HCC Brick-by-Brick Campaign laying a firm foundation

The Halifax Community College Foundation Inc.’s first-ever Brick-by-Brick Campaign called “Order Our Steps” is well underway.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for community members to support our students and show their commitment to educational excellence,” explained HCC Vice President of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director of the HCC Foundation Inc. Dr. Dianne Rhoades. “Contributors are laying a firm foundation for this project that will benefit so many at the College.”

Engraved bricks are featured at the main entrance to The Centre, the College’s premier multipurpose venue, and will be sold through June 30, 2015.

Purchase of a brick is tax-deductible, according to applicable tax law. Proceeds will assist the Foundation in supporting scholarships, events, activities and operating expenses.

Prices are $150 for a 4x8 brick, $300 for a 12x12 brick, $10 for replica bricks and $10 for clip art/logo on a brick. Contact the HCC Foundation Inc. at 252-536-7239 or 252-536-7234 for more details.

BB&T presents check to benefit Scholarship Fund at HCC

Branch Banking & Trust presented a $5,000 check on Feb. 13. The check will benefit the BB&T Scholarship Fund, which will provide scholarships at the college. BB&T has contributed up to $10,000 per year for five years. This is the final payment of the pledge. Funding from a U.S. Department of Education PBI Formula grant in the amount of $50,000 has been used to match BB&T’s contributions, bringing the scholarship to $100,000. Funds will be used to support local high school students with the highest grade point average from their respective schools within the service area who intend to attend HCC.
The Children’s Theater Series at Halifax Community College (HCC) featured the Virginia Repertory Theatre in a performance of “Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad” on March 6 at The Centre.

This stirring drama with music is a classic tribute to the great American who freed herself and hundreds of her people from the bonds of slavery. As Harriet and her friend Sarah Bradford narrate her adventurous life, we share in the joys, sorrows and challenges faced by this brave woman who changed the world through her courage.

Accurate and deeply moving, “Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad” is at turns inspiring, heart-warming and comical, full of the good humor, determination and the charity of its subject. There was an estimated attendance of 1,100 students and adults for the performance. Visit www.halifaxcc.edu and click on “The Centre” for information about upcoming shows.

BB&T presents check to HCC

Branch Banking &Trust presented a $5,000 check to HCC on Dec. 5. The check will benefit the BB&T Scholarship Fund, which will provide two scholarships at the college.

Funds will be used to support local high school students with the highest grade point average from their respective schools within the service area who intend to attend HCC.

Upcoming Events

Men to Men Summit
Wednesday, April 15

Health Sciences Pinning
Thursday, May 7

HCC Graduation
Saturday, May 9

Alumni & Friends
Presidential Breakfast
Saturday, May 16

For the full
HCC Calendar of Events
& Lyceum Series of
Special Events, call
252-536-7234
252-536-7239

Pictured are Vice President of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director of the HCC Foundation Inc. Dr. Dianne Rhoades, BB&T–Roanoke Rapids Market President Jon Anderson and President Dr. Ervin V. Griffin Sr.
Not even snow and sleet could cancel the eighth annual International Day & Food Tasting at The Centre at Halifax Community College. Although the event had to be rescheduled from Feb. 26 to March 3 due to bad weather and school closings, more than 200 people showed up to sample foods from around the world and reward organizers for their tenacity.

“We are so excited to once again host the International Day & Food Tasting event. Even though the weather was a little tricky, we are so grateful to our contributors, the campus and community for turning out for the event. This is truly a collaborative effort,” said Joanne Jolly, chair of the International Day & Food Tasting Committee.

Class demonstrations kicked off the event. The HCC Library Information Literacy Club presented a poetry reading. Then, HCC’s Advertising & Graphic Design Department showcased student work in an exhibit titled “Life in a Multicultural World.”

“We have tried to show you different community members in different situations that represent a multicultural theme,” explained Johnnie Rascoe, Advertising & Graphic Design Department chair.

After highlighting the exhibit, the doors were opened for the food tasting.

Featured foods included pancit bihon, pork fried rice, pig feet, paella, banana pudding, zucchini bread, soul food, empanadas, chicken salad, barbeque, navy beans, chicken afritada, pork adobo, jerk and curry chicken, pizzas, chicken tagine and buttery couscous, collards, hushpuppies, Danish kringles, sweet potato jacks, baked ziti and more.

