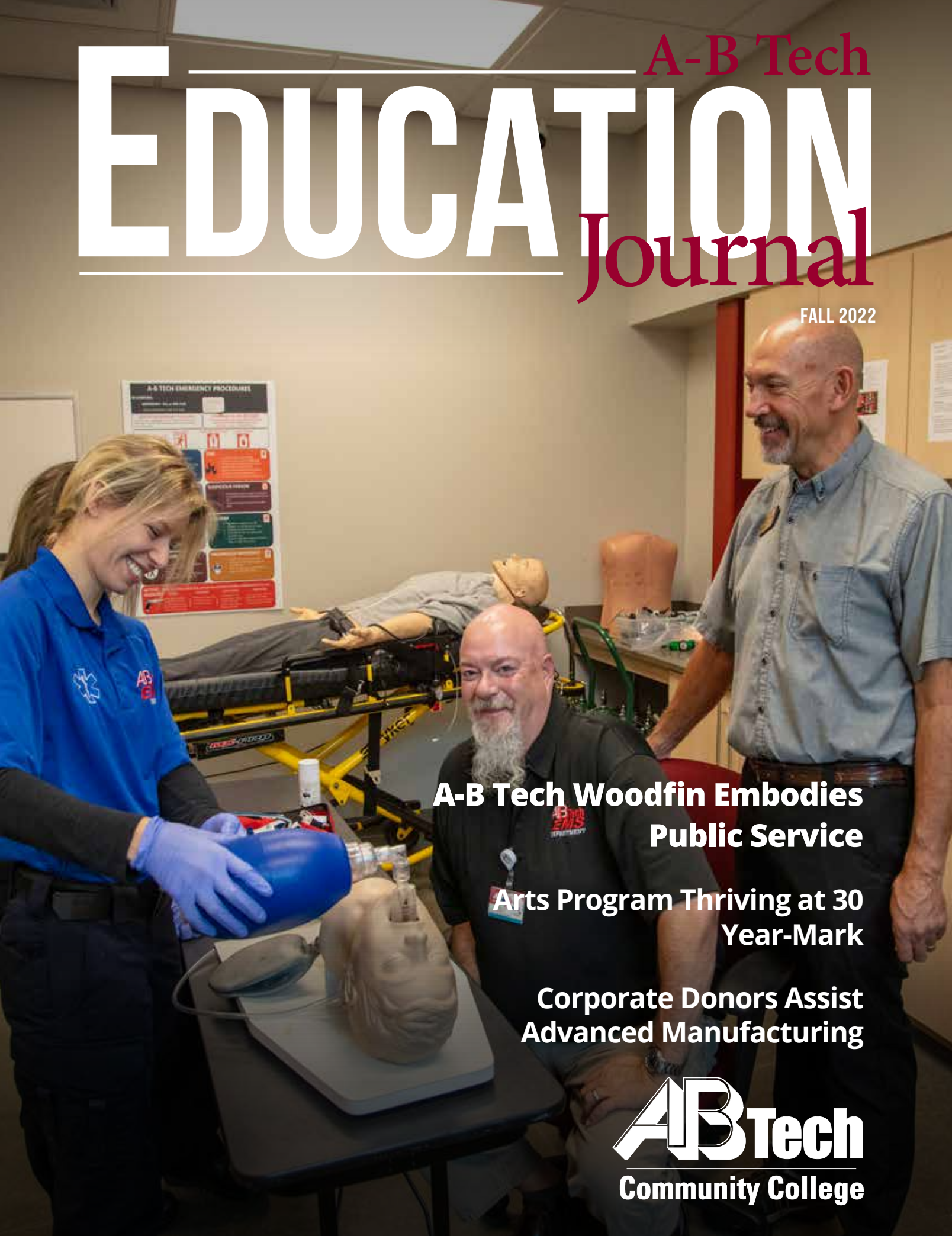


EDUCATION

A-B Tech

Journal

FALL 2022



**A-B Tech Woodfin Embodies
Public Service**

**Arts Program Thriving at 30
Year-Mark**

**Corporate Donors Assist
Advanced Manufacturing**

ABTech
Community College

A-B Tech EDUCATION Journal

FALL 2022

3
**A Message from the
President**

4
**The Arts Are Thriving at
A-B Tech**

5
**A-B Tech's Advanced
Manufacturing Center
Receives Support
from GE Aviation
and AvL Technologies**

5
**Digital Media
Program Moves
Forward with
Virtual Reality**

6
**Bank of America
Continues Support
for Skills Training
Employment Program
(STEP)**

7
**No Limits Radio Show
Begins Recording in
WRES Studio Again**

7
**Sunnicrest Building
Receives Carraway
Award**

8 - 10
**A-B Woodfin embodies
public service**

11
**Construction Management
and Sustainability
Technology Students
Build Office Pods for Raffle**

11
**103-year-old Woman
Veteran Receives
Honorary A-B Tech
Degree**

12
**Basic Equine Hoof Care
course**

13 -14
New Briefs

15
Campus Events

15
Calendar

A-B Tech Education Journal is published by the Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College Office of Community Relations & Marketing.

