

the Oracles

June 14, 2010

Alamance Community College Weekly Newsletter

see **P2** New Directional Signs

see **P3** Blood Drive Scheduled

see **P4** Campus Life Photos



LOOKING AHEAD

6/15

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

6/20

Father's Day

6/21

Summer Solstice

7/5

Independence Day Holiday
(NOTE: Classes will be held Friday, July 2)

7/12

Summer Classes End

now through 8/3

Early Registration for Fall Semester

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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*.

Former Textile Workers Find Hope at ACC

BIOTECHNOLOGY A GOOD FIT

Bill Bryant worked in textiles for 33 years until he could no longer find a job in the industry that had supported him and his family all his adult life. When he earned a degree in 1974 from N.C. State University in Textile Technology, a long future with retirement benefits seemed assured in what was then a thriving industry.

From the mid-1970s through 2007, Bill was employed in supervisory positions at five different textile manufacturers, including Burlington Industries and Culp Weaving. His duties increased over the years, most recently managing five supervisors and responsible for 250 employees at Culp. Three years ago Culp closed its doors to move its operations to China.

With no new prospects in the textile industry, the Employment Security Commission convinced Bill that going to school to learn a new career was his best option. In ACC's Career Transitions class (a free 100-hour program for the unemployed), he listened to Biotechnology department head Bill Woodruff talk about his program.

"Biotechnology is an industry that can't easily be outsourced and the number of firms keeps growing, especially in North Carolina," he says.

Still, Bill Bryant was concerned that a man in his mid-fifties faced an uphill challenge returning to college.



Phil McDaniel works on a vehicle engine outside the Automotive Systems garage.



Bill Bryant stands next to a 15-litre bioreactor in the Biotechnology lab.

What, he wondered, would it be like to be one of the oldest in class? What would it be like writing papers, and trying to complete the program in the allotted time the ESC has to pay for it?

It did not take him long to realize that many people at ACC were going to school under similar circumstances and the College supported his efforts.

"My experiences at ACC have been great," he says. "I've met many great people and have been impressed with the instructors and professors. These professionals are dedicated and really give you the impression they want to help you and are very involved with the subjects they teach. I admit I had to adjust to having some teachers who are at least thirty years younger than me, and I had to learn to use a computer for writing papers."

Bill need not have worried. His high grade point average has landed him on the President's List and he has found the Biotechnology program interesting.

"It's been exciting to learn how to find and separate DNA and use the different equipment

See **WORKERS** on page 2

CAMPUS LITTERING WILL BE FINED

Persons caught littering or disposing of cigarette butts on campus grounds will be issued a citation.

Receptacles are available for cigarette butts and trash in smoking areas, student commons and parking lots.

"The rear patio smoking area near the commons continues to be littered with cigarette butts, bottles, and paper products," said Erik Conti, Director of Administrative and Fiscal Services. "ACC's grounds and custodial staff spend hours picking up after these various problems."

PARKING RULES ENFORCED

ACC security personnel enforces parking rules on campus.

- Campus Speed Limit is 10 mph and citations will be issued to violators.
- All parking lots (including gravel lots) are to be utilized until completely full.
- Parking in the grass is prohibited unless instructed to do so by security personnel. Security has authority to issue citations and boot vehicles that violate this rule.
- All vehicles must be registered with the College. Silver 2009-10 decal must be displayed with decal number visible. Failure to comply will result in vehicle being cited and

WORKERS from page 1

to accomplish this. Without a doubt, [instructors] Dr. Tom Lucier and Bill Woodruff are very well qualified and eager to pass their knowledge on to their students."

After he earns his Associate in Applied Science degree in July, Bill's goal is to find a job with a local company working in the quality assurance area.

NEW DIRECTION IN AUTOMOTIVE SYSTEMS

Phil McDaniel, 52, worked in textiles beginning at age 16, following a family tradition that began with his grandfather. His plans never included college because he assumed the mills were his life and that he would retire with benefits one day. In 1980, he married and moved to Burlington, working in a small knitting company in Graham, followed by 18 years more at Gold Toe.

"I had worked my way up over the years into supervi-

sory roles at those companies and had no reason to think anything would change. Until it did," he says.

Two years ago, Gold Toe closed and moved to Mexico, following the pattern of many manufacturers. The idea of going back to school was unsettling, but he quickly realized his options in today's job market were limited without more education. He wanted training in an occupation that was not in danger of moving elsewhere and found that in ACC's Automotive Systems Technology program.

Using Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) funding to pay for school, Phil took English, psychology, humanities, and computer courses at ACC while learning about automotive systems. "It was scary," he says. "It had been more than 30 years since I'd been in school, and back then I didn't

push myself academically. Doing homework after being in classes all day was hard to get used to. But my daughter, who's a high school freshman, helped me."

Phil has done better than he expected. He has been named to the President's List for honors each semester since 2008, and has maintained a 4.0 GPA this year. In July, he will walk across the stage to receive his associate degree and a certificate in Automotive Systems Technology.

"My instructors saw a potential in me that I could achieve more than I had realized," says Phillip. "I appreciate the ways they pushed me to do things I never thought I could do. Their help and support is a student's best asset. No amount of books can replace that human touch which shows that you can succeed in anything if you try."

(RIGHT) New directional signs have been installed around campus, inside and out, recently. It's part of the college's Strategic Plan aimed at making the Carrington-Scott Campus more user-friendly to visitors and students.



