities for the people served by the college.

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Early College High School graduates twenty-eight

Twenty-eight graduates of the Beaufort County Early College High School were honored Thursday, May 22, during the school's second graduation exercises.

Of those graduates, 13 also received associate degrees from Beaufort County Community College the week before and 10 will go on to four-year universities.

Among those who will pursue additional college studies is Valedictorian Lauren Wise who plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Pembroke where she will pursue bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics education.

During her valedictory address, Wide touched on the class's next steps in life.

She spoke about moving on to college, memories with friends, family and teachers as well as the importance of remembering who they are and where they came from.

She told the audience how the ECHS students, who completed the five-year program, were unique in their own way.

History teacher Jeff Probert gets a laugh from the graduates during his keynote speach during the Beaufort County Early College High School graduation ceremony.

"Set goals, have a plan and get excited about your future," Wise said, adding "Always, always, always strive for more. When you reach your goals, surpass them. . . Challenge yourself to do more."

Valedictorian Lauren Wise prepares for the ceremony. She plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Pembroke to pursue bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematheics education.

The high school's own history teacher, Jeff Probert, provided the keynote address, giving words of inspiration.

He also provided humorous anecdotes from the student's five years of school - recalling student's hairstyles, tardiness in submitting assignments and continuous use of cell phones.

Of the 28 graduates, 16 were honored with the President's Education Award, four were recognized as North Carolina Scholars and seven were National Honor society members, having a 3.0 unweighted grade point average or higher.

ECHS Guidance Counselor Ginger Jefferson, Principal Emily Pake, Board of Education Chairman Cindy Winstead and Superintendent of Schools Don Phipps presented the graduates with their diplomas.

Graduate Morgan Hollowell said the road to graduation had been tough but there were those who helped her through it.

"I met a lot of really nice and friendly people and our teachers motivated us to keep going."

Jonathan Rowe, Washington Daily News contributed to this report.

Pinning, from Page 2

Kelly Alligood, Kayla Spain Ausbon, Victoria Rowena Bitar, Jennifer Trueblood Boyd, Sara Ricks Cahoon, Victoria Jefferson Carrow, Michelle Howell Carter, Erin Hope Chambers, Carley R. Cooper, Tresa Carolyn Doss, Kellen Virginia Edwards, Beverly D. Eubanks, Melissa Ann Fornes, Erin Gray Franz, Jessica Leanne Godley, Carolyn A. Heitman, Adam James Higgins, Nikki Lynn Armstrong Hill, Kati Nicole Howdy, Samantha Gail Hulon, Samantha S. Jones, Hillary Kay Keizer, Jade Nicole Leonard, Mary Magdalene Little, Vera Mano, Myriah Jade Mason, Patricia Prince Massey, James Allen Menke, Karen Delois Piles, Tabitha Christine Pollard, Jessica Renee Roberson, Deborah Moore Rollins, Samantha Mobley Spain, Corey Michelle Speller, Hillary Denise Stringer, Marion Amelia Swindell, Hannah Jo Taylor, Rachel Logan Taylor, Kristin Stocks Thomas, Amy Loberg Underhill, Crystal VanScoy, Charlotte Nicole Waters and Kayla Brooke Woolard.

For more information about the Associate Degree Nursing program at BCCC, contact Kent Dickerson, director of nursing, at 252-940-6205 or visit the BCCC website at www.beaufortccc.edu.

Graduation, from Page 1

the use of credit cards, loans and saving money.

"If is sounds too good to be true, it is," he said.

"Always try to be honest and always try to do the right thing, even if it's tough," he said.

The audience also heard a few words from BCCC Board of Trustees Chairman Russell Smith.

"We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you nothing but the best," he said.

Awards went to Ronnie Jay James Jr. and Zachary Warren, who were recognized with the highest academic average in college transfer programs and Christine Ginnette Anderson, Jonathan T. Carter, John W. Dodson and William Harris Wallace Jr. who were recognized with the highest academic average in associate in applied science degree programs.

