



THE ROCK



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Early Childhood Program Receives NAEYC Accreditation

Seventeen community colleges recently received accreditation for their early childhood education programs. Only three were located in North Carolina and only 34 have been accredited nationwide.

Accreditation was granted by the Division of Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Since 2005, 140 colleges in 35 states have enrolled in self-study to work toward accreditation through this organization.

"This accreditation system provides the first-ever national standards by which early childhood associate degree programs can be uniformly measured," said Alison Lutton, Director, of the Early Childhood Associate Degree Program at NAEYC. "By earning this distinctive and rigorous mark of quality for its students and faculty, these colleges have elevated the profession and the quality of education in their communities."

Professional early childhood education teachers are among the fastest growing occupational needs in the United States. The association's Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation system recognizes degree programs at colleges which meet the highest standards for teacher preparation.

Both public and private early care and education programs, including Head Start, are increas-

Davies Retires after 32 Years at RCC

"I Could Not Have Asked for a Better Job."

Rockingham Community College art instructor Jim Davies admits having a couple of real fears: that he will lose his effectiveness as a teacher by staying in education too long and that educators are beginning to treat teaching as a mere job.

To circumvent the former, Davies, at 62, is retiring effective Jan. 1, 2008 after a 32-year career at RCC. As for the latter, he hopes the trend will change.

From his first class in 1975 to his last one this fall, Davies has been committed to his students. They think of him as a father figure. When class isn't in session, they use his classroom as a study hall because they like the atmosphere. The sit knee-to-knee and elbow-to-elbow in his office because they like being close to him. They seek his advice on their art and about their lives.

But Davies is beginning to feel the first tremors of a forming generation gap. Once the process completes itself, he says he will no longer be effective as a teacher. As a committed educator that is unconscionable, so he's leaving.

When Davies arrived at RCC in 1975, he was a Vietnam veteran medic with an undergraduate degree from Duke University in sociological anthropology, master's level work in archaeology, and bachelor's and master's degrees in fine arts from East Carolina University.

At the time, Davies says with a laugh, "My parents didn't understand my art but they were tolerant."

That's because Davies pushed the envelope.



An intern in the early childhood program works with a young student.

ingly calling for its teachers to have at least an associate's degree or higher. Elevated professional standards for educators in the early childhood field will have a direct effect on the quality by which early learning programs will be evaluated.

"Teacher quality is a crucial component in providing high-quality early childhood education to millions of children across the country," said Jerlean Daniel, Ph. D., Associate Executive Director of NAEYC. "Establishing high standards for associate degree programs is an important step towards raising the quality of all teacher preparation programs."

His imagery was bold and sometimes disturbing – the complete opposite of his mother's traditional, detailed miniature landscapes, for which she later earned a growing reputation before her death at age 73.

Davies artistic talents were nurtured early by Annette Rosenshine, an elderly neighbor in the 1950s in Berkley, Calif. Rosenshine had studied under the renowned Henri Matisse, one of the most famous artists of the twentieth century. In addition, Davies spent time with Ansel Adams, a world famous photographer and frequent visitor to his parents' home.

But it wasn't until his military service ended that Davies delved deeply into art. He never looked back. And when he entered the realm of teaching it was not with the idea of mentoring – it was with the personal understanding that this was a way he could freely express himself. He could make a living without having to satisfy a buying public.

"I thought of myself as an artist who was teaching."

The reverse happened. "I fell in love with teaching. I loved the students. I realized quickly that this was not going to be just a job, this was going to be a career."

Davies says he subscribes to the Native American coyote teaching concept: conduct yourself and your class in a way that students learn without realizing they are being taught. In Davies' courses, students are exposed to art concepts and techniques while being encouraged to explore the diversity inherent in life.

Continued on page 5.

What Should We Do When It Snows or Sleets?

As winter approaches, students should be aware of Rockingham Community College's procedures regarding announcements of schedule changes due to inclement weather.

When the college's regular schedule must be adjusted due to inclement weather, information will be provided to the following media sources.

- WLOE/WMYN AM (1490) Eden
- WXII TV - Channel 12 Winston
- WAKG-FM (103) Danville
- WXLV TV-Channel 45 Greensboro
- WJMH FM (102.1) Greensboro
- WFMY TV-Channel 2 Greensboro
- WGSR Channel 39 or 5 Reidsville
- WGHP TV-Channel 8 High Point

In addition to the media sources listed above, RCC's Educational Access Channel (Channel 2 on Time-Warner Cable) and the college's website will have information regarding closings. The RCC telephone message will also be updated.

