

the Oracles

February 6, 2012

Alamance Community College Weekly Newsletter

see **P2** Nominations Taken for Staff Member of the Year

see **P3** Meet the 2012 Excellence in Teaching Nominees

see **P4** Campus Life—Jean Slaughter Book Sale, Chemistry 151 Class



LOOKING AHEAD

Feb. 14

Valentine's Day

Feb. 21

Faculty/Staff Meeting, 2:30 p.m., Auditorium

March 5-10

Spring Break

March 8

Countywide Emergency Drill at ACC

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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PTK Recruiting New Members

P3 "Contagion" Movie Screened
Lunch & Learn Sessions by Academic Advising Center

University Reps to Visit Campus

Middle College Seeks Donations for Rescued Animals

Welding Interest Sparked at 13, Now Career Plans Loom

When welding student Robert Shaughnessy was 13, he spent a week on the ACC campus that summer at the popular All-Star Career Camp, a partnership the College had for several years with the Alamance-Burlington Schools. Middle and high school students spent a week at ACC taking workshops in hands-on disciplines such as videography, biotechnology, and animal care. One option included time in the welding shop under the tutelage of Mike Holt, Department Head, who still runs the program.

"It was the first time I was exposed to working with metal," says Shaughnessy, now 22. "Up till then I had thought about careers as a truck driver, scientist, or bounty hunter. This welding stuff was just plain fun, seeing what you could make."

It would take another decade before Shaughnessy realized that welding was in his blood. Yet he never abandoned the enjoyment he first experienced as a young teen.

A native of New York state, Shaughnessy moved to Alamance County at age 11 in 2000. Attending the career camp while an eighth grader at Turrentine Middle School, he pursued his newfound interest at Williams High School making auto parts and BBQ grills. Soon he was asking his parents



Robert Shaughnessy, who first fell in love with welding at age 13 during a visit to ACC.

for a welder for Christmas. He saved a few hundred dollars and purchased the tool, spending the next couple of years creating in his back yard.

When it came time for college, Shaughnessy decided against welding, and instead directed his plans on mechanical engineering, heading to Alfred

See **WELDING** on page 2

Student's Artwork is Centerpiece of Music Festival Campaign

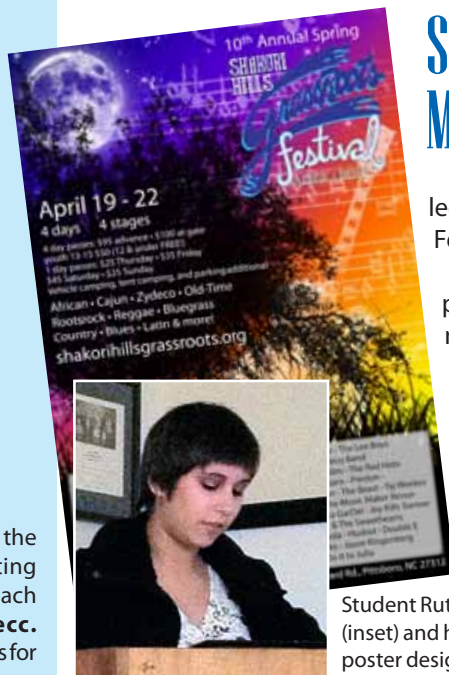
Graphic design student Ruth Dunn's original poster artwork was selected last week to promote the 10th Annual Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival in Chatham County.

Shakori is a non-profit music festival that unites diverse bands that perform everything from African to Cajun to bluegrass. Dunn's winning poster is to be at the center of a campaign blitz that will blanket the Triad and beyond.

In all, 20 students in the Advertising and Graphic Design program vied for a chance to have their poster artwork selected. With less than three weeks to work on their designs—a deliberate move to replicate the deadline pressures of the advertising world—students made presentations to festival organizer Sara Waters. Each student described his/her design as it was projected on a screen, explained

reasons for the colors and motifs, and why it was the best design in their opinion.

See **DESIGN** on page 2



Student Ruth Dunn (inset) and her winning poster design.

The Oracles is a publication of the Public Information & Marketing Office. Read it in **full color** each week—visit www.alamancecc.edu, then click on News & Events for The Oracles.

