

School Spotlight Edition

Each year, KACCS Schools make substantial contributions to their communities. In addition to serving students in their area by offering career training in high demand fields, they

work with employers to ensure students are adequately trained to meet their needs, encourage students to serve their communities by translating hands-on training prepara-

tion into service learning projects, and seek to improve their communities by reaching out to those in need.

This special edition newsletter provides a brief snapshot of some of our schools' most recent activities and student successes.

Class Project Helps Local Autistic Children

Spencerian College students in Lexington recently had the opportunity to design a toy with a very specific purpose in mind. Students in the school's Design Theory II class in the CADD department collaborated with a Special Education Teacher from Western Elementary School in Georgetown, Ms. Jackie Baber, to design an education toy specifically for Autistic children. Students researched Autism in preparation for an interview with Ms. Baber and then worked to create a toy based on what they

learned. Students then designed a model on Solidworks/AutoCAD and built the toy that would aid the teacher in teaching communication and developmental skills for Autistic students.

The CADD students worked hard to complete, "The Box," which is equipped with several educational features including: magnetic images used to express emotions, a variety of locks for manipulation, visual stimulation and objects for eye-hand coordination. The CADD Department works in con-

junction with the Graphics Department to create projects like this on a quarterly basis.



Featured from Left to Right: Ms. Jackie Baber, Spencerian College CADD Student, Scott Kilpela and CADD Instructor Jennifer BoCook Upthegrove

Operation Hire Patriots

On August 25, National College's Louisville campus hosted the Operation Hire Patriots Job Fair for military veterans. The event, which was held in conjunction with the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, featured over 45 companies and organizations with position openings including the Commonwealth of Kentucky Personnel Cabinet, UPS, Geek Squad

City, Norton Healthcare, Accent Marketing, and more.

Several resource agencies such as the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Small Business Administration were also on hand offering their assistance. Regional Director of Military Affairs, Wesley Smith, held benefits workshops during the job fair to offer resources and answer questions par-

ticipating veterans had regarding their educational and other benefits.

National partnered with the Office of Employment and Training, the Kentucky National Guard, the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, Ft. Knox, and local media to spread the word about the job fair to veterans in the community and almost 300 were in attendance making the day a success for all involved.

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KACCS Schools Assist with Community Health & Safety Fairs

Career colleges often seek to provide service learning opportunities encouraging students to give back to their communities while also practicing skills learned in the classroom. Recently, several KACCS schools took the opportunity to give back providing various health screenings in their communities. On August 27th, students from *ATA College's* Allied



ATA College student taking Louisville Mayor, Greg Fischer's blood pressure at a local health fair.

Health programs participated in Louisville's Community Health Care. Students training to become nurses and medical assistants provided free blood pressure and glucose screenings to give back to their community.

In Pikeville, *National College* recently hosted their 4th Annual Healthy Fun Fair. Nursing, medical assisting and phlebotomy students provided body mass index calculations, blood glucose screenings, blood pressure checks and more. Local health care providers were also in attendance at this event. In addition to health screening, students took the opportunity to reach out to the community providing school sup-

plies to children in need after a month long school supply drive effort.

Florence, Kentucky's *Lincoln College of Technology* also hosted a Health and Safety Fair on September 22nd, their 3rd Annual Event. This public event, involving their entire campus community, also included local organizations such as Humana, Silverlake Gym, American Sleep Medicine, Afnia Dental and Healthy Alternatives. Dental students handed out free toothbrushes, floss and toothpaste as a local dentist held free public screenings, students and community members donated blood in the Hoxworth Blood Van, and the St. Elizabeth Mammogram Van provided screenings.

Class Project Exceeds Expectations

Every nursing student at *Beckfield College* is required to participate in a project with the community through a management course on leadership. Students can choose to complete an independent project or participate in a Leadership University project. Leadership University requires a team of students to research, plan and execute a community-based project during the 7th term of their program.

"Being a nurse is about

helping, both from a clinical perspective and the human and emotional point of view," says Tim Curl, Dean of Nursing at Beckfield College. "These students walk away with a different view of how they can have an impact on someone's life that complements their nursing skills."

Brittany Dempsey, Lindsay Reilly and Taitum Godfrey chose to plan, execute and evaluate a blood drive at Beckfield College as their Leadership University project. Their mission was to work with the Hoxworth

Blood Center to help maintain a safe and stable supply of blood for the 29 local hospitals and to raise awareness about blood donation and its benefits. The team marketed extensively and coordinated on-site drive needs.

