Martin Sworn in as new Clerk of Simpson

MCC Office Administration student, and Stokes resident, Elaine Martin was sworn in as the Clerk and Finance Officer for the village of Simpson on October 30. Simpson’s Mayor, David Boyd, (pictured above and middle right with Martin) administered the oath of office and officially welcomed her to the staff.

The village of Simpson is located in Pitt County, a few miles east of Greenville. U.S. Census data from 2010 estimates the population of the village to be 416. Simpson is a part of the Greenville Metropolitan Area.

If Martin looks familiar, that’s because she has been working for several months as the night receptionist at MCC. “Her pleasant and helpful demeanor will serve her well as a public administrator,” according to former Mayor of Washington and MCC PR Director Judy Jennette.

Municipal and county clerks are the backbone of well-run government. In North Carolina, cities and counties are required by law to have a clerk for their governing boards. Clerks are the official record keepers for local governments and are charged with maintaining permanent records, primarily the minutes, of governing board meetings.

As the village Finance Officer, Martin will perform a number of bookkeeping tasks. She has already taken a Records Management course at MCC and has several years of experience in retail and sales office management.

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The MCC Trustees conducted their October 17 meeting on MCC’s Bertie County campus in Windsor. A portion of Bertie County is included in MCC’s service area.

Prior to the meeting, the Trustees met informally with several local leaders during a reception followed by a catered dinner. Officials representing the town of Windsor, the Bertie County Commissioners and the Bertie Board of Education attended the gathering. Approximately 20 guests joined 20 College representatives for the event.

“This is a great way for our Trustees and staff to continue connecting with the community we serve,” stated Dr. Kenneth A. Boham, the Interim President of MCC. “There’s nothing quite as effective as face-to-face contact when it comes to strengthening relationships. We were very pleased to see so much interest from Bertie County’s leadership.”

During the meeting a number of items were discussed. Among them were:

♦ The completion of the MCC Master Plan is at hand - it was distributed to all board members for final review and will be voted on in November.
♦ The proposed “burn building,” aka the Public Safety Training facility, is ready for the bidding process. The Board voted to proceed. The accompanying 40’ x 40’ classroom will be treated as a separate project. Trustee Andy Griffin, who is also an active volunteer firefighter, noted that the Board may want to consider

Cont. on pg. 3...

Pictured above are several attendees of MCC’s Board of Trustees meeting held on the Bertie campus in Windsor on 10/17/17. Seated in the front row on either side of MCC’s Dean of Academics, Dr. Davis Fulmer, are MCC Trustees JoEllen Rogers and Ed Thompson. Thompson is also a resident of Bertie County. In the middle row are Town of Windsor officials David Overton (Town Councilman), Allen Castelloe (Town Administrator) and Mayor Jim Hoggard flanked by new MCC Trustee Laurence Lilley. In the back row are Bertie County Board of Education Chairman Bobby Occena and school board members Jo Davis Johnson and Emma Johnson.

Pictured above, from left to right, are MCC Trustee Tommy Bowen, Bertie County Commissioner Tammy Lee, MCC Dean of Continuing Education Nathan Mizelle, MCC Dean of Administrative Services Steve Taylor and Windsor Town Administrator Allen Castelloe. Prior to the Board meeting, invitees enjoyed a brief social followed by dinner together. Afterward, those in attendance introduced themselves and discussed MCC’s services in Bertie County.
Pictured above, from left to right, are MCC’s Small Business Center Director Callie Northern-Herring, Continuing Education Administrative Assistant Leslie Bond and Bertie County Commissioner Ernestine Bazemore.

Continued from pg. 2...