Former State Treasurer Richard Moore gave the graduates financial advice. "If it sounds too good to be true, it is," he said.

Also recognized were Andrew J. Middleton, Dallas Herring Achievement Award; Vickie P. Wilkinson, Academic Achievement Award, and Ronnie James Jr., Robert W. Scott Leadership Award.

As at graduation ceremonies everywhere, the experience was bittersweet for some students who enjoyed their college experience but are relieved to be finished.

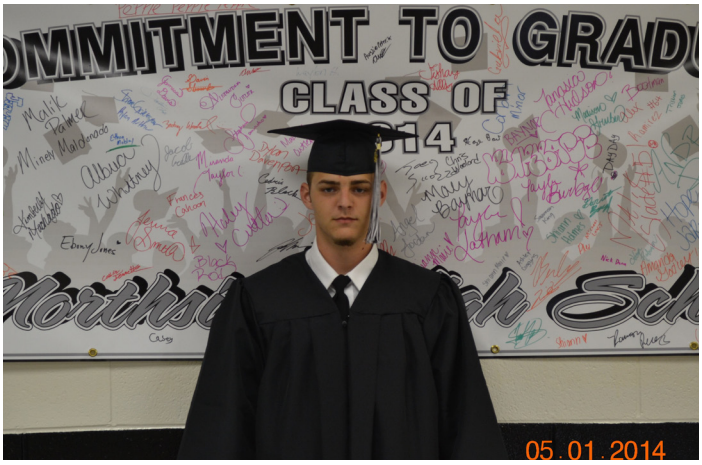
"This is like home," said Korman. "We've had our times when we have struggled but with such a wonderful group

Pictured above, left, BCCC faculty and staff saluted the graduates as they left the Washington High School auditorium following the graduation ceremony. Pictured below, left, Associate Degree Nursing Graduates Vera Mano and Tresa Doss, both of Greenville, share a light moment before the ceremony. Pictured below, Associate Degree Nursing graduates Matthew Alligood and Kayla Ausbon pose for a selfie before lining up to enter the Washington High School auditorium.

Smith find success in Career and College Promise

In planning his future after graduation from Northside High School, Bradley Smith says he could not decide whether to join other family members in their reforestation and land development business or pursue a career in criminal justice.

That's why he decided to enroll in criminal justice classes taught at Northside High School by Beaufort County Community College Instructor Crystal Watts through a program known as Career and College Promise.



As a result, this monthSmith will graduate with a high school diploma and an Essential Police Operations Certificate – the first at his school to complete both – and be qualified for an entry-level position with a law enforcement agency.

Career and College Promise offers North Carolina high school students a clear path to success in college or in a career. The program is free to all students who maintain a "B" average and meet other eligibility requirements.

Through a partnership of the Department of Public Instruction, the N.C. Community College System, the University of North Carolina system and many independent colleges and universities, North Carolina is helping eligible high school students to begin earning college credit at a community college campus at no cost to them or their families.

"I always have had an interest in law enforcement," Smith said. "Being in the uniform and being a part of that life appeals to me."

Graduation Stories

During his junior and senior years at Northside High School, Smith took four criminal justice classes – learning law enforcement operations, community policing, ethics and community relations and investigative principals – that earned him credits towards his high school graduation and a college degree in criminal justice.

Students in the classes also have the chance to participate in other activities such as field trips related to their classroom work or spending a shift with a law enforcement officer.

"It gives students like Bradley and the others in the course a taste of law enforcement," Watts said.

Career and College Promise classes are available to juniors and seniors at Beaufort County's three public high schools, private high schools and home schooled students.

And interest in the classes is growing, according to Lisa Hill, director of High School Programs at BCCC.

BCCC recorded 88 students enrolled in the classes during this spring and anticipates 136 to be enrolled during Fall Semester 2014.

Smith, meanwhile, plans to keep his career options open. During the summer he plans to work in the family business but in the fall he plans to enroll at BCCC to pursue a degree in criminal justice.

