Southwestern Magazine
An annual publication of the Southwestern Community College Education Foundation
Summer 2015

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Southwestern Community College is entering its 50th year of operation. The legislation authorizing community colleges in Iowa was passed in 1965 and Southwestern opened its doors in September 1966. A lot has happened in the years since then! The College moved from rented facilities to its current location, centers have been established in Red Oak and Osceola, student housing has been transformed into beautiful apartment-style residence halls, programs and services have been expanded, and enrollment has grown to nearly five times what it was in that first year!

Student success is our primary goal and I am pleased to report Southwestern has maintained the highest student success rate of the Iowa community colleges for the three most recent data collection periods, as reported by the Iowa Department of Education in the *Annual Condition of Iowa’s Community Colleges* (2012, 2013 and 2014 editions). Student success rate is based on the number of students enrolled in college credit coursework who have graduated or transferred to another educational institution within three years of initial enrollment. The most recent student success rate reported was 53 percent for students who enrolled in 2012. Another indicator of student success, taken from a survey of our 2014 graduates, estimates 93 percent of those who were seeking employment reported they were employed within six months following graduation. In addition, as part of that same survey, those continuing their education reported having transferred to 35 colleges and universities across the country and in Canada.

Included below are a few data points I wanted to share with you to give you a snapshot of the College today. This edition of the *Southwestern Magazine* highlights some of the recent happenings at the College. I hope you enjoy reading the articles contained within it. If you are reading this publication, you have most likely been a part of the success of the college. As we begin our 50th year of operation, I want to thank you for all you have done to support the accomplishment of our mission! We look forward to continuing our partnership with you!

Dr. Barbara J. Crittenden
Southwestern Community College President

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**1,600**
Fall 2014 enrollment

**2,144**
Students enrolled in credit courses during the 2014-2015 academic year (FY2015 MIS data)

**5,616**
Individuals served in non-credit/continuing education programs (FY2015 MIS data)

**280**
Students living in on-campus housing

**133**
Full-time

**113**
Part-time

**Employees (as of Nov. 1, 2014)**

**Fiscal Year 2015 Revenue by Source**

- **Tuition & Fees**: 48%
- **State**: 40%
- **Local**: 5%
- **Federal & Other Sources**: 7%

**FY2015 Student Profile (MIS data)**

**Age**

- **17 & Under**: 378
- **18-22**: 1,173
- **23-26**: 207
- **27-30**: 106
- **31-39**: 166
- **40-55**: 101
- **Over 55**: 13

**Enrollment Status**

- **Full-Time**: 28%
- **Part-Time**: 72%

**Residency**

- **Iowa**: 89%
- **Out of State**: 10%
- **International**: 1%

**Gender**

- **Male**: 42%
- **Female**: 58%
If you have spent a little time on campus during the past year, you most certainly have seen and noticed a lot of new things happening here at Southwestern. With fall quickly approaching, there are all sorts of exciting activities and events around the corner! Here are just a few things we thought might catch your attention.

Psychology Club
“Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself” – Sigmund Freud. Students who appreciate psychological theories and service projects geared toward helping others through tough times now have the option to join SWCC’s Psychology Club! With 11 student members so far, this newly founded club is interested in expanding their membership to anyone on campus. Led by Tim Leonard, psychology instructor, the Psychology Club has a number of goals to provide a fun and interesting learning environment with open forum discussions outside the classroom.

The Psychology Club traveled on an all-expense paid trip to the Glore Psychiatric Museum to further expand their knowledge of the field, a trip they plan to evolve during years to come. Students in SWCC’s psychology classes also participate in Poster Day (photo above right). Poster Day showcases research projects students from various subject areas have completed.

If you know of a SWCC student who likes to discuss psychological phenomenon throughout history and has an interest in helping others – tell them about the SWCC Psychology Club!

Multicultural Club
Students who enjoy exploring new cultures and networking with students from around the globe should check out SWCC’s Multicultural Club! With nearly 20 student participants within the first year, the Multicultural Club has a list of projects and activities for the upcoming academic year. Led by Andrea Rivera Rojas, the Multicultural Club is planning to teach students on campus about the unique wide range of cultures that are right here on our very own campus. Cultural exploration put into action and making a difference – students should get signed up now!

