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## CCC Foundation Annual Meeting focuses on student stories, history



*More than 200 people attended the 2016 Annual Meeting, Alumni and Awards Breakfast at the CCC Lone Tree Campus on Friday, Sept. 16, 2016.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Coconino Community College nursing student Amy Shuman took a rocky road to get to college. Raised by her grandmother, Shuman had plans to go to college because her grandmother wanted her to go.

But before that, she received certification to be a Certified Medical Assistant. She met her husband, a Purple Heart veteran who had his sights set on a law enforcement career, so she put her plans for college on the back burner.

Shuman's grandmother died before she could make a run at college. She and her husband moved to Flagstaff so her husband could follow through on her law enforcement career. She enrolled at Coconino Community College in search of a nursing degree.

"It's been an incredible journey, and we've had tons of support," Shuman said, adding that scholarship support she received was helpful.

She was selected as the 2016-17 recipient of the Jason Kurtz Nursing Scholarship, and she thanked the donors to the scholarships at the CCC Foundation.

"The money the College receives really does go to people who appreciate it," Shuman said.

Student stories and history of the college dominated the CCC Foundation's Annual Meeting, Alumni and Awards Breakfast at the Lone Tree Campus on Friday, Sept. 16, 2016. More than 200 people attended the event, where a longtime educator and supporter of the college received recognition for his contributions.



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CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations in Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

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CCC President Colleen A. Smith, PhD, recognized the CCC Foundation Board Members for their selfless service.

"These are the folks who have our backs," President Smith said. "The Foundation is all about student scholarships and helping students to succeed."

President Smith reminded the crowd that CCC turned 25 years old in 2016.

"I like to think we're 25 years strong," President Smith said, adding that CCC is a community of learners who have contributed to the fabric of the community over the last quarter century. "And we do it because of your help."

President Smith and District Governing Board Chair Patricia Garcia announced the 2016 selection of the CCC Distinguished Service Award - Dr. Eugene Hughes, President Emeritus of Northern Arizona University.

"I feel deeply honored," Dr. Hughes said, adding that community colleges have been important to him throughout his life. Were it not for a community college in his hometown in Kansas, he might have turned out to be a farmer instead of an educator who became president of three different universities. Dr. Hughes was instrumental in the formation of Coconino Community College back in 1991.

CC Foundation Board Member Emeritus Chris Bavasi handed out more than 60 scholarships to CCC students at the Annual Meeting.

The final student speaker of the morning was Juana Martinez Cardenas, of Williams, who received the City of Williams & Epsilon Sigma Alpha and CCC Employees scholarships. Cardenas, a high school dropout with two children, had nearly given up on life when she went back to CCC to get a General Equivalency Diploma. To her surprise, she passed the tests and received her GED.

"Tears filled my eyes," Cardenas said, adding that, to some people, it might not seem like much of an accomplishment, but to her, it meant the world.

She enrolled at CCC. She worked full time and raised her two boys. Scholarships have been crucial to her success.

"I had never applied for a scholarship," she told the crowd. "I figured, 'What the heck?'" and tried to apply."

She is on her way to getting a psychology degree. Her eventual goal is to work in a high school setting to help young people stay in school and not take the path she took.

"You are making dreams and goals come true," Cardenas said. "I'm fully confident I'm going to achieve this because of you."

## Alumni Success

### CCC Nursing graduate finds calling in critical care



*Coconino Community College graduate and Registered Nurse Chelsea Brumbaugh works for Northern Arizona Healthcare at Flagstaff Medical Center in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Chelsea Brumbaugh's idea to become a nurse took form at 13 years old.

Chelsea's mother went into a diabetic coma, and she studied how the nurses cared for her mother, and comforted Chelsea and her sister Ciara.

"After that, I knew I wanted to be a nurse." Chelsea said.