Cobb gets her chance to walk across stage

For the past two years, Trina Cobb has served as Chief Marshall, leading the line of Beaufort County Community College students into the auditorium of Washington High School for the college graduation ceremonies.

This year, Cobb was in that line – not as a Marshall, but as a graduate - earning an associate in applied science degree in Medical Office Administration.

"Each year, leading the group, I said to myself, "Will I be able to walk across that stage?" she said. "Now, I'm so proud of my own self. Here I am in 2014. Trina Cobb. A college graduate."

During the early years of her married life, Cobb, 39, the mother of seven children, was content to stay at home. But when the last of her children started school, Cobb began to search for something to do.

She volunteered and helped care for her neighbors but soon discovered that she wanted a career.

"I knew that I wanted more," she said. "I wanted my children to know there's more out there."

After she was laid off from her job as a part-time office assistant for a local youth mentoring organization, she enrolled at BCCC searching for that career.

She was not the only one in her family at BCCC at the time. Her husband, Milton, pursued a degree in business administration and earned his associate's degree in 2013.

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Cobb, from Page 5

Not content to sit on the sidelines, Cobb was active in student organizations across the campus.

She served two years as Student Government Association President and one term each as vice president and parliamentarian. She was a member of the student Senate and Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society.

Most recently, Cobb joined Gulls on the Run, completing her first 5-Kilometer race with other members of the club last month.

She was named one of "BCCC's Best" for the characteristics trustworthiness and perseverance and was cited by Student Support Service at the awards ceremony for her participation.

Cobb admits that it hasn't been easy. She has maintained a busy schedule - working part-time as a Nurse Aide II at Vidant Beaufort Hospital, helping care for her children – in addition to her studies and campus activities.

"It was rough. I had a lot of days when I said, 'Is it worth it?' But I wanted more than just a job, I wanted a career."

Pictured top, right, Trina Cobb celebrates with her husband, Milton, a 2013 BCCC graduate, after the Graduate Recognition Ceremony in April. Pictured right, Cobb, back row, at right, participates in the Great Glow Run, her first five kilometer race. Pictured below, right, Cobb, center, wearing a blue sash, poses with her fellow Medical Office Administration graduates before the ceremony.

James ready to apply new leadership skills

Ronnie James arrived on the Beaufort County Community College campus almost five years ago after transferring in the second semester of his ninth grade from the public schools in Edgecombe County to the Beaufort County Early College High School.

In one of his duties as a BCCC Ambassador, James, pictured above at podium, spoke to the BCCC Board of Trustees.

His high school counselors remember the transition as a difficult one for James - particularly in the area of mathematics.

For a period of time that year, he considered transferring to one of the traditional high schools in the county.

Instead James stuck it out and by his sophomore year, "he blossomed," in the words of Counselor Ginger Jefferson.

In May, James graduated from the early college high school and from BCCC, earning an associate in science degree. At BCCC's graduation exercises, he was cited as one of two students with the highest academic average in college transfer programs and as the BCCC recipient of the Robert W. Scott Leadership Award.

During his tenure at BCCC, James became a recognized leader at the school and in the community.

He was named an Ambassador by the BCCC Foundation for the 2013-2014 Academic Year and has served as

SEE **JAMES**, PAGE 7

James, from Page 6

President of the high school's Interact Club overseeing local and international service projects under the Rotary International umbrella.

James is also a leader in service to the community off the BCCC campus. In December, he was presented the Firefighter of the Year Award by the Clark's Neck Volunteer Fire Department for his service in fire prevention, fighting fires and responding to emergencies in the Clark's Neck area of Beaufort and Pitt counties.

In April, James was recognized as one of "BCCC's Best" for the character trait "hard worker."

He has accomplished all of this while maintaining a 4.0 grade point average at BCCC and while working part-time to help pay for his college studies.

He credits BCCC in helping build these leadership skills and in helping change his life.

"My leadership experience has changed the way I look at life and the people around me," he said. "I see life as an opportunity to make the world a better place and to make a difference in not only the local community but the global community as well."