College officials try to make morning announcements prior to 6: AM.

When delay of opening or closing announcements are made, they will affect all college programs and activities scheduled on and off-campus. Faculty and staff or administration will be affected according to policy (see page 42 in the 2005 Faculty/Staff Handbook).

RCC will not announce when the college will operate as usual.

Please avoid confusion by listening carefully to one of the above stations, RCC's Educational Access (Channel 2 on Time-Warner Cable), or the college's website on days of inclement weather.

Two Receive SECU Awards to Attend RCC

Thanks to \$1 donations by State Employees Credit Union members, Meredith Nunnery of Mayodan and Matthew Fowler of Eden each received a \$1,250 per semester State Employees Credit Union scholarship to attend Rockingham Community College. Nunnery is enrolled in the nursing program and Fowler is in the college transfer program with a concentration in English.

Two SECU scholarships are given each year at each of the state's 58 community colleges. In addition, one scholarship is awarded each year at each of the state's high schools. SECU members fund these scholarships by having their \$1 per month service fees put instead into the SECU Foundation which funds the scholarships.

The Foundation's goal is "to promote local community development in the areas of education, health, and human services.

The scholarships were first available for fall semester 2005. In Rockingham County, SECU scholarships are funded by all three credit unions in the county.

Community College Prices Are Good News for Those Struggling to Pay for an Education...

Quite frankly, North Carolina community colleges are cheap. Even though a full-time student currently pays \$1,100-\$1,500 each year for tuition and fees...that's cheap. In comparison, the College Board's annual report released recently shows North Carolina's public four-year universities cost an average \$8,640 per year for tuition and fees. Private four-year universities charge approximately \$23,000 per year on average.

Community college prices, then, are good news for those struggling to pay for an education for their children or themselves. And unlike nearly half of the counties in the state, Rockingham County citizens have a community college in the "back yard." According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 90 percent of all Rockingham County families earn \$35,500 per year or less. At \$35,500, paying tuition and fees for a four-year public university education is going to eat up 24 percent of a families' yearly gross income.

But that's not the whole picture. Room and board will add another \$4,000-\$5,000 at North Carolina's four-year public universities and colleges. That leaves a family with a gross income of \$35,500 with approximately \$21,000 to cover all the other family needs and incidentals for the year – food, rent, house payments, car payments, federal, state, and local taxes, insurance premiums, and any additional monthly or annual expenditures, bills, donations and/or fees.

Conversely, Rockingham Community College tuition and fees amount to four percent of a \$35,500 annual income. That leaves a family in that earning bracket with \$34,000 instead of \$21,000 to make it through the year. Over two years, such a family would save \$28,000.

Of course, financial aid will offset some of these costs. According to the College Board report, however, financial aid amounts have lost ground even as tuition and fees have risen. Therefore, student borrowing now hovers well in the billions nationwide, shackling students with years of repayment.

The cost of a quality education at a community college looks better and better.

For the student who wants to get a four-year education, RCC offers freshman and sophomore core

courses so that the student can transfer to a university as a junior.

For the student who wants academic excellence, RCC offers instructors who inspire, challenge, and encourage.

For the student who wants involvement in extracurricular activities, RCC offers student government, clubs, organizations, intramural sports, and an athletic program.

For the student who requires academic help, RCC offers learning labs and a student success center.

For the student who wants to save money and get a good education, RCC cannot be beat.

Electronics Program Offers Improved Course Materials

In keeping with its mission to provide the people of Rockingham County with a high quality education, Rockingham Community College has improved the course material in its electronics program. To reflect those changes, it has changed the name of the program (formerly electronics technology) to electronics engineering technology.

"These changes introduce some new topics and materials," said Mike Frazier, electronics engineering technology professor. "It reflects advancements in the field as well."

Although the bulk of the program is essentially the same, course changes include DC/AC circuit analysis with theorems, automation systems, and computer upgrade and repair. In addition, more hours were added to the software for technicians and troubleshooting courses in order to more thoroughly cover those topics.