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Her dream came true in 2013, after she graduated from Coconino Community College with an associate's degree in Nursing. She passed her state certification exams and was accepted to work for Northern Arizona Healthcare at Flagstaff Medical Center. She then went through the NAH Critical Care Training Program.

"I'm doing open hearts right now," Chelsea said, adding that she works in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit, or CVICU for short. "It's cool how we actually know what the heart's going to do after open-heart surgery."

### PATH BEGINS

By the time Chelsea was in high school, she had begun working toward her goal. She enrolled as a student in Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry and Technology and began taking college courses at CCC to receive a certificate as a Certified Nursing Assistant, which she did before she even graduated from high school.

She immediately went to work in a doctor's office in Flagstaff for practical experience, and began attending CCC for her associate's degree in Nursing. At CCC, Chelsea received several scholarships to aid her in her studies. Among the scholarships she received were the Raymond Educational Foundation Scholarship, the Hartzell High School Scholarship and the Jason Kurtz Nursing Scholarship.

"I got a lot of my prerequisites done before nursing school even started," Chelsea said, adding that she was able to get a variety of clinical experiences in the community while at CCC.

"It was there I knew I wanted to do ICU of some sort," Chelsea said. "It was a great experience."

Her goal was to become a nurse with a two-year degree and work while she went back to school to get a bachelor's of science in Nursing - a process she recommends to others for the cost savings and because it allowed her to get to work a lot earlier than students working on four-year degrees. She received her bachelor's degree in 2016 while being a nurse at FMC the past three years.

### ALL IN A DAY

Chelsea said that she works 12-hour shifts, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., or 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

The first couple of hours for an open-heart patient after the surgeon closes up the chest and the patient is brought to the CVICU are the most critical.

"A lot can go wrong," Chelsea said. "There are just so many things going on. You're watching a whole bunch of stuff at once."

CVICU nurses, who work on a one-nurse-to-one-patient ratio, watch patient IV "drips," keep a close eye on blood-pressure and heart-rate monitors and make sure that vital signs stay in a certain range. The nurses are constantly checking on patients for signs of difficulty or distress. The process is intimidating at first, and some patients thrive after surgery while others require deeper care.

"It's very stressful, but I enjoy it," Chelsea said. "It's so much fun seeing these patients walking the halls the next day, thanking you."

Chelsea's mother, who made it through the diabetic coma episode, works at Flagstaff Medical Center as well. Chelsea added that her sister, Ciara, also works at FMC as a nurse, and she is currently still in the training program.

Ciara graduated from CCC three years after her sister. While at CCC, Ciara also received scholarships to help her reach her goal. Among the scholarships Ciara received were the Raymond Educational Foundation Scholarship and the Blue Cross, Blue Shield Scholarship.

Chelsea said she and her sister have worked together before.

"We were waitresses before this," she said and smiled.

## Partnership between CCC, Sheriff's Office helps train detention officers





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*Paul Baze and Anthony Innerbichler, graduates of the Basic Detention Academy offered in partnership with CCC, stand in a hallway of the Coconino County Detention Facility.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Doors clang shut. Keys and chains rattle. Inmates move with detention officers to other parts of the jail.

Paul Baze and Anthony Innerbichler are detention officers, and both went through a Basic Detention Academy, which was made possible through a partnership with the Coconino County Sheriff's Office and Coconino Community College. The program is designed to meet Arizona Detention Association standards, and it provides entry-level training to detention officer staff.

Baze, a sergeant, said the sheriff's office and CCC have been in partnership to offer the academy for more than 10 years. Students admitted to the academy must be hired or recommended by an approved law enforcement agency. Baze, himself, graduated from the Basic Detention Academy through CCC more than eight years ago.

"I really enjoyed the detention academy," Baze said, adding that although the academy was academics based (theory and law), the students also learned defensive tactics and team building and received physical training.