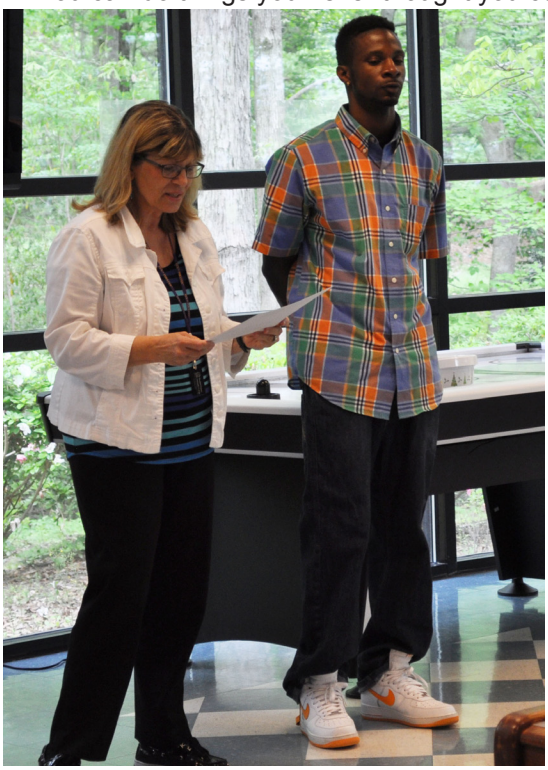
In August, he plans to enter East Carolina University where he will pursue a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. After earning his bachelor's degree, he hopes to pursue criminal justice graduate studies.

Ronnie James Jr. celebrates before the BCCC graduation ceremony with fellow graduate Lauren Wise.

For Christopher Moore, "The sky's the limit"

Washington native, Christopher Moore has advice for young people like himself who may be hesitant to enroll in college, afraid that they may not be able to successfully complete their studies.

"You can do things you never thought you could do," Moore said. "The sky's the limit. You should not be afraid to try."



Twice during the 2013-2014 Academic Year, Moore was named one of "BCCC's Best." He was cited for the character trait "hard worker" and "respectful."

"I was so proud to have that moment twice," he said. "To have that recognition was amazing."

In May, Moore graduated from BCCC, earning an associate's degree in applied science in business administration, becoming the first member of his family to graduate from college.

He plans to use that degree to help him break into the music industry in California.

Moore fell in love with music when he was 12 years old and found fulfillment creating rap and free-style music as a way to express himself to the

SEE **MOORE,** PAGE 8

Pictured above, Lead Business Administration Instructor Donna Dunn reads a citation naming Christopher Moore as one of BCCC's Best for the character trait "hard worker." At right, Moore celebrates in the Washington High School auditorium before graduation ceremonies.

Moore, from Page 7

world - reflecting the challenges he faced growing up in Washington.

"My environment growing up wasn't good," he said. Of the young men in his neighborhood most found themselves "either dead or in jail" at a young age.

But with the help of his family and by carefully choosing his friends, Moore "learned not to travel down that same pathway."

He graduated from Washington High School in 2007 and chose Beaufort County Community College, in part, because it was close to home and convenient.

Moore said earning a college degree has not been easy – he found his studies particularly difficult initially.

"That first semester - I remember how hard it was," he said.

But, Moore said, his teachers – Lead Business Administration Instructor Donna Dunn, Business Administration Instructor Cynthia King and Lead Accounting Instructor Jay Anders - showed him how to use his time wisely and encouraged him not to give up.

"They were in my corner," he said. "Without them, I probably would not have made it this far."

Moore also credits Men of Success, BCCC's mentoring group for minority men, in helping him succeed.

"They gave me advice as well," he said "They told me not to listen to naysayers."

Since coming to BCCC, Moore has discovered that music is not his only interest. He has found a new love of learning that will follow him wherever he goes in life.

"I love the learning process – just learning," he said.

