## MCC Announces Graduation Speaker

The 177th Mitchell Community College Curriculum graduation will be held Friday, May 11, at 7 p.m. at the college. Andy Papathanassiou, executive director of the N.C. Motorsports Association and training and development director for Hendrick Motorsports, will be featured speaker.

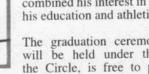
When Papathanassiou talks about "being in the fast lane;" he's

referring to something other than his life experiences. Starting in 1993 as the pit crew coach for Hendrick Motorsports Dupont, Nextel Cup Race Team, Papathanassiou has been an integral part of the team building and communication talents that have led to many victories on the NASCAR Nextel Cup Circuit. As director of the NCMA, he is involved in public policy, workforce

development and other events benefiting the \$5.9 billion North Carolina Motorsports industry.

A native of Emerson, NJ, Papathanassiiou attended Stanford University on a football scholarship. There he earned an undergraduate degree in economics and a master's degree in organizational behavior while excelling in football and track. Following graduation, he sought a career in motorsports, an industry where he has successfully combined his interest in racing with his education and athleticism.

The graduation ceremony, which will be held under the tent on the Circle, is free to public. For information, call 704-878-3200.



### **Blood Drive Set**

The Front Street Awana Club will sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive 7 p.m. Monday, May 21, in the Fellowship Hall of Front Street Baptist Church, 1403 West Front Street, Statesville. Presenting donors can enter for a Disney vacation.

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PLUGGED IN Cleo Downey

DEAR MS.CLEO:

I work the late shift in a warehouse in town. I have noticed voices recently speaking to each other while I am going about my business. I keep thinking someone has a key and has come in and at first, I was a bit frightened. After a few weeks, I am no longer frightened just curious. I've heard so much from these folks, I feel I know them. They discuss their lives, their families, politics, religion, even sex!! I hate my job but I cannot imagine quitting now because I'd miss these voices. Do you think I should try to introduce myself or just stay quiet.

Late Night Worker

Dear Late:

Well, you've finally found a crowd that you can discuss politics and religion with. Too bad they're DEAD!! You are sitting in the midst of quite a few unsettled souls. Ms. Cleo (never one to say quiet) would suggest that you just continue to listen. They know you are there and when they are ready, they'll address you.

If you have any questions for Cleo write her at P.O. Box 1221 Statesville, NC 28687 or etail editor@iredellcitizen.com. There is no need to use your name unless you want to.



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