Publisher
President John Gossett

Managing Editor
Kerri Glover

Writers
Martha Gates
Kerri Glover

Graphic Designer
Don Perkins

Photography
Don Perkins
Josh Weaver

Board of Trustees

Chair
Matt Kern

Vice Chair
Roger Metcalf, Ed.D.

Theresa Banks, Ed. D.
Joe Barwick, Ph.D.
Joe Brumit
Michael Garrison
Tommy Justus, DMin
Himanshu Karvir
David R. King
Libby Kyles
Judy Lewis
John Parham Jr., MD
Frances Ramsey
Jason Walls

**Student Government
Association President**
Ryan Adams-Clark

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees, diplomas and certificates. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College.

Equal Opportunity Educational Institution

All rights reserved. No parts of the material printed may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or by any information storage retrieval system without the permission of the publisher.

153,000 copies printed at a cost of .27 cents each.

ABTech
Community College



ARTS DEPARTMENT THRIVING AT 30-YEAR MARK, PAGE 4



CORPORATE DONORS SUPPORT ADVANCED MANUFACTURING, PAGE 5



A-B WOODFIN EMBODIES PUBLIC SERVICE, PAGE 8

A Message from the President



Dr. John Gossett

As President of Western North Carolina's largest community college, I am often asked what community colleges do and why people should enroll at A-B Tech. Because community colleges offer such a wide array of programming, there are a number of responses.

More students attend community colleges than any other type of higher education institution, and we reach a far more diverse group of students than

traditional four-year institutions. A-B Tech serves approximately 23,000 students a year through our academic, continuing education and workforce programs. Whether you want a two-year degree, workforce training, a class, a high school equivalency degree, or help starting a business, we can help.

Community colleges in our state also are more accessible because we have an open-door admissions policy. That means we accept anyone who has graduated from high school or who has a high school equivalency diploma, as well as anyone who is 18 or older, an emancipated minor, or a dual enrollment high school student.

A traditional four-year college experience isn't for everyone, especially today when the cost of college can exceed the cost of a home. But if a bachelor's degree is your goal, beginning at a community college is a wise choice. Completing a two-year associate degree in A-B Tech's university transfer program costs about 75 percent less and provides quality education that, under the state's Comprehensive Articulation Agreement, is guaranteed to transfer to any public four-year college or university in North Carolina. We also have specific guaranteed admission agreements with UNC Asheville, Western Carolina University, Mars Hill University, and East Tennessee State University.

A-B Tech also offers a tremendous opportunity for high school students through our Career and College Promise

(CCP) program. These students are able to take classes tuition-free and earn college credits while still in high school. Some CCP students even complete an associate degree before earning a high-school diploma – a true "win-win" for both students and their parents!

More than half of A-B Tech's graduates also establish successful careers after earning two-year associate of applied sciences degrees, one-year diplomas, or short-term certificates in their chosen fields. A-B Tech educates the region's workforce in healthcare, emergency services, engineering, manufacturing, culinary, hospitality, aviation, brewing, and much more. Registration for our Spring Semester is now open for classes that begin January 9. Learn more at abtech.edu/welcome.

Our cover story in this issue of the *Education Journal* takes an in-depth look at what drives the faculty and students in our Emergency Services division to become public servants. I'm eternally grateful for these folks, but I hope you will read about what makes them special and consider a career in emergency services for yourself or someone you know. These are the people who typify what the wise Mr. Rogers once said: "When I was a boy and would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

Sincerely,

John Gossett
President

Mission

Dedicated to the success of students and communities, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College provides meaningful teaching and learning in a curriculum, continuing education, and workforce development environment committed to Respect, Integrity, Support, and Equity (RISE). We welcome everyone to join us.

Vision

Changing Lives • Strengthening Communities



The Arts Are Thriving at A-B Tech



Though A-B Tech is often recognized for its career and workforce training, the college also has a thriving traditional arts department and an Associate in Fine Arts (AFA) degree that draws students to the college.

Sharon Trammel, chair for Visual and Performing Arts, was hired at A-B Tech in 1991 to establish the art department. Since that time, the program has expanded to offer 18 art courses and more than 100 students are enrolled in the AFA degree program.

"Most of our AFA students transfer into a university's BFA degree but many have also transferred into other programs such as Interior Design, Architecture, Graphic Design, Photography," said Trammel, who was a stained glass artist prior to joining A-B Tech.

A-B Tech art students have transferred to four-year colleges and universities, including UNC-Asheville, UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Wilmington, UNC-Charlotte, Western Carolina University, Appalachian State University, Mars Hill University, Brevard College and SCAD in Savannah.

"We also have had some students finish their AFA degree and start businesses in ceramics and graphic design," said Trammel. "In fact, several recent alumni who also worked

as volunteers after graduation in the ceramics lab have gone on to have thriving ceramics businesses."

Most students who pursue four-year degrees want to refine their skills in their discipline or craft, but many also enter other fields, Trammel said. One alumnus who transferred into the BFA program at UNC-Asheville got his degree and then started designing and building prosthetics.