- Trustee Tommy Bowen noted that the outdoor riding rings in front of the equine arena are in poor condition and need to be replaced.
- Sign bids should be in by the November Board meeting for review and approval. The bids are for a total of three signs, two electronic and one non-electronic. The electronic signs will replace the current signs at either end of Kehuhee Park Road, and the other sign will be a new one located at the entrance of East College Road off of Prison Camp Road. Prison Camp Road is currently being widened and extended by NCDOT.
- MCC’s IT infrastructure is in dire need of major upgrades. Grant funding will be sought to assist in paying for as much as possible. An application was submitted to the Cannon Foundation in early October and other sources will be sought. Dr. Boham suggested applying for a Title III grant for “Strengthening Institutions.”
- MCC’s new Organizational Chart was approved unanimously.
- MCC’s Financial Aid Audit exit interview was conducted on October 19. Three items required a response. All issues have been resolved and the written response will be submitted by November 8.
- Dr. Boham reported that Pitt Community College has approved MCC’s request to recruit for certain programs at North Pitt High School near Bethel. These programs include Dental Assisting, Equine Training and Business Technology and Physical Therapist Assistant.
- SACS COC affirmation progress reports will be on the Trustees’ agendas every month starting in November.
- Steve Taylor, Dean of Administrative Services, reported that at the end of MCC’s first quarter, FY 17-18 budget expenditures were at 25%. Taylor also reported that the state has allocated a budget of $6.8 million for MCC in FY 17-18. With additional grant funds, MCC’s current budget is $6.95 million.
- The Board of Trustees will participate in a half day Board Retreat in January. It will be held on the campus in Windsor.
- Dr. Boham noted that MCC was second only to Pitt CC in receipt of state Incumbent Workforce Training funds in the 2016. Billy Barber, MCC’s Business and Industry Liaison oversees this program.
- Dr. Boham noted that MCC student and NC National Guard soldier, Megan Adams, was deployed to Puerto Rico in October to assist in Hurricane Maria disaster response operations. MCC is working with Adams to put her classes on hold and assist her in getting re-established in class upon her return.
- Kismet Matthews has been selected to participate in the NC Leadership Program sponsored by the NC Community College System (see more on page 16).
- Amanda Vick reported that the SGA had several events in the making.
Prior to becoming Simpson’s Clerk, Martin had to become a Notary Public. She was able to obtain this credential through MCC’s Division of Continuing Education, which offers notary classes on a monthly basis.

Martin also obtained her Silver level National Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) from MCC. This nationally recognized credential has become an important tool in assisting businesses and industries in hiring qualified employees.

Patricia Cale, MCC’s Office Administration Instructor stated, “Wanda (Elaine) continually seeks wisdom, has a decided heart, and is a person of action who will persist without exception to get the job done. These are all traits that any employer desires and I know she will be an asset in her new position.”

“Being sworn in as Clerk Finance Officer for the village of Simpson is going to be a great opportunity for me. Although I will miss working at the College, I will continue working toward my degree in Office Administration and stay in touch with everyone. I am looking forward to what the future holds for me.”

Martin is also an SGA Senator and in her spare time, drives a mud truck named L’il Short. She has competed in the Pantego Fire Department’s annual 4th of July Mud Run and drives for fun at the Little Doo Mud Bog in Newport.

Elaine Martin is a great example of how MCC can prepare students for jobs - even before they graduate! Congratulations to Elaine in her new career as a municipal clerk.

Throughout October, MCC’s Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) students rallied to help a recent PTA graduate who lost her home to a fire. The students made themselves available for 10 minute chair massages to obtain donations for the PTA alum.

According to Dawn Parker, MCC’s PTA Clinical Coordinator, the donations came to at least $500. She added, “I know there was more because some of the gifts were given in a sealed envelope which we didn’t open. I just mailed her the sealed envelopes with a check for the cash donations we collected.”

During Fall Fest, the students hosted a chair massage booth. Donations from this event will be used to assist the entire class in attending the NCPTA conference. They collected $82.
The Academic Skills lab is a tutorial lab to help you with any of your courses, Blackboard, email and any other questions you may have. The Academic Skills lab is located in building 4, room 41. We are excited to announce that this semester, many MCC faculty members are assisting students with their academic needs.