Individuals and organizations that donated food included:

- A Catered Affair
- Willie Mae Alston
- Annabelle Anderton
- Annabel Bello
- Howard Bethany
- Modessa Boone
- B.T. Brown
- Carolina BBQ
- China Lin
- David’s Restaurant
- Dr. Deryl Davis Fulmer
- Doris Garner
- Dr. Ervin V. Griffin Sr.

This event was funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education PBI Formula Grant. For information on the 2015 HCC Lyceum Series of Special Events, call 252-536-7239, 252-536-7234 or visit www.halifaxcc.edu.

Pin Points Theatre presents “The Meeting” at HCC

Pin Points Theatre presented “The Meeting” on Feb. 5 at The Centre at Halifax Community College. The event was part of HCC’s Black History Month Celebration. “The Meeting” is a dramatization that answers the question, “What would have happened if Martin Luther King and Malcolm X had met before they were both assassinated, just three years apart.”

It is an emotional, clever and intense confrontation between Malcolm X, his hostile bodyguard and Martin Luther King. The play has won eight NAACP Theater Awards and six New York AUDELCO nominations. For information on upcoming events, visit http://www.halifaxcc.edu/Calendar/ or call 252-536-7234 or 252-536-7239 for details.
Seven honored as HCC Local African-American Heroes

For the eighth year, Halifax Community College held its “Saluting Our Local African-American Heroes” celebration. Special honors were bestowed on seven community leaders during the Feb. 19 ceremony.

This year’s hero honorees included:
* Sandra W. Bryant, PHR (Human Resources Specialist, Halifax Electric Membership Corporation)
* Bishop Shelton C. Daniel (Pastor, Greater Joy North)
* Rev. Timothy Edwards (Pastor, Roanoke Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church)
* Rev. Anthony Flowers (Pastor, Tillery Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and Educational Assistant, North East Prep)
* John Robert Jones, Ed.D. (Retired Administrator and Educator, Mentor)

The Presidential Heroes Award was presented to Kuyzendra A. Cobb (Electrical and Instrumentation Planner, KapStone Paper and Packaging Corporation) and Carolyn C. Johnson (Halifax County Commissioner).

Honorees thanked God, their family, friends, church family and many others for supporting them in their achievements. “I feel very special…I believe it’s our duty to share and love…and do all we can to help people along the way,” said Edwards.

“I’ve been blessed and I think we should share our blessings with others as we have been blessed,” noted Jones. “This award represents the united spirit in all of us. Even though this award has my name on it, I achieve because we achieve, and we achieve because we undertake challenges together,” said Cobb.

"A Christmas Carol" performed at HCC

The Children’s Theater Series at Halifax Community College featured the Virginia Repertory Theatre, formally known as Theatre IV, in a performance of “A Christmas Carol” on Dec. 12 at The Centre. There was an estimated attendance of 1,300 students and adults for the performance. Based on the famous classic by Charles Dickens, “A Christmas Carol” is a heartwarming story of the transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge from a greedy, heartless miser to a generous, loving man.

Pictured are, from left, Carolyn C. Johnson, Kuyzendra A. Cobb, Dr. John Robert Jones, Rev. Anthony Flowers, Rev. Timothy Edwards, Bishop Shelton C. Daniel and Sandra W. Bryant, PHR, along with HCC President Dr. Ervin V. Griffin Sr. looking on.
The 2015 Lyceum Series of Special Events at Halifax Community College kicked off with the ninth annual U.S. Postal Service® Stamp Dedication on Feb. 3 at The Centre.

This year, stamps in honor of C. Alfred “Chief” Anderson, Wilt Chamberlain, Jimi Hendrix and Edna Lewis were dedicated.

Referred to as the Father of Black Aviation, chief flight instructor of the prestigious Tuskegee Airmen C. Alfred “Chief” Anderson was immortalized on a stamp March 13, 2014. The dedication ceremony took place in his hometown just northwest of Philadelphia. Anderson has also been referred to as the Charles Lindbergh of Black Aviation for his record-breaking flights that inspired other African Americans to become pilots.

The U.S. Postal Service® celebrates the life of basketball superstar Wilt Chamberlain (1936-99). On the court, he was a force of nature. The 7-foot-1-inch center dominated the NBA for more than a decade, setting a plethora of individual records. As a pro, he led his teams to two NBA championships, and in 1962, he scored an NBA record 100 points in a single game.