About 90 percent of the detention officers working at the Coconino County Detention Facility went through the Basic Detention Academy, Baze said. The program is worth 13 credits, which helped Baze graduate a full semester early in completing his bachelor's degree at Northern Arizona University. Baze added that the course lasts six weeks, and all classes are taught by staff at the jail. Typically, 10 students go through the academy at a time, and the academy is offered once in the fall and once in the spring.

"We just can't hire enough people," Baze said.

Baze currently serves as the Detention Support Services sergeant, who manages the laundry, inmate classifications, commissary and the medical office.

"When I started, I wanted to be a patrol officer," Baze said. "But I enjoyed working with the people here."

He heard about a job at the jail from his friend, Innerbichler, who is a Detention Officer 2 at the jail.

"I said, 'We're always looking for people at the jail. You should apply.'" Innerbichler said.

Innerbichler had already gone through the Basic Detention Academy. He, like Baze, had aspirations of being a deputy on patrol, and he saw being a detention officer as a good way to get his foot in the door at the Sheriff's Office so he could get experience.

"I wanted to learn how to talk to people not having a good day," Innerbichler said. "If you see me, you're probably having one of your worst days."

In the academy and as a detention officer, Innerbichler has learned to be calm and firm in the face of anger, and empathetic in the face of sadness. He's been working at the jail for nearly nine years.

"One thing I didn't expect was the variety of things you can do," Innerbichler said, adding that he has served as a classification officer who identifies risk of inmates, a floor officer on day shifts and graveyard shifts, a housing and intake officer and a court officer who transports inmates to court dates.

Innerbichler enjoys the work for two reasons: First, he appreciates the bond among his fellow detention officers.

"It provides a sense of comradery with others who go through difficult situations together," Innerbichler said.

Second, some of the inmates who come into the jail surprise him.

"I enjoy it because there are some individuals who will thank you for your work," Innerbichler said, adding that even when people are at their lowest point, they can realize that their lives are not over and there is a coming back from mistakes.

paramedics

Baze and Innerbichler recommend the job, but they caution that people who go into the field need to be prepared.

"There are tough things to see, and your mettle will be tested," Innerbichler said. "You will have to expect these things. And people will not be grateful to you for doing your job. People will vilify you for doing your job."

But, in the end, the satisfaction that he's making a difference in people's lives and to a community make the job well worth it, Innerbichler was quick to add.

For more information about the Basic Detention Academy, visit <http://www.coconino.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=329>

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## Student Success

### Funds support dependents of veterans disabled, killed serving country



First year CCC student Brock Lindberg is one of five recipients of the John F. Long Foundation award.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Coconino Community College student Brock Lindberg is in his first year of college. He borrowed money from his grandfather to help pay for his books.

But because his grandfather, who legally adopted Lindberg when he was young, was disabled as a result of his service in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, Lindberg received \$200 to help him pay for his books and reimburse his grandfather.

"It really helps and takes a lot of stress off my back right now with my money situation," Lindberg said.

Lindberg and four other CCC students received \$200 with which to buy books with the help of the John F. Long Foundation, said Rachel Edelstein, Donor & Alumni Relations Coordinator at CCC. The Phoenix-based foundation allocated \$2,000 to CCC to help five students in the fall semester and five students in the spring semester to buy the books they need to attend CCC.

Edelstein said the funds are earmarked specifically for students who qualify for "Chapter 35" Dependent's Education Assistance through Veterans Affairs who are dependents of veterans disabled or killed while in service to their country. While veterans receive a wide array of financial assistance to attend college, the dependents of veterans who were



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disabled or killed while serving their country do not.

"These are people falling through the cracks. Because their benefits for school are very limited, this is meant to help them with their textbooks," Edelstein said. "This will relieve some of the financial burden of attending school full time."

Charli Hausam, Financial Aid and Veteran Advisor at CCC, said that the five students selected also met requirements of economic need.

In a thank you letter to the John F. Long Foundation, Lindberg wrote, "Just the simple fact of me attending college is a big deal for me and my entire family because I will be the first person in my entire family ... besides my grandpa to attend college. So, it is a big deal, and I appreciate all the help I can get."