"I have often said we train our students to think outside the box, giving them vocational skills and the ability to work with their hands in a creative environment," Trammel said. "Even if our students don't pursue art as a vocation, they still benefit from understanding the principles of design which is at the core of what we teach them."

Registration for Spring Semester classes is now open. Learn more at abtech.edu/programs or call 828.398.7900. Also look for A-B Tech Fine Arts on Facebook and Instagram.



A-B Tech's Advanced Manufacturing Center RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM GE AVIATION AND AVL TECHNOLOGIES



Kevin Kimrey with roll of carbon fiber

In this season of Thanksgiving, Economic & Workforce Development Director Kevin Kimrey is extremely grateful for corporate partners GE Aviation and AvL Technologies for stepping up to help A-B Tech's Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC).

"Because I have been so connected for a decade to all A-B Tech and the state do for our local industries, I have often talked about 'grace and gratitude' from those we help," Kimrey said. "Seldom do we specifically ask our clients for anything, but sometimes we do solicit assistance – and the response in this case was grace and gratitude exemplified."

The AMC trains GE Aviation employees and others to work with carbon fiber composites, which can be incredibly expensive, so Kimrey often seeks donations. Several months ago, Kimrey and his team asked GE Aviation leadership for help and they found 1,741 linear feet of carbon fiber at the

company's home base in Cincinnati. The only problem was that the material has a shelf-life and must be stored in freezers, and it was considerably more material than the AMC could store in its five freezers. Kimrey then reached out to AvL Technologies, which also does composites manufacturing and has a walk-in freezer. The company agreed to store all the material that couldn't be housed at the AMC.

The value of the donated material is \$204,277, calculated at \$352 per yard, yet the only cost incurred by A-B Tech was \$1,400 for shipping. "I knew this material was expensive, but I didn't know the exact market rate," Kimrey said. "We are beyond grateful for the donation from GE Aviation and the assistance from AvL Technologies. This is a perfect example of the teamwork that makes our community a special place to live and work."

Digital Media Program Moves Forward with Virtual Reality Technology

A-B Tech's Digital Media Program was awarded \$15,000 to invest in virtual reality (VR) hardware and software by a Carl Perkins Grant. These grants provide federal funding to states to improve both secondary and postsecondary career and technical education programs. The grant will help the program's faculty, Ben Goliwas and Jonathan Ross, integrate this emerging technology into their curriculum.

Virtual Reality is comprised of a computer-generated simulation of a three-dimensional image or environment that can be interacted with in a seemingly real or physical way by a person using special electronic equipment, such as a helmet with a screen inside or gloves fitted with sensors. Uses for virtual reality include entertainment, training, and health care.

The digital media program will move forward to integrate virtual reality into its curriculum, which includes print, web, video, branding, marketing, as digital media technology.

"Virtual reality is an important growth area for digital media. We're working with local industry specialists to determine exactly what skills and technology to include. With help from our industry network and this grant we'll be able to integrate



Jonathan Ross guides a student in virtual reality headset

VR training into classes we're already offering by the Fall of 2023. This will be another skill students can leverage for their employability. Our graduates hit the ground running," said Goliwas.

The Digital Media Program at A-B Tech continues to provide leading-edge technology and marketing training. Adding virtual reality into the digital media program's curriculum opens the door for new areas of user experience, such as design and story crafting.

Learn more at abtech.edu/programs or call 828.398.7900.



Bank of America Continues Support for A-B Tech Skills Training Employment Program (STEP)

A-B Tech's Skills Training Employment Program (STEP) has received continued support from Bank of America through a \$150,000 commitment over two years. Bank of America also awarded \$50,000 last year for STEP, which provides low-income residents with clearly defined career pathways and placement services for long-term, living-wage jobs.

"We are beyond grateful for this support from Bank of America," said A-B Tech President John Gossett. "It funds nearly half of our STEP program and supports the expansion of critical services our STEP team provides in partnership with Buncombe County's Department of Health and Human Services to help economically disadvantaged residents transition into living-wage jobs and increase the pool of skilled workers for area employers."

"Bank of America's ongoing support for the A-B Tech Foundation and STEP is aligned with our commitment to advance racial equality and economic opportunity," said Andy Nadeau, president of Bank of America Asheville. "By connecting these individuals to the skills, resources, and experience they need to succeed, this type of workforce development program helps create sustainable change."

STEP annually serves more than 200 clients, comprised of 89 percent women and more than 55 percent racial or ethnic minorities. The program provides direct support to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) participants who are 16 and older for occupational skills training, English-language education, obtaining high school equivalency (GED), basic literacy and numeracy instruction, and academic courses needed to earn two-year associate degrees. The STEP Career Resource Center also offers essentials such as resume creation, interview training, and employer connections.

"Last year's \$50,000 grant made a real difference to the STEP program and this additional grant furthers our goals of removing educational and employment barriers to high-quality jobs and giving more local residents the opportunity to share in the area's broader gains," said Deborah Wright, A-B Tech's Vice President for Continuing Education and Workforce Development.

