

Halifacts

Fall 2007

A quarterly publication of current events at Halifax Community College

HCC Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Past Halifax Community College presidents, Dr. Phillip Taylor and Dr. Elton L. Newbern, Jr., current president, Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr., Board of Trustees Chair, Dr. Stanley Edwards, and Director of Distance Learning and HCC alumna Beth Gray-Robertson were all on hand as the college celebrated its 40th anniversary, Sept. 7, in The Centre. Griffin made a proclamation of the day, which will continue to be celebrated annually as Founders Day.

Taylor, who was president from 1968-1988, talked about the early years and the concepts of the community college and the open-door policy. "I was here for the birthing of this institution... We've come a long ways in 40 years," he said.

The president of HCC from 1988-1998, Newbern talked about staff, building projects and enrollment, which doubled during his tenure. "The college has touched lives and it has touched my life," he said. Newbern also talked about the advances in and accessibility to technology on campus. "It amazes me," he added.

"We owe all of you a debt of gratitude for the wonderful legacy of service to our region and state that you have left for us to follow," said Griffin. He added that HCC would continue to meet the task of enriching the curriculum, workforce development, occupational education, and lifelong learning.

Dental Hygiene Awarded Kate B. Reynolds Grant

HCC was awarded a five-year \$119,650 grant this summer by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust in Winston-Salem. Grant funding will create a pilot program called the HCC *Healthy Smiles* Dental Care Program that will provide free, basic dental care to children in 17 elementary schools within the area's four school districts.

Dental Hygiene Program personnel and students will work with these children. The program will help alleviate the barrier to dental access through a comprehensive program of individual assessments, sealants, fluoride treatments, x-rays, education, and parental involvement to encourage habitual oral care as a family lifestyle.

Students will be transported to campus for a clinic visit. Afterwards, students will receive a *Healthy Smiles* care package containing toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, and age-appropriate how-to-brush guides and calendars. Educational guides will also be provided for parents and guardians. Patients with decay will be referred to local healthcare providers. Dental Hygiene students will also make school visits to offer oral hygiene educational information to non-program participants and reinforcement for *Healthy Smiles*' students.

The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust was created in 1947 by the will of Mrs. William N. Reynolds of Winston-Salem. The Trust's grants are designated for use for health-related programs and services across the state and for the poor and needy of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.



HCC's 40th anniversary celebration brought out past president, Dr. Phillip Taylor, right, and many people from the campus and community.

Message from the President



Our fall semester is off to a great start. We hosted a large number of students during orientation and forum events and we have almost wrapped up a nine-month celebration of the college's 40th anniversary. Faculty, staff, students and the community came together Sept. 7 to hear from past presidents, Dr. Phillip Taylor and Dr. Elton L. Newbern, Jr., who spoke about the college's earlier years. I addressed the assembly about the college's present status and its future goals. Our Director of Distance Learning Beth Gray-Robertson gave an alum perspective and college memorabilia was on display in The Centre.

Also, we are extremely happy to host the State Board for Community Colleges on our campus, Oct. 17-19. We are honored to have them visit HCC and the Roanoke Valley. This is the first time the Board will have been on our campus.

We are also turning our attention to another event. I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to our Investiture ceremony that will take place Oct. 19 in The Centre. We will also have a reception later that day and The Mannhattans will entertain us in the evening. Prior to this big day, beginning on Oct. 13 and continuing Oct. 15 - 18, on-campus events are planned for each day.

So, you can see that we have several activities coming up in the next few weeks. Feel free to stop by campus, call us at (252) 536-HCC1 or visit us online, www.halifaxcc.edu. Remember, HCC is where "Learning Comes to Life—In Pursuit of Excellence."

Sincerely,
Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.

Armstrong Gets VP Promotion



*Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr. and
Deborah Armstrong*

After serving as the interim vice president for almost one year, Deborah Armstrong was recently promoted to Vice President of Administrative Services at HCC. Armstrong has worked for seven years at the college, previously serving as Accounting Services Coordinator and Business Manager.

As vice president, she oversees a staff of 41 in the Business Office, Cash Office, Payroll/Personnel, Bookstore, Information Services, Maintenance, Housekeeping, Security, Reception Desk, and Mail Room. She develops and assures the efficient operation of the financial record-

keeping system and works with the president to develop revenue forecasts, and coordinates the development of institutional budgets including a system of budget reporting and control.

After high school graduation, Armstrong enrolled in Hardbarger Business College. She also earned the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Accounting with honors from Nash Community College, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting, cum laude, from North Carolina Wesleyan College, and a Master of Business Administration Degree from Campbell University. She has completed the North Carolina Community College Leadership Program and the Senior Administrators Leadership Institute at the UNC School for Leadership Development at Chapel Hill.