Student Makayla Hamilton also said she was surprised when she received word that she qualified for the funding.

"I am totally grateful," Hamilton said. "I'm still processing that I got this."

In another thank you letter to the John F. Long Foundation, student Christopher-Roy Howard wrote, "You have eased a portion of my financial strain and allowed me to focus more on my actual studies and less on loans and debt ... I would like to thank you for the generosity of this (funding) and would like you to know that this has made me want to pay it forward and give back to my peers and the overall community of my college."

Student Dominick Moreira, whose father died as a result of his service when Moreira was young, said, "It's a blessing out of nowhere. It's really awesome - especially right now. I'm super grateful for it."

John F. Long was a World War II veteran who started in the Phoenix building industry with the help of the G.I. Bill. He eventually became one of the major developers in the Valley and set up the John F. Long Foundation in 1959, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting charities, schools, education events and general community needs. For more information about the John F. Long Foundation, visit <http://www.jflongproperties.com/foundation>.

## Around CCC

### Free talks at CCC uncover ancient cultures



*Dr. Dudley Gardner, CCC's Vice President of Academic Affairs, will give a series of lectures on recent archaeological digs he was a part of at locations across the globe, including Mongolia. (Courtesy photo)*

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Ancient cultures of the Colorado Plateau, Fiji, Mongolia, New Zealand and Easter Island have been the focus of free talks at Coconino Community College during the last few weeks.

A. Dudley Gardner, Ph.D., and CCC Vice President of Academic Affairs, is presenting a free lecture series at the Lone Tree Campus to share some of his discoveries from excavations around the world.

"I hope that people see that at Coconino Community College our endeavors are directly translated into the classroom," Gardner said. "And that the student gains from real-life experiences an appreciation for our ancient past."

Gardner is an archaeologist and an historian who has worked in the field of archaeology since 1975. He has published several books, articles and archaeological reports of his fieldwork, and he has even collaborated on work with renowned author Annie Proulx. His specialty is the Formative Period and 18th century Archaeology from around the Pacific Rim, and

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he has conducted extensive archaeological excavations in Western Colorado and Wyoming.

The remaining talks in the lecture series will feature:

-Oct. 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Archaeology of Mongolia: Gardner will look at the results of Yale University's Tarvagatai Valley Project conducted between 2010 and 2015.

-Oct. 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Archaeology of Easter Island: Gardner will round out the lecture series by discussing excavations along the Moai Road and work on the Pircas on Easter Island.

"I think it would be good for the community because they are from different areas of the world," Gardner said.

Several of the excavations were conducted over a period of several years.

"We get to know the areas intensely because we work on them so long," Gardner said.

He added that his talks will not be something he's read in a book.

His work has been done in the field and brought directly into the classroom. His aim is to tell the story of what happened on the excavations so that people can appreciate learning about the world's past.

"Often, archaeologists go out and do these projects and never tell anybody about what they've found," Gardner said. "I want to change that."

## CCC students flock to Resource Fair



Students receive information about a variety of resources available to them in order to help them reach their educational goals during a Resource Fair at the Lone Tree Campus Commons.



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Flagstaff, Ariz. - Hundreds of students, many of them at Coconino Community College for their first semester, milled about the booths at the Lone Tree Campus.

"This is all new to me," said Chandler Leonard, a Flagstaff High School graduate in his first semester at CCC.

He, like more than 300 other CCC students took advantage of the CCC Resource Fair in the V. Philip Tullar Commons on Aug. 31.

"I'm actually happy I'm here," Leonard said. "It's really helpful."

The CCC Resource Fair is held at the beginning of every semester to allow students and faculty to connect to one another and see what resources are available to them, said Derik Yellowhair, Student Life and Passages Coordinator. By giving students a convenient, one-stop shop where they can see what resources are available, CCC is helping students reach their educational goals while encouraging them to get involved.

