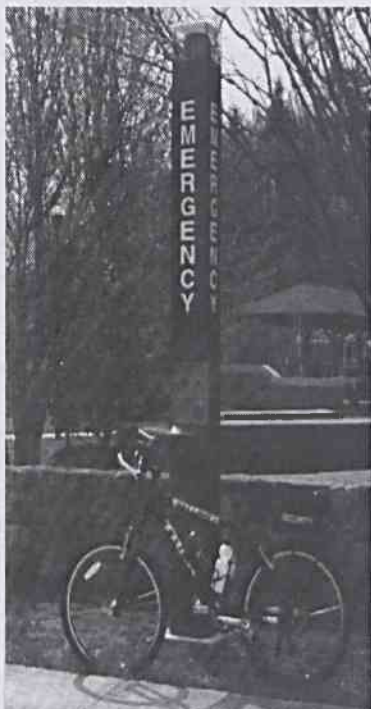


What is a Call Box?

By Dr. Lynda Black

You may have noticed tall poles with blue lights on top located around the Wilkes Community College campus. These call boxes improve the safety of students, employees, and visitors to our campus by providing quick access to security. The call boxes are funded by a grant the college has received from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women.



The six call boxes are in the following locations:

- By the security office (for times security officers are on patrol and not in the office)
- The duck pond by the parking lot
- Beacon building
- Daniel Hall
- Behind Randolph Hall (the entrance that leads to the gym)
- Student Center parking lot

The call boxes are for use in emergency situations. When activated, the blue light at the top of the pole will flash. Each call box has an information plate providing directions for using a call box. During the hours between seven in the morning and midnight, press the HELP button for WCC Security. During the hours of midnight to seven in the morning, dial 911 for assistance from WCC Security and the Wilkesboro Police Department.

Each call box has a camera monitor to record any activity around the call box so there is a record of who activates the box and what may be occurring at that time. The call boxes on campus are for the safety of students in emergency situations. Abuse of the call boxes will result in penalties, ranging up to and including suspension. Any person who intentionally calls the 911 number for purposes other than obtaining public safety assistance commits a Class I misdemeanor.

WCC Security Department Seeks Applicants

By Janet Gryder

Wilkes Community College's Security Department is looking for prospective officers from our Criminal Justice Program. In the years past this is where we have recruited officers for our department. Recently, however we have been getting very little response from the CJ program. We have hired officers from out of the curriculum and have used certified officers from other law enforcement agencies. In some incidents this has not been to our advantage. We are proud of our Criminal Justice Program and appreciate the insight the CJ Program provides for these prospective officers.

We operate our Security Department as close to an operating Police Department as possible without being certified. All of our forms and paperwork are either the same or similar to actual police forms. We use Law enforcement language (10 Codes) when using our two way radios. Not only does working security supply you with a part time job opportunity, it will also help prepare you if you intend to go into law enforcement.

We have come a long way over the years in improving our department. Twenty years ago, we had an old station wagon for a patrol car and two radios. Today, we have two cars, two golf carts, two bicycles, and the use of a new Yamaha Rhino. Our radios are state of the art and are actually better than some of the local law enforcement departments.

An employee would also gain invaluable contacts with other law enforcement agencies as we work with Wilkesboro Police Department and the Wilkes County Sheriff's Department when working events and investigating incidents. One of the events you would be working is Merlefest, a four day music festival. It is long hours, but is some of the best on the job training a law enforcement officer can get.

Four of our former officers are NC Highway Patrolmen, many are working for Wilkesboro, N. Wilkesboro Police Department & Wilkes County Sheriffs Department, others are working in Ashe, Alleghany, Alexander, Watauga, Catawba, Iredell, and Mecklenburg County Law Enforcement, and one is working for NIS (Naval Investigative Service). All have used our Department as a reference.

We are looking forward to your applications and hope to see you soon.