Bank of America's continued support will enable the STEP program to provide direct support funds for all clients and expand programming in the coming year, said Jeremy Lett, the college's coordinator of Community Engagement and Support Services. Specific enhancements include:

- Partially covering salaries for the Human Resources Development lab
- Addressing technology barriers and providing laptops
- Assisting with gas cards and other transportation barriers
- Providing supplemental funds for training fees and other ancillary fees for participants
- Developing alternative workforce development training pathway programs

Several other organizations also support STEP, including Buncombe County Health & Human Services (BCHHS), Housing Authority of the City of Asheville, Mountain Housing Opportunities, and Mission Health. The State of North Carolina also provides a 50 percent match of qualifying local expenditures in direct support of students.

A-B Tech Unveils Logo for No Limits Radio Show Begins Recording Shows in WRES Studio Again

A-B Tech's "No Limits" radio show has much to celebrate with a new logo, recording in studio again after a two year absence, and an exciting line-up of guests in the next few months. The logo was designed with the Asheville city skyline and a radio microphone, incorporating A-B Tech's signature burgundy.

The show was founded in 2013 in collaboration with WRES 100.7 radio, Asheville's only

African-American public radio station, and the Empowerment Resource Center. The show airs bi-weekly on Wednesdays and is rebroadcast twice a week. It also is recorded and posted on the college's Facebook page and website.

No Limits is hosted by Duane Adams, associate director of A-B Tech's Small Business Center, and Leronica Casey, scholarships coordinator for College Advancement. Both are Asheville natives.

Upcoming episodes for the rest of 2022 include a show with Sarah Mau, coordinator of Veteran Services at the college and Shaneka Haynes, the MPH Student Services Director at MAHEC and an adjunct instructor at A-B Tech. Haynes is also a graduate of A-B Tech.

The new year will kick off with a show featuring A-B Tech President John Gossett, followed by Jeremy Lett, who coordinates the STEP program, a grant-funded partnership between the college and Buncombe County Department of Health and Human Services.

Listen to the shows at abtech.edu/wres.



Duane Adams, Doreen Carroll, Leronica Casey

Sunnicrest Building Receives Preservation North Carolina's Carraway Award

A-B Tech's restoration of the Sunnicrest Building, which houses the college's Human Resources Department, recently received the Gertrude S. Carraway Award of Merit for 2022 from Preservation North Carolina. The restoration, which was completed in 2019, was led by architect David Gall of Winston-Salem and Asheville paint conservator Mark Ellis Bennett.

The Award of Merit recognizes individuals or organizations that have demonstrated a genuine commitment to historic preservation through extraordinary leadership, research, philanthropy, promotion, and/or significant participation in preservation.

Sunnicrest is the only surviving structure of six model cottages built by George Vanderbilt just before the turn of the century in an area then known as Vernon Hill in the Township of Victoria. The cottages were designed by Richard Sharp (R.S.) Smith, supervising architect to the Biltmore Estate.





Dean of Emergency Services, Clint Gorman over looking A-B Tech Woodfin

Public Service as a Way of Life

A-B Tech Woodfin, home to the college's Emergency Services division, is dedicated to public safety education and training for students and active first responders across emergency management, law enforcement and fire protection. For the faculty and students who choose these professions, public service is a way of life.

Emergency Services Dean Clint Gorman is a lifelong public servant, well-known in the community for his roles at A-B Tech and previously in emergency management for Buncombe County. Gorman was recognized this fall as a Community Hero, along with other first responders, by the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's Judi Willard, who grew up with Gorman in East Asheville, said she's always known him as a public servant. "He was a volunteer fireman even in high school. When that fire bell would ring, I remember him getting up and running to help. That's who he's always been."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Gorman led A-B Tech's response, served as the college's liaison to county and state emergency management teams, and independently spearheaded many volunteer efforts. But he

prefers to give credit to the legions of colleagues, employees, students, and volunteers he's worked with and mentored, insisting that the attitude of public service is ingrained in all of them.

"I recruit a lot for our programs, and I always look for the helpers," Gorman said. "They might be working at a car wash or in food service, but you can spot the attitude and the desire to take care of people."

Gorman didn't grow up in a family of public servants, but was weaned on 1960s television shows like Adam-12, Dragnet and Emergency. He became a volunteer firefighter at the Reynolds Fire Department at 15 after reading Report from Engine Co. 82, a book written by New York City firefighter Dennis Smith. While working as a firefighter, Gorman enrolled at A-B Tech at age 18 for emergency management technician (EMT) training and went on to get an Emergency Medical Science (EMS) degree and become a paramedic. He also felt called to be a police officer at one point.

When hiring instructors for any of the areas he supervises, Gorman said he looks for similar attitudes and people who are nurturing. "It's important to get along with people, make quick connections, think on your feet, and have experience in the field," he said. "I also encourage some of our students to come back and teach after they've gotten a few years of experience. We have a lot of adjuncts who are A-B Tech graduates."

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Gorman and his A-B Tech team were the first to volunteer at the college and in the community. They donated and collected supplies,



Clint Gorman

trained county workers to become essential employees, created training videos, served on committees, and set up storage spaces, shelters, and hospital overflow areas at A-B Tech.

