

Red Fox Flier



No. 51

August/September 2003

MECC's student publication



Jamie Kegley assists a student in the Wampler Library.

Open Lab moved to Library

Computers formerly available in the Learning Place/GAIN Lab have been incorporated into the services of the Wampler Library. The computer software that was available in the Learning Place has been loaded onto computers in the library, and Jamie Kegley is available to assist students with any software problems. Student IDs are now made in the library as well.

The number of computers that are now needed in the library to handle these additional functions is still being determined. An online evaluation of the expanded library services is planned during the fall semester. Students who have suggestions or problems should talk to John Cotham, Director of Library Services.

The library will be open 8:00 am to 8:30 pm Monday through Thursday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Friday, and 10:00 am to 2:00 pm Saturday.

To be able to use the computers in the library, students and other library users will be required to agree (by clicking on an "agree" button) to abide by all MECC and VCCS computer use policies, which are posted in the library and printed in the student handbook.

New name - More GAIN

What has been known as the GAIN Lab on the second floor of Godwin Hall is now the GAINing Excellence Center. "We felt this was a more positive name which really captures what we do - to help students be the best they can be," said Gena Massey, Director of TRIO programs at MECC, which includes the GAIN Student Support Program and Talent Search. This change was influenced in part by the moving of the open computer lab to the Library, which had formerly shared space with the GAIN Program.

Students are encouraged to stop into the GAINing Excellence Center to include about the wide range of services being offered. Talent Search has been moved next to the Gaining Excellence Center.

Get your copy, here!

Look for complimentary copies of the Kingsport Times News in each building on campus. The newspaper is being made available through the MECC Foundation.

Appreciating Diversity • Seeking Unity

Mountain Empire



Welcome new and returning students

By **Kenneth Davenport**
kdavenport0009@email.vccs.edu

Hello everyone. First, let me introduce to you LeeAnn Stipe. She will be your Vice President of the Student Government Association (SGA) for this year. I am Kenny Davenport, President of the SGA. If you have any question, comments, suggestions, or concerns, feel free to email one us.

LeeAnn and I would like to welcome back returning students and a special welcome to all of the new students attending Mountain Empire for the first time this year. Let's make this year rock while making new friends, learning new concepts, and interacting with some of the best professors you will ever get to know on a one-to-one level.

We would like to encourage all students to become involved in the clubs and activities that the college has to offer. The offices of a second Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are open in the Student Government Association (SGA) and we are looking for some motivated individuals with fresh ideas to fill these positions. Elections will be held September 24th and 25th in the Gaining Excellence Center located in Godwin Hall, Room 216.

Everyone is invited to the annual college picnic this Thursday, August 28th, from 11 AM – 1 PM.

We will have music provided by Cory Bledsoe. We will also have a magic show in the Goodloe Center at 12:15 p.m. performed by Joe Young. Come and join in for free food and fun.

If you love to write and would like to express yourself through the Red Fox Flier, contact Sharon Fisher in Community Relations.

The Red Fox Flier is a regular MECC student publication. Contributions to this publication should be delivered to R207 or sent by email to sfisher@me.vccs.edu or lkennedy@me.vccs.edu.

Student Writers for
August/September Issue

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**The MECC Student Government Association
2003-2004 Vice-President LeeAnn Stipe and
President, Kenneth Davenport.**

Welcome Week

August 25-29

**Check out all the
student clubs and
find one that fits
your interest.**

**Check bulletin
boards for details.**

Campus Calendar

August and September

To be prepared for MECC's semester events, mark your calendars today!

