The college is celebrating a milestone this year – its golden anniversary. In this edition of the Craven magazine, you will be reminded of our roots, with Dr. Brock as the founding president, and you will see how far we have come in 50 years with many new programs and initiatives. We have an impressive story to tell. Our mission involves providing learning opportunities for those in their teens, those in their retirement years and those in between. The mission also involves serving a diverse community, and, most especially, our Marines and their families.

This unique community and college enjoy an abundance of generous individuals who are willing to share their talents and time with us, and those who are willing to donate their financial resources to us, too. Within these pages, it is an honor and privilege to introduce you to Dr. David and Anna Hurst, a couple who has been and always will be supporters of the Student Ambassador Program and who has given the largest bequest in the college’s history. In their words, “We were looking for a warm, fuzzy feeling to determine who we wanted to support.” They are big dog lovers as well and their generous hearts go way beyond the college.

As the college has evolved and grown, there are many names and organizations that should be acknowledged for their contributions, wisdom and vision that have been shared with this fine institution throughout its history. Unfortunately, there is too little space and too few pages to name them all. On behalf of all the students, staff, faculty and administrators, I offer our deepest thanks and genuine gratitude to EVERYONE involved in the evolution and transformation of the college during its lifetime.

We are reminded during this golden anniversary year that all things have a beginning, middle and an end. As an institution, we are 50 years young with many adventures that lie ahead. It is exciting to imagine what we will become over the next 50 years.

As my tenure comes to an end soon, I will be cheering from afar when a new president is selected by the Board of Trustees and she or he takes the helm. We can all take great pride in the colleagues and institution the fifth president will inherit.

The beat will go on… Reminisce with us by following along our 50-year timeline that appears on pages 2-12. It has been a fun, poignant year. We reached out to old friends and welcomed new ones. See pages 2-5 for a few highlights from a very memorable anniversary year.

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“My Beat Goes On…” was Craven Community College’s (CCC) 50th anniversary theme. It was inspired by Sonny and Cher’s song, which was part of a themed performance that celebrated the college’s 25th anniversary in 1990.

In 1965, we had a handful of programs and a slightly larger group of students. This year, Craven Community College is expected to award degrees, diplomas and certificates to approximately 600 students. More than 10,000 will attend training classes from our Workforce Development program over the year.

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first college graduates, 1969
Craven Community College (CCC) proudly commemorated 50 years of service to its community throughout the 2014-15 academic year. The CCC 50th anniversary committee aptly chose the theme, “The Beat Goes On.” Inspired by Sonny and Cher’s song lyrics, the year celebrated what the college has accomplished and will accomplish in years to come.

Music instructor Phillip Evancho led the Craven Community Chorus performance, with ENCORE! Student Singing Ambassadors, at Community Day.

On Dec. 5, 1967, Craven County voters approve a $5.5 million bond referendum that includes a property valuation levy for operating expenses for the independent Craven County Technical Institute (CCTI).

In April 1971, employees and CTI students make the physical move from Tryon Palace Dr. to Racetrack Rd.

The newly-accredited CTI completes its first academic year with 382 curriculum students during the fall quarter.

On July 1, 1965, the NC General Assembly creates Craven County Unit of Lenoir County Community College (LCCC).

The newly-accredited CTI drops the “county” from its name and becomes Craven Technical Institute (CTI).

The State Board of Community Colleges approves CTI’s request for a cosmetology program to be located on Trent Blvd.

The State Board of Education grants community college status—Craven Community College (CCC) is a reality.

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Leander Morgan, former CCC administrator and three-time New Bern Mayor, joined others to support efforts to gain a $600,000 Economic Development Administration grant for the Learning Resources Center Building (later named Barker Hall).

Dr. Lewis Redd becomes Dean of the College and Clifford Swain becomes Dean of Students.

Russ Sutton moves from CCC Havelock office to become the college’s business manager.

The Craven Community College Foundation formed in 1977 to enhance CCC’s educational mission through community fundraising.

Dr. Lewis Redd becomes CCC’s second college president in 1990.