Simulation Lab Remodel
Want to become an LPN? Maybe even an RN? On average, 95.58 percent of Southwestern’s RN students pass their boards on their first attempt. Guess what else…Southwestern’s program has just landed a whole new hands-on experience for our students. Southwestern Community College worked collaboratively with the other 14 community colleges in Iowa to secure a federal grant. Southwestern’s share of the grant is being used to develop a simulation lab. Southwestern’s lab will include full-body wireless patient simulators, which will enable SWCC instructors to enhance learning opportunities found in classroom and clinical settings by creating high risk scenarios, such as heart attacks, head injuries, respiratory arrest, or trauma from accidents.

The construction on the simulation lab is on schedule for completion prior to the start of the fall 2015 semester. If you’re a healthcare
enthusiast, be sure to schedule a campus visit to check out this amazing, real-life experience!

**Recreational Equipment**
Calling all recreational enthusiasts! For students who want to take a break between classes, ride their bikes on the trails surrounding the college, play a competitive game of tennis, or try their luck to see how many fish they can catch at Green Valley or Summit Lake, now they can do any of these activities with the recreational equipment checkout program. Thanks to the active members of Southwestern’s Student Senate for making this one happen!

**Sports Shooting at the High Lakes Outdoor Alliance**
Do you know someone who enjoys trap shooting? How does shooting at a range with five trap fields, one skeet field, and a rifle/pistol range sound? High Lakes Outdoor Alliance (HLOA), Union County Conservation, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources have partnered to develop a phenomenal complex at the north end of Three Mile Lake in Afton. Thanks to all of the hard work from each of these groups, SWCC was able to form a sports shooting team in 2013 and has managed to bring in approximately 35 students each year.

Southwestern’s sports shooting team finished 15th in the nation in the team’s first year and were undefeated for the 2014-2015 academic year, placing sixth in the nation. The team would not be able to practice or host home shooting competitions without the members of High Lakes Outdoor Alliance! Thanks to you all!

**Sports Shooting Olympic Qualifier**
Have you had the opportunity to watch the Spartan Sports Shooters in action? Southwestern Community College’s sports shooting team has had a terrific amount of skill and talent since the program’s inception two years ago. The team has competed at the national level annually. This year’s team was undefeated in the Iowa conference and 2015 Iowa collegiate shooting champions. As mentioned above, this year on the team’s trip to San Antonio, TX, for nationals they placed sixth in the nation as a team with three sports shooters qualifying for the Olympic Training Camp.

Southwestern’s very own sports shooter, Shelby Woods, freshman from Madison, MO, was selected to attend the USA Shooting’s Olympic Training Camp in Colorado. Woods, who is majoring in auto collision repair/refinish, and Head Sports Shooting Coach Charlie Mundy, headed out to Colorado in June and had the experience of a lifetime. Woods was one of 12 athletes selected to attend the camp for trap shooting. Mundy was one of three coaches for trap shooting. While in Colorado, Woods shot competitively with the other athletes and has plans on returning next year. Be sure to attend a home shoot this coming year to watch her in action!

**Instructional Center Remodel**
Starting this spring, our classrooms in the Instructional Center have been getting a makeover. The 200 bay classrooms, where a lot of SWCC’s business and information technology and ICN classes are offered, will be updated with technology, new speakers, lighting fixtures and a sitting area similar to the one recently renovated in the 100 bay hallway. The restrooms in the main hallway will also look completely different! Expect new paint and new carpet, too. New look, same great SWCC experience!

These exciting new changes started on May 11. The new rooms are on track for completion this fall.
For years, the name Bill Krejci has been synonymous with Southwestern Community College athletics. Student activities assistant, coach, instructor, athletic director, athletic fundraiser—these are all titles Krejci held during his tenure at Southwestern.

Originally a “Chicago boy,” it was 1978 when Krejci started at Southwestern Community College as assistant director of student activities, physical education instructor, and head baseball coach. Krejci came to Southwestern from Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs, where he served as assistant baseball coach from 1977-78. Prior to that, Krejci had been at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO, where he played for the Bearcats from 1971-73. He served as an assistant for the Bearcats baseball team while he completed his graduate studies, earning a master’s degree in education in 1976.

He helped lead the Bearcats to the NCAA Division II World Series that same year.

Throughout his 22 years of coaching, Krejci put SWCC baseball on the map, earning the respect of players and coaches nationwide. He oftentimes had players who were recruited by four-year college programs throughout the United States and continues to keep in touch with many of them today. In addition, Krejci was the men’s basketball coach for eight years.