PTK RECRUITING STUDENTS

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is an international honors organization that recognizes outstanding students at community colleges. The four core values of PTK are service, scholarship, leadership, and fellowship.

To join PTK, a student must:

- Have already completed a minimum of 12 credit hours
- Have a 3.5 GPA

Informational sessions for qualified students:

Wednesday, Feb. 29 and March 14 at 3:15 p.m., Room 230 in the Student Activities Center

Can't make a meeting? Contact faculty advisor Melinda Holland, Melinda.Holland@alamancecc.edu.

SIGMA PSI MEETING

Sigma Psi (ACC's psychology/sociology club) meets the first and third Wednesday of each month, Room 230 (Student Activities Center), at 12:15 p.m. For more information, contact faculty advisor John Neathery at 506-4242.

NEXT MEETING: Wed., Feb. 15.

MUSIC & DANCE CLUB

Music and Dance Club meets 1st and 3rd Mondays, 12:10-12:40 p.m. in Room 230, Student Activities Center.

EMPLOYEE NEWS**NOMINATE 2012 STAFF MEMBER OF YEAR**

WHAT: ACC's Staff Member of the Year, sponsored by the Benefits Screening Committee

CRITERIA: Any full-time staff member whose contributions and daily effort exceed job expectations. Nominators should consider the individual's initiative and enthusiasm, expertise, leadership, professionalism, creativity, involvement, and dedication.

BEST BET: Nomination forms have been e-mailed to all employees or may be obtained from Sarah Bergman (B313, 506-4107).

DEADLINE: Return completed nomination forms to Sarah Bergmann by Friday, Feb. 24.

WELDING from page 1

University in New York.

"At that time, I was more interested in having a career where I could give a solution to a problem. I thought that fit the role of an engineer better," he says.

Yet at the university, he found himself using his rudimentary welding skills in elective classes such as theatre and sculpting. He often ended up teaching welding to other students. He built a sheet metal brake (that is, a metal-working machine that allows the bending of sheet metal) a couple of downhill racing cars, and some fighting robot toys.

"I was squirreling this welding knowledge into my course work in mechanical engineering, too. I built a coil gun for my circuit theory class," he says.

Shaughnessy discovered—or at least realized—that he absolutely loved making things with metal. At the same time, he was struggling with his mechanical engineering classes.

"I had lost my enthusiasm, especially when I wasn't ac-

tually making things. That's what I liked to do," he says.

Taking a year off from Alfred University, Shaughnessy returned to Alamance County and took college classes. At ACC, he took the green energy class, machining, and math. Next he took a few classes at UNCG, still trying to figure out what he really wanted to do.

Says Shaughnessy: "I finally came to the realization that what I enjoyed was welding. When I first went to college in New York, my desire was to learn as much as possible in different areas. I wasn't really thinking about learning in order to get a job. But now I saw that welding was my enjoyment and could pay very well."

Back in ACC's welding program, he dove in and learned new things.

"One thing I thought I knew was that welding with cast iron was almost impossible," he says. "That metal is notoriously brittle because when it cools after welding a seam, for example, the metal can break

or crack. But here I learned there are ways to treat the cast iron to prevent that."

Upgrading his welding skills changed his outlook. Since he returned, he's getting his career goals in focus and wants to become a certified welder after he earns his associate's degree next year.

Shaughnessy and Steve Timblin, a friend in the Machining program, are in the preliminary stages of starting a foundry that will involve welding and machining skills to fabricate metal parts. With another friend, he's planning to custom-build automobile engines.

But Shaughnessy is not unhappy that he had a circuitous route to ACC's welding program.

"I don't think I'd be starting two businesses if I had gone directly into the program here at age 18," he says. "I think I needed to see what I didn't want before I could make a firm decision."

Shaughnessy sees his career plans in terms of the discipline he is now studying.

"I'm welding together a gob of disciplines, but with welding as the anchor," he says. "I know that as an engineer I could get laid off, or even could lose my job in a foundry business. But welding is something that I'm confident I can always find work."

DESIGN from page 1

Said Waters: "This was the best overall collection of posters that I have seen since I have been working here... We especially loved the personal and artsy touches, places where you could see the artist's hand in the work, so to speak. Each one of you also proved that you 'got' the festival, which is very important. Understanding the product you are marketing is key."