The Academic Skills Lab hours are as follows:

Monday 8:00am- 5:00pm
Tuesday 8:00am- 6:00pm
Wed. 8:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday 8:00am-6:00pm
Friday 8:00am- 3:00pm

Cynthia Price returned to MCC in October. She is the new Payroll Clerk, replacing Michael Curry who recently earned his nursing degree and accepted a job in Durham, NC. Price had been MCC’s payroll clerk prior to accepting a job in the Payroll Department at ECU. While at ECU, Price primarily handled payroll for part time and student employees.

Price, a life long resident of Williamston, stated, "It’s great to be working in Williamston again and to reconnect with so many familiar faces at MCC."

Price earned her AS degree from MCC in 1985 and her BS in Business Administration from ECU in 2015.

In her spare time, Price enjoys spending time with her family and fishing.

MCC’s Barn Manager, Mary Dalcourt and her husband Dan, welcomed their first baby, Summer Celine, into their family at 7:31 am on September 12. The new parents are ecstatic! Dalcourt is planning to return to work in early 2018. Congratulations to the Dalcourts!

MCC’s Christmas Committee is hard at work planning this popular annual event for MCC’s full time employees. It is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13, in room 14 of Building 1. Pictured left are committee members; Judy Jennette, Alice Cotten, Randy Stokes and Marsha Rogers. Café manager, Kevin Washington, also attended the November 2 meeting to assist in planning the menu. This is the third year the committee has planned and executed the event. Jennette, the de facto chairman states, “This is a talented and creative group to work with. We have a lot of fun planning this special event.”
Fall Fest Was Spooktacular!

MCC’s Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored a Fall Fest on Halloween this year. More than 100 attendees were treated to a variety of spooky games, colorful hair treatments, dancing, a cake walk, lunch and sweet treats - including seasonal favorites - caramel apples and cotton candy. Many students, and some of MCC’s employees, came in costume and added to the festive atmosphere. SGA President, Amanda Vick and her officers Amanda Saunders and Mary Angeles did a fantastic job! Pictured below in the far right corner is Kanon Nixon, the SGA’s new advisor.
Pictured above is Ashley Bundy (Equine Technology Class of 2016) lining up Cash and his pen mate, Ritzy, to demonstrate just how much Cash has grown in six months. Cash gained 70 pounds in October and now weighs 620 pounds. He also received additional rounds of vaccinations in October and on November 2. According to Tami Thurston, Director of MCC’s Equine program, “Cash’s large size is a to be expected. His father was a draft horse and his mother was a particularly large quarter horse. We were hoping this foal would be large and sturdy to provide more diversity in our herd. We want our students to work with as many types of horses as possible.”

Cash’s father, Big Man Sam, is a draft horse, also known as draught or dray. Draft horses are a large and bred to be working animals for a multitude of purposes, including farming, draft horse showing, logging, recreation, and other uses. Draft horses are recognizable by their tall stature and extremely muscular build. They are also commonly used for crossbreeding, especially to light riding breeds, for the purpose of creating sport horses.

Cash’s mother, Miss Penny, is a Quarter Horse. Quarter Horses are an American breed that excels at sprinting short distances. Its name came from its ability to outdistance other horse breeds in races of a quarter mile or less; some have been clocked at speeds up to 55 mph. The American Quarter Horse is the most popular breed in the United States today.

Eight new feeders (like the one pictured above) have been installed in the pasture fronting Kehukee Park Road, beside the MCC Horse arena. The new feeders are replacing old tires (as pictured below) which are unsightly and do not keep the hay dry on rainy days. The covered feeders also reduce the waste of feed. Over time, all of the pastures will have covered feed delivery systems installed.
Maintenance Department performs miracles!