- August 25 FIRST DAY OF FALL SEMESTER CLASSES!
- August 25-29 **Welcome Week** (includes Club Recruitment, Picnic, Popcorn, Music, and GAIN Recruitment). Check Bulletin Boards for details.
- August 28 Student Picnic - FREE food. Music by Cory Bledsoe. Magic by Joe Young.
- September 1 **Labor Day** - COLLEGE CLOSED - no day or evening classes.
- September 10 Last day to add a course, change from audit to credit, withdraw with a refund.
- September 16 GAINing Excellence Seminar, **Communication Skills**, at 12:15 pm in G225. Presenter is Connie Rhoton.
- September 18 ProArt presents **Eugene Jones, Clarinetist**, at 12:15 p.m. in the Goodloe Center.
- September 23 GAINing Excellence Seminar, **Support Systems & Networks**, at 12:15 pm in G225. Presenter is Jessica Genco.
- September 23 **Student Club Leadership Training**, 12:15-1:15 pm, G211.
- September 24-25 **Student Government Association (SGA) Elections**.
- September 25 Student Services Workshop, **Career Decision Making**, 12:15-1:15 pm, G164.
- September 30 GAINing Excellence Seminar, **Setting Goals**, at 12:15 pm in G225. Presenter is Connie Rhoton.

WATCH FOR GAINing EXCELLENCE SEMINARS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Student Picnic

**FREE
FOOD**

**August 28 - 12:15 pm
Goodloe Center Patio**

**MUSIC
MAGIC**

**September 1
Labor Day
No Day or Evening
Classes**

**SGA Elections
September
24-25**

MECC joins fight against cancer



The MECC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa participated in the recent Relay for Life and collected \$788.50 to donate to the American Cancer Society for cancer research.

The Alpha Delta Psi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society has proven again that service is truly its hallmark. On June 28, a team of members and advisors from Mountain Empire Community College participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The event, held in Lebanon, is designed to raise public awareness about cancer. This year marked Alpha Delta Psi's first time at Relay for Life, and the chapter was eager to become involved with the cause.

"For me, personally, this was one of the most meaningful service projects we've ever done," said Carolyn Helms, co-advisor of the chapter. "We were gratified to be able to help in a small way." Led by Frances Meade, the chapter president, Alpha Delta Psi managed to raise nearly \$800 for the cause. They attribute their success largely to the combined efforts of the college and the community, and this is an achievement of which they are quite proud.

Perhaps the most poignant aspect of their experience was the Luminary ceremony. Prior to the Relay, teams collected donations for luminaries, which would be arranged around the track and lit to honor cancer victims and survivors. After a touching oration by Wrenda Fuller, a cancer survivor, the teams filed silently onto the track to pay tribute to their loved ones.



Linda Childress and PTK member Brett Trinkle work the MECC tent where funds were raised with a dart board game and selling popcorn.

Brandi Pettey, a recent Phi Theta Kappa graduate, reflected, "I felt such an overwhelming sadness when we walked around the track...The emotion that passed through my heart will never be forgotten." The same is undoubtedly true for her fellow participants. Not surprisingly, Alpha Delta Psi plans to attend the event again next year. With careful planning and boundless enthusiasm, the Phi Theta Kappans are sure to succeed.

*Contributed by Amanda Clark,
MECC 2003 graduate and former
president of PTK.*

Ask a Counselor

By Jessica Genco

jgenco@me.vccs.edu
GAIN Program Counselor

Jessica Genco, Program Counselor for the Student Support GAIN program, writes this column to address issues related to current mental health, your questions and answers regarding mental health, and discussion of ways mental health impacts your academic success. The "Ask the Counselor" forum allows students to submit questions, with the questions and answers posted sans the identifying information.

Genco is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Virginia and a Nationally Certified Counselor. If you would like to submit a question, please email her at jgenco@me.vccs.edu. Questions remain confidential. They may be used for a question and answer format, but with names omitted, of course.

Some possible barriers to academic success

As the fall semester begins, it is important to look at some of the reasons why college students experience academic problems. Hopefully, by examining these issues early, you can take steps to correct any problems and help ensure a successful semester.

Study Skills – typically the lack of effective study methods. It is not uncommon for students to have not developed any study skills prior to college. Sometimes this may be due to study skills not being taught or because they were not a necessity. For many adult students, not only are the essential study skills absent, but there has also been a time of disconnection from academics that can interfere with effective study skills.