Because of these changes students will now be eligible to apply for additional job titles such as electronics engineering technician, electronics systems integrator, and engineering assistant. For those who wish to continue their education in the electronics engineering field, the changes will enable students to transfer more easily into electronics engineering technology programs at four-year institutions.

In the new program, students advance from fundamental electrical and electronic courses to concentrated studies of electrical machinery, industrial controls, microcomputer systems, and telecommunications. Course work includes direct and alternating current electricity, digital and analog electronic circuits, microprocessors, computer and networking systems, and industrial motors and controls.

Students will also be trained on an advanced system known as FACET (Fault-Assisted Circuits for Electronics Training). This system provides state-of-the-art computer-assisted, multimedia-based electronics training.

In addition to the jobs mentioned above, graduates may find career opportunities as a microcomputer/network technician, electronics or electrical technician, custom control panel designer, field service technician, electronic tester, bench technician, and production control technician. Graduates may also find jobs in the exciting field of robotics. For all graduates, opportunities for employment are excellent. For more information, call Mike Frazier at 342-4261, Ext. 2125.

MLC Hours for Spring 2008

The Multimedia Learning Center will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 AM until 10 PM, Friday from 8 AM until 3 PM, and Saturday from 9 AM until 1 PM.

The MLC will be closed January 21 (Holiday) and March 17-22 (Spring Break). The MLC will close at 12:00 noon on May 5.

There Just Might Be a Way to Pay for a College

One of the main reasons a person doesn't go to college is the cost. Rockingham Community College cost \$1,000-\$1,500 per year for tuition and fees, which is thousands less than the cost of attending a public four-year university. Yet people look at that price tag and think, "There's no way I can afford that for myself or my children."

Well...there just might be a way.

Last year the financial aid office at RCC awarded just under \$2.5 million in financial aid to RCC students for an average of almost \$1,900 per student. That amount increased this fall to more than \$2.5 million for an average of \$2,150 per student.

Financial aid comes in the form of scholarships and grants from local, state, and federal sources. Except for some local scholarships, these awards are need-based.

The trick with financial aid, though, is to apply early. For need-based scholarships and grants, a person must – and the emphasis is on must – fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. As its name implies, this is a federal application. It can be filled out online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Before anything else, when you get to the website apply for a PIN number. This is like a social security number, so you must keep it in a safe place. Once you receive your PIN number, you will use it to apply for federal scholarships, grants and/or loans throughout your educational career.

Once you have a PIN number you can fill out the FAFSA form online. Admittedly, this form can be confusing so we've got two ways to help you: FAFSA worksheets will be available at RCC's financial aid office on Jan. 4 and then on Feb. 9, RCC will be an official FAFSA Day host site. On FAFSA Day you can come to RCC and do the entire application online. Several individuals will be on hand to help you. Just have your PIN number and tax information available from 2007. If you want to attend FAFSA Day but won't be in town, check for the FAFSA site nearest to you by going to www.cfnc.org. They will have a list of locations.

Never pay anyone to fill out the FAFSA form for you. Applying for FAFSA is free. Help in filling out the form is free.

Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, the federal government will no longer print FAFSA applications for schools to distribute. Paper applications can be requested by calling 1-800-433-3243.

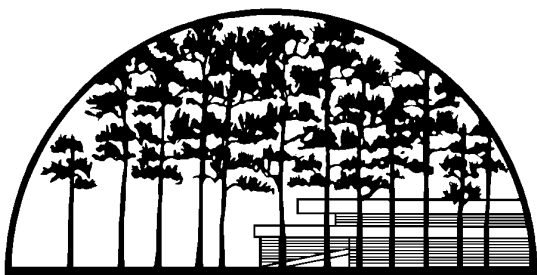
So far we've talked about federal aid. State financial aid can be determined online through the College Foundation of North Carolina at www.cfnc.org.

Local aid, too, is abundant thanks to the RCC Foundation, one of the most active foundations in the state. This fall, the RCC Foundation awarded over \$160,000 to 210 students. Some of these scholarships are merit-based and some cover costs other than tuition and fees.

The priority deadline for local, state, and federal grants and scholarships for 2008-09 academic year is March 15.

Although most financial aid has been distributed for the current school year, students are advised to check with the financial aid office in order to determine if money is still available. To do that, you must – and, again, the emphasis is on must – apply to attend RCC and then register for classes. Financial aid cannot be determined until the financial aid office has your information, including the cost of your education based on the number of classes you are going to take.