Pictured left, are before and after pictures of the old Free Will Baptist Retirement Home in Hamilton. This 100,000 square foot building and its 19 acres of accompanying land were donated to the College in 2011. In March of 2017, with no feasible renovation plan in sight, the MCC Board of Trustees voted unanimously to discuss disposal of the property with the State Board of Community Colleges. MCC’s maintenance crew spent an entire week in October cleaning the property in preparation of showing it to prospective buyers. Several truck loads of plant and interior debris were hauled away. The transformation was miraculous to say the least. Realtors have already expressed interest in showing the property. Way to go Maintenance Department. You always make MCC look good!
In order to provide more private space for the functions of Student Services, MCC is preparing to reorganize its space in building 1 to create a new office for the Vice President, Dr. Brian Busch, and to move the Director of Financial Aid, Teri Leggett, into Dr. Busch’s old office. Leggett’s old office will be returned to its original use - a protected file storage space. The Maintenance Department is once again front and center in making this happen! Pictured above is the new space created after tearing out two walls in the space behind Billy Barber’s office. This will be transformed into Dr. Busch’s new office. Pictured below right is Patricia Burroughs sweeping up the demolition debris. It is projected that Busch and Leggett will be in their new offices in January. Pictured below left is Jerry Wilson and Jeff Lewis replacing ceiling tiles in the payroll clerk’s office.

REAL Crisis Intervention

REAL Crisis Intervention, Inc. is a non-profit agency offering free 24/7 counseling and an extensive referral service. REAL provides: Counseling, Information & Referral, Sexual Assault Services, Advocacy, Suicide Intervention/Prevention, Pitt Resource Connection, Dial-A-Teen, Community Resource Connection and Outreach/Education. They are located at 1011 Anderson Street, in Greenville NC. You may contact REAL in the following ways; by phone at 252-758-4357, by email at realcrisis@embarqmail.com or on the web at www.realcrisis.org

Need help?
Center for Family Violence Prevention
24 Hour Crisis Line (252)752-3811
Toll Free (800)537-2238
Greenville, NC
MCC Sophs Attend Quarter Horse Congress

In October, six of MCC’s Equine Technology students traveled to Columbus, Ohio with the program’s Director, Tami Thurston, to attend the 2017 All American Quarter Horse Congress.

More than 50 years old, the Congress is known as the world’s largest single-breed horse show, boasting more than 23,000 entries annually and housing nearly 6,000 registered American Quarter Horses during its three-week duration. The MCC contingent was there during the week of October 16.

The students who attended included; Brody Hickman, Caitlyn Phillips, Katie Ward, Lexie Binns, Ellie Sherman and Leah Powers. When asked what they enjoyed most about the event, the students had a hard time deciding. They all agreed that it was a wonderful and inspiring experience.

While there, the students watched a variety of competitions, participated in a number of demonstrations and lectures, toured the University of Findlay (top ranked for its Equine program), attended the very popular free style reigning event (choreographed horse riding to music) and viewed the night schooling in the Congress arena.

Thurston herself, competed in the Horse Congress. She showed two of the horses she trains, Willy in the Sky (pictured below) and For Your Protection. She was reserve Congress Champion (among a field of 52) in the two-year-old open hunter under saddle while riding Willy in the Sky. Thurston also placed in top ten (from among a field of 115) in the Green Hunter Under Saddle with For Your Protection (a 3 year old). Both horses are boarded at Thurston’s farm, Thurston Quarter Horses, which she and her husband Paul own and manage. For Your Protection was bred, raised and trained at Thurston’s farm.

According to a 2009 Agricultural Advancement Consortium study, commissioned by the NC General Assembly, NC’s equine industry generates nearly $2 billion in revenue and supports over 20,000 jobs.

MCC is certainly fortunate to have such a professional and dedicated equine faculty and staff!
State Employees’ Credit Union (SECU) Members Award $5,000 Scholarships to Area Community College Students

Pictured above from left to right are; MCC Student Canaesha Bazemore, MCC’s Interim President Dr. Kenneth A. Boham, SECU District 42 Senior Vice President Brent Glover and MCC Student Amanda Vick. Glover presented Bazemore and Vick with certificates of recognition and congratulated them upon receiving SECU Foundation scholarships to attend (MCC).