Motivation – lack of a clear vision or purpose as to why you are here. If college enrollment is something that has been made mandatory, a condition of employment, or generally something that does not include your own goals and vision about what you want, the likelihood for success is slim. Sometimes you may need to ask yourself, "Is school for me, right now?" or "Whose dream am I living?"

Time Management – inefficient and/or ineffective use of time to complete school-related tasks including out-of-class study and class attendance. One of the best things you can do for your success is to attend class regularly and to come to class prepared. Most students have multiple time demands in addition to school – work and family to name a few. College makes an impact on your life and requires changes that accommodate the new time demands.

Feeling Out-of-Place – just like it sounds – feeling like you don't belong. MECC has students just out of high school and students who have returned to school after many years of work, family, or other responsibilities. Finding "your place" at college can be the single most important factor (next to class attendance) in your success. It is normal to feel anxious because it is a new venture, a new unknown. Remember that you are not alone in these feelings. Whether others say it or not, you can be sure many have similar fears. Make acquaintances and connections at MECC; it can be a key element in your persistence.

Substance Abuse – recreational use, addiction, or self-medication for a psychological problem. While substance abuse does not forecast failure, it seriously affects the ability to attend class regularly and perform at your potential.

Psychological Issues – undiagnosed and/or untreated psychological disorders. Depression, anxiety, and panic disorder (just to name a few) are very common disorders with effective treatments. If left untreated or undiagnosed, the impact on college performance can be extensive (poor GPA, academic probation) not to mention the blow to your self-confidence.

This is not a complete list of possible barriers to success (you can probably name others). The most important step you can take is to become aware of anything that may interfere with you performing at your highest potential. College counselors are available to help with academic problems (motivation, study skills, time management, etc.) and can provide referrals for psychological or substance abuse issues.

"Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Begin it now." - Goethe

Letters from Troops

April:

Lisa and MECC Staff,

Thank you very much for the care package. I used the playing cards. I shared what was in the box. As for me I'm doing fine, I just wish I was home. But this mess will be over soon I hope. Tell the others I said hi! Thanks and God Bless,
SPC Jonathan Massey

Dear Mrs. Woliver and MECC,

I just wanted to say thanks for the care package. I have been doing pretty good. I have missed my son a lot but I just try to stay busy. How's everything going back there? I hope to hear from everyone again.
SPC Christina Cook

Lisa and MECC,

Please forgive me for allowing so much time to pass before sending you this letter. I hope this lapse of time will not take away from the true appreciation I am sending in this letter. Words cannot begin to explain the sincere gratitude that not only I, but my "ship mates" felt, to know that we were not forgotten. I wish I had more to say, some stories to tell you to give more light to this letter... but my sole purpose in writing right now is to say thank you.

Thank you for your time that you DID NOT have to give. Thank you for the "goodies"... the guys loved it. Most of all thank you all for your thoughts... like the saying goes; it's the thought that counts. You made my day with your thoughts and kindness, and I hope one day I'll be able to truly show my gratitude. Until next time... you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Roger Spencer II

CTM3 Spencer
USS IwoJima

June:

Hello Everyone at MECC,

I am in Kuwait right now. I am safe and doing well. My unit and I stay extremely busy throughout the day. I miss being at school. The only thing I can say about this place is that it is HOT. The average temperature is about 120 degrees. It is unbearable at times. Thank you for the care package, it melted my heart and made my day. Thank you for caring. God Bless MECC. Keep me and all the other soldiers in your prayers.

Thank you again,

SPC Olivia Wingate

1030 EN BN
APO AE 09366

If anyone would like to write me, I would love to hear from you again.

To the Staff and Student's of Mountain Empire Community College,

Thank you very much for the care package. All of the contents were greatly appreciated and will be put to good use. Your kindness and contributions have made this time away from home much easier, and knowing that we as soldiers are appreciated makes this deployment more than a job but a welcomed duty.