Rose is new special projects coordinator

Since arriving on the Beaufort County Community College campus, Justin Rose has spent most of his time planning and coordinating the upcoming sessions of College for Kids, BCCC's youth summer activities program.

It's a familiar role to Rose, who says his experience with youth programs at a YMCA in northeastern North Carolina is helpful in his new role as Coordinator of Special Projects at BCCC.

In his new position, Rose will oversee College for Kids, BCCC's Truck Driving and Commercial Driver's License academies, many of the college's computer courses and other activities within the Division of Continuing Education. He succeeds David Crosby who died earlier this year.

Justin Rose, pictured above, is BCCC's new Coordinator of Special Projects with the Division of Continuing Education. His office is in Building 8.

"BCCC is very pleased to have someone of Justin's experience serving as Coordinator of Special Projects," said Vice President of Continuing Education Chet Jarman. "I know he will be able to hit the ground running with a variety of special projects."

A Tyrrell County native, Rose grew up in the Gum Neck community near Columbia. The son of Boyd and Betty Rose, he is a 2007 graduate of Columbia High School.

Rose earned a bachelor's degree in leadership and administration and biblical studies from Mid-Atlantic Christian University, formerly Roanoke Bible College, in Elizabeth City in 2011. He is pursuing a master's degree in management and leadership from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

Before joining the BCCC staff, Rose worked as a service writer for Pecheles Automotive Group in Greenville. He most recently served as Operations Coordinator for All Safe Industrial Services Inc., of Beech Island, S.C. In that position, he was stationed at PotashCorp Aurora.

Rose also has experience in youth programs. As a college student he worked part-time for the YMCA of Elizabeth City where he helped found a summer program for teens among various other activities.

"My passion comes from serving others – in helping people progress," he said. "I have always been drawn to education and I appreciate having the opportunity to be a part of education."

Rose and his wife, Ashley, a recent college graduate, live in Washington, where they are members of the Beaver Dam Church. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his family and friends and outdoor activities.

Eleven graduate from BLET Program

Eleven Basic Law Enforcement Training students were recognized in graduation ceremonies Thursday, May 22, at Beaufort County Community College that also included a memorial for a fallen officer.

Those graduating were Ahmad K. Dib, Graham T. Fulcher, Clifton E. Jones and Javier Z. Meza of Washington, Michael D. LoRe of Aurora, Melissa Hartwell of Chocowinity, William A. Bailey and Meagan E. Johnson of Greenville, James R. Hudson of Grimesland, Blake L. Butcher of Swan Quarter and William A. Spruill of Williamston.

During the ceremony, BLET Program Director Larry Barnes dedicated a photograph for Alexander Thalmann, a 2013 graduate of BCCC's BLET training program, killed in the line of duty earlier this year in New Bern.

Eleven Beaufort County Community College Basic Law Enforcement Training graduates pose for a photograph with Instructor Leonard Hudson, far left, and program Director Larry Barnes, far right, before graduation exercises May 22.

BLET is a six-and-a-half-month curriculum designed to give students essential skills required for entry-level employment as law enforcement officers with state, county or municipal governments or private enterprise.

Using state-mandated topics and methods of instruction, the program covers such topics as criminal, juvenile, civil, traffic and alcohol beverage laws; investigative, patrol, custody and court procedures; emergency responses, and ethics and community relations.

Successful graduates are qualified to take certification exams mandated by the N.C. Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and/or the N.C. Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission.

The next BLET Academy at BCCC will begin in August.

For more information on the BLET program, interested persons can contact Larry Barnes, BLET director, at 252-940-6374 or Pauline Godley, Law Enforcement Programs administrative assistant at 252-940-6232.

London Calling (Paris, too)!

Members of the Travel Study Club at BCCC visited London in May and made stops at a number of famous museums and sites – the Tate Modern, Platform 9 ¾ at King's Cross Station (familiar to Harry Potter fans), St. Paul's Cathedral (pictured at left), Millenium Bridge (pictured below), Windsor Castle and the Globe Theater and ate the traditional fish and chips – before traveling to Paris as part of this year's Travel Study trip. Next year, the group plans to visit Belize.