June 4, 1984, WTEB-89.5 begins broadcasting from the campus of Craven Community College.

USMC 2nd Marine Air Wing “2nd MAW” band performed at the Havelock campus in March 2015 for its “Rockin’ the 50th” anniversary open house.

The student-led annual Black History Month celebration, January 2015, honored CCC’s local history by recognizing Leander “Lee” Morgan who was a CCC administrator before going on to be New Bern’s first black mayor.

Diane Tyndall (above) led the year’s celebration as the 50th Anniversary Committee chair. Diane also performed the same duties for the college’s 25th anniversary.

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and CCC anniversary, students, faculty and staff joined the rest of the nation in service to its community.

In addition to her attendance at 50th events, Dr. Catherine Chew participated in student fund raising causes such as 50 buckets for the ALS Bucket Challenge and the Science Club’s Pie a Professor event on “Pi Day” where student government president Alison Grose did the pieing.

Service to our servicemen and women: 50 care packages were sorted and shipped to our Marines stationed in Japan.

A physical education project, including tennis courts, is started and the Student Center is completed and dedicated.

Dr. Lewis Redd becomes Dean of the College and Clifford Swain becomes Dean of Students.

CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE Magazine
In 2014, Dr. David and Mrs. Anna Hurst made the first steps toward their goal of making an impact in a community they love. They provided three scholarships and other gifts such as jackets, to Craven Community College (CCC) students participating in the Student Ambassador program. These scholarships were seeds sown for a bigger plan to create a student assistance fund. The fund is for students who experience problems that hinder their ability to pay college costs. Although they met in 1969 when Mrs. Hurst worked for Dr. Hurst in Thomasville, North Carolina, their lives soon took separate paths. They would visit occasionally when Mrs. Hurst returned to the state to see family. In 2007, they married in New Bern, where each had located after retiring. They will both continue to individually support different colleges. However, their greater satisfaction now comes from aiding CCC.

The idea for giving to CCC started while Dr. Hurst was volunteering for the Radio Reading Service at Barker Hall on the college’s New Bern campus. The Hursts met with CCC President, Dr. Catherine Chew, in 2013. “Her vision, enthusiasm and story of the positive impact of CCC on the community and students were exciting. When Dr. Chew shared the college’s mission of improving and enriching lives through education, that really articulated what we wanted to do for CCC and its community,” said Dr. Hurst.

One important aspect of their donation to CCC is that they can directly see how their financial help impacts students’ lives. “The thank you letters from students emotionally move me knowing what we have done has really helped them,” said Mrs. Hurst. This year, the Hursts will initiate a fund for student assistance, and another for the enhancement of the ambassador program. Through their estate plans, endowments are being developed to provide considerably more money for scholarships, and ensure that these new programs not only remain, but grow after the Hursts are gone. The Hurst endowment will be the largest bequest in the college’s history. Recipients are encouraged to say “Thank You” to the school by contributing to these funds as their life situations allow.

Senator Joe Thomas secures $1.5 million from the N.C. General Assembly for the construction of facilities on campus.

The concurrent enrollment of high school students in vocational curricula is begun as the Step Ahead Program.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirms CCC’s accreditation.

Bids are awarded for two new buildings, an auditorium and machining lab, later to be named Orringer Hall and Kelso Hall.

Fall quarter enrollment nears 2,400, an all-time curriculum record.

Dr. Brock announces his retirement as president, effective Dec. 31.

Dr. Lewis Redd serves as interim president until June, when the State Board confirms his selection as president.

Senator Joe Thomas secures $1.5 million from the N.C. General Assembly for the construction of facilities on campus.

Philip Evancho is awarded the First Union Excellence in Teaching award from among applicants from all 58 community colleges.

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Craven Community College’s Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, Alpha Phi Nu, is chartered.

CCC’s basketball team, coached by St. Seymour, beats the UNC-Chapel Hill junior varsity team.

Kathleen S. Orringer, with N.C. Senator Joe Thomas and Dr. Thurman Brock, receives the NCCS I.E. Ready Award in 1988.