The goal for the project was to reach 23 donors for the blood drive but the group more than doubled their goal ending the day with 49 donors and 22 units of blood. All three students have since graduated, passed their boards and are working in the nursing field.

New Grads on the Job!

Career college graduates bring their skills and knowledge to diverse industries and employers across the Commonwealth. Recent graduates include:

- **Charles Effinger III**
Pharmacy Technician, Wish's Pharmacy.

Graduated from *Daymar College's* (Louisville South) Associates in Pharmacy Technology program in October.

- **Melissa Harrison**
Laboratory Technician, ChiroOne Wellness Centers. Graduated from *Spencerian College's* (Lexington) Medical Clinical Specialties AAS program in June.

- **Melissa Profitt**
Laboratory Technician, ChiroOne Wellness Centers. Graduated from *Spencerian College's* (Lexington) Medical Clinical Specialties AAS program in June.

- **Jamie Ruston**
Accounting Clerk, Shoe Stop. Graduated from *Daymar College's* (Owensboro) Associates in Accounting program in September.

- **Thonnya Sutherland**
Billing and Coding Specialist, Professional Office Solutions. Graduated from *Daymar College's* (Louisville South) Associates in Medical Billing and Coding program in September.

- **Carol Walter**
Billing and Coding Specialist, Procarent. Graduated from *Daymar College's* (Louisville South) Associates in Medical Billing and Coding program in September.

Student Testimonials

Spencerian College, Louisville Campus

Tawyna Henry started out in a local university after high school but it wasn't the experience she expected. She found she was, "battling" upperclassmen for the classes she needed and having to pay for classes she didn't need in order to maintain her full-time student status. She became disheartened by the cost and time needed to complete the program. Then tragedy struck. She lost her home to fire and two family members to illness and accident. In spite of her family obligations taking care of her mother, younger sister and oldest sister with Down's Syndrome, Tawyna decided to continue her schooling, this time choosing the Medical Laboratory Technician AAS program at Spencerian College. She felt this career could give her job security and the enjoyment of working in a field she loved. At Spencerian, she liked the smaller class size and said the teachers were, "the best she ever had." Stating that, "their willingness to instill knowledge and their passion for what they did made me excited about my career choice. The teachers already had the experience in the field and they prepared me well for working in the clinical sites." Tawyna continued

to work full-time through her Spencerian Training and found it was a lot easier to pay monthly than it had been at the university. Tawyna graduated with a 4.0 average in September 2011. She now works in the laboratory at the University of Louisville Hospital and teaches phlebotomy three days a week.

Sullivan College of Technology and Design

Chris Brooks spent 14 years in a chemical plant doing factory work before getting laid off. He had a family and children so he needed to find something solid, stable and secure. HVAC-R had what he was looking for. He chose Sullivan College of Technology and Design (SCTD) first for the school's presentation and staff, and second for the hands-on externship in the program, and the school's active career services team. When asked if he was satisfied with his education at SCTD, Brooks responded, "Definitely." Brooks graduated from SCTD in September with an associate degree in HVAC-R and is currently working with Harshaw Trane where he completed his externship. He hopes to grow with Harshaw Trane, a company that promotes from within and has numerous advancement opportunities.

Beckfield College

Dy'an Marinos attended Beckfield College to begin a second career after being laid off from her job of twenty years. After seeing a family member fall victim to a crime years ago, she had become fascinated by the criminal justice system and was inspired to learn more. Marinos says, "Losing my job after almost 23 years was one of the most frightening experiences of my life. What could have been a nightmare for me has turned into a blessing. I am, indeed, thankful that I lost my job. Now, instead of doing what I have to do, I'll be doing what I want to do for the first time in my life." Marinos graduated from Beckfield with an AAS in Criminal Justice in December 2009 and a Bachelors in Criminal Justice this September. Of her experience, she says, "Academically I got what I expected from Beckfield College; an extensive education in my chosen field of Criminal Justice. What I wasn't expecting was the personal growth I experienced while I was there. Marinos now works for the Brighton Center in Northern Kentucky as a Youth Leadership Development Specialist. She trains students in social



Spencerian College Graduate,
Tawyna Henry



SCTD graduate, Christopher Brooks
(left) with Computer Engineering Technology instructor, Greg Simms



Beckfield College Graduate,
Dy'an Marinos

competencies including goal setting, conflict resolution, abstinence and decision making. She also escorts students on field trips, coordinates and facilitates community service projects, and measures and documents growth of students on core competencies. Dy'an plans to gain additional experience in her field and then, eventually, obtain a Master's degree and become a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor. Additional student testimonials can be found online at www.career.org under Legislative Resource Center.