Talk to an admission counselor today. We just might have exactly what you need for you and your children to attend college.



**Rockingham
Community College**

THE ROCK is published four to five times per semester during the fall and spring semesters by the students, faculty and staff of Rockingham Community College. THE ROCK cherishes contributions from its readers but reserves the right to edit all submissions in accordance with accepted style and space limitations. Articles and editorials which appear in THE ROCK do not necessarily represent the views of the students, administration, faculty or staff of this institution.

Rockingham Community College does not discriminate in administering or access to, or treatment or employment or admission in its program and activities. No person shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, or handicap. Inquiries may be directed to the Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Officer at the college.

Grogan Fulfills Her Dream of Becoming a Teacher

Last month, Lauren Grogan of Eden fulfilled a dream she had harbored since kindergarten. On that day Grogan, now 22, walked to one end of the hall at Draper Elementary School and entered the third grade classroom as the new teacher. It was 6:45 a.m., the time she still arrives at work, and the building was empty. She had boxes to unload and papers to organize and a new, exciting life to begin.

This is actually a year of many firsts for Grogan: her first job as a teacher, her first year of marriage, and before it's over it will be her first time as a mom. The baby is due in the spring.

She marks a first for Rockingham Community College as well. She is the first graduate of the Elementary Education program offered through Greensboro College at RCC. Others will follow shortly but Grogan received special permission from Greensboro College to be released early from student teaching in order to take a full-time teaching position at Draper Elementary.

"During the interview process, it seemed evident that Lauren had received the right type of training and she seemed a good fit and a good match for Draper," said Draper Elementary principal, Tammy Heath.

Grogan was introduced to education early. Both of her parents, Mary and Jeff Roberts, are teachers.

"I used to help my mother with class decorations and preparations for a new year," said Grogan. "I also started subbing in classrooms as soon as I graduated from high school."

She is well-suited for her job: patient, loving, nurturing and a good listener.

For the first two years of her college education, Grogan attended RCC. At the time the college did not have the elementary education program, so Grogan transferred to Averett University in Danville, Va.

"I drove there every day for three semesters," said Grogan. "When they started the program

This Course Makes Horse Sense

Rockingham County is among the top 10 North Carolina counties in horse population. Therefore, Rockingham Community College is offering "Equestrian Science – Horse Care," through its Community Workforce and Education Division. Deborah Stone of Ruffin, an instructor certified through the American Riding Instructors Association, will teach the course using classical equestrian concepts of care and safety for both animal and rider.

The importance of proper care cannot be overemphasized. Therefore, Stone will cover a wide gamut of equestrian topics including equine types and basic needs, horsemanship, handling, leading, ground safety, hauling, trailer types, hoof care, gaits, lameness, medical needs, riding types and concepts, grooming for home and show, fencing, barns, and grounds. Emphasis will be placed on horse and equestrian safety equipment, which applies to trotting and gaited horses as well as mules and donkeys. Classes will consist primarily of lectures, handouts, audio/visual presentations and barn labs.

Students ages 16-18 may take this course if a minor's release form is signed by their high school principal and their parent/guardian prior to the beginning of the first class on Jan. 8. The release form is available at high school career resource centers and at the office of the Community and Workforce Education Division at RCC. This course will not be counted toward high school graduation credit.

"Equestrian Science – Horse Care" will be taught Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m., Jan. 8 through March 11, 2008. The cost is \$55. To register, call 342-4261, Ext. 2177 or 2140.



at RCC in elementary education, I came back as soon as I could."

The program at RCC offers individuals an opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Freshman and sophomore classes are taught by RCC faculty; junior and senior level courses are taught by Greensboro College faculty. The bachelor's degree is conferred by Greensboro College.

Grogan said the program was excellent.

"It offered the same courses as Averett, but I didn't have to do all of that driving. I was very prepared when I started my full-time job. I tell anyone who is interested in teaching that they should go to RCC. Two people I've told are interested and they've told their daughters who are also interested. It's a fantastic opportunity for Rockingham County citizens."

Planning to Graduate?

Don't Forget These Important Steps!