Thank you,

Sgt Phillip Pridemore

Thank you for the care package. I am doing fine; it is just really hot over here.

SPC Kevin McConnell

Lisa and Staff,

I am doing pretty good, trying to stay busy. Hoping the time will go by faster. It is extremely hot here; it got up to 145 degrees yesterday. I just can't wait to go home and see my son. We look forward to mail call and for sun down, so it will cool off. We have been lucky; none of us have been shot at, just a few rocks thrown at us. Well I have to go for now. Tell everyone I said hi. Take care

SPC Christina Cook

August:

Hello,

First thank you all for the package, sometimes things are very hard to get here. Again thank you very much. As you know I am a Police Science major, and hate that I am missing another year of school. I also know that this is a job that has to be done, so hopefully the world will be safer in the years to come. It has also been a very interesting trip. Actually experiencing the way other cultures live and fortunate we are to live in the U.S.A. I have also seen some of the greatest historical sites in the world. Iraq is where Abraham was born, the tower of Babylon was being rebuilt by Sadam, and the Tigris & Euphrates River which flowed through the Garden of Eden. Well I wish you all could see these things. Under different circumstances of course. Well again thank you and please tell Jim Burns and Cindy Mongle I said Hello and save me a seat in class when I get back.

E-mail (when working) mark.deahl@us.army.mil
Thanks,

SGT Mark Dealh

Support the Troops activities at MECC are on-going for students and employee family members in the National Guard who were called to active duty this past spring. MECC employee Lisa Woliver has led an effort to send cards, letters, and care packages.

Tribute to our Troops

By **Kenneth Davenport**

kdavenport0009@email.vccs.edu

We need to thank the Lord for our brave troops that have come home. From our college alone we have Zane Robbins, Jonathan Massey, Clyde Hester Jr, George Burgin, and Steve Middleton who have returned home safely. We still have many soldiers that are on Iraqi soil, including Leslie Ingle, Mark Deahl, Christina Cook, Vicky Greene, Jamie Cox, Olivia Wingate, Kevin McConnell, Patrick Loggans, and Philip Pridemore that live here in

the Mountain Empire region. We have some troops still on base in Fort Eustis, Virginia that are from our area. It is not known when these troops will be coming home. Thomas Frantz, Demus Stanley, Arthur Smith Jr, Shannon Dutton, Sidney Flanary, Michael Short, and Grant Bledsoe are among the many troops that have been called for active duty at Fort Eustis. We have one sailor, Roger Spencer II, who is stationed on the USS Iwojima, and one marine soldier, David Brent Lee, who is in one of the tank divisions on the front lines.

Pray and support all of our troops and the families who have lost their loved ones fighting for the freedom of others and ending the dictatorship of Sadaam Hussein. I hope I speak for all Americans when I say "God bless America, God bless our troops and bring them home safe and soon."

Hands-On Training



MECC's Air Conditioning and Refrigeration students installed four heat pumps at the First Church of God in Norton. Each summer, Assistant Professor Jerry Ramey engages his students in this service learning project with hands-on experience for their Heat Pump and Seminar classes.

Pictured upper left are Chris Nixon, Chris Yates, and Chris Bryant; bottom left are Artartus Plight and Kevin Coleman, and pictured right are Tommy Pennington and Doug Ely with Jerry Ramey.

ALL club sponsors and officers need to attend the club leadership meeting on September 23, 12:15 pm in G 211.

Total cooperation should be mandatory!



By **Kenneth Davenport**

kdavenport0009@email.vccs.edu

Americans with disabilities face many obstacles in life. One problem is the business owner's lack of knowledge when it comes to the ADA, Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), the American with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) regulations, and tax incentives they are eligible for by complying with these standards. If people were more informed about these laws and the good they do for the people they affect, including the visually and hearing impaired and the mentally challenged, then most barriers would be eliminated.