Of Dunn's winning work, Waters said the poster "immediately feels very peaceful and reflective of how one feels when he or she is here at the festival... It also has a great balance of music and nature as well as just relaxation. Looks appealing to all ages."

In addition to Dunn, students who presented designs were Steven Byrd, Sydney Carey, Hugo Putnal, Donald Bell, Thomas Sykes, Marissa Armstrong, Katherine White, Jennifer Graves, Ian McMindes, Alex Surh, Stephanie Edwards, Kendra Vaughn, Angela Fairchild, Sydney Cobb, Rob Curaque, Michael Blanton, Kaeli Murphy, Chad Wilkinson, and Justin Lee.

Says instructor Denise Archuleta: "All of the designs have been posted to the Advertising and Graphic Design Facebook page at the client's request. They are getting some great comments."

This project is one of several during the year in which graphic design students compete to have their pieces selected in an actual publicity campaign.

The festival is April 19-22 in Chatham County. Information: www.shakorihills.org.


FROM THE LIBRARY...
AV EQUIPMENT ONE-ON-ONE TRAINING

Want to feel confident switching between a laptop and a data-projector? Contact Brad Ray at ext. 4265 in the library for a training session in your classroom tailored to your needs.

KYESHA WILLIS



Q. Your curriculum and why you chose it?

A. University transfer. Because I want to do social work.

Q. What you wish people knew about you—but probably don't?

A. That I'm a happier person than people might think.

Q. Your 15 minutes of fame (a time when you received recognition/won a contest/performed, etc.)?

A. When I sang a solo in church.

Q. Something you always wanted to do—but haven't yet?

A. Be an entertainer.

Q. Something you can't live without?

A. My daughter.

Q. If you could visit any place in the world for free, where?

A. Miami.

Q. TV program you never miss?

A. Pretty Little Liars.

Q. What person (living or dead) would you most like to have dinner with, and what would you ask him/her?

A. My father. I'd ask him if he is proud of me.

MEET THE 2012 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING NOMINEES

Congratulations to all nominees for Divisional Instructor of the Year. Divisional elections begin this week.

Full-time and part-time faculty will receive e-mails to their Access accounts with a Survey Monkey link to vote for their division choice for Instructor of the Year. Faculty are asked to check their Access e-mail and VOTE. The ACC Instructor of the Year will become a finalist for the Alamance County Excellence in Teaching Award.

If only one instructor is nominated per division, that person is the division finalist and faculty in that division will not receive an e-mail to vote.

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Arts and Sciences

David Crane – History

Perry Hardison – Humanities

Caroline Scharlock – Biology

Alexandra DeSiato – English

Sherri Singer –

Social & Behavioral Sciences

Business Technologies

Betsy Adams –

Office Administration

Health and Public Services

Traci McCormick –

Criminal Justice

Jennifer Jones –

Early Childhood Education

Industrial and Graphic Technologies

Adam Self – Machining

Carol Kawula –

Horticulture Technology

Jerry Yeatts – Automotive

Systems Technology

Jon Upchurch – Advertising

and Graphic Design

Bently Pagura – Air Condition-

ing, Heating, Refrigeration

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Arts and Sciences

Shanda Ingle – Math

Business Technologies

Cindy Stevens – Accounting

Health and Public Services

Tammy Smith –

Medical Assisting

ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER

LUNCH & LEARN SESSIONS

"Balancing a Limited

Income"—Feb. 7, 12-1 p.m.

Cameron Aydlott, CFP (Certified Financial Planner) will cover topics such as Determining Cash Flow, Steps to Help Avoid a Possible Financial Disaster, and Effects of Inflation. Lunch is provided to all who register (choice of Classic Ham Sandwich, Prime Roast Beef Sandwich, and Veggie Sandwich).

Send your contact information (& lunch choice) to: john.evans@alamancecc.edu.

"Professional Etiquette in a Digital World"

Feb. 8 & 9, 2:30-1:20 p.m.; also Feb. 8, 5:15-5:50 p.m.

Anyone who emails instructors in text language or has their Facebook profile set to "public" will benefit from this session. Lunch/dinner is provided to all who register. Send your contact information to: virginia.jeffries@alamancecc.edu.