Students who expect to complete requirements for a degree, diploma, or certificate must apply to the Records Office for graduation by filling out a "Notice for Degree" form. These forms should be completed at the time of registration for the semester in which the student expects to graduate. The next graduation is scheduled to be Friday, May 9, 2008 at 10 AM. December completers can have the graduation information posted to their transcripts. Actual Degrees/Diplomas/Certificates will be awarded at the May graduation. If you have any questions concerning your graduation, please contact your faculty advisor and the Student Development Staff.

Attention May Graduates!

Your deadline for turning in your "Notice for Degree" form for the May 9, 2008 graduation is February 15, 2007. Forms received after this date you will not be eligible to graduate until the July 25, 2008 graduation. The Records Office staff needs time to evaluate your academic record, order your certificate, diploma or degree and to make preparations for graduation.

A \$25 graduation fee will be charged to all students completing a degree, diploma or certificate. The fee includes the cost of providing the certificate, diploma or degree, cover, cap, tassel, gown and 10 graduation invitations. The graduation fee must be paid before graduation or your academic record will be encumbered. Please submit the "Notice for Degree" form now. The fee needs to be paid before graduation.

Please bring your "Notice for Degree" form to the Records Office and then go to the Bookstore, during regular hours, to pay your graduation fee and make arrangements to receive the items that will be provided for you. These items will be picked up before graduation. **You need to notify us now of your intention to graduate.**

Here's How You Can Use WebAdvisor!

WebAdvisor is now available at Rockingham Community College!

Rockingham Community College (RCC) has implemented a new web-based tool (WebAdvisor) for registration. WebAdvisor is a comprehensive web-based tool that allows access to information via the Internet. This service was made available to all RCC students in the summer 2007 term.

Online registration is one of the web-based services provided by WebAdvisor. Through WebAdvisor, students will be able to:

- search for classes by time, location, day and instructor
- view account summary
- review course descriptions
- check course availability in real-time
- check financial aid status
- check grades
- print a non-official transcript
- print class schedules
- and other features as they become available.



In addition, the college expects to begin accepting online payments during the coming year.

You may also refer to the *WebAdvisor* tutorial page on the RCC web page: <http://www.rockinghamcc.edu/techsupport/webadvisor.php>

If you have any questions about this new service, please feel free to contact: Cheryl Evans, evansc@rockinghamcc.edu, 336-342-4261, ext. 2119; or Kay Simpson, simpsonk@rockinghamcc.edu, 336-342-4261, ext. 2309.

Cheer for RCC's Basketball Eagles

by Tynesha Johnson

Cheerleading Coach/Advisor

I would like to introduce the RCC's cheerleading squad. These young ladies have really worked hard to prepare for this upcoming basketball season.

On behalf of my cheerleaders, I'd like to invite everyone out to the games to join us in cheering on our Eagles.

Members of the 2007-08 cheerleading squad are: Tiffany Galloway, Captain, Marketta Martin, Captain, Sara Al-Jaouni, Shanika Brooks and Krystal Clark.

Season's greetings to all from the RCC Eagle Cheerleaders!



Support your Eagles!

Trust Offers a Variety of Scholarship Opportunities

The J.T.-Minnie Maude Charitable Trust was founded to provide financial assistance for the pursuit of higher education to deserving U.S. citizens who currently reside in and who have resided in the Virginia counties of Pittsylvania, Halifax, Henry and the North Carolina counties of Caswell and Rockingham for a minimum of twelve consecutive months at the time of application.

Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of academic achievement, financial need, and other related selection criteria. Award amounts will vary, up to and including a possible full scholarship.

Recipients may attend any accredited public or private, two or more year college or university, or an institution offering a one- year certificate degree. Payments will be made directly to the educational institution of enrollment.

The Charitable Trust encourages award recipients to recognize their responsibilities as citizens. Therefore, awardees will be generally required to perform twenty (20) hours of volunteer services of a civic and/or humanitarian nature in each academic year.

Scholarships will be awarded on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, religion, age, national origin, gender of disability.

There are three application types:

1. For student enrolled full time in a college or university seeking an associates or bachelors degree. (Requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale through the most recent completed semester.)

2. For students enrolled full time in technical or trade school seeking a diploma or certificate. (Requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale through the most recent completed semester.)