"This is all internal and external information from our community," Yellowhair said.

Among the institutions and programs represented at the CCC Resource Fair were: \$ave2Learn, Northland Family Help Center, U.S. Marine Corps, Northern Arizona University Native American Student Services, Hopi Tribe Grants and Scholarships, Earn To Learn, Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority, National Bank of Arizona, Veterans Workforce Services, Vintage Christian Fellowship at NAU, Arizona State University, CCC and NAU TRIO, Grand Canyon University, information on Proposition 410, Jimmy John's, US. Air Force ROTC, Veteran Center, CCC Starfish, University of Arizona, CCC2NAU, CCC Canvas, Catholic Charities, YMCA, CCC Information Technology Services, North Country Healthcare, and Partnership of Native American Cancer Prevention.

Leonard received information on the CCC2NAU program because he is interested in transitioning to NAU once he completes his studies at CCC. He also received helpful information about the CCC Starfish program. Starfish allows CCC instructors to

generate notification and kudos on students, helping student services staff to better assist students who may be facing academic difficulty. Starfish also provides students with the opportunity to schedule appointments through the online system, view their student success network, and easily find contact information for campus offices.

Leonard added that he's not set just yet on what he wants to focus on in his studies.

"I'm exploring right now," Leonard said. "And I'm pretty sure I'll find something."

## Clubs take center stage at CCC



CCC Biology Instructor Melinda McKinney shares information about the Science Club with students during a Sept. 7 event at the Lone Tree Campus.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Coconino Community College is home to many clubs to get students involved in activities beyond classes and study time. On Wednesday, Sept. 7, student clubs filled the Lone Tree Campus Commons to share a bit about what each club offers.

The clubs are seeking new members. Among the clubs present at the event were the Philosophy Club, the Science Club, the Latter-day Saint Student Association, Vintage Christen Fellowship, Student Veterans, the Associated Student Body-Student Government, Sirius Star Gazers and the Socratics Club.

For students looking to build credentials for a resume, the Volunteer Club and the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society are right for you. The two clubs partner for volunteer opportunities for members to help them increase their chances of getting aid through scholarships. PTK bases membership on student GPA, where the Volunteer Club does not.



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Student's who enjoy gaming should consider the Games Club. The Anime Club offers members a chance to come together to discuss and watch Japanese-style animation. Student's who play chess should look into joining the Chess Club. The Clay Club is offered at CCC only for students who are enrolled in the classes, although workshops and guest speaker events are taught to students for free. Keep an eye out for posters for event postings. The Science Club combines trips, competitions, community outreach, STEM Night, Science Festivals and more. The Native American Club brings together students to celebrate, advocate for and discuss indigenous issues. The Kaleidoscope Club is a place for LGBTQA students to meet, socialize and organize, where everyone has a voice and everyone can participate.

For additional information about club meetings, locations, times and more, email Derik Yellowhair, Student Life and Passages Program Coordinator, at [derikyellowhair@coconino.edu](mailto:derikyellowhair@coconino.edu)

-- Mark Hanson

## CCC celebrates Constitution Day



*Mitch Driebe, Learning Support Program Coordinator at CCC, looks to the future as "The Patriot" for Constitution Day.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Once again, "The Patriot" presided over the events of the afternoon. On the menu were a celebratory cake and cookies.