State Employees’ Credit Union (SECU) members, through the member-funded SECU Foundation, presented MCC with $5000 to be allocated as scholarships between two students to attend Martin Community College during the 2017-18 Academic year. The students selected for the scholarships were Canaesha Bazemore and Amanda Vick.

Based on the Credit Union philosophy of “People Helping People,” these scholarships recognize the recipients’ desire to obtain a college degree and change their lives – as well as the lives of others – for the better. Scholarship funds will be applied to tuition and other expenses associated with their community college education.

Bazemore, a teacher’s assistant at W.C. Chance School in Robersonville, is working toward her Associate in Arts degree and anticipates graduating in 2019. Bazemore is active in the Back Swamp Church of Christ Food Pantry and working with the disabled. She also helps out with Red Cross Blood Drives.

Vick is an Accounting major and twice-elected President of MCC’s Student Government Association. She plans to graduate in May of 2018. Vick, the mother of three children, is also a member of MCC’s PTK (Phi Theta Kappa) and GBP (Gamma Beta Phi) Honors Societies.

State Employees’ Credit Union’s local Advisory Board member Dempsey Bond comments, “My fellow SECU members and I are dedicated to helping North Carolina students succeed in their pursuit of higher education. The SECU Foundation ‘People Helping People’ Scholarship program allows us the opportunity to provide resources for many deserving individuals to attain their educational goals through our State’s excellent community college system. As a representative of SECU’s membership, I am very pleased to award these scholarships to Canaesha Bazemore and Amanda Vick.”

Annually, SECU members provide two “People Helping People” Scholarships to each of the 58 community colleges in North Carolina through the SECU Foundation scholarship program. To date, over $6 million has been awarded to help the State’s community college students further their education.

SECU is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members and has been providing employees of the State of North Carolina and their families with consumer financial services for 78 years. The Credit Union also offers a diversified line of financial advisory services including retirement and education planning, tax preparation, insurance, trusts, estate planning and investments through its partners and affiliated entities. SECU serves 2 million members through 254 branch offices, over 1,100 ATMs, 24/7 Contact Centers and a website, www.ncsecu.org. The SECU Foundation, a 501c (3) charitable organization funded solely by the contributions of SECU members, promotes local community development in North Carolina primarily through high impact projects in the areas of housing, education, healthcare and human services.
Volunteers needed for Foundation Rodeo!

26th Annual Stampede in the Park

Rodeo

MCC Foundation
Annual Fundraiser
November 10 & 11, 2017
Sen. Bob Martin Ag Center in Williamston, NC

Call 252-789-0242 or email dhardison@martincc.edu
Tickets: $12 for adult & $6 for kids 11 and under
MCC’s New Criminal Justice Program is now on go!

In October, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission of Colleges (COC) officially approved MCC’s plan to add Criminal Justice Technology to its list of degree programs. Although MCC received approval from the NCCCS nearly a year ago, SACSCOC considered the new program to be a substantive change, and therefore, required review and approval at their level.

Criminal Justice training is offered at community colleges across the state to meet the workforce training needs of a wide variety of criminal justice professionals, including police officer, deputy sheriff, county detention officer, state trooper, intensive probation/parole surveillance officer, correctional officer, and loss prevention specialist.

According to MCC’s Dean of Academics, Dr. Davis Fulmer, “We intend to get this program underway immediately. However, the timing of the approval will limit our start up to the required general education courses and at least two Criminal Justice (CJ) classes. We are already in the process of hiring the program’s director and instructor.”

The general education classes include; humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics.

By the time MCC’s Fall of 2018 semester begins, the following CJ specific classes will be developed and worked into the curriculum schedule. These classes will include; Introduction to Criminal Justice, Criminology, Juvenile Justice, Criminal Law, Ethics and Community Relations, Investigative Principles and Constitutional Law.

The Criminal Justice Technology curriculum is designed to provide knowledge of criminal justice systems and operations. Study focuses on local, state, and federal law enforcement, judicial processes, corrections, and security services. The criminal justice system’s role within society is explored throughout this course of study.