Combining influences from rock, modern jazz, soul and the blues with his own innovations, Jimi Hendrix created a unique style that influences musical artists of his era and continues to inspire musicians into the 21st century. Hendrix (1942-70) was one of the most important musicians of the 20th century. The stamp celebrating his legacy is being released as part of the Music Icons series.

Known as “the Grande Dame of Southern Cooking,” Edna Lewis (1916-2006) found wisdom in the customs and patterns of her rural Virginia childhood. By bringing such quintessential dishes as shrimp and grits or roast chicken to the plates of fine restaurants, Lewis convinced her fellow Americans to take a second look at Southern cooking while also serving as one of the first voices to reemphasize the importance of fresh, seasonal ingredients.

During the ceremony, Northwest Halifax High JROTC posted the colors; Micah Arrington, HCC student, led the pledge of allegiance; Jimall Rice, Roanoke Valley Early College student, performed the national anthem; Tamica Webb, HCC student, sang musical selections; HCC Board of Trustees Chair Bernella DeMaMora delivered greetings; Roanoke Rapids Postmaster Gaelan Harvey made acknowledgements; HCC President Dr. Ervin V. Griffin Sr. made remarks; Griffin, Harvey, Communications Coordinator (Greensboro District) Carlotta Banks and Manager of Learning, Development & Diversity (Richmond District) Carl Walton unveiled the stamps; Communications Instructor Sharon Askew and students from her public speaking class presented “The Tuskegee Airmen” and Charles A. Anderson Jr., son of “Chief” Anderson, also made remarks. Lunch was provided by A Catered Affair.

Anderson talked about the Tuskegee Airmen and their contributions in World War II. “It was an experiment set up by the United States military to show that African Americans actually could not fly at that time,” he explained. The instructors, led by “Chief” Anderson, set up the training to be extremely stringent.

“They just kept training,” said Anderson, and added that efforts were made to end the program. Finally, the war got so intense that the Tuskegee Airmen were given the opportunity to enter the war as bomber escorts. “The casualty rate of the bombers dropped precipitously. These guys went on to have a wonderful series of achievements in the war.”

More details on these stamps can be found at https://www.usps.com/. For more information on the 2015 HCC Lyceum Series of Special Events, visit www.halifaxcc.edu/Calendar/. This event was funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education PBI Formula Grant.
U.S. Air Force Heritage of America Concert Band performs holiday favorites during weekend concerts

Halifax Community College presented the United States Air Force Heritage of America Concert Band at The Centre for an evening performance on Dec. 6 and a matinee on Sunday, Dec. 7. The program titled “Through Children’s Eyes” was a free concert featuring a family-friendly program of holiday music. More than 1,100 people attended the two concerts.

“Through Children’s Eyes” featured traditional and new music performed by several of the Heritage of America Band’s ensembles. In addition to familiar favorites, music inspired by or written especially for children was performed, including selections from Tchaikovsky’s “Nutcracker Ballet,” the television program “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” and a brand new children’s story titled “Robbie the Raptor.”

The United States Air Force Heritage of America Band has a rich history of inspiring hearts and minds, building and sustaining American patriotism, honoring our military service veterans, and enhancing esprit de corps in the United States Air Force.

Stationed at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, the Heritage of America Band has been performed in such events as the DESERT STORM National Victory Parade, The MLB World Series, and many more. The band has performed ceremonies for U.S presidents and foreign heads of state and travels more than 150,000 miles annually to perform hundreds of concerts. The USAF Heritage of America Band’s exceptional musicianship has earned international critical acclaim and numerous honors.

For more information about upcoming events, call 252-536-7239, 252-536-7234 or visit the College’s website.

HCC Foundation Inc. Board

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Ways to Give

An investment in the HCC Foundation is an investment in our students and our community. There are numerous and convenient ways to contribute to the Foundation. Visit the HCC Foundation Inc. webpage by going to www.halifaxcc.edu and click on “HCC Foundation.” There you will see information on Foundation activities. You can give to HCC through the following ways:

• Cash, check or credit card gifts
• Online giving
• Sponsorships
• Stock
• Bequest
• Gifts-in-kind
• Corporate and matching gifts
• Planned giving

Also, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement and the HCC Foundation Inc. at 252-536-7234 or 252-536-7239. Contact by mail at HCC Foundation Inc., PO Drawer 809, Weldon NC 27890.