In September 1999, after 22 years at the helm of the college’s baseball program, Krejci resigned from his position as head baseball coach and became athletic director/fundraiser at the college. During Krejci’s time in this role, he increased fundraising for athletics tremendously by establishing two annual events—the Athletic Fundraiser Auction and the SWCC Golf Tournament—as well as creating the Southwestern Athletic Booster Club. These events and activities, in addition to other fundraising efforts, have become traditions at the college bringing in approximately $50,000 for athletics each year.

It was June 2009 when Krejci retired from his full-time position as physical education instructor and athletic director. He didn’t stay away long; however, coming back to the college part-time as director of athletics and athletic fundraising in August 2009.

Dr. Barb Crittenden, SWCC president, is proud of the progress SWCC athletics has made under Krejci’s direction.

“We added a number of athletic programs and activities during Bill’s tenure,” Crittenden
Endowment Established in Krejci’s Name

Early in 2015, the Bill Krejci Endowment was established with the SWCC Education Foundation. This permanent endowment, in honor of SWCC’s long-time baseball coach, will assist SWCC baseball for years to come. The endowment recently surpassed $5,600. To donate to the Bill Krejci Endowment, complete the pledge card enclosed in this magazine indicating Krejci Endowment on the form.

Krejci lives in Ankeny with his wife, Teresa. He has been umpiring and conducting baseball clinics throughout the Midwest, while serving as assistant regional director for the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference. The Krejcis have two grown children, Michael and Maria.

Krejci explained, “In his role as athletic director, he has raised the expectations for event management and support for student-athletes at Southwestern. His efforts in fundraising have been an important part of this.”

Athletic programs added in recent years at SWCC have included bowling, cross country, drill team, golf, sports shooting, and track and field.

In addition to his duties at SWCC, Krejci has been very involved in the USA Baseball program for the past 19 years. To date, he has been an 18-U national coach, a 16-U head coach and assistant coach, a 12-U team general manager, a clinician for USA Baseball camps, and a cross checker in the player selection process. This year alone, Krejci traveled to Russia for 10 days in March and completed a three-week stint in Mexico to do coaching clinics.

During the summers of 2007 and 2008, Krejci coached the Creston High School baseball team. His 2007 Creston Panther team qualified for the Iowa High School State Baseball Tournament.

Krejci was inducted into the St. Laurence High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 1987, the Northwest Missouri State Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996, and the Iowa Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2002. In 1999, Krejci received the United State Olympic Committee (USOC) Developmental Coach of the Year. In May 2015, Krejci was inducted into the NJCAA Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame at a ceremony held during the NJCAA Hall of Fame banquet in Grand Junction, CO.

Kulow welcomes donors, scholarship recipients, and their families to the 2014 Donor Scholar Dinner, an annual event focusing on connecting scholarship winners with the people responsible for giving those scholarships.
Alumni Updates

1960s

Carl Hartman ’61 is enjoying retirement in Greeley, CO, after a career of accounting at various firms.

Larry Bakerink ’62 currently resides in Lawrence, KS.

1970s

Marvin Lovett ’78 is a professor at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

1980s

Kenneth Fluckey ’80 currently resides in Bella Vista, AR. His favorite memories of Southwestern include classes with Gary Feddern and Don Sheridan.

Thomas Pokorny ’80 is an accountant in downtown St. Louis. He and his wife, Mary, reside in Edwardsville, IL.

Teresa (Anstey) Madison ’83 is a library aide at the Gibson Memorial Library in Creston. She, her husband, Richard, and their three children, Rachel, Richard, and Joshua all graduated from SWCC.

Camille (Kessler) Jay ’83 continued her education to obtain her BSN and currently resides in Grinnell.

Todd Ehlers ’89 is shop foreman at American Implement in Colby, KS.

1990s

Tony Carroll ’92 is project supervisor at United Services of Des Moines. His favorite memories of SWCC include playing baseball for Krejci.

Callie (Rieck) Anderson ’93 is a principal at Creston Community Schools.

2000s

Brian O’Connor ’00 is employed at O’Connor Insurance Services.

Nicholas Walrath ’04 is a fisheries biologist at Trout Unlimited in Green River, WY. He enjoyed all the great people at SWCC.

Linda Joynes ’07 is the accounts receivable specialist at Orchard Place in Des Moines. One of her favorite memories of SWCC was of being in SIFE.