A lot of these barriers could be eliminated if engineers and building contractors would hire physically challenged people to consult and help design user-friendly equipment, public buildings, parking lots, and residential housing. Responsible legislators are not making these laws enforceable by using terms like "readily achievable," which means, "easily accomplishable and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense"(ADA Technical 3). It would also help if legislators would make these laws without words that may be interpreted differently according to who is doing the reading.

The following are some Americans with Disabilities Act Virginia Resources:

Virginia Assistive Technology Services Modem	1-800-238-7955 (1-800-435-8490 Voice)
Department for Rights of Virginians with Disabilities	1-800-552-3962
Department of Rehabilitative Services	1-800-552-5019
Department for the Visually Handicapped	1-800-622-2155
Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	1-800-552-7917
Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services	1-804-786-5850 (Employment Office)
Job Accommodation Network (JAN)	1-800-526-7234 or 1-800-JAN-PCEH
Tax Deductions, IRS Publication #907, Department of the Treasury, Catalog Number 15308 H	

GAIN Scholarships

Participants in the GAIN Program may be eligible for scholarships to assist in meeting financial needs. Scholarships may be as much as \$850 per semester. The criteria established by the U.S. Department of Education (the source of the scholarships) includes:

- Must receive Pell grant funds
- Must have unmet financial needs
- Must be a participant in the GAIN Program
- Priority is given to first semester freshmen
- Priority is given to students in transfer programs
- All applicants will be considered after priority applicants are served
- Must agree to remain in the GAIN program as long as enrolled at MECC

Scholarship awards will be determined through an application process which will include:

- Application for GAIN Program services
- Scholarship application
- Essay
- Graduation/Transfer plans
- Amount of unmet need
- Personal interview

Scholarship packets will be available in the GAIN office after September 22. For more information see Gena Massey, Director of TRIO Programs in the GAINING Excellence Center 216E.

MECC students win at national leadership conference



We caught Tisha with her trophy when she came by to visit MECC AST faculty.

MECC was honored at the Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) National Leadership Conference, a professional association for students pursuing business careers. Competing in FBLA-PBL's national awards program, six students from MECC represented the state of Virginia in competitive events: Community Service Project: Mandie Daugherty of Pennington Gap, Tisha Dorton of Big Stone Gap, and Alice Lynch of Dryden; Business Law: Alice Lynch of Dryden; Computer Applications: Sarah Dingus of Nickelsville and Tisha Dorton of Big Stone Gap; Job Interview: Lynda Garrett of Pennington Gap; and Public Speaking: Sherry Tabor of Pennington Gap.

National award winners were: Lynda Garrett, 10th place in job interview; Tisha Dorton, 9th place in computer applications, and Sherry Tabor, 8th place in public speaking.

MECC Professor Peggy Rusek of Gate City accompanied the students to the National Leadership Conference and was honored as one of the longest-serving advisers in the Who's Who Parade in Phi Beta Lambda at the beginning of the Awards Ceremony.

Pictured: (l to r) Sherry Tabor, Tisha Dorton, and Lynda Garrett.



By Justin Mullins
justy4life@hotmail.com

Robert England is a seasoned professional in theater, while Jon Ritter's son runs scared throughout the movie. The plot deals with Freddy controlling Jason and forcing him to slay his victims.

Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star: September 5th. Realizing that he has to reignite his career at 35, former child star Dickie Roberts (Spade) sets his sights on a comeback role as an "everyday guy."

Readers of the Fox Flier, I bid thee my return from hibernation. Hopefully thou has missed my intelligent, witty, dissection of cinematic productions.

Freddy vs Jason: August 15th. Obviously the acting doesn't matter, besides the fact

Realizing that he never had an "everyday life," he decides to hire a family, complete with parents and siblings, to recreate a "normal life," so he can feel what that's like, in preparation for his role. (McCormack plays the mother of the children who are rented out to Dickie; Milano plays Dickie's on-again/off-again girlfriend).