New mace, a symbol of college, is group project

The newest symbol of Beaufort County Community College, a ceremonial mace used for the first time in BCCC's graduation exercises on May 15, was the culmination of many hours of work involving students, faculty and staff.

The top of the mace was constructed of aerospace aluminum and brass and was machined by students and faculty in the college's Mechanical Engineering Technology Program.

Its maple and walnut handle was designed and turned on a wood lathe by Vice President of Research and Institutional Effectiveness Jay Sullivan who has enjoyed wood turning for six years.

"It was an exciting project and I was proud to be a part of it," Sullivan said.

The mace's design is the result of suggestions from members of the college community, according to Matthew Lincoln, lead Mechanical Engineering Technology instructor. But those involved in its design were otherwise given "free reign" to manufacture the mace using skills they learned in class, he said.

"That meant we had to come up with the specifications and design the mace from scratch," he said.

Pictured above, Lead Machinist Instructor Matthew Lincoln discusses plans for designing the top portion of BCCC's new mace with student Jonathan Stotesbury of Roper. Pictured at left, Vice President of Research and Institutional Effectiveness Jay Sullivan, working at home, uses a wood lathe to turn the mace handle. Pictured below, machining students Steve Bonner, center, and David Talley, second from right, help Sullivan and Lincoln fit the handle to the top of the mace. Pictured bottom left, the aluminum and brass top of the new ceremonial mace reflects the light in the college machine shop.

"It can be extremely challenging and involved everyone from our advanced students to our beginning students," he said. "Every little bit helped."

The machining students worked on three tops for the mace simultaneously so that if a mistake was made on one, the class could continue work on another one in order to finish the project on time, Lincoln said.

The aluminum top features the college seal on two sides, the college logo on a third side and a map of the college's four-county service area on the fourth side.

The walnut handle includes two-groups of four maple inlays, one in the center that represent the four counties of the BCCC service area and the other in the base of the handle. Walnut and maple were chosen "for their durability and the aesthetic appeal of their striking contrast," according to Sullivan.

Jonathan Stotesbury, a second semester mechanical engineering student from Roper, was one of those involved in the project. He said the design required advanced mathematics skills and a steady hand.

"As big as it is, it was easy to make a mistake," Stotesbury said.

BCCC College for Kids 2014 schedule is set

The worlds of sailing, hunting, video games and sewing are the activities young people can explore during College for Kids 2014 at Beaufort County Community College. The Division of Continuing Education will offer classes, generally, in one-week blocks, beginning July 14 and ending August 14. The registration deadline is June 30. All classes are offered on the BCCC campus.

The class schedule is as follows:

- **Boating Safety Course** for students ages 13 and over. Participants will learn to skipper a boat with confidence through America's Boating Course. The course will be presented by the U.S. Power Squadron. It will be 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday, July 14 to 17, in Room 827 of Building 8. A course textbook will be available for $40. A course fee of $5 will be charged.
- **Hunter Safety Course**, provided by the Hunter Education Program of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. The course will teach students not only about firearm safety but also about the ethics and responsibility of hunting, survival, first aid and tree stand safety, among other topics. The class will be 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, July 28 to 30, in Room 827 of Building 8. A course fee of $5 will be charged.
- **How to Make a great Video Game!** for students ages 9 and over. Have a great idea for a video game? Instructor Ken Robol will use Gamesalad to teach participates to make a video game for Android telephones. The course will be 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday, July 21 to 24 in Room 822 of Building 8. Class size is limited to 15 participants. The registration fee is $50.
- **Sewing for Tweens and Teens** for students in the sixth through 10th grades. This class will cover intermediate sewing techniques such as measuring, cutting, and stitching by hand, among other topics. The class will be 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday, August 11 to 14, in Room 830 of Building 8. Class size is limited to 12 participants. The registration fee is $50.