"We all try to have good energy and good vibes in everything we do," Gorman said. "And the rule of thumb in public service is that you don't wait to be asked what people need. You bring the help or the supplies and if they can use them, great. If not, it may be needed later."

The faculty and students

Anthony Green, chair of A-B Tech's EMS and Public Safety Administration programs, also works as an ER nurse on weekends. While it's logical in the sense that EMS operates at the crossroads of health care, public health, and public safety, Green's two careers are both intense fields. "He does it because that's just who he is, it's his big heart," Gorman said.

Green said he was struggling to find a career at age 20 or 21 and decided to check out the welding and EMT programs at A-B Tech. He chose EMT because it was a six-month program as opposed to the two-year welding program.

"I was experimenting, but then I got the bug and kept going. I joined the fire department, then became a paramedic, then went into nursing," he said. "I still enjoy helping people – I like to teach, but also still enjoy doing what we teach and being helpful to others."

Darryl Fisher, who chairs the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program is a career law enforcement officer who followed in his father's footsteps. "I grew up watching my father in his career as a police officer – he retired as the assistant chief of the Waynesville Police Department – and I just knew it was what I wanted to do," he said.

Fisher said it's not uncommon to see second-generation law enforcement students in his program.

Madison Johnson is a second-generation police officer who recently joined her father Tony Johnson at the Asheville Police Department. She majored in Criminal Justice at a four-year university then went through A-B Tech's Basic Law Enforcement Training to obtain her current job. Her

father works as a detective, while Madison is a patrol officer. "I don't get to work side by side with him, but I can always reach out for advice and help."

"I always knew I wanted to join law enforcement," she said. "I have been told I am empathetic. With the bad rap we are getting, I believe getting empathetic people on the force would help."



Anthony Greene with Class

Johnson eventually hopes to work for the NC State Bureau of Investigation, and A-B Tech instructors advised her that local experience would help her get there. "I see how good the department has been to my dad. I can build my career up to the state level," she said.

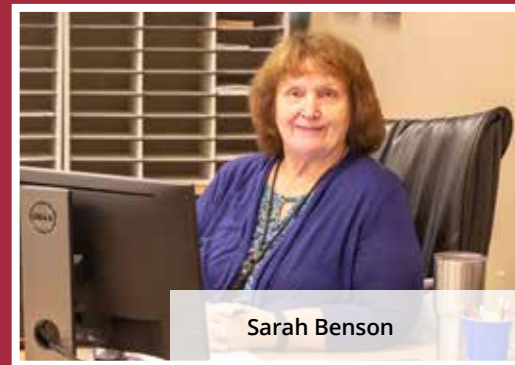
Sarah Benson, who chairs A-B Tech's Criminal Justice program, was one of few women in law enforcement when she began her career, but she wasn't deterred.

"It was a field I was always interested in because it felt like I could make a difference in my community, she said. "When I first went in, there were not many women, and it was still a man's world. You had to prove yourself day in and day out, but I had that drive."

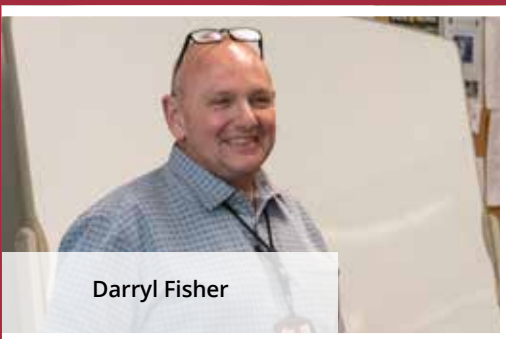
While Benson sees more women entering law enforcement now, women still comprise only 12 percent of sworn officers and 3 percent of police leadership in the United States, according to the 30x30 Coalition, which has stated goals of increasing the representation of women in police recruit classes to 30 percent by 2030 and ensuring that police policies and culture intentionally support the success of qualified women officers.

Benson is carrying out a similar mission by teaching. "Emergency service is a calling, and I've always enjoyed teaching and helping prepare future law enforcement officers. When I have a student who comes through our program and then finishes BLET and is sworn in, it's a proud mama moment to see them making a difference," she said.

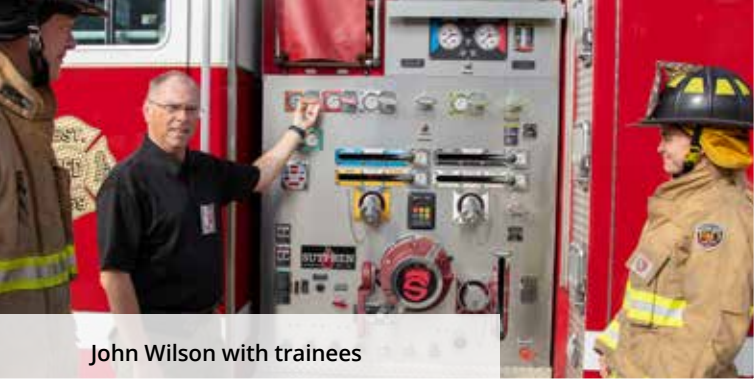
In fact, Benson's oldest son followed her into law enforcement and is now working in Newport News, Va. "I'm proud of him, but now I understand what my mother once told me. She was in her 80s when I retired, and she said the day I retired was the first night she had gotten a good night's sleep because she always worried about me. I know officers are trained and prepared to do their jobs, but now that I'm the mom of an officer, I understand what she meant."