Nicole Lesan ’07 is currently the marketing coordinator at Iowa State Savings Bank. She had a great time participating in events with the student ambassadors.

Doug North ’08 is the career & technical education recruiter and head golf coach at SWCC. One of his favorite things about attending SWCC was meeting some of the most important people in his life today, including his amazing wife.

2010s

Nicole Hunter ’10 is an assistant for football recruiting at Iowa State University. One of her favorite memories about her time at Southwestern was getting to play volleyball for Rita Schroeder!

Alex Duffy ’14 is continuing her education at Iowa State University. One of her favorite memories about Southwestern is earning fifth place at the NJCAA Division II volleyball tournament.

Corrine Wilkinson ’14 is a parent access/financial counselor at Conifer/Alegent Creighton Mercy Hospital in Corning.

Keep the updates coming!

There are two ways for you to send us your updates:

1. Go to www.swcciowa.edu/alumni and complete our online update form. There you can keep us up-to-date on where you are and what you are doing, as well as upload a photo for us to use in an upcoming issue of the magazine.

2. Fill out the inserted Alumni Update card and return it in the mail.
Nathan Maynes ’15 is continuing his education at Iowa State University to earn a degree in elementary education. One of his favorite memories was watching the men’s basketball team score more than 100 points in the first game of the 2014-15 season.

Catherine Witt ’15 is a registered nurse at the Madison County Health Care System. According to Witt, being at SWCC provided an experience that was unique and memorable. She made friendships that will last a lifetime. She said the faculty provide support throughout your journey and help build a foundation for your success. Her most memorable moments were during the holidays, when they would either get dressed up in crazy outfits or find any reason to have a potluck!

Kragel’s Basketball Honors Continue

By Doug North, Career & Technical Education Recruiter

When David Kragel graduated from Corning High School in 1972, this four-sport all-state star headed to Southwestern Community College. Kragel’s prior success translated excellently throughout his college career. He played basketball and baseball while attending SWCC. Throughout his SWCC experience, Kragel earned First Team All-American honors in basketball, Who’s Who Among Junior College Students, and led the nation in scoring his sophomore season. “Most high school kids are not ready for a University upon graduation,” Kragel said, “and that was the same for my brothers and myself. Southwestern gave me the opportunity to grow up and mature some.”

Kragel played under SWCC Legendary Head Coach Ron “Fox” Clinton, “Playing for Fox was one of the best things to ever happen to me,” explained Kragel. He still takes every opportunity to visit Fox when he is in town. “I know the Clinton family very well, Fox, Ruth, and their daughters.”

After leading the nation in scoring at the Junior College level, Kragel earned MVP honors his senior year after earning a scholarship to Division 1 Oklahoma State University. Kragel earned his Masters of Business Education degree while being a graduate assistant coach.

Throughout his professional career, Coach Kragel continues to work hard for his successes. Coach Kragel was announced as head women’s basketball coach for Walters State Community College in 1977. Coach is entering his 40th season as the Senator’s Head Coach, and has much to show over those previous 39 years. “850 wins, I still can’t believe it,” as coach explains some accolades. 15 Tennessee Community College Athletic Association (TCCAA) championships, 12 National Championship appearances, and TCCAA Coach of the Year 18 times are some of his remarkable feats.

While having high success in the early 1990’s, his teams continue to reach new heights. Coach Kragel sets a high standard for his players, “We’ve won 85 Conference games in a row. That streak could go back to 2008 if we didn’t lose that one game in the middle [2011].” Under Coach Kragel’s reign, more than 130 players have received scholarships at four-year institutions, 50+ athletes have been named to All-Region teams, and 19 players have received All-American honors. All of this has been accomplished while putting the “student” in student-athlete first, graduating over 90 percent of his recruits.

In 2004, Coach Kragel was inducted into the TCCAA Hall of Fame. Kragel takes pride in what he does, proving that by being the Women’s Basketball Coaches Committee Chairman since 1995. Coach Kragel is married to Sharlene, and has two sons, Alex and Ryan. Coach continues to push for students to take the route that best fits them. “As a person who went to one a long time ago, community colleges provide great situations,” stated Kragel, “even 40 years ago. Southwestern set the tone for the rest of my life.”
SWCC Provides Unique Work Experience for Teachers

By Terri Higgins, Director of Marketing and Enrollment Management

Martha Boehlke, family and consumer science teacher at Orient-Macksburg Community Schools, is taking advantage of her summer break to soak up knowledge for the classroom through personal experience. Boehlke spent a week in June completing a 40-hour paid externship at the Henry A. Wallace Country Life Center in rural Orient.