Once Upon a Time in Mexico: September 12th. This film is the sequel to Desperado. The traveling vigilante known as El Mariachi (Banderas) is recruited by CIA Agent Sands (Depp) to take a corrupt general who is in cahoots with a powerful drug lord, Barrillo (Dafoe), in an attempt to overthrow the president of Mexico. That, however, is just the surface story, as other layers of subterfuge and deception lurk, which all comes to a head in a violent series of confrontations.

All material is borrowed from www.upcomingmovies.com

As always I'm your hero and very own Jedi Master.

Two million dollars plus in renovations

By Kenneth Davenport

kdavenport0009@email.vccs.edu

Holton Hall is going through a total overhaul. It has been gutted and is now being rebuilt to be a Mecca for student services, which will be centrally located for added convenience for all students. Holton Hall will consist of students services, counseling, testing, the book store, food services, dining area, game room, lounge areas, and a patio overlooking the front of the campus. Construction of Holton Hall should be complete by late fall of 2003 and will be operating around the time of the spring 2004 semester.

Many other changes are taking place all round the campus. Workers have increased the size of the Biology Lab. They are making the bathrooms on the second floor of Godwin larger and more accessible for the handicapped. Arts and Sciences will be moving to where Students Services are now. A vending area will be put on the 1st floor of Godwin Hall. Maintenance will be moving their office to where the Bookstore is currently located, and Security will be moved to the current Maintenance office.

This coming Spring 2004, construction will begin on a new parking lot for Phillips-Taylor Hall and the roof of Robb Hall will be upgraded. Many improvements are being made for all of us. Please be patient during these changes. Once all of the construction and renovations are complete, they will be beneficial to us all.

College: Make it your unique experience through community service

As a MECC student, you can make your college experience uniquely your own by giving back to your community through service. Sure you can just come to class everyday, listen intently during lecture and be fully prepared for an upcoming test, but what do you take with you once the class is over?

College instructors realize that once you leave the classroom, textbooks don't just magically come to life, or do they? No, most college instructors recognize that in order for students to fully apply what they have learned in the classroom, students must have personal understanding through experiences to fully maximize the knowledge they have gained from their studies. A sociology instructor understands that if a student is to fully understand the affect poverty has on the working poor, a student could immerse himself/herself in that understanding by volunteering at a local food bank or emergency shelter where people who need food, clothing or shelter come in on a daily basis. This

volunteer experience helps a student to put a face, a story, a life struggle, and hopefully an understanding of what was discussed in class.

So, you see, you can make your college experience uniquely your own because you can make yourself "think outside the box" by integrating your learning and applying it concretely to everyday life and learning experiences.

This integration of academic course work through community service is called service learning. MECC has been offering students service learning opportunities for sometime now. For example, student's in Jerry Ramey's air conditioning and refrigeration class installed four heat pumps for the First Church of God in Norton this summer; they got valuable hands-on training while learning the value of service to others. Service learning allows students to learn and develop through active participation in a carefully planned and well-organized service experience. For some

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Continued from Page 10

MECC students, this takes place as part of a college class and provides an opportunity for students to apply theoretical classroom learning to address needs in the community. Jerry Ramey, assistant professor, has been instructing students in community service projects for eight years. This summer's project "is the biggest we have done," said Ramey. The church bought the heat pumps and materials and the students provided the labor. Ramey estimates the cost to the church was approximately \$10,000, compared to what would have been more than \$25,000 without the student workers.