Sarah Benson



Darryl Fisher



John Wilson with trainees

John Wilson, who heads A-B Tech’s fire protection training, said he became a junior firefighter at 17 because he wanted to help his community. He ultimately retired from the Black Mountain Fire Department after 32 years of service, but stayed on as a volunteer, and began teaching full-time at A-B Tech. He previously was an adjunct for the fire and EMS programs.

“As an old firefighter, one of my primary jobs is to help young firefighters become old firefighters,” Wilson said, referring to the importance of training and safety. Echoing his colleagues, Wilson also said that while fire protection is a good career, the commitment to public service is essential.

Green also chairs A-B Tech’s Public Safety Administration (PSA) program, which was implemented two years ago to complement the college’s Emergency Services programs. The program provides leadership training for experienced public safety professionals interested in promotion to management-level positions.



Amanda Cutshaw

When Amanda Cutshaw entered the program, she was working in the Madison County Sheriff’s Department. “Ever since high school, I have been interested in government and how it works. I wanted to be a part of it,” she said.

She began her career working part-time and worked her way up. Getting the PSA degree helped Cutshaw move into a finance role for Madison County government. “The best part of my job is when we work with the other departments to get grants and funding to help the community,” she said.

The campus environment

Gorman said one of A-B Tech’s primary goals is to create an environment where everyone can succeed and do their jobs well.

“We’re striving for equity and to pay attention to everything we can to make people feel welcome,” he said. “It’s something we’ve always done in public safety – we bring the help and no judgment.”

As career public servants, Gorman said his instructors bring the same attitude to teaching. “It doesn’t matter who or what people are, or who or what they think they are, but

A-B Tech Woodfin: Continued

what they want to become. We’re changing lives. When you see a student’s face light up, that is everything. And the icing on the cake is when you know they struggled to get there.”

Gorman said if he has one frustration, it’s not seeing more people of color entering public safety professions. He and his team strive for diversity in recruiting faculty and students and connect with a wide range of people working in the various emergency services professions.

“There needs to be a connection with people and that sometimes means they need to see themselves,” he said. “We are seeing more people of color, but it’s not nearly enough.”



Gorman said A-B Tech Woodfin is blessed with one of the best public safety training facilities in the state since it is co-located with the Buncombe County Training Center. Opened in 2015, the center was funded by a quarter-cent sales tax approved by Buncombe County voters for new and enhanced A-B Tech facilities.

A-B Tech Woodfin welcomes visitors, and Gorman says seeing the campus is often the best recruiting tool. Since A-B Tech trains both students in degree programs and professionals in continuing education, prospective students can see action across a wide variety of areas – from burn buildings to rappelling walls to police dog training to cars and ambulances on the driving track to resuscitating “training dummies” in EMS classes. It’s an exciting atmosphere where the common goal is helping people and keeping communities safe.

To learn more, visit abtech.edu/emergency-services or call 828.782.2355.



Madison Johnson

Construction Management and Sustainability Technology Students Build Office Pods for Raffle

A-B Tech Construction Management and Sustainability Technology students built 8' x 8' POD/Nano structures to use for their own labs. They finished two structures to donate to an Asheville Home Builders Association's fundraiser to raise money for scholarships for students going into the trades.

According to Department Chair Heath Moody, there was not enough space for the construction labs on campus, so they built pre-finished structures for the labs. "This enables us to streamline and standardize our curriculum



so that when we present and lecture on floor framing, there's a floor framing exercise that students participate in directly after the lesson," Moody said.

The class also has other labs that work on

finishing the pods. "Since our students tend to be very tactile learners, this enables them to apply what their learning directly as it would be done on a typical residential job site," Moody said.

Rather than selling the pods, it made more sense to collaborate with local industry advocate groups and non-profits working on affordable housing. "We're not only members of the Asheville Home Builders Association, but we also have alumni working with the organization as well as alumni who've started businesses very active with the organization so it's very symbiotic and completes the circle to now be working with the education committee at AHBA to help fund more scholarships for students entering the trades," Moody said.

The Asheville Home Builders Association raffle was won by Megan Carroll and Gus Adams during the Lake Eden Arts Festival.