3. For students enrolled full/part time as a nontraditional student returning to seek a degree, diploma, or certificate.

Copies of the application packages may be accessed on-line at www.JTMM.org For any questions regarding the application, you may contact the

NC LIVE Adds PBS Streaming Video Collection

Effective 1 January 2008, students, faculty and staff will have free access to quality educational and entertainment programming from PBS over the Internet. As a member of NCLIVE, North Carolina's statewide library consortium, James Library will provide on-site and home access to nearly 250 PBS programs, including Ken Burns' Baseball and The Civil War as well as the Emmy award-winning series American Experience and Frontline.

Paid for by grants from the North Carolina State Library, the award-winning programs available from the PBS collection will include the science series Scientific American Frontiers, history series Empires, the investigative journalism program Frontline, and kids' series Cyberchase and Liberty's Kids.

"The quality of the PBS programming will provide North Carolinians with the perfect video marriage of education and entertainment, and is a natural fit for students, faculty, and patrons of all of the State's libraries," said Tim Rogers, Executive Director of NC LIVE. "We're very proud to be the first statewide cooperative that will be using streaming technology to deliver these incredible resources, continuing a North Carolina tradition of great libraries that support and enhance education, economic development, and quality of life."

This exciting new resource will be available from <http://www.nclive.org> and from the James Library web site <http://www.rockinghamcc.edu/library>.

J.T.-Minnie Maude Charitable Trust by phone at (434) 797-3330.

Completed application packages may be submitted starting January 2, 2008, but must be delivered to the J.T.-Minnie Maude Charitable Trust by 4 PM. on March 3, 2008 or post marked no later than the same date.

Applicants will be advised of the determination of their application request no later than June 2, 2008.

What You Should Know about RCC Public Wireless Access

RCC has wireless access available in limited areas around campus. Any use of Rockingham Community College's network (wired or wireless) must be in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy. RCC staff is not able to provide technical assistance for wireless access beyond that presented here.

- Users are responsible for ensuring they have the appropriate compliant wireless card (802.11b or g) and are running up-to-date antivirus and antispyware software on their wireless device.

- Depending on your wireless adapter, it may not be necessary to change TCP/IP settings. If you need to set these manually, set them to obtain both the IP and DNS server addresses automatically.

- Wireless access does not require a login.

- While RCC does not guarantee specific rates of speed or against interruption of service, every attempt will be made to make wireless access available 24/7.

- Printing is not available for wireless connections.

Please note: the wireless network is not secure (i.e., it is not encrypted using WEP, WAP, etc.). The level of security of your transactions, files on your hard drive and general web surfing will depend on the level of security precautions you have taken with your computer. Wireless locations include the Whitcomb Student Center, the Humanities Building, the Math/Science Building, the James Library, the Bishopric Lifelong Learning Center, the Advanced Technologies Building, the Industrial Technologies Building, and the Owens Human Service Building.

State Government Offers Internship Program for College Students This Summer

The North Carolina State Government Internship Program will again provide paid summer internship opportunities in state government agencies, for community college students of all majors. The program is part of the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office of the North Carolina Department of Administration.

- Internships for all majors are available in various state agencies located throughout the state.

- Eligible students are legal residents of North Carolina with at least a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

- **The application deadline for Summer 2008 is January 23, 2008. (postmarked)**

Program details can be found online at www.ncyaio.com.

Advisors and counselors have copies of the 2008 Internship Project Book and program flyer. The book outlines the details of the program, including how to apply, and lists the available positions by major and location. They will be happy to share this information with interested students.

For further information about the program, please contact Lisa J. Flint, coordinator, internship program at Lisa.Flint@ncmail.net or at 919-789-5880. You may also contact Peggy Beach, System Office, Public Affairs, beachm@nccomcommunitycolleges.edu or at 919-807-6964.

Acceptable Use Policy Set Limits on How College Networks and Equipment May Be Used

According to the Rockingham Community College Acceptable Use Policy, "access to resources on campus, including use of college equipment, the campus network, and the Internet, is provided to support the research, educational and administrative purposes of the College. All who use these services will do so responsibly, respecting the rights of other users, the integrity of the physical facilities and all applicable laws and regulations."

While the primary purpose of RCC technology resources is to support the research, educational and administrative purposes of the College, RCC will provide limited access to social networking and entertainment websites in order to meet the personal needs of our students, faculty and staff. Access to these sites will be available on the wireless networks in the Whitcomb Student Center, James Library and Advanced Technologies Building. In order to meet the needs of curriculum students who do not have personal laptops or other wireless devices, wireless laptops are available for checkout in the Library. There will also be a limited number of hardwired machines available with access to social networking and entertainment websites in the Multimedia Learning Center located in the Advanced Technologies Building and in the Library.