Philip Evancho is awarded the First Union Excellence in Teaching award from among applicants from all 58 community colleges.
Helmut and Carmen Weisser have traveled to about 50 countries throughout their lifetime. They have seen great need in some very faraway places. Originally from Germany, they have made the New Bern area their hometown for the past 30 years. They feel there is need here, and they are here to help.

In the fall of 2014, they established a scholarship at Craven Community College (CCC), but their relationship with the college goes back almost 30 years. Helmut helped set up a student apprenticeship program when he was vice president and plant manager of Bosch Power Tools Corporation (now BSH Home Appliances Group). "At the time we first moved to Riverbend, we liked it immediately," said Carmen. With Helmut’s work taking him to other countries, they only planned to stay for a few years. From 1995 until a few years ago, the Weissers were in China, and did not have much direct contact with CCC. "When we had the opportunity to stay (in New Bern), we made it our new home," said Helmut.

Supporting education is important to the Weissers. "If you want a good society, it needs good healthcare and education," said Helmut. Their annual scholarship provides funds for 3-5 students from any academic program. They want to make sure the scholarship recipients reflect our multicultural society. The scholarship opportunity is open to students who demonstrate good character and a willingness to give their best effort to their studies. The Weissers have continued their support with a recent donation to CCC to create a new student success center that will be named in their honor. Although they are retired, both Carmen and Helmut are very busy. Helmut continues to consult for Bosch and is a member of the CCC Foundation Board. They are both very active in the community and are often seen on campus and at college events.

In 2013, Craven Community College (CCC) started the VIP Ambassador program to increase the community’s understanding of CCC’s programs, services and initiatives. Members participate in four, half-day educational sessions, and then, graduate to become an important member of CCC’s family. VIP Ambassadors voluntarily conduct their own outreach to share the college’s story. In the fall of 2014, CCC graduated its third class of VIP Ambassadors.

Members of its third VIP Ambassador Program. (L-R), Front row: Michael McNulty, staff accountant at Kinston Community Health Center, Inc.; Jessica Sadler, guidance counselor at Havelock High School; JoAnn Kerrick, retired technology project manager; Terry Brubaker, program manager at Craven County Department of Social Services; Dr. Betty Garren, retired educator and CCC alumnus; Ron Garren, retired human resources director; and Tina Atkins, editorial assistant at the time at the Sun Journal. Back row: George Liner, Craven County Commissioner; Amanda Ohlsenheken, sales manager at Havelock Tourist and Event Center; Dr. Lawrence Knapp, education consultant; Knight the Panther, host; Tony Norwood, MOEN Focus Factory manager; Ashley Smith, retired principal; and Helmut Weissers, retired from Bosch-Siemens Home Appliances Group and CCC Foundation board member. Not pictured: Yvonne Wold, plant manager at MOEN.

The annual CCC VIP Ambassador program invites individuals to learn about CCC and share the information with friends, colleagues and family members. For more information, contact the CCC Foundation at (252) 638-7351.

The Perdue building is completed providing space for science labs, the nursing program, accounting, and office systems technology.

In 1995, the CCC Foundation purchased the Godwin Memorial Library and CCC produced "telecourses" in VHS tape for a decade.

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Carmen and Helmut Weisser are often seen on campus and at student events.

CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE Magazine
The Importance of Education

Each woman’s involvement in education led them to choose CCC as the recipient of a generous gift that would remove financial obstacles for students. Ruby was a 1927 graduate of Ft. Barnwell High School, and worked in area libraries, including the New Bern Public Library. Christine Ipock attended Woman’s College (now East Carolina University at Greensboro) and East Carolina College (now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro) and worked in area libraries, including the New Bern Public Library. Christine Ipock attended Woman’s College (now East Carolina University at Greensboro) and East Carolina Teachers College (now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro). In 1954, Christine received her bachelor of science degree in medical technology from The Medical College of Virginia.