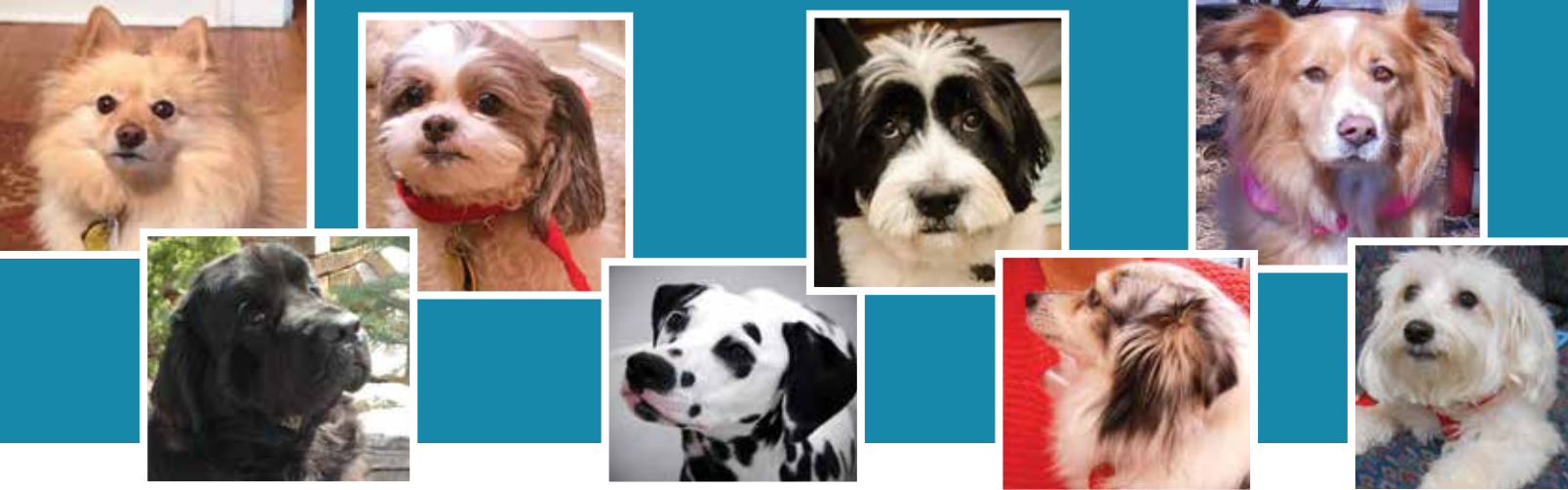
Bernice Buchin Liverett

103-year-old Woman Army Veteran Receives Honorary Degree from A-B Tech on Veterans Day

Bernice Buchin Liverett, a 103-year-old resident of the NC State Veterans Home in Black Mountain, had a lifelong wish to earn a culinary degree. On Veterans Day, her dream came true as A-B Tech President John Gossett presented her with an honorary Culinary Arts degree.

Surrounded by fellow veterans and her family, Mrs. Liverett beamed as Gossett presented her degree and a resolution from A-B Tech's Board of Trustees. Cathy Horton, director of the college's renowned Brumit Center for Culinary Arts and Hospitality, also was on hand to present Mrs. Liverett with a chef's hat and an apple tart baked by Baking and Pastry Arts program head Vince Donatelli.

Mrs. Liverett was born January 12, 1919, in Rochester, NY and served in the US Army in food service and medical transport at Camp Miles Standish, MA and Fort Dix, NJ during World War II. She married the late Buford Liverett and they moved to North Carolina in 1948. Mrs. Liverett was married for 55 years and has two daughters, four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She was renowned for her cooking and baking skills, as well as hosting holiday celebrations for her friends and family.



Therapy Dogs Reduce Stress for Staff and Students

A-B Tech has volunteer pet therapy teams on campus to help during stressful times. The pets provide a natural way to increase endorphins while lowering blood pressure and reducing anxiety. They are especially helpful during final exams and the first days of class.



David King, local farrier



Basic Equine Hoof Care Course Comes to Madison

Local farrier and A-B Tech Trustee David King will teach a new class titled Basic Equine Hoof Care starting January 24 through the college's Continuing Education Workforce programs at A-B Tech Madison.

The course is designed to familiarize horse owners with the basics of hoof care and how to work with farriers, King said. A farrier is a specialist in equine hoof care, including the trimming and balancing of horses' hooves and the placing of shoes on their hooves. The trade combines some blacksmith's skills (fabricating, adapting, and adjusting metal shoes) with some veterinarian's skills (knowledge of the anatomy

and physiology of the lower limb) to care for horses' feet.

King said he became a farrier after a 23-year career in manufacturing. "When I left manufacturing in 1999, the options were to go back into procurement or sales, but I didn't want to do either one, so I chose to work with horses. It was one of many things I did growing up working at the Biltmore Estate, so I had some background. I was always a frustrated artist and it gave me something to learn and a creative outlet."

King said he's all but retired these days, but wanted to share his knowledge. "We have a lot of horse owners in this area and are going to have a lot more locating here, but farriers are aging out and not taking on as many new clients," he said. "The point of this class is not to turn out farriers, but to provide an introduction to basic hoof care – an understanding of the mechanics of the hoof, things that can go wrong, and what's required to keep them sound. It will provide people with a better understanding to work with farriers and possibly interest them in furthering their knowledge."

"It has been a pleasure working on this brand-new course for A-B Tech and our Madison County community and neighbors," said A-B Tech Madison Director Sherri Davis. "It seems like we've been working on it for years and it is finally coming to fruition."

The class covers basic hoof anatomy, hoof mechanics, tool options and usage, theory and practice of safe trimming techniques, and common hoof ailments. Lectures will take place on Tuesday evenings at A-B Tech Madison and conclude with live animal practice at Heart of Horse Sense on two Saturdays in February.