(LEFT) Honda Supports ACC Foundation with Donation. Honda Power Equipment Mfg., Inc., of Swepsonville, donated a check for \$5,000 recently to the ACC Foundation. Carolyn Rhode, Executive Director, accepted the donation from Hiroshi Tanno, president of Honda Power Equipment Mfg., Inc. ACC's Business and Industry Training division has assisted the company in recent years in hiring and training processes.

JUST CLICK!

for job info

www.alamancecc.edu

CLICK: Services for Students

CLICK: Job Placement

CLICK: Current Employment

CAMPUS SECURITY CORNER

For campus emergencies

Call 2286

from any on-campus phone.

Call 506-4286

from your cell phone.

KELLY DuREE



Q. Your curriculum and why you chose it?

A. Welding. I needed a major career change to try and get back into the workforce.

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

A. That I taught myself to knit and make jam.

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

A. I was a member of my high school choir when we won first place at state competition in Arizona.

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

A. Travel to Ireland where my great-grandfather grew up.

Q. One material possession you can't live without?

A. My cell phone.

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

A. Arizona, where my parents still live.

Q. TV program you try not to miss?

A. Chuck.

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

A. The late sci-fi author, Douglas Adams. I'd ask him the real meaning of "42" (reference in "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy").



Inspecting their new kitchen in the former Biotechnology lab is Culinary Department Head Brian Bailey (left) with instructor-chefs Todd Wanless, Doris Schomberg, and Marvin Kimber.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS HEAD TOWARD COMPLETION

Two ongoing construction projects on the Carrington-Scott Campus are nearing completion.

2nd CULINARY KITCHEN, located in the former Biotechnology lab directly above the Culinary department, will relieve long-time overcrowding in the current kitchen where up to three classes and 40-plus students have had to share space concurrently.

Mark Newsome, Interim Vice President for Administrative and Fiscal Services: "The second kitchen is almost done. We are working through some final equipment adjustments along with the final 'punch' list items with the general contractor."

Chef Brian Bailey, Culinary Technology Department Head: "We will teach all baking classes upstairs in the new kitchen as well as nutrition, sanitation, and food science when necessary."

THE LITERACY BUILDING will open space for an expanded Academic Skills Lab, foreign language computer labs, adult high school, GED, faculty and staff offices, and additional classrooms. It is expected to be ready for occupancy by late fall.

Mark Newsome: "The Literacy Building is about 21 days behind but the builders made up approximately 13 days over the last month. If weather holds throughout the summer more time will be recovered. Recently, the workers have been adding exterior masonry on the sides of the building."



After a wet winter and spring that delayed some construction, the Literacy Building is taking shape.

GET THE 411

BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULED

Wednesday, June 30

9 a.m.-1 p.m., B100

All donors receive a free t-shirt and are automatically entered into a drawing to win a cruise for two.

To schedule an appointment, contact John Evans at 506-4367, or e-mail john.evans@alamancecc.edu.

FINANCIAL AID REMINDER

Students must re-apply each year for financial aid. The FA office is currently awarding aid for the 2010-11 year. If a student has not applied they should do so immediately. If they have applied but not received an award letter, they should check their status in the Financial Aid office, G116.

SNACK BAR SUMMER HOURS

Mon.-Thurs., 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Friday, 7:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

FALL REGISTRATION DATES

JUNE 22

Early orientation/registration session

4:30 p.m.—Orientation for New Students

5:00-6:30 p.m.—Open Registration

AUGUST 4

WebAdvisor Online Registration Closes for All Students

5:00 p.m.—Payment Deadline

AUGUST 5

Purge All Unpaid Registrations

AUGUST 5-9

NO REGISTRATION (on campus OR WebAdvisor)

AUGUST 10

Official Fall Registration Day

New Student Orientations:

9:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Open Registration: 10-11:30 a.m. & 5-6 p.m.

AUGUST 11-12

Late Registration:

11 a.m.-12 noon & 5-6 p.m.

AUGUST 16

Fall Classes Begin

AUGUST 16-18

Drop/Add for Currently Enrolled Fall Students Only

Campus Life



102 Jamz Radio scheduled a "ticket stop" event at ACC last week as part of the College's fall registration on-air advertising. The popular radio station aired a live broadcast to give tickets away to the June 25 Super Jams Concert in Greensboro.



(Above) Youngsters Get Taste of College Life. Ron Hall, Department Head for Criminal Justice and Fire Protection, was one of many ACC instructors to discuss college programs and career options to a dozen 4th graders from Eastlawn Elementary School in Burlington. The students visited the campus to participate in a "Girls Leadership" program aimed at introducing them to life after high school.



Rotaract Meets Rotary. Student members of ACC's new Rotaract Club were recognized at a recent meeting of the Alamance County Rotary Club. Advised by Guerry Stirling-Willis, Business Administration Dept. Head, the campus group was organized this spring and seeks service-oriented students. Seen here at the meeting are : (front, l-r) Carla Stevens, Rotaract president; Crystal Ross, member; Guerry Stirling-Willis, advisor; (back, l-r) Steve Carter, Rotary Club/Rotaract Coordinator; Allen Cox, treasurer; Christopher Ross, vice president; Kristie Sizemore, secretary; and Beth Powell, Rotary Club president. (Photo submitted by Carolyn Rhode).