The RCC Acceptable Use Policy states that the "creation and/or transmission of threatening, racist, sexist, obscene, offensive, annoying, or harassing language and/or material is prohibited. Display of the aforementioned language and material is permitted only as it pertains to academic objectives." In keeping with the intent of the policy, pornography will be blocked from Internet access on the Rockingham Community College network.

In addition, RCC will block all known high risk websites that pose a threat of introducing viruses, harmful files, and other methods of vandalism into the campus network.

If at any time access to a site needed for research, educational or administrative purposes is found to be blocked, please notify the Director of Technology Support Services. Every effort will be made to accommodate your needs while protecting the integrity of our network.

Planning to Use Blackboard Next Semester?

Here's How to Login

Blackboard is an online course management system that allows faculty to post grades, information, and assignments. Instructors at Rockingham Community College use Blackboard for online classes, hybrid classes and as enhancements in the classroom.

The username is comprised of Last Name, First Initial, Last **Four** Digits of your Student I.D. Example, John Doe with an I.D. Number of 00123456 would have a Login ID of: DOEJ3456.

The initial password is your birthday **without** the slashes. If John Doe were born on July 4th, 1976, the password for his login ID is: 070476 (Please note that only the last two digits of the year are required).

If students have any problems logging into Blackboard or questions about navigation, please have them contact Cheryl Evans at 342-4262 ext. 2119 or Curtis Dunlap at ext. 342-4261 ext. 2269 during the day or 342-4261 ext 2346 in the evenings.

Student Email Accounts:

You've Got Mail! Here's How to Check Your Account

Rockingham Community College (RCC) is pleased to announce that all curriculum students have RCC email accounts; electronic mail (email) is an official means of communication with RCC students. Students will benefit by receiving timely, accurate, and up-to-date communication about matters including, but not limited to:

- financial aid and scholarships
- registration
- billing notification
- college policy statements
- college services and events
- course information
- degree completion and/or graduation
- administrative actions
- academic calendar

While the college will continue to communicate through printed publications and written correspondence, it is expected that the College will increasingly use student email as an official means of communication with RCC students. A student's failure to receive or read official college communications sent to the student's official email address does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the official communication.

RCC encourages the use of student email as an effective and efficient way to improve communi-



Tech Support Is Now Available 24/7

Rockingham Community College Department of Technology Support Services will continue a partnership with the North Carolina Community College System Office and Presidium, to offer technical support for Blackboard 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Visit the Online Learning Support Center via the Internet at <http://d2.parature.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=4181>. Here, you can search the Knowledge Base for answers to commonly asked questions. You can also connect with a Blackboard support representative through several options. The live Chat option allows you to get answers quickly, while submitting a Ticket typically takes up the least amount of your time. The Online Learning Support Center can also be accessed by telephone at 866-852-7535.

You may use this service for many types of technical assistance in Blackboard including having your password reset. Keep in mind, however, that should you experience problems while taking a test, only your instructor will be able to reset a test for you.

Since your ID number will be used as a secure means of identification, please have that number readily available should you need assistance from the Support Center. Your ID number is printed on your Student ID card.

If you need to have your password reset, Presidium will send your new password to your RCC issued student email account. If you have difficulty accessing your student email account, Presidium can answer basic questions for you. However, if you need to have your student email password reset, contact Jason Durham at 336-342-4261 ext.2318 or Cheryl Evans at 336-342-4261 ext. 2119. Your student email username is last name, first initial and last four digits of your ID number (smithj1234).

If you just want to learn more about using the different features of Blackboard, visit the website and choose the downloads section to browse the library of guides and tutorials. We hope that you will take advantage of this new service to enhance your online learning experience.

cation between students, faculty members and administrative staff. The primary purpose of student email is to meet the academic, student life, administrative, and business needs of the College.

Students can access their email by going to <http://www.rockinghamcc.edu> and clicking on the email link at the top of the page.

The user name/login ID is comprised of Last Name, First Initial, Last Four Digits of your **Student ID Number**. For example, John Doe with a ID number of 00123456 would have a Login ID of: doej3456.