Students do not need any experience but should be able to bend or stoop for extended periods. All tools are provided. To learn more or register, visit abtech.edu/coned-registration or call 828.398.7903.

News Briefs

RYAN ADAMS-CLARK ELECTED AS SGA PRESIDENT

Adams-Clark is the 2022-2023 SGA President and representative to the Board of Trustees. She has been a student A-B Tech for two years in the university transfer program with plans to transfer to UNC. She also took motorcycle training, studied art, and received other certifications at the college prior to her current enrollment. She is involved in the Asheville community volunteering with Meals on Wheels, MANNA Food Bank, and working with the homeless. She also recently organized a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk on campus.



BARWICK AND WALLS ADDED TO TRUSTEE BOARD



Joseph Barwick was appointed by the Buncombe County Commissioners on August 1, 2022. His education background includes a Ph.D., Educational Administration, Community College Leadership from the University of Texas, Austin; MA, English/Education, and BA, English, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dr. Barwick is a native of North Carolina and served as President of Carteret Community College. He has also served as Vice President of Academic and Student Services at Southwestern Community College. Dr. Barwick is past Vice Chair of SACS – Commission on Colleges and was President of the North Carolina Retired Government Employees Association and Carteret County Schools Foundation. He served as A-B Tech's Interim President in 2020.

Jason Walls was appointed by the Boards of Education on Sept. 12, 2022. He serves as District Manager for Duke Energy. Walls leads Duke Energy's local government and community relations efforts in Avery, Buncombe, Haywood, Madison, Mitchell, and Yancey counties. Walls joined Duke Energy in 2002 and has served the company in various communications-related and leadership roles during his career. Before joining the Duke Energy team, he was the Economic Development Director in Swain County. Jason currently serves on the board of directors of the Buncombe County Schools Foundation, the Asheville-Buncombe Economic Development Coalition, Asheville-Buncombe Chamber of Commerce, and the Asheville United Way, and is Chair of the Haywood County Economic Development Council and a member of the Haywood County Chamber of Commerce.



News Briefs

ERIKA LETT APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION



Erika Lett Erika Lett has been named Executive Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at A-B Tech after years as an award-winning instructor in Communications. In her role, she will continue her work on the Belongingness Project with faculty, as well as oversee our two major grants: Counterbalance and Title III. “We want everyone to feel included and like they belong at A-B Tech,” she said. “We have some work to do, but I believe its work worth doing to truly become the community’s College.”

MELISSA MCKEAN HIRED AS NEW FINANCIAL AID DIRECTOR

Melissa McKean has been named A-B Tech’s new Director of Financial Aid. In her leadership role, Melissa will be responsible for the overall administration, compliance, reporting, and community outreach regarding A-B Tech’s comprehensive financial aid programs. She joins A-B Tech with 15 years of financial aid experience, having served at a community college and multiple universities. Among other areas of financial aid expertise, she has experience with and particular interest in student outreach, compliance, reporting, and policy and procedures. Melissa earned a Bachelor of Liberal Arts from the California University of Pennsylvania.



HISTORY INSTRUCTOR JOHN QUINLEY PUBLISHES DISCOVERING CARL SANDBURG



Dr. John Quinley, retired college administrator and American history instructor at A-B Tech, recently published *Discovering Carl Sandburg: The Eclectic Life of an American Icon*. He presented a lecture at A-B Tech employing images, quotations, and visual and audio recordings by Sandburg, and by those that wrote about his life and work or knew him personally. He also joined the Western North Carolina Historical Association (WNCHA) and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) for a special History Hour event exploring the life and legacy of Carl Sandburg. Quinley’s book may be found at area bookstores or ordered online.

Campus Events

AUTUMN IN ASHEVILLE



The annual Autumn in Asheville gala held in October raised more than \$73,000 to support the Culinary Arts and Hospitality departments, as well as funds for scholarships. The event was held October 1 at the Brumit Center for Culinary Arts and Hospitality.



FALL FESTIVAL

A-B Tech could not have asked for better weather for its first Fall Festival in three years. Students, faculty, and staff gathered around the Beech Tree Deck for lunch, information booths, an obstacle course, free T-shirts, cornhole, a book sale, essential oils, fun street signs, sno cones, and a drum circle.

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS SUMMIT

A-B Tech hosted an Educational Partnerships Summit with several of its high school partners in November. The Arts & Sciences/Transfer Programs were highlighted during the event, which featured lunch by the award-winning Culinary Arts department.



Calendar of Events

December 23-January 2 **Winter Holiday Break**

January 9 **Spring 2023 Semester Begins**

February 6 **Selective Admissions to Fall 2023 Allied Health Programs Opens**
(deadline to apply is March 17)

March 15 **Spring 8-Week Classes Begin**



Asheville-Buncombe
Technical Community College
340 Victoria Road
Asheville, NC 28801

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ASHEVILLE, NC
PERMIT NO. 440
ECRWSS

Residential Customer

**YOUR DREAMS.
OUR MISSION.**

Registration for
Spring Semester is
now open for classes
that begin January 9.

abtech.edu/welcome

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA • (828) 398-7900