A teacher externship is a paid professional work experience providing teachers direct experience in a business or industry work environment. During the externship, Boehlke worked side-by-side with Wallace Country Life Center Chef Katie Porter, prepping food for service, completing garden harvest and post-harvest work, preparing and attending a public gardening event, and learning about the overall programming for the Wallace Centers of Iowa.

The externship was made possible through Southwestern Community College’s (SWCC) Workplace Learning Network (WLN), a statewide grant-funded program established to provide work-based learning activities to Region 14 school districts. In order to enroll in the externship program, teachers register through the Green Hills Area Education Agency (AEA) and pay $200 to receive license renewal credits for their participation. Upon completion, the teachers earn a $600 stipend from the WLN. Lindsay Stoaks, SWCC assistant vice president of instruction, provides instruction for the license renewal portion of the program.

Boehlke said she learned a great deal during the externship.

“I had the opportunity to learn about the farm-to-table movement and the nutritional rewards which go hand-in-hand; gained greater knowledge of a working kitchen and the demands it faces daily; and learned the crucial details required to conduct a business, as well as the partnerships needed to sustain community programs,” stated Boehlke.

Ann Schlapia, SWCC WLN coordinator, said by exposing teachers to real-life applications of what they teach, externships enable teachers to develop curriculum suited for project-based learning and that reflects the world of work in the classroom.

“The benefits of a teacher completing an externship are numerous,” Schlapia explained. “Externships provide teachers with opportunities to gain ‘real world’ experiences, earn credits toward their license renewal, and bring new ideas back to their classrooms. Ultimately, students benefit through powerful learning activities that prepare them for success in the modern workplace.”

Schlapia said teachers select host sites for their externships, but the WLN assists if instructors need help finding a host site. Externships are not geographically restricted to SWCC’s Region 14. At this point, Schlapia said she has three other Region 14 teachers signed up to complete externships during the summer of 2015, however it’s not too late for additional teachers to register.

Boehlke is confident her experiences will benefit her students in the long run.

“The WCLC [Wallace Country Life Center] along with the SWCC externship program has provided me a refreshing insight as to what it’s like to be a hands-on student again,” Boehlke explained. “I am confident these experiences will immensely benefit my classroom in the fall.”

This is the second year teachers in SWCC’s merged area have had externship opportunities through the WLN. Students in Region 14 are offered “real world” experiences through the WLN as well. These opportunities take place through job shadows, where students learn about careers or specific occupations by spending a day with a business professional at their workplace.

Schlapia may be reached at the SWCC WLN at 641.782.1573 or schlapia@swcciowa.edu. Learn more about SWCC’s WLN at www.swcciowa.edu/wln.
Becoming a successful small business owner isn’t always a planned thing, sometimes it just happens. Such is the case with Anne and Tyson Greenwalt of Stuart. Just a few years ago, this husband and wife team were working full-time for two companies in Des Moines—Tyson in construction and Anne in event planning. Now they are the owners Carver’s Ridge, LLC, a growing and ever-changing engraving and landscaping business in Stuart, complete with a 5,000 square foot building including a gift shop, design center, production area, and office.

It was 2007 when Tyson started an off-hours landscaping business, Greenline Construction. While he was working on a project, building boulder walls around a lake, he had a new business idea—engraving custom boulders for income.

The Greenwals soon learned the engraving process, which due to the density of the stone, involves a combination of high pressure and sandblasting. For a year, they engraved boulders more as a hobby during evenings and weekends. Soon after, however, they’d saved enough funds to purchase land and prepare to officially open their new engraving business. They chose to settle in the community of Stuart because they considered it the mid-point between Des Moines, where they were living at the time, and their hometowns of Corning and Massena.

Carver’s Ridge, LLC, was established in March 2009. In October 2012, Tyson and Anne opened the gift shop and design center at its current location, 3270 White Pole Road in Stuart. Unfortunately, just a few months later, an electrical fire caused extensive damage to their building and they were closed for renovation until they re-opened in May 2013.