For more information about these classes or for a College for Kids 2014 application, contact Justin Rose, Special Projects coordinator, at 252-940-6262 or by email at justinr@beaufortccc.edu. BCCC accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover. Checks payable to Beaufort County Community College may be mailed to the attention of Eva Peartree, 5337 U.S. Highway 264 East, Washington, NC 27889.

High school equivalency fund-raiser tops goal

A drive to raise money to cover the cost of the high school equivalency exam for students at Beaufort County Community College exceeded its goal according to event coordinator Penelope Radcliffe.

The event, *Go to Jail to support the GED® at BCCC*, has raised $2,776 with contributions still being received at the community college, over $1,276 more than the event goal of $1,500, Radcliffe said.

The event sought volunteers who were willing to either "go to jail" or "post bond" for someone to be sent to jail during Gullfest.

Event organizers created a jail area on the BCCC campus as part of Gullfest and filled it with willing "inmates" who made telephone calls or sent text messages to their friends asking for a contribution to the High School Equivalency Scholarship Fund.

For a $5 contribution, an individual chose someone in the community to send to an area designated as "jail." The "arrested" individual then had two options – raise or contribute a $50 "bond" and risk re-arrest or raise or contribute $100 and get out of "jail" for the rest of the day.

"BCCC is grateful to all of the individuals who helped raise money for this worthwhile cause," said Radcliffe, Basic Skills Assessment Retention Specialist at the college. "Earning a high school equivalency can change a person's life by opening the door to a better career or to a college degree. Young people and those without jobs simply cannot afford the increased fees, so we appreciate the community's support in helping ease this financial burden."

Mitchell St. Clair, Sr., joined by his fellow motorcycle enthusiasts, spends time "behind bars" during Gullfest as part of the event to raise money to help defray students' costs to take their high school equivalency exams.

The money raised by the event will help about 27 people defray the cost of their high school equivalency exam.

For more information about BCCC's Basic Skills Program, including classes to prepare for the high school equivalency exam, contact Radcliffe at 252-940-6325 or Tony Taylor, Basic Skills director, at 252-940-6298.

Donors, recipients meet at *Legacy Luncheon*

The Beaufort County Community College Foundation recently brought together about 75 of its donors, scholarship recipients, members of its Board of Directors and local business women and men who have supported Foundation events through the years at a Legacy Luncheon.

Foundation News

The luncheon was held on the BCCC campus Tuesday, April 29.

Since the Foundation was created in 1993, its assets have grown from $81,600 to almost $2 million in 2014.

Scholarship recipients Kenyetta Burnette, Lawrence Satchell and Amy Tinker spoke to the group.

Satchell said he had often come close to dropping out of college because of family and work obligations but encouragement in the form of a scholarship from the BCCC Foundation gave him the help he needed to keep going.

He shared memories of his father who dropped out of school in the third grade and saw the world as a prison.

"Because of this great school I see the world as a palace and I am the king," he said.

Pictured above, Lena Page, left, and her granddaughter Kathy Taylor, were two of the luncheon attendees. Mrs. Page established one of the first scholarship endowments at BCCC, n memory of her husband, Robert.

Legacy Luncheon attendees see a video display of the scholarship recipients for the 2013-2014 Academic Year.

Foundation Director Judy Jennette said she was pleased with the attendance at the luncheon and plans to continue the gathering as an annual event. For more information about establishing a scholarship, contact Jennette at 252-940-6326.

Signing up for the Sign

Gregory Poole Equipment Co. recently contributed $500 to the campaign mounted by the Beaufort County Community College Foundation to build a digital sign at the front of the campus along U.S. Highway 264. Founded in 1951, Gregory Poole Equipment Co. provides sales, rental, parts and service for construction, agriculture, forestry, lift systems, floor cleaning, marine power, on-highway transportation, compressed air and electric power generation equipment in 19 locations in the eastern parts of North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. Pictured, at left, Construction Division Service Manager Ken Woodworth Jr., Industrial Service Manager Robin Skillen and, at right, Parts Manager Charles Phelps present a check to BCCC President Barbara Tansey, third from right, and Foundation Director Judy Jennette.