The password is your date of birth. Example: If your birthday is December 10, 1981 you would key in the following format: 121081 (without the slashes). Please change your password after logging into the server.

The full RCC email address for this student example would be doej1789@students.rockinghamcc.edu. This is not case sensitive.

If students have any problems logging into the email or questions, please have them contact Cheryl Evans at 342-4261 ext. 2119 or Jason Durham at 342-4261 ext. 2318 during the day or 342-4261 ext. 2346 in the evenings.

Students, Take Note!

Thinking about Joining an Online Community?

Rockingham Community College recognizes that many students participate in online communities such as Facebook and MySpace in positive ways to connect with and interact with others. At the same time, however, users should be aware of the potential downsides and dangers of such directories. While the College is not responsible for material published on social networking sites by our students, RCC would like to offer the following suggestions to help keep our students safe.

First, be aware that anything that you post online is public information available for anyone to see, read, or print. Your professors, your parents, your future employers and undergraduate and graduate school admissions officers may easily be able to log onto your site. Be conscious of the image you are creating for yourself.

Second, when using any online community confirm that the most private security setting is selected. Using all of the security tools and privacy settings on these sites effectively is to your advantage.

Third, avoid listing personal information such as address, phone numbers, and class schedules. Your "friends" will already know this information. Withholding personal contact information from public online community websites reduces your chances of being stalked, harassed or victimized.

Fourth, you should know that while MySpace, Facebook and similar directories are hosted outside RCC servers, violations of College policy on online communities (for example, using harassing language, reference to drug or substance abuse taking place on campus, or other violations of the Student Code of Conduct) are subject to investigation and sanction.

Fifth, and finally, participation in online communities while on campus utilizes RCC resources intended to support the research, educational, and administrative purposes of the College. At any time, you may be asked by a member of the faculty or staff to refrain from using College resources for personal entertainment in order to respect the rights of other users seeking to complete educational and administrative assignments.

Davies Retires after 32 Years of Teaching Art at RCC

Continued from page 1.

His own explorations have resulted in exhibits of his work at a long, long list of venues including the North Carolina Museum of Art, the Center for Visual Arts Gallery, in numerous North Carolina university galleries, and in galleries in New York City and in France. He maintains membership in several professional organizations.

On the administrative side of teaching, Davies' most significant contribution was founding the North Carolina Community College Faculty Association, now in its tenth year. For nearly five years, he served as president. The association is well respected and has contributed to excellence in teaching by collaborating with the state boards of community college presidents and boards of trustees.

"We haven't succeeded in everything we've tried, but we have helped boost instructor's pay."

At RCC, he has served on numerous committees, as president of the Faculty Senate, and as faculty representative to the College Assembly. He has been a representative to the state faculty association and a frequent member of the board Fine Arts Festival Association of Rockingham County.

After retirement, Davies intends to concentrate on sculpting, his favorite medium, and exhibit his work more frequently. He will continue to give private art lessons at Carlisle School in Martinsville, Va. and will visit his sister in Madrid, Spain.

He leaves with this thought: "I believe people are meant to spread light in this world and I have tried to do that through teaching. As repayment, the students have been my reward. I can honestly say that in 32 years, I've never regretted coming to work a single day. I could not have asked for a better job."

Library Schedule Will Be Abbreviated Dec. 17-21

The James Library will observe shortened hours of operation during the next few weeks.

Information and Technology Services has scheduled several maintenance procedures and upgrades to the campus servers for the week of December 17-21. Without Internet connectivity, library users will not be able to access the catalog, subject specific databases, NC LIVE or the Internet, said Teresa Frohock, library technical assistant. The circulation system will also be unavailable to check materials in and out to users. Since the library cannot offer these services, it will be closed to the public beginning Wednesday, December 19th at noon.

The library will observe the following hours for the week of December 17-21: Monday from 8 AM until 5 PM (closed for Holiday Luncheon from 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM), Tuesday from 8 AM until 5 PM, and Wednesday from 8 AM until noon. The library will be closed to the public on Thursday and Friday.

Library staff scheduled to be on campus **WILL** be working in our respective offices and the back door of the library will remain unlocked. If you need us, please don't hesitate to stop by or call, and we'll be happy to assist you in whatever means our limited Internet connectivity will allow us, Frohock added.