According to Anne, the business has far exceeded their expectations and continues to grow and transform. With the addition of a laser engraver, the business today includes engraving on stone, glass, wood, and metal. They have refined their engraving process and now have a full-time designer on staff as well. Anne said the process is “labor intensive, but it’s also an art form.” Customers are now able to see sketches of what their finished products will look like, as well as sketches of the custom boulders on site. Customers may select boulders at Carver’s Ridge or choose to have the Carver’s Ridge staff customize a boulder at their residence or business.

The gift shop, which was established after the Greenwals recognized a need for last minute gift shopping, continues to grow as well. The gift shop features Carver’s Ridge engraved products, as well as many unique and handmade items from Iowa vendors. The Greenwalt’s business has expanded online and on social networking sites, recently welcoming their 10,000th fan on Facebook. They have added special events throughout the year including ladies’ nights, a Rocktober BBQ, painting parties, and kids’ activities.

The Greenwalt’s hard-working, husband-wife partnership has been a key factor in their success; however, Anne does not hesitate to acknowledge another partner who has been instrumental in getting them to where they are today—Dave McLaren and the South Central Iowa Small Business Development Center (SBDC). In 2009, the Greenwals were introduced to McLaren by Midwest Partnership, a four-county economic development entity based in Stuart. It just took one phone call followed by a meeting with McLaren for Anne and Tyson to see the value in the SBDC.

“We love Dave,” Anne stated. “He sat down and told us, ‘Here’s what you need to do and here...
Thank You!

To our Education Foundation Donors for 4/1/14-3/31/15

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Steve White
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Brenda Wilson
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Lowal Wimbome
Windrow Restaurant & Sports Bar
Winterstien Construction
Wishing Well
Bright Scholarship Established

By Beth Kulow, Dean of Student Services

Lois and H. Dale Bright funded the H. Dale and Lois Bright Foundation in 1994. Since that time, their Foundation has quietly contributed millions of dollars to Iowa organizations, charities, and educational institutions.

Dale and Lois both grew up in the small, southern Iowa community of Lineville and graduated in the years 1928 and 1929 respectively. After graduating both left Lineville for Des Moines. Dale spent two years attending Capitol City Commercial College and Lois went to work sewing the back seam of women's stocking at Rollins Hosiery Mill.

Dale held several jobs before going to work in 1939 for a small tool and die company in Des Moines called Western Tool & Stamping Co. When Dale started, Western Tool had only seven employees. When he retired as vice president of Western Tool in 1958, it employed more than 800 people and was the largest lawn mower manufacturer in the country. "We worked hard, saved carefully, invested wisely and gave back when we could," Lois says. "I am always surprised when I remember that such a simple formula produced so much."

In 1995 Dale was in failing health when he died on August 14, 1996 at age, 86. Lois carried out the vision she and Dale had for the Bright Foundation until her death on October 26, 2013, at age 102. Dale and Lois routinely stated, “if we could help even one child, it would mean a lot to us." As would be expected of a couple who spent their lives giving to others, their Foundation lives on to help young Iowans well into the future.

The four-year renewable scholarships are designed to make higher education at Iowa universities and community colleges possible for talented young Iowans who may not otherwise have the means to get a college education. Southwestern Community College will award 10 Bright Scholar of Iowa Awards to incoming freshman students this fall. To qualify for the scholarship students must attend college directly out of high school, qualify for Pell Grant funding, achieve outstanding academic honors, maintain full-time enrollment, and maintain a commitment to learning and community service.

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The Bright Scholar Award includes full cost of attendance (tuition, fees, books, room & board). Students awarded the prestigious scholarship, who complete a degree at SWCC, can transfer the scholarship to one of Iowa's Regents Universities.
are the resources.’ Five years later, I’m still calling him for advice.”

Anne feels Dave really is the face of small business in the region where Carver’s Ridge is located. She advises other small business owners to get in contact with him if they haven’t already done so. “He [Dave] is very knowledgeable about what’s going on in this area,” Anne said. “He’s dependable and I always know I will hear back from him. It has to be hard for him to service so many people and yet be so dependable and loyal.”

In addition to the one-on-one time the Greenwalts have spent with McLaren, they have also been regulars at workshops and seminars McLaren has notified them about. They’ve really enjoyed getting to know other small business owners through these events.

In addition, Carver’s Ridge was named 2013 Business of the Year at the Southwestern Community College Annual Business Conference & Expo.

