

Martin Community College recognizes students

BY LESLIE BEACHBOARD
Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – Williamston - Health care students recognized.

Martin Community College's (MCC) Division of Continuing Education held its semi-annual Recognition Celebration on July 19 in the MCC Auditorium.

The ceremony was held for all of the students who successfully completed the spring 2017 healthcare programs.

Those recognized came from the Nurse Aide I (NAI), Nurse Aide II (NAII), Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy, and Medical Billing and Coding classes.

Approximately 40 friends and family member were in the audience to show their support of the students and their achievements.

Melanie Barnes, a pharmacy technician student, gave the invocation. NAI student Tyshia Lee welcomed the audience and she introduced MCC Interim President, Dr. Kenneth Bolam.

"I am a single mother driven to succeed.

I have completed the NAI course, the phlebotomy course and now the NAII course. It has been tough, but I have stayed the course and will keep going.

I congratulate everyone in my class for making it to this point," said MCC student Tiara Grimes.

MCC Bertie Campus Director Norman Cherry and MCC HRD Program Coordinator Brenda G. Moore presented the students with their certificates of course completion and recognized the students who had earned their Career Readiness Credentials.

MCC Health Care Programs Coordinator Sue Gurley then gave the closing remarks and congratulated the students for their hard work and determination.

Barnes also gave the benediction.

Students who participated in the celebration had many good things to say about the programs.

"It has been challenging, but a great



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Martin Community College recognizes health care students.

experience. I am furthering my education to become a traveling nurse," said MCC student Tiara Grimes of Robersonville.

Grimes currently is employed by Roanoke River Rehabilitation.

"I'm just thankful for the opportunity that

MCC has given me to do great things in my life," said MCC student Tonya Johnson of Williamston.

Johnson is currently employed by Vidant Medical Center.

MCC student Roy Hamilton of Windsor said, "This means suc-

cess to me."

Hamilton currently works for Bertie County Emergency Services.

"I have always wanted to be in the medical field. Completing the Pharmacy Technician course means having a new start toward getting into my dream

career," said Barnes a Windsor resident.

Barnes is a telecommunicator.

MCC offers ongoing health care classes. For more information contact Sue Gurley at 252-789-0261 or via email at sue.gurley@martincc.edu.

RETURNING ARTISTS



LESLIE BEACHBOARD / Bertie Ledger-Advance

The Bertie County Arts Council held 'Back Home Again' on September 7. The event was displaying artwork of artist that are former residence of Windsor or Bertie County. Pictured above is John Tyler talking with Jon Hill.



Meet the Newest Member of our Breast Imaging Team

Dr. Tiana Crawford

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University of Illinois College of Medicine
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NC DEPARTMENT OF
INSURANCE
SENIORS' HEALTH INSURANCE
INFORMATION PROGRAM

**Prescription Drug Assistance
Available for Low-Income
Medicare Beneficiaries**

Medicare beneficiaries who have limited incomes and assets may be eligible for Extra Help to pay for their prescription drugs. The federal Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) program, also known as Extra Help, assists qualified Medicare beneficiaries with out-of-pocket expenses associated with Medicare Part D prescription drugs.

There are more than 80,000 Medicare beneficiaries in North Carolina who may be eligible for help but have yet to apply. SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program and a division of the N.C. Department of Insurance, is joining with partners around the state to help beneficiaries understand and apply for Extra Help.

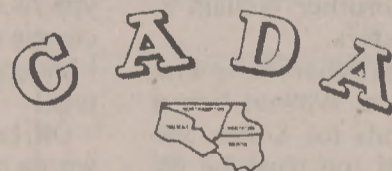
"Many who are eligible for this assistance are not aware that it is available to them," said Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey. "It is our goal to get the message of Extra Help out to Medicare beneficiaries statewide and get them enrolled so they can begin receiving help with their Medicare prescription drug costs."

The Mid-East Commission Area Agency on Aging can help Medicare beneficiaries in Beaufort, Bertie, Hertford, Martin, and Pitt Counties with the enrollment process for Extra Help. Please call (252) 974-1854 to gain greater information about how to connect with your local SHIIP Coordinating Site.

To qualify for Extra Help, a Medicare beneficiary must meet certain income, resource and asset level requirements. The income and asset limits for Extra Help are \$1,508 per month with assets up to \$13,820 if you are single, and \$2,030 per month with assets up to \$27,600 if you are married.

SHIIP, a division of the North Carolina Department of Insurance, has volunteers in all 100 counties in North Carolina who offer one-on-one counseling and provide free, unbiased information about Medicare, Medicare supplements, Medicare Part D, Medicare Advantage and health plan options and long-term care insurance.

To contact SHIIP, call 1-855-408-1212 or visit www.ncship.com.



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www.nc-cada.org

CADA Received Funding for the 2017 Urgent Repair Program

Choanoke Area Development Association of NC, Inc. (CADA) has been approved to receive \$200,000 in Urgent Repair Funding (URP 2017) from the North Carolina Housing Finance (NCHFA) to assist very low-income homeowners with special needs or with a fulltime household member(s) who have special needs in Bertie, Halifax, Hertford, Martin and Northampton Counties.

Funds will benefit households with incomes below 50% of the area median income. URP 2017 Funds are from the State appropriated North Carolina Housing Trust Fund. Applications will be ranked by need on a county-by-county basis. Applications with the highest scores in each county will be served first.

URP funds are provided in the form of a loan for the hard and soft costs used to repair/modify the house. Homeowners will receive an unsecured, deferred, interest-free loan, forgiven at a rate of \$1,000 per year until the principal balance is zero. Maximum URP assistance is \$8,000. CADA reserves the right to deny repairs to a house that are not cost effective or a wise investment of URP funds.

CADA will take applications from October 2, 2017 - November 2, 2017. Contact your local CADA office to schedule an appointment to apply. Proof of ownership and income is required. Those who have applied for URP Assistance in the past must update applications. For a copy of the Assistance Policy, visit the CADA Website at www.nc-cada.org or contact your local county CADA Community Service Center to schedule an appointment to apply:

Bertie: phone: 252-794-3107, TDD: 1 (800) 735-2692, Attention: Brent Hignite
Halifax: phone: 252-537-1111, TDD: 1 (800) 735-2962, Attention: Gail Walker
Hertford: phone: 252-332-2692, TDD: 1 (800) 735-2692, Attention: Jacqueline Melton
Martin: phone: 252-792-7816, TDD: 1 (800) 735-2692, Attention: Roy Moore
Northampton: phone: 252-539-4155, TDD: 1 (800) 735-2962, Attention: Emily Jordan, Chris Moody