“Ruby and Christine were very close and shared a strong spirit of helping others,” said Marjorie. Another interest the women shared was quilting and they made hundreds of quilts together. Christine would choose the colors and patterns, and Ruby would make the quilt.

On March 11, 2015, family members and CCC staff gathered in Perdue Hall to celebrate the donation of one of the ladies’ quilts. While each woman was extremely careful with their money, each would splurge on a favorite item. For Ruby, it was M&Ms. For the very tall Christine, it was high heels. “Ruby and Christine are great role models for family, friends and the community. I work every day to live my life more like them,” said Marjorie.

Ruby Russell Fulcher and daughter Christine Bland Ipock (above) have given the single largest donation to the Craven Community College Foundation.

Christine passed away on July 23, 2010 at the age of 79. Ruby passed away at the age of 102 on August 23, 2013.

Ruby Russell Fulcher & Christine Bland Ipock

The single largest donation to Craven Community College Foundation came in 2014 from Ruby Russell Fulcher and her daughter, Christine Bland Ipock. The $176,000 endowment has been given in support of the college’s nursing and allied health programs. Disbursements from the endowment’s investment will be available annually to students in need.

The three most important things to Ruby and Christine were Christianity, helping and thrifty education,” said Marjorie. Ruby Russell Fulcher, estate executor and Ruby’s cousin. Through their careful money management and proceeds from the sale of a family farm, the ladies were able to amass a small fortune.

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The College Foundation and Public Radio East hosted a dedication of a 18-piece sculpture collection, now displayed at the New Bern campus, given to the college by Lorrin DiBella (below right). This list represents donations received in calendar year 2015. Please consider contributing to the college by returning the remittance envelopes found in this magazine, or contact Lorrin DiBella, College Foundation Executive Assistant, (252) 638-7351 or dibellal@cravencc.edu.
Sabrina Bengel
• Sabrina Bengel is the recipient of the Excellence in Individual Leadership Award. Local residents and tourists alike may have dined at Baker’s Kitchen, Lawson’s Landing and Ribeyes Steakhouse, all owned and operated by Bengel. She has been an active member in committees and organizations, including Craven County Tourism Development Authority Board (chair), Swiss Bear Downtown Development Corporation (board member), and the New Bern Breakfast Rotary Club, where she served for three years as the chair of the Christmas Gala that raised funds for many local nonprofits in New Bern. Bengel has served as alderman of the City of New Bern, representing the First Ward. She also served as Mayor Pro-Tem. She played a key role in the development and building of the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center. She also conceived and organized “BBQ in Blue Jeans,” New Bern Firemen’s Museum’s annual fundraiser. In 2012, Bengel was appointed to the North Carolina Travel & Tourism Board of Directors by Governor Pat McCrory. Mr. Taylor is an attorney who has practiced in the Washington, D.C. area 12 years ago. She has worked for Trader Construction for more than 40 years.

2015 Community Fabric Award Winners
• Sabrina Bengel is the recipient of the Excellence in Individual Leadership Award. Local residents and tourists alike may have dined at Baker’s Kitchen, Lawson’s Landing and Ribeyes Steakhouse, all owned and operated by Bengel. She has been an active member in committees and organizations, including Craven County Tourism Development Authority Board (chair), Swiss Bear Downtown Development Corporation (board member), and the New Bern Breakfast Rotary Club, where she served for three years as the chair of the Christmas Gala that raised funds for many local nonprofits in New Bern. Bengel has served as alderman of the City of New Bern, representing the First Ward. She also served as Mayor Pro-Tem. She played a key role in the development and building of the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center. She also conceived and organized “BBQ in Blue Jeans,” New Bern Firemen’s Museum’s annual fundraiser. In 2012, Bengel was appointed to the North Carolina Travel & Tourism Board of Directors by Governor Pat McCrory. Mr. Taylor is an attorney who has practiced in the Washington, D.C. area 12 years ago. She has worked for Trader Construction for more than 40 years.