“I don’t think we ever had any intention of it [being small business owners],” Anne explained. “But my parents owned a hardware store and Tyson’s a construction business, so we grew up in entrepreneurial families … I would say that’s why we didn’t shy away from it.”

Currently, Carver’s Ridge employs five full-time and four part-time employees. They are in the process of adding a full-time engraver. The Greenwalts have two boys, ages two and seven.

Carver’s Ridge
Anne and Tyson Greenwalt
3270 White Pole Road
Stuart, IA 50250
www.carversridge.com

Shay is new SBDC Regional Director

The Iowa Small Business Development Center (SBDC) hired Brandi Shay of Tingley as its regional director on June 1, 2015. In her role, Shay will advise and train entrepreneurs and existing businesses for the South Central Iowa SBDC hosted by Southwestern Community College in Creston. She replaces Dave McLaren who retired from SWCC in May 2015. McLaren had been with the SWCC SBDC office since October 2006.

Shay is an Iowa State University graduate with a bachelor’s degree in accounting and an MBA degree with an emphasis in agricultural business. She previously worked as an accountant at Crestland Cooperative and spent time as a full-time faculty member at Southwestern Community College for 10 years. Most recently she was a business analyst for Wilbur Ellis Company, an ag retail business serving farmers in southern Iowa, plus she serves as an adjunct faculty member for Southwestern Community College and Buena Vista University.

“Brandi has invaluable experience in business and education, as well as a history with the SBDC,” said Tom Lesan, vice president of economic development at Southwestern Community College. “We were fortunate to have a candidate of her caliber. She knows the region and will undoubtedly hit the ground running.”

She has actively worked as an independent consultant for the South Central Iowa SBDC in the past and is passionate about helping small business owners succeed. Her focus is on aiding business owners in creating accounting systems that allow them to manage their businesses effectively and efficiently through financial analysis. Shay and her husband own a farming operation and two other small businesses.

The South Central Iowa SBDC provides complimentary, customized and confidential business counseling advice, plus affordable, practical workshops, to business owners and entrepreneurs in Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Madison, Montgomery, Ringgold, Taylor and Union counties.

Notice for Public Comment for Accreditation

Southwestern Community College (SWCC) is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The college will host a visit March 14-15, 2016, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission. SWCC has been accredited by the commission since 1975. The team will review the institution’s ongoing ability to meet the commission’s Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit written comments regarding the college to:

Public Comment on Southwestern Community College
The Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on the commission’s Web site at www.ncahlc.org. Comments must be in writing and address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. All comments must be received by February 12, 2016.
Good Luck to the SWCC 2015 Retirees

Deb Andrews  
Payroll/Benefits Administrator  
Years of Service: 17 (Began part-time in March 1998 and went full-time in May 1998)  
Other Positions Served: Payroll Clerk/HR Assistant

Barb Burkhiser  
Administrative Secretary – Red Oak  
Years of Service: 13.5 (Began working part-time in September 1999 and went full-time in January 2002)

Tom Dunphy  
Mathematics Instructor  
Years of Service: 15  
Other Positions Served: Department Chairperson

Jean Gibbons  
Health Occupations Education Coordinator  
Years of Service: 10  
Other Positions Served: Adjunct Instructor (Nursing)

Dave McLaren  
SBDC Director  
Years of Service: 8.5

Brenda Sickels  
Housekeeping  
Years of Service: 14

Terry Wangberg  
Early Childhood and Parents as Teachers (PAT) Coordinator  
Years of Service: 14  
Other Positions Served: TriUmph Early Childhood Coordinator, CDA Coordinator, CDA Trainer, Adjunct Instructor

Darwin Wetzel  
Welding Instructor  
Years of Service: 10  
Other Positions Served: Industrial Coordinator
This spring, Southwestern Community College unveiled a new 30-second television advertisement. The ad, featuring animation matching the college’s branding campaign, is built around SWCC’s new tagline, “Find your better place.”

The television advertisement presents data and statistics throughout to support the notion that SWCC is the better place to complete a college education. For example, according to January 2015 data from CollegeMeasures.org, SWCC has the top “Graduation + Transfer Rate” for all community colleges in Iowa. Another statistic noted in the ad states 2013 SWCC graduates transferred to 37 colleges in 11 states.

The ad has been very well received and hits on the financials as well. This data shows SWCC and other community colleges are a cost-effective way to earn a quality post-secondary education.

To watch the television ad in its entirety, please visit www.swcciowa.edu/about/marketing.