The Center of Hope

Students of the *Sullivan College of Technology and Design (SCTD)* have taken on a project spanning several years and educational departments while truly defining the purpose of service learning.

These projects take place at the Center of Hope, a homeless shelter run by the Salvation Army in downtown Louisville. Recent projects have involved SCTD's students in courses such as: CADD, Sociology, Dynamic Web Development, Interior Design, Information Technology and Graphics among others.

Students have helped clean an area situated between the women and children's shelter and the kitchen/cafeteria, replaced a dangerous deck and dilapidated fence, and created a usable and safe place by adding a children's play center and murals. Students have also repaired and replaced surveillance equipment monitoring entry ways to ensure safety, created an indoor play area for children, conducted school wide clothing and blanket drives and much more. Students in current classes continue to be involved with this ongoing project.

The result of these activities is much more than just a new fence and play area but provides a safe and comfortable place for those the center serves and an invaluable life experience for students involved.

The Jefferson County area has approximately 978 sheltered homeless, 472 homeless in temporary housing and 166 unsheltered homeless.

While the Center for Hope doesn't serve this entire population, it does serve, on average, 39 homeless families. This project has helped im-

prove the community by providing a safer, more inviting place for those in need.

The Center also provides training for jobs and support for transitional living as a person gains employment and is able to set up a household once again. Sullivan College of Technology & Design is proud to partner with the Salvation Army's Center of Hope.



Supplies for Success

In late summer of 2011, Lambda Alpha Epsilon (LAE), the Criminal Justice club at *Beckfield College*, sponsored a campaign called Supplies for Success. The members of LAE wanted to promote and provide



a positive educational experience to those students who may be in need of the traditional back-to-school items and help them start the new school year off right.

"Our students are so actively engaged in their field of study and the impact it has on the community," noted Brandy Taylor, Student Development Coordinator for the Criminal Justice programs at Beckfield College. "The club enables them to think outside of

the box and use their compassion to make a difference."

This was the first year for the Supplies for Success drive and the club plans to repeat the effort in 2012. Items collected from individuals throughout the student body were donated to Erlanger/Elsmere (Kentucky) Board of Education and were dispersed by the school resource specialists to children in need. Kathy Burkhardt, Super-

intendent for the Erlanger/Elsmere Board of Education graciously accepted the supplies on behalf of the district.

Tracy Molley and Karen Costello of the Arnett, Howell, Lindeman Family Resource Center said of the donation, "Because of your generosity, we are able to further our mission in bettering the lives of children. The children and their families appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness."

Shelter Donation Exceeds 1000 Items

Seeking both to put their classroom concepts into action and make a difference in their community, in October, *Lincoln College of Technology Business Management* students created a project

to impact a local shelter. The 21 business students in the course created, promoted, organized and executed a clothing drive with the entire campus. The students asked for donations from other students,

donations were collected, separated and put on display for the student body then items were made available for students in need to take. All additional items were then donated to a local shelter. In total,

the donation to the shelter exceeded 1000 items of clothing.

The activity reinforced skills and techniques learned in class helping students to apply them to business practice and made an impact on the community.

Employers of Career College Grads Applaud New Hires

Career Colleges work closely with advisory groups preparing to create new programs and to consistently ensure the programs are preparing students to meet the needs of employers in the field. The outcome of this preparation is high employment rates, well prepared students and happy employers.

Recently, some of these employers shared comments about the value of our career colleges. Mary Houchin, employer at Pounds and Inches Weight Loss Center shares, "We have been very pleased with the Licensed Massage Therapist that we hired from *Lincoln College of Technology* in Florence, KY. She is a great addition to our staff

here at Pounds and Inches Weight Loss Center. Her education at Lincoln was very thorough in her technique and overall knowledge and understanding of the health benefits of a therapeutic massage. We will continue to work with Lincoln as our staffing needs increase."

Kathleen Boyd, a graduate of *Beckfield College* completed a Paralegal externship with Jones Howard Law in Flor-

ence, KY in September. Of the experience, H. Douglas Jones, Esq. wrote to Beckfield College, "During her externship with Jones Howard Law, Kathleen Boyd performed 120 hours of work directly related to the legal profession. If you keep turning out graduates like Kathleen, your program will be recognized as the best of its kind."