Armstrong, a native of Enfield, is the daughter of Nellie H. Armstrong and the late W. Frank Armstrong. Her brother Steve and his wife, Sue, reside in North Carolina; brother, Tim resides in Florida. She is a member of Enfield Baptist Church and the North Carolina Wesleyan College Alumni Association.

Hairston Makes Trip to Honduras



Honduran workshop participants

HCC Math Instructor Chuckie Hairston made a trip to the country of Honduras over the summer break. During the trip, she stayed in the town of Catacamas.

Her journey started five years ago when she visited a small village in the country on a mission trip. Hairston toured a school, since she had taken supplies for the children. While there, a teacher worked through a math problem, but Hairston observed that she did it incorrectly. The incident bothered her and she decided to do something about it.

Last fall, Hairston approached a representative from Houghton Mifflin and asked for donated math manipulative kits and a few supplies to take with her to help the people in the valley. She received the donation and knew that she was again bound for Honduras.

Hairston had a contact in the country who made connections for her to visit with private school teachers from two schools. The Center for Bilingual Learning was her host. She taught nine teachers during the workshop, which lasted for three days and was conducted in the mornings. She used the donated materials, and incorporated hands-on activities and group work.

"I wanted to show them some other teaching techniques," said Hairston. All total, she took 30 different activities. After the workshop, she was asked to return next summer. "I am planning to go back," she said.

Martinez Awarded GlaxoSmithKline Scholarship

HCC student Rodrigo Martinez has just been selected as one of only 10 recipients of the GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Teacher Preparation Scholarship/Loan Program for this year. The scholarship program benefits prospective teachers.

"I am very thankful and excited. This came at just the right time. It is an honor to be a part of HCC. I am so thankful for all of the support I have received," said Martinez.

In 2004, Martinez received his GED from HCC. After that, he enrolled as a curriculum student and currently has a 3.777 average in all coursework that he has taken at the college. He will soon graduate from HCC with an Associate in Arts degree and he plans to enroll in ECU's Teacher Prep Program.

"This is another example of the quality of our academic programs and our students. It shows that you can start at HCC and go anywhere in the world with your



HCC student Rodrigo Martinez, left, with Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.

dreams. Rodrigo getting this scholarship shows that the quality of our programs and our students can compete anywhere in North Carolina," said HCC President, Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr. "He is an example to anyone that dreams can become reality. Congratulations to him on his hard work and for being aggressive enough to go after this scholarship."

The GlaxoSmithKline Foundation, Inc., the North Carolina General Assembly and Bank of America have contributed more than \$2 million to establish an endowment within the North Carolina Community College Foundation to support an expanded role for community colleges in teacher preparation. The endowment funds an annual grant program that provides scholarships for prospective teachers who are enrolled in community college degree programs tied to baccalaureate completion programs.

Scholarship awards for the 2007-2008 academic year were awarded to students who are enrolled full-time in their first or second year of a community college degree program. Students must also be enrolled in a program that is transferable to a bachelor's degree in elementary or secondary education. An award of \$2,500 per semester for two consecutive semesters of full-time study was awarded.

Human Services Technology, Nursing Alumni Visit Students



HCC alumni Joan Boone, left, and Shelia Holt

Regional Medical Center for more than 12 years, will function as the healthcare coordinator.

"If you love to work with people, you're in the right field," said Holt, who went on to earn a bachelor's degree from St. Paul's College and a master's from Cambridge College. "When I came into this program, I set goals in my life. I knew the Lord had a purpose for me."

"Strive for the best you can do. What you do will stay with you," added Boone. "Give love and consideration to others."

According to Holt, the program's director, A Safe Haven will offer clients a variety of activities during the day. Self-referrals and referrals from a number of different organizations will be accepted. A doctor will also be part of the health component. Expected to open soon in Roanoke Rapids, Holt said, "We want our clients to look forward to coming back."

The Human Services Technology class hosted alumni recently. Shelia Holt, an alum from Human Services and Joan Boone, RN, an alum from the Nursing program, spoke to students about their experiences and a new business venture.

Holt and a friend are co-partnering to establish A Safe Haven, LLC, an adult day healthcare program for individuals aged 18 and up. The corporation seeks to help people with emotional, mental or physical needs maintain their independence. Boone, who has been a nurse at Halifax

INVESTITURE of Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.

AS THE FOURTH PRESIDENT OF



Investiture Events

- Saturday, October 13
Gospel Play, "Silent Story"
- Monday, October 15
HCC Club and Organization Day
- Tuesday, October 16
40th Anniversary Commemorative
T-Shirt Autographing
- Wednesday, October 17
Outstanding HCC Graduates,
"Where Are They Now?"
- Thursday, September 18
College-Wide Picnic
- Friday, October 19
Investiture - 12 noon
Reception - 6 p.m.
The Manhattans in Concert - 8 p.m.

For more information:
www.halifaxcc.edu (252)536-6399

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