Croquet Tournament draws enthusiastic crowd

The Beaufort County Community College Foundation's annual Cutthroat Croquet Tournament drew some 100 people - a record number of participants - to Bath on Saturday, May 17, for the croquet tournament and buffet lunch prepared by Chef Paul Cyr.

For the fourth time, the tournament featured two flights - a Cutthroat Flight for more serious players and a Rapscallion Flight for more casual players. First prize in the Cutthroat Flight went to Dick Adams; second prize, Marshall Hall; third prize, Francisco Price, and fourth prize to Tony Price. First prize in the Rapscallion Flight went to Bill Edwards; second prize, Jean Herscovici; third prize, Andre Herscovici, and fourth prize to Margie Tankard. Congratulations to all winners and players!

Pictured above, left, tournament participants and spectators enjoy lunch in the shade during a break in play. Pictured above, right, BCCC History Instructor Keith Lyon lines up a shot while his daughter, Kelsey, studies her next move. Pictured at left, the Survey Dog Course proved difficult for many players. Pictured below, left, Foundation Director Judy Meier Jennette congratulates Dick Adams winner of the Cutthroat Flight.

Academic Excellence Award winner recognized

The governing board of the N.C. Community College System recognized Beaufort County Community College's Academic Excellence Award winner at a ceremony held recently on the BCCC campus.

Scott Shook, a member of the State Community College Board, presented a medal and plaque to Vickie Wilkinson, a BCCC student from Chocowinity, in recognition of her academic achievement.

The presentation was made during BCCC's annual Graduate and Outstanding Student Recognition Ceremony attended by about 150 BCCC students, faculty and staff on Tuesday, April 23.

In presenting the award, Shook congratulated Wilkinson on her hard work and wished her success as she begins her new career as a teacher's assistant.

Wilkinson graduated in May with an associate's degree in school age education.

A native of Raleigh, Wilkinson has served as a college Ambassador and is a member of Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society. In her spare time, she enjoys running half-marathons, bicycle riding, hiking and reading.

She has two children and is married to Scott Wilkinson, who recently retired from campus ministry at East Carolina University with the United Methodist Church.

Pictured above BCCC President Barbara Tansey and Scott Shook, a member of the State Board of Community Colleges present Vickie Wilkinson, BCCC Academic Excellence Award winner, with the plaque and medal at the 2014 Graduate Recognition Ceremony.

The Academic Excellence Awards are offered annually to recognize and promote scholarships among the more than 750,000 students in the N.C. Community College System. Nominations for the award are based on a grade point average of 3.5 or better and a student's involvement on campus and in the community. Instructors within their academic divisions nominate the students.

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Upcoming Events

June 3 — BCCC Board of Trustees, 5 P.M., Board Room, Building 10, committees meet consecutively; dinner, 6:30 P.M., Board meeting, 7 P.M.

June 24 — New student orientation and registration for Fall Semester.

July 2 — Last Day to Drop without grade penalty for Summer Term.

July 3 — Holiday.

July 16 — Summer Semester ends.

August 5 —BCCC Board of Trustees, 5 P.M., Board Room, Building 10, committees meet consecutively; dinner, 6:30 P.M., Board meeting, 7 P.M.

August 13 — Faculty Work Day.

August 13 — Mandatory Lockdown training for faculty and staff, 1 P.M., auditorium, Building 8.

August 14 — Late Registration for Fall Semester.

August 15 — First Day of classes for Fall Semester.

August 26 — Student Government Association, noon, Student Lounge, Building 9.

September 1 — Holiday.

Students, faculty and staff: Publicize your campus-based fund-raiser and/or other event in this column monthly. Please e-mail your announcements to Betty Gray no later than the 15th of the month in order to list your event in the next edition of Campus Connections. Also check out the BCCC newsblog at www.bcccnewsblog.blogspot.com.