Fundraiser Raises Funds for Scholarships

Daymar College in Bowling Green hosted an Arts & Crafts Festival for the community at the end of October. Those attending the event included a variety of local artists with displays that included jewelry, paper crafts, holiday decorations and woodworking. In addi-

tion, vendors included Thirty-One, Pampered Chef, Mary Kay and more. Generous vendors donated items which were given away as door prizes throughout the day. Daymar's Medical Assisting students were also on hand at the event taking blood pressure readings for those

interested.

The event was a great success for vendors and students. Funds raised from booth rentals were donated to The Daymar Foundation.

The Daymar Foundation is a non-profit, public charity organization which helps students fulfill their education goals by providing scholarships for college and for GED testing fees.



Soldier Speaks Out to Help Others

Spencerian College Medical Massage Therapy student, Tiffany Saffold, has a story to tell and a background that will lend to helping others in her career. She's alive today because her chain of command at Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), Human Resources Command-St. Louis, realized she was suicidal and banded together to support her and get her treatment in 2009. In 2003, she served in Iraq in the middle of the "Triangle of Death" facing multiple mortar and rocket attacks each day. She saw

people die in front of her and also suffered white phosphorous burns from one of the mortars. She often slept with a loaded M-16 and her gas mask. After her return, she was selected for a position at HHC. While Tiffany continued to advance in her career, the stresses she had encountered on and off the battle field mounted within her and she was diagnosed with severe post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Fortunately, her supervisor picked up on her condition and called for help. She credits the Army

Suicide Prevention training with saving her life. Today she touches base with a therapist weekly. Now a Sergeant First Class, Tiffany's story is featured on the new Army Shoulder to Shoulder suicide prevention video. She's sharing it, she said, because she's a strong soldier and no one would suspect she's been through such challenges. Her advice to others is, "get the help that you need. You can return to duty and...become stronger than ever because that's one thing that's not weighing you down anymore." Tiffany always knew there

was something about touch that made people feel better and knew it could be medically effective seeing evidence of this in both her mother and son who suffer from asthma. This led to her interest in Spencerian's program. After graduating from Spencerian's AAS in Medical Massage Therapy, Tiffany hopes to one day specialize in treating PTSD and others who have suffered from trauma. Tiffany also continues to raise awareness about suicide prevention through the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Scholarship Recipient

Lincoln College of Technology Medical Assistant student, Misty Hillman recently received the Lawrence E. Brown Leadership Award. This is a \$5,000 scholarship awarded to students that exhibit leadership qualities both in their personal lives and in their school career.

Student Chosen for State Office in SkillsUSA

Sullivan College of Technology & Design student, Zack Evard, a dynamic and spirited Architectural Computer Aided Design Drafting (CADD) student credits his success and recent election to state office in SkillsUSA to the experience he has gained in the organization. Zack's journey to leadership began five years ago when he entered SkillsUSA as a sophomore in high school. According to Zack, the program was an opportunity for him to overcome his shyness and become more involved in public speaking. Since becoming involved, Zack has won a total of 78 awards throughout high school and college. Zack's leadership responsibilities in the 2011-2012 academic year will include instructing sessions in the SkillsUSA Kentucky Leadership Training Institute this fall and service at regional and state conferences. SkillsUSA competitions have provided him with an opportunity to

measure his Architectural CADD skills against those who are at the top of their program in schools nationally. According to Zack, "competing with the best in the nation at the national SkillsUSA conference prepares me for being competitive and the best in my field of Architectural Computer Aided Design Drafting."

As a SkillsUSA leader, Zack plans to increase SkillsUSA membership by collaborating with Sullivan University's Culinary Arts Program and other Sullivan University System programs and continue to communicate regularly with other states about opportunities available. SkillsUSA students:

- Develop Leadership Skills
- Increase Public Speaking and Presentation Skills
- Earn Free Career Equipment and
- Meet with Business, Industry and Military Professionals to Develop a Network.

Lunch-n-Learn Provides Community Resources Information to Students

Spencerian College in Louisville sponsored a Lunch-n-Learn opportunity for all students in October. The event provided a free lunch to students as well as information on local resources available to

them. Information was provided on child care, financial planning, transportation, counseling, health and more. This event was a retention committee initiative. The committee is conducting a student survey to determine what students see as their biggest barriers to staying in school. Survey results will be used to direct committee efforts to pursue more resources for the students and to present an in-service for instructors in early 2012. The in-service will help instructors look at their role in student retention.