NEWS FROM FINANCIAL AID

THE NATIONAL FFA FOUNDATION

Funds are available for students in agricultural or non-agricultural programs. Curriculums included (but limited to) Animal Science, Horticulture, Culinary, Bio-Technology, and Business Administration-Marketing.

TO APPLY: www.ffa.org/scholarships until Feb. 15.

SPACEGRANT

Student funding opportunities are available for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

TO APPLY: <http://ncSpaceGrant.org/opps/students.html> by Feb. 24.

GET THE 411

"CONTAGION" MOVIE SCREENED

The 2011 Matt Damon film "Contagion" will be shown in the auditorium this Friday, Feb. 10, 12:30 p.m. "Contagion" is a thriller centered on the threat posed by a deadly disease and an international team of doctors contracted by the CDC to deal with the outbreak.

The free movie is sponsored by the Biotech Club.

CULINARY SERVING MEALS WEEKLY

Come down to the Culinary Arts kitchen (end of A-Building, 2nd floor) to enjoy weekly meals prepared by student-chefs.

WEDNESDAYS: International buffet, 11:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAYS: Advanced Culinary meals, 11:15 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.

Meals are \$7 and include entrée, drink and dessert. Seating in A239 (except Thurs. evening/To-Go only).

UNIVERSITY REPS TO VISIT

Outside bookstore

NC A&T State University

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Guilford College

Thursday, Feb. 9, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

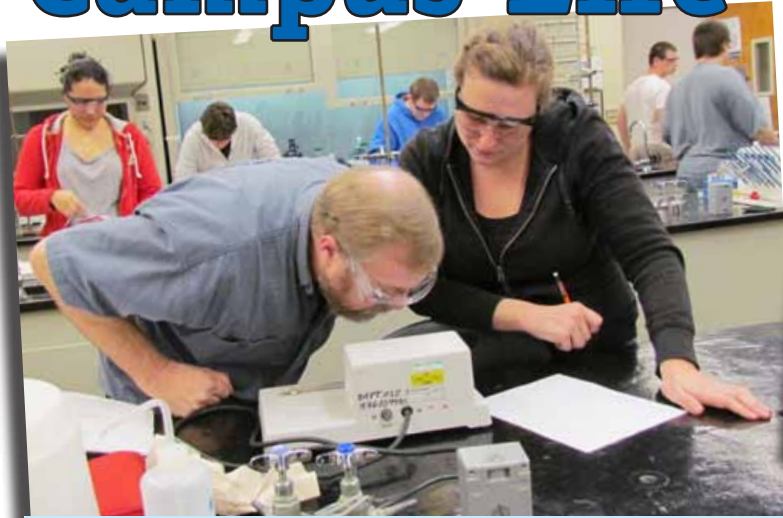
MIDDLE COLLEGE SEEKS DONATIONS FOR ANIMALS

The ABSS Middle College, located on the ACC main campus, is soliciting donations to assist in the care of 48 dogs and cats rescued from being euthanized. Middle College student Kayla Layton works at Carolina Veterinary Assistance & Adoption Group, a no kill/non-profit rescue shelter located in Reidsville.

NEEDS: Items to care for 36 puppies, 4 adult dogs, and 8 cats/kittens: Blankets/sheets, towels, dog/puppy food (pedigree), shampoos, cat food, food bowls, cat litter/litter box materials, and dog toys.

BEST BET: Drop off all donations at the Middle College office in the hallway behind ACC's mail room.

Campus Life



CHEMISTRY 151 students in lab were tasked with identifying unknown solids and liquids by their physical properties. Among these were (above) DAN FUHRMAN and RACHEL HOPKINS using a melting point apparatus. . .



...Chemistry students CHRISTOPHER COOK and SELINA BRADSHAW (above) and (below, l-r) YASMIN SORIANO and KASEY MINOR.



Literary lovers at last week's 8th ANNUAL JEAN SLAUGHTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP BOOK SALE added \$1502.83 to the fund for university transfer students. One hundred percent of money raised in the sale is contributed to the ACC Foundation scholarship named for an English instructor who died in 2004.



STUDY BUDDIES KRISTI HAMILTON (left) and STEPHANIE KENNEDY spent last Thursday afternoon quizzing each other for their Anatomy/Physiology class.