Emphasis is on criminal justice systems, criminology and constitutional law, investigative, juvenile justice, criminal principles, ethics, and community relations. Additional study may include issues and concepts of government, counseling, communications, computers, and technology.

Dr. Davis Fulmer adds, “With MCC’s proximity to BCI (Bertie Correctional Institution), this program will certainly feed into the many job opportunities in the communities we serve.”

More MCC Foundation trips on the horizon

The MCC Foundation is planning to offer a day trip or two during the new academic year. The trips are planned to provide a dutch lunch at a fun restaurant and orchestra seating for a 2 pm matinee performance on a Saturday. Generally, the group departs around 8:30 am and returns around 7 pm.

DPAC’s upcoming theater season includes the following shows: School of Rock (12/2/17), On Your Feet (1/6/18), Les Miserables (2/3/18), The Color Purple (4/7/18) and The Sound of Music (4/21/18). DPAC has also announced that the smash hit, Hamilton, will be included in its 2018-19 season. An informational packet with show descriptions and dates is available upon request.

If you are interested in seeing any of these shows, please contact Judy Jennette at 252-789-0310 or via email at judy.jennette@martincc.edu.
A shadowy outline lurched in the darkness taking on the skeleton of a young woman and in her arms appeared two small boys that she clutched fiercely against her bosom. Ear-piercing sobs began to echo through the gloom over powering the sound of waves striking against solid stone. The young woman was crouching on the bleak shore for what seemed hours until a grim-faced gentleman came to her and the children taking them away into a dreary light where two grave stones made of black marble stood side by side. In front of the grave stones were positioned two shadowy figures of a man and woman embracing one another with tears of red descending from their faces eventually creating a roaring stream the color of blood. The shadowy figures turned to me revealing their unpleasant grins and almost unhUMAN like teeth dripping red they reached for me with claws as long and sharp as carving knives then submerging themselves under the blood-colored river.

The feeling of dread swept over me like a blanket of death and the tiny little angels stirred uneasily within me. Lying on my featherbed I thought of the horrid images I saw in what I hope was just a nightmare but the more I thought about it the more the sound of faint whispers and childish laughter surrounded me. I needed to confide in someone. Fear was my only companion at the moment and a displeasing comrade at that.

I never thought it would be so difficult to flee my decrepit Victorian dwelling place but it is. The spirits of this ruined castle are vigilant over pregnant women. I tried to escape by making deals of safety but even then the discolored oak doors would not allow passage. To my advantage, there is always one soul who has a caring way of life and opens the door to my freedom. I shot off into the cold to talk to my fiancé before anyone else noticed I was gone. Turning back once I observed how the aged willow trees surrounding the remains of my home had a dreamlike nature to it acting as a wall pushing back all sight of the bleak exterior. It was absolutely pitiful that this eerie artifact has witnessed every act of generations of my family and is now tearing at the seams. Shaking off the feeling of dread I inched my way across the snow-covered forest humming along to the sound of the whispering wind and swaying moss covered willows.

I could faintly see the silhouette of my fiancé Damian Maine home wrapped in planks and rust stained nails, keeping away the darkness that grew closer day by day. Finally arriving at his fortress of solitude I wasted no time playing the game that all lovers know so well I quickly told Matthew of all the things I dreamt of that night and he seemed even more shaken with terror than I was. I swear I could have heard the words “Not again” escape from his lips but he talked so faintly due to his astonishment. He took my frost bitten hands into his and spoke quickly of promises and how everything would be all right. I noticed how a look of horror was spreading across his face more and more as the days went by and I could not figure out why with our wedding day growing closer.