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Dan Spangler
• A Dog’s Dream, LLC., owned by Dan Spangler, is the recipient of the Excellence in Business Leadership Award. Many locals have taken their furry friends to A Dog’s Dream for a safe and loving environment while they are at work or play. However, the mission of Spangler and A Dog’s Dream Dreamer’s Foundation goes far beyond the realm of pet care. A retired Marine who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Spangler is a Wounded Warrior. He opened A Dog’s Dream in 2010 and the next year he founded the Dreamer’s Foundation, a non-profit organization that focuses on helping local animal organizations and also helps foster care dogs searching their forever home. This year, the Dreamer’s Foundation will be starting a program to assist active duty military and veterans’ families to keep their pets in their homes, by assuring families with the costs of caring for their pets. Since 2012, A Dog’s Dream has partnered with Walmart and Purina to allow Spangler to offer pet adoption events throughout North Carolina. Spangler participated in and graduated from New Bern Area Chamber of Commerce’s Leadership Craven program and is now an active board member. A Dog’s Dream is a member of both the New Bern and Havelock Chambers of Commerce and received the award as New Business of the Year from the Havelock Chamber in 2013. A Dog’s Dream is also involved in the Craven 106 Alliance, an organization that promotes economic growth in Craven County. Dan’s and A Dog’s Dream’s community involvement is extensive and includes participation in events such as the Wounded Warriors Project 5k Road Race, Mumfest, Chili Fest, holiday parades, Empty Bowls and Women’s Expo. They also sponsor and help organize Dog’s Night Out, Family Fun Day, Comedy Mystery Dinner Theater, and Puppy Wonderland.

Jessica Coefield
• Jessica Coefield is the recipient of the Excellence in Education Award. She has been an instructor at Craven Community College (CCC) since 2010. In addition to teaching a number of Biology classes at CCC, Coefield has participated in leadership roles outside of the classroom to include CCC Study Abroad Committee, CCC Honors Program Committee, Associate of Science Program Review Committee, and Math and Science Department Liaison. Through her service as a the faculty advisor to the student Science Club, a faculty advisor and the program director for the Scholars in Engineering and Science (SEAS) Program, Coefield has had the opportunity to interact with students on a personal level. She encourages her students to become more engaged with CCC and the community. This has led to more student involvement in events such as Math and Science Outreach Day, North Carolina Science Festival, Mad Scientist Summer Camp and CCC Community Day.

Jennifer Dacey
• Jennifer Dacey was appointed by Governor Pat McCrory. Ms. Dacey relocated with her husband from the Washington, D.C. area 12 years ago. She is an attorney who has practiced in state and federal courts. Ms. Dacey first served CCC when she joined the Foundation board in 2010, including serving as its president (2012-14).

Kevin Roberts, Chair of CCC’s Board of Trustees (L), confers with new board member Jennifer Dacey (M) and vice-chair Rosanne Leahy (R).

W. David McFadyen, Jr. – President
New Foundation leadership

Jonathan Segal – President
New Foundation leadership

Bill Taylor was appointed by Governor Pat McCrory. Mr. Taylor is an eastern North Carolina native and has worked for Trader Construction for more than 40 years. Taylor has served on other boards including past president of the New Bern Breakfast Rotary. Taylor has also attended at CCC.

Craven Community College Board of Trustees

Welcome newest board members
Helping CCC Make a Difference

Craven Community College Foundation Board

Helmut Weisser – New member

J. Brent Davis – New member

Bill Taylor

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Kevin Roberts, Chair of CCC’s Board of Trustees (L), confers with new board member Jennifer Dacey (M) and vice-chair Rosanne Leahy (R).
Duke Energy District Manager Millie Chalk (center) delivers a $250,000 grant to Craven Community College (CCC) representatives (L-R): Dr. Daryl Minus, executive director of institutional advancement; Dr. Catherine Chew, CCC president; Jim Midland, dean of career programs; Eric Braddy, welding faculty; Ricky Millard, dean of career programs; and Monica Minus, director, grants and transportation and service programs; and Monica Minus, director, grants and strategic partnerships.