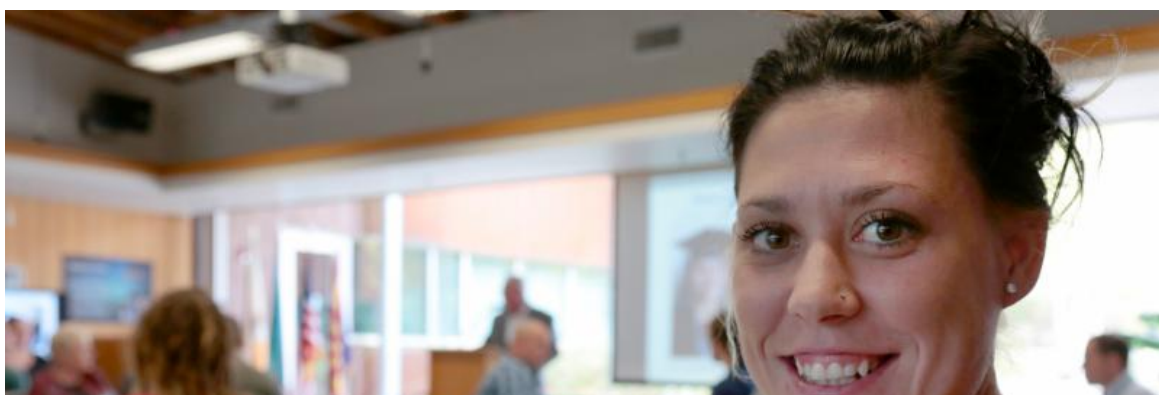
And the U.S. Constitution.

On Friday, Sept. 16, Coconino Community College observed Constitution Day. Constitution Day, also known as Citizenship Day, recognizes the adoption of the Constitution and people who have become citizens. Sept. 17 marks the day in 1787 that delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the document in Philadelphia.

Students and staff put their John Hancock to a copy of the Constitution as part of the observance.

This years event was organized by Luke Owens, CCC's newest Library and Learning Resources Coordinator. The event is federally mandated by educational institutions that receive federal funding, which CCC does in the form of financial aid for students.

## Students share stories at Employee Giving Kick-Off





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Economic Impact - \$167 million in



Scholarship recipient Tesla Baumgartner shared her story with CCC employees during the Employee Giving Kick-Off at the Lone Tree Campus, Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Tesla Baumgartner studies nursing at Coconino Community College.

To assist her with her studies, she received a Raymond Educational Foundation scholarship and a Step-Up scholarship. Both scholarships were awarded through the CCC Foundation.

On Tuesday, Sept. 27, during the Employee Giving Kick-Off event at the CCC Lone Tree Campus, Baumgartner told her story to about 40 employees of the College as they enjoyed lunch.

"My husband works full time, and we barely make rent," Baumgartner said, adding that going to school is her full-time job.

The funds from the scholarships she received makes a difference.

"They help with the rent and gas for my car," Baumgartner said. "This seriously helps a lot."

The Employee Giving Kick-Off is an informal event that offers an opportunity for employees to learn how donations to the Foundation support students and programs at the College. Employees also get to hear student stories like Baumgartner's.

Student Evan Burris, who is in his last year at CCC for an associate's degree in Network Engineering, received a Raymond Educational Foundation scholarship and a Hartzell Foundation scholarship.

"They helped alleviate my financial stress," Burris said. "I want to thank everyone who has donated money to scholarships. They help us all."

Student Lastenia Wilkes, who also works as a student worker in the Financial Aid Department, said her getting a Flagstaff Rotary Foundation scholarship has also been helpful in her continuing studies in business.

The Kick-Off precedes the Employee Giving Luncheon on Wednesday, Nov. 2, where CCC employees celebrate everyone who has contributed to the Foundation during the past year. If you are considering a donation through payroll deduction or a one-time gift, be sure to notify the CCC Foundation staff by Oct. 21 to receive an invitation to the catered lunch. Many local businesses have contributed gifts for the event and everyone is sure to receive a something fun. Employee donors do not need to be present to have their names drawn for gifts.

## CCC shows flair at County Fair





Economic Impact - \$107 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

### MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

### CORE VALUES:

People  
Quality  
Ethics  
Community  
Respect  
Sustainability  
Learning and Growth



Join Our Mailing List!

CCC staff, students, alumni, family and President Colleen Smith, with her husband Billy, helped get the word out about the College during the Coconino County Fair on the Labor Day weekend.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Yee-haw! It was that time of the year again when Coconino County rustled up a fun-filled family event: The 67th Annual Coconino County Fair.