The day before we would be pronounced as one he became plagued with an illness. Great physicians from around Scotland came by the hour but none could diagnosis his illness in order to restore his health. It was freighting the way Damian laid unconsciously on his bed always murmuring the words “Not again”. Terrified of what may come of his ailment I sought sanctuary in an abandoned cathedral in which only a cross stood as a sign of hope for those who came for answers from God. Explaining my tarry some predicament to God I received answers expeditiously. Answers that came in the form of visions but none

Continued on the next page...
of which were clear. The visions told me of the departure of two young boys from this Earth who drowned in the murky swamp water behind my home. Their deaths were caused by my ancestor’s foolish acts. Parents of the boys cursed my family for generations to come and now every pair of twins that are to be born in my family die in the swampy waters. God told me that Damian was a part of the family that cursed mine and he was trying to lift the curse so they made him sick till our twins died. I held my hands over my belly fearful for the life of my twins. God gave me another vision of how to lift the curse he told me the only way was to sacrifice my fiancé or the life of my twins the day of their birth. The thought of the two choices sickened me.

Instead of the horrid murders, I would have to commit I went quickly to the fog covered swamp behind my place of residence to pray for the mercy of the heart broken parents. I think the night breeze carried away my pleas of pity because as I spoke the river began to rise above the hemline of my nightgown and the more I backed away the more the river came towards me. I screamed and begged for their sympathy but nothing would change the minds of the parents. My name began to the thunder from deep in the darkness that began to surround me. I felt hands pulling on my feet. I was being dragged into the murky water. The rapid waters began to captivate my lungs and a pair of radiant hands tugged on my wrist trying to withdraw me from the swamp. I wanted to cry for my fiancé, I wanted it all to be just a dream but I knew it was not when all the images that were once clear to me began to become cloudy outlines and my mouth tasted of blood. I was dying.

The faint laughter of children rang in my ears and I could see so many pairs of boys and girls moving every which way in an open clearing in front of what seemed to be a younger more charming version of my Victorian home. Everyone seemed overjoyed. The young couple from my nightmares stood side by side on the veranda of the mansion embracing two young boys in their arms, seeming so content with all around them. All was perfect if only my fiancé was here. Gasping I ran down to the swamp only to find my fiancé kneeling on the shore and clawing at the red clay where the swamp once stood. He would not stop clawing. I tried shaking him away but he would not move. My body lied in the middle of the once swampy waters and I believe at the same time my fiancé saw it too for I could hear his cries of despair ring through the night. All went black now with the sound of millions of screams and two sets of laughter echoing through the darkness.
Matthews Selected for NCCC Leadership Program

Kismet Matthews, MCC’s Executive Assistant, President and Board of Trustees

Kismet Matthews, was selected from among 46 applicants to be one of 30 students in the North Carolina Community College Leadership Program’s (NCCCLP) Class of 2018. This group represents 29 of North Carolina’s 58 Community Colleges. Matthews is the first program participant to come from a president’s office.

Based in Hickory, NC, this seven-month program offers participants organized, face-to-face and computer-based learning experiences that will acquaint them with community college issues and to help them develop leadership skills.

The program is highly experiential in nature and participants work in teams to create an ideal community college. The program’s structure is built on the platform that good leaders develop through an ongoing process of self-study, education, training, networking, and experiences.

The purpose of NCCCLP is to develop community college leaders who connect, care, and collaborate. Participants will develop and enhance essential skills to support their current and future leadership roles in the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS). The program provides networking opportunities for participants to discover and apply best practices to deal with current community college issues.

Matthews attended her first session on October 31 at Camp Caraway, near Asheboro, NC. This is the 29th year of the program. Over the day and a half training, Matthews learned about the history of the NC Community College System, team building and leadership styles.

The seated classes will be conducted at sites across the state. However, much of the work will be conducted via email and Skype.

When asked about her first impression of the leadership class Matthews stated, “I have met the future leaders of the Community College system and North Carolina. There are a lot of talented and capable people in this class. I am honored to be a part of this group.”

Matthews adds, “I am especially excited about our first assignment - creating our own community college. We will develop a mission statement, curriculums, a budget, an organizational chart - all of the basics you need for a College.”