MECC has always stressed the importance of providing students with unique learning experiences that teach the importance of responsible citizenship. MECC has always stressed to its students that one student can make a difference in their community. An example of that is evident from the success of MECC's AmeriCorps program. The MECC Americorps program puts more than 30 college students each year into the public schools as tutors. By tutoring these public school children, MECC tutors have helped change the reading levels of the students they tutor. These tutors are living up to the call to action that Mahatma Gandhi stated when he said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

As a student at MECC, you will not only be given a chance for community service in the classroom but many student clubs incorporate service as part of their activities. In May, MECC's Phi Theta Kappa honor society received a certificate from the organization's international office for its members' participation in the community service initiative, Project Graduation, Feed a Body, Feed a Mind, which collected canned food items and books for the needy. The Phi Theta Kappa students also participated in the Relay for Life in July, donating \$788.50 to the American Cancer Society. The MECC Student Government Association sponsors MECC Serves Week each year to collect clothing and toys for needy children, and the Phi Beta Lambda club sponsors the Angel Tree project to collect items for needy children at Christmas. Com-

munity service fosters within the student a sense of civic-mindedness and becomes the vehicle by which students and faculty move outside the traditional classroom to learn from and give back to the community. The MECC Hearts of Faith club provides a means for inner growth for students as they aid both the college and the community through humor. A primary focus of this group is to visit the sick and elderly in hospitals and homes for the elderly.

Sponsoring blood drives, donating funds to the Red Cross, and participating in the annual Mountain Empire Older Citizens walkathon, are among other contributions made by students, faculty and staff at MECC. From all of these community service activities, one can see that MECC is an engaged campus in its community.

You can make your college experience uniquely your own, by giving back to your community through service learning and community service, and you can make a difference. Whether you come from a small town, a big family or whether this is your first time to college, you learn to "think out of the box" and become a great person of change. Remember the words of Martin Luther King, Jr. "Everyone can be great.because everyone can serve."

Contributed by Linda Childress.



Frances Meade, Amanda Clark, and PTK Sponsor Carolyn Helms display the certificate from the PTK international office for MECC's participation in the community service initiative, Project Graduation, Feed a Body, Feed a Mind, which collected canned food items and books for the needy.

Student ID's - not just a card

MECC student ID's not only allow students to check out books and home-course videos at the Wampler Library, but the card also gets students in free to any Pro-Art Association cultural event in the region. And, when ordering computer hardware and software, be sure to ask for the vendor's academic prices. Students can then fax or mail a copy of their student ID to the vendor to qualify for reduced prices on technology purchases.

Some retail and food establishments in the community may give a discount to students who present their ID's. Check with each establishment when purchasing.

Student ID's and ID updates are available in the Wampler Library. If you have had a student ID in the past, please bring it with you to be updated with a sticker so you will not need to have a new ID made. New students need to have their EMPL ID # to get their new student ID card.

Fall Semester 2003

August	20-22 25	Registration/Advising First Day of Classes
September	1 10	HOLIDAY - College Closed No day or evening classes Last Day to add a course, withdraw with a refund, change from audit to credit
October	16-17 29	Faculty/Staff In-Service Days - No day or night classes Last day to withdraw without penalty, change from credit to audit
November	24 27-28	Last day to make up incomplete grades from Spring and Summer HOLIDAY-College Closed
December	12 15-18	LAST DAY OF CLASSES FINAL EXAMS

Wampler Library Hours

(Located on the 2nd floor of Robb Hall)

Monday - Thursday	8:00 am - 8:30 pm
Friday	8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Saturday	10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Student Services Hours

(Located on the 1st floor of Godwin Hall)

Monday - Thursday	8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Campus Map

Students can find campus maps on various bulletin boards across campus, or on the college's web site - just click the "Campus Map" link on the MECC home page.

Don't forget to get your parking permits

Student parking permits are available in the Business Office on the first floor of Godwin Hall. Parking permits are free to students. You will be asked to provide the following information:

- Your name
- Your social security number
- Information about each of your vehicles (model, year, license plate number, and whether it is a car, truck, or van)

Your permit is a hanging tag assigned to you instead of to your vehicle, so you hang it on the rear view mirror of whichever vehicle you drive to MECC.

Tag colors change each year, so if you have a tag from last year, you need to come in and get a new one.

***"Teachers open the
door, but you must enter
by yourself."***

Chinese proverb