National College Celebrates 125 Years

On August 3rd, the Mayor of Richmond, Kentucky, Jim Barnes, along with City Clerk Lisa Cassidy and City Commissioners Richard Thomas and Reverend Robert Blythe visited *National College* to celebrate its 125th anniversary. Mayor Barnes read a Proclamation citing August 3rd as National College Day. Campus Director Keeley Gadd and students, faculty and staff were invited to attend City Commission meeting on August 9th for a public presentation of the proclamation. The City officials expressed their pride for

National College students for furthering their education and planning to contribute to the area's workforce in their new careers. Mayor Barnes also commended National for educating members of the community and for partnering with the city.

Graduate Gives Back by Working With Current Students

Melissa Bradford, 2004 graduate from *Beckfield College's* Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Program, now works with Beckfield College's students on externships. Employed as a Senior Paralegal at Brooking & Hal-loran, PLLC, Melissa has been enabling students from Beckfield College Paralegal program to work at Brooking & Hal-loran as externs each quarter. Bradford states, "I (work with Beckfield College externs each quarter) because I really enjoy teaching what I know and I think Beckfield gives them a good book background but, just like everything else, not everything you learn in the book is how it is really practiced. I try to do like the teacher I had and bring the real paralegal practice into the classroom (the office is a classroom)."

Clinical Rotations Give Students Experience & Employers Options

Just days before graduation, *National College* (Lexington) surgical tech student, Nikki White, stood shoulder to shoulder with a doctor in a sterile operating room, quickly handing him tools. As a surgical technologist, it is her job to ensure that every object and person who enters the operating room is in the right place and sterilized. One mistake could be devastating

to the patient. “You are just as responsible and liable as everyone else in (the operating room),” Nikki states about being a surgical technologist. This is a fact she’s strongly aware of in her new position at Central Baptist Hospital. Miranda Roark, Clinical Coordinator at the Hospital explains that clinical experiences offer students an excellent opportunity to

get hands-on experience and also gives the hospitals a chance to pick from “the cream of the crop” for future employees.

Nikki chose to attend *National’s* high quality program because the convenience of its location and its flexible class schedule fit well into her busy life as a wife and mother of two. With the help of Kentucky’s state grant College Access Program (CAP) and her federal work-study position obtained while in college, Nikki was able to lower her student debt. This



*National College Graduate,
Nikki White*

term she joined a number of students graduating from Lexington’s surgical technology program who had already found employment in major hospitals in the local area before they had even graduated.

and give back to their community. They have recently worked together on a Habitat for Humanity Project and also participate with Dress for Success, Camp Courageous and Camp Boggy Creek projects throughout the year.

rent students. Over 100 students from various programs attended the event. These events help students build their network and explore the hidden job market. They can also learn more about benefits, scholarships and continuing education opportunities provided by different employers.



Spencerian Students at Career Fair

School Students and Staff Reach Out

Students, faculty and staff at *ATA College* are all passionate about seeking opportunities in the community to make a difference. Recently, nursing students from the school participated in events such as Kosair Night at the Zoo,

California Community Health Fair, Alzheimer’s Benefit at Wedgewood Health Care, Wayside Christian Mission, Alzheimer Health Fair and Hunger and Homeless Awareness. Students have also performed screenings at

Laukhuf Elementary school and contracts with Jefferson County Public Schools to provide education on various health issues to Elementary, Middle and High School students.

The faculty and staff at *ATA College* also seek opportunities to work as a team

Inc., Deyta LLC and J.Y. Legner Associates Inc. Employers were pleased with the turnout and outcome of the event. Several scheduled interviews the day of the career fair and others began scheduling appointments to meet with students and alumni immediately following the event.

Spencerian College in Louisville holds career fairs twice each year for students, graduates and alumni. This past summer their event was attended by 13 area employers. Businesses had full-time openings for graduates and part-time positions for cur-

Schools Host Career Fairs

Assisting students with attaining gainful employment in their career upon graduation is a substantial part of the mission of career colleges. Several schools find career fairs provide an opportunity for local employers to partner with the school and find mutually beneficial outcomes to their employment needs.



Recently, several KACCS schools have held successful career fairs in their communities. In October, *Sullivan College of Technology & Design (SCTD)* welcomed nearly 30 employers to their campus. These employers represented all of SCTD’s program offerings and were eager to share information about their companies. These employers included companies such as: Harshaw Trane, Park Community Federal Credit Union, CompuCom, Linak US Inc., GlobalAir.com, Nelco

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Find us Online at:

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