Congratulations Kismet!
Recently, a young girl from the Charlotte area wrote MCC and asked for some information about its Equine Technology program. Student Services Technician, Randy Stokes, received the letter and sent her back an awesome response and care package. The following thank you note ensued:

Dear Martin Community College,
Thank you for my package. It was amazing. I love horses - they are my 2 favorite animals. If you are wondering what my 1 favorite animal is - a zebra. You guys are the best ever. I bet you love horses a lot. Well I do too. I have ridden a pony at a fair. It was so fun. Now I get to learn about horses and ride them too.
From me: Amelia Powell

As Tami Thurston, MCC’s Director of Equine Technology said so well in an email, “Thanks so much Randy! You make me proud to call MCC home!!”

Pictured above, from left to right, are Michelle Griffin, Student Success Specialist; Rose McGhee, Transition Advisor and Jim Guard, Riverside Principal. Griffin and McGhee spoke at the Martin County School Board meeting on October 2. They updated the school board on MCC’s Career and College Promise program and explained the role of MCC’s Transition Advisors in helping students navigate the program. Pictured below are Transition Advisors, Kanon Nixon and Kinsey Warren, manning the MCC booth during a recruiting event at Riverside High School.
NEW! Cosmetology Gift Certificates

Starting on November 17, the MCC Cosmetology Department will offer gift certificates! They will be available in $5 and $10 increments and may be used to pay for any of the wide array of services available through the department - wash, cuts, styles, perms, manicures, facials, pedicures, color, highlights, relaxers and more! Steve Taylor, the Dean of Administration reports that equipment is being purchased to enable the department to accept credit and debit cards! The certificates are available just in time for holiday giving! And best of all, every customer helps our cosmetology students gain the valuable experience and lab time they need to graduate. All funds collected from these certificates and services go back into the Cosmetology program. Call 789-0250 to make an appointment or to learn more about the program and its services.

Professional Development for Faculty on October 10

MCC’s Faculty spent October 10 in a professional development session with Dr. Canace Holder (from Surry CC) and Mr. David Smith (with FTCC). They discussed the best practices of virtual learning as well as ADA compliance for online teaching. Pictured left are Dr. Holder and Smith being introduced by MCC’s Interim President, Dr. Kenneth A. Boham. Department chairs were also introduced and asked to give updates. Rhonda Breed facilitated a discussion that allowed faculty to voice their big ideas, concerns and needs for professional development.
On October 18, MCC’s Literary and Creative Arts Club hosted its first Dine and Design event in the Campus Café. The following is a congratulatory memo distributed by one of the club’s advisors, Dr. Rochelle Mabry.

Congratulations to the Literary and Creative Arts Club for an absolutely fabulous "Dine and Design" event! I think we had at least fifteen students (not including our LCAC officers) turn out for painting, drawing, "sculpting" (albeit with Play-Doh), snacks and music. Everyone had a great time, and it seems that more than a few people would have hung around much longer if we hadn’t had to start cleaning up!

The best part about this is that you, the LCAC student officers, made it all happen. Huge props to Aaniyah for organizing and picking up all of the supplies and snacks; to Aaniyah and Johnathan (and their helpers Jasmine Birdo and Jesus Hernandez) for setting everything up; and to Aaniyah, Johnathan, and Cara for working together to pull off a very successful event.

Thanks also to Amanda Vick, Dr. Busch, and the SGA for arranging funds for the event; to Dr. Fulmer for her support as we planned the event; to Marsha Rogers for the lovely fall centerpieces; to Judy Jennette for publicity; to the MCC IT department for tech help and the SMART board; to Melissa Woolard for encouraging the NERSBA students to attend; to Elaine Spellman for attending the event; and to Kevin Washington for his patience as we invaded the cafe!

Again, congratulations to the LCAC for a very successful event!
President Eisenhower signed legislation in 1954 to mark Veterans Day as a way to honor and thank those who served in all American wars and conflicts. According to 2016 US Census data, there are 18.5 million veterans in the U.S. On 11/11/17, please take a moment to thank a veteran for their service!