In March, Craven Community College received the exciting news that it received a $250,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation. The funds will be used to purchase state-of-the-art virtual welding machines. The welding machines will be incorporated into the Welding Technology degree program. CCC sought the grant in order to educate and produce fully skilled welders to fill regional employment gaps.

“Our college has offered welding training in all 50 years of its existence. The Duke Energy grant will allow us to enhance and grow our welding program in order to continue providing a solid career opportunity for our students,” said Dr. Catherine Chew, CCC president. Welding instructor Eric Braddy was initially skeptical about the new welding technology. Braddy has mastered his welding craft in 20 years of hands-on experience. “When I first saw the virtual welding machines, I said to myself ‘this isn’t going to work.”’ After a brief experience with the machines, he was totally sold on them. He said the machines will reduce costs and make the program more ecologically friendly because students will use less materials. “The new RealWeld Trainer and VRTEX 360 welding machines will attract more students and improve welding skills,” said Braddy.

The Small Business Center Network of the NC Community College System celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2014. Craven Community College’s (CCC) Small Business Center (SBC) has helped would-be entrepreneurs and small businesses navigate financing, business planning, marketing and other business activities. The mission of the SBC is to increase the success rate and number of viable small businesses in North Carolina by providing high quality, readily accessible assistance to prospective and existing small business owners, with the goal of job creation and retention.

The SBC has a very busy year-round schedule of FREE events and workshops. In the past year, CCC’s SBC assisted with opening 15 businesses, created 43 jobs, held 46 entrepreneurship events with over 750 participants and gave business counseling to 93 clients.

The SBC has been working with organizations, such as Craven County Economic Development and the City of New Bern to establish a small business incubator. The SBC received a $25,000 grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation to study and plan the incubator.

“I am amazed at the entrepreneurial spirit of our community. We have contact with over 1,000 Craven County citizens each year who are brainstorming an idea or ready to get a business up and running. The value and credibility of the Small Business Center Network in our communities is vital to economic growth,” Moorer said.

Craven Community College Economic Impact

A new Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) study revealed the economic impact that Craven Community College generates for students, taxpayers and society in 2012-13.

Craven Community College’s added income represents 3.9% of total gross regional product

Craven Community College spent $17.5 million on payroll and benefits and $12.4 million on goods and services for operations

Return on Taxpayer Investment for every $1 spent

$2.10 gained in lifetime income for students
$4.10 gained in added taxes and public sector savings for taxpayers
$6.90 gained in added state income social savings for society

For complete study results: www.CravenCC.edu/economic-impact

Saundra “Sandy” Johnson, Adjunct Faculty Excellence Teaching Award winner, teaches as an adjunct instructor for allied health and business programs.

Jessica Cofield, Faculty Excellence Teaching Award winner, is pictured with her stuffed microbes which she often uses in the classroom.

Craven Community College (CCC) recognizes faculty and staff standouts for the difference they make beyond their day-to-day duties at CCC. The 2014 Employee Excellence Award Winners are: Jessica Cofield, Faculty Excellence Teaching Award, Diane Tyndall, Staff Excellence Award, and Saundra “Sandy” Johnson, Adjunct Faculty Excellence Teaching Award.

Diane Tyndall, Staff Excellence Award winner, serves as the college’s 50th anniversary committee chair.

Excellence Awards

Each spring, Craven Community College (CCC) recognizes faculty and staff standouts for the difference they make beyond their day-to-day duties at CCC.
Craven Community College welding students began a tradition of creating “metal roses” in memory of fellow student William Rivera after his tragic death in 2013. “It is a wonderful thing when expression and art can come together in a craft like sheet metal welding. We are Craven!” said student Arin Huffstetler.

We are Craven!

With nearly 13,000 students per year and campuses in both New Bern and Havelock and online, Craven Community College is growing to meet the needs of eastern North Carolina.

The college features a wide range of programs, including college transfer courses, associate’s degree offerings, partnerships with universities and specialized workforce training options.

Lifetime Learning Center programs and trips, fire and rescue training, college readiness programs, a Small Business Center and two innovative Early College high schools also are among the college’s offerings.