"This year, the experience was totally different than in years past," said Brian Harris, CCC's Marketing & Events Coordinator. "CCC was moved into the non-profit section, which was external from the main attractions in the fair."

Coconino Community College's booth was located outside of the main venues. From the main entrance facing into the fair, CCC was located on the left side of the fairgrounds next to the stage. The fair ran September 2-5, each day brought many visitors to the booth, despite its new location.

According to Harris, "There were fewer visitors to the booth this year - fewer tourists - which was great because the people who actually came to the booth were interested in either the College or Prop 410."

Across all four days, the CCC booth had several hundred visitors.

Shaun McKernan, who handled the social media for the event, posted tons of photos of people who came to visit the CCC booth. Visitors ranged greatly, from local politicians, including Flagstaff City Mayor Jerry Nabours, and City Council member Jeff Oravitz; local candidates seeking election like Coral Evans, Charlie Odegaard, Jamie Whelan, and more; State Representatives like Bob Thorpe and Sylvia Allen; CCC Foundation President Joe Donaldson; Coco the Cow, Coconino

County's mascot; the Coconuts - Flagstaff's local robotics team; the Coca-Cola Polar Bear; and many, many more! Check out CCC's Facebook and Instagram pages to see these photos and more from the fair!

Coconino Community College was well received by the public and the fair was a great success. Brian and Shaun would like to thank ALL of the volunteers who helped at the Coconino County Fair; including the District Governing Board Chair and Members, CCC Foundation President and Members, faculty, staff, alumni, and student workers! The booth had a wonderful mix of volunteers, which showed a unified team for the College. Without their help, the event would not have gone as smoothly as it did. We look forward to participating in the 68th Annual Coconino County Fair in 2017.

## CCC on tap for Thirsty Thursday at MNA



CCC President Colleen Smith makes a brief presentation to a crowd of more than 60 people during the Thirsty Thursday event at the Museum of Northern Arizona on Sept. 1.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - In a community partnership between Coconino Community College and the Museum of Northern Arizona, CCC was allowed to be a participant in the last "Thirsty Thursday" of the summer.

Annually, MNA hosts Thirsty Thursdays from May through September in their courtyard, or inside the museum based on the weather. Thirsty Thursdays have become a great social event, gaining popularity in the Flagstaff community.

The last one for the season was on September 1, 2016. The entertainment for the evening was the Mother Road Trio. The weather was not an indicator of how the evening would go. Prior to the start of Thirsty Thursday, there was a gentle, yet consistent rainstorm which resulted in a low turnout at the beginning of the event. MNA Staff were discouraged because they thought no one would show for the event and it was moved inside.

Brian Harris and Shaun McKernan had set-up for CCC with a table that had all the fliers for Prop. 410. Then it happened. They came one at a time, then two, then more, and the crowd started to trickle in to the Museum. Several members of the

community who were there for the event took interest in Prop. 410, asked some engaging questions and took fliers with them. Meanwhile, the captivating tunes of Mother Road Trio filled the air. The evening was finally starting to pick up.

Several staff and faculty attended the event, including President Smith and District Governing Board Member Nat White. During an intermission in the evening, President Smith was allowed to address the crowd about Prop. 410 and explain what its effects would be; Nat White also spoke about the Proposition to the crowd. There were well over 100 people in attendance to hear about Prop. 410.

"It was an incredible experience," Harris said. "The evening didn't look like it would go well, and it turned out to be great! Everyone was very receptive to CCC and to Prop. 410."

MNA Staff confirmed that more than 150 people came and went throughout the evening.

According to McKernan, "I was told by MNA Staff that this was the largest Thirsty Thursday attendance of the season, and might have been the largest attendance of the event ever."

Coconino Community College was invited by the director of MNA to return next year in September for Thirsty Thursday.

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