



Coaches & Mentors Newsletter

SPECIAL RECOGNITION EDITION

This issue of Coaches & Mentors News is dedicated to special recognition for several of our students who **have** worked closely with us during their time at Cape Cod Community College. Whether or not they have achieved honors in their studies, each one has achieved personal fulfillment. Many other students come to mind as worthy of recognition too, **but those described here are fine examples of determination, courage, and persistence in the face of obstacles to their success. They have been successful, and we feel their example can inspire others.** Therefore, the staff members of Coaches & Mentors have nominated them for the special recognition they so richly deserve.



WE CELEBRATE THEIR SUCCESS!



Terri Lewis



In the fall of 2010, Terri Lewis came to the Coaches and Mentors office with a goal: to be in healthcare. She had worked in retail and culinary, but always kept coming back to the desire to work in healthcare. It all began in 7th grade

when she volunteered in a nursing home, enjoying time with the residents.

Terri attended a vocational school and left September of her junior year (1995) and completed her GED in the spring of 1996. Prior to testing in our Assessment Center in August of 2010, she studied SAT questions, using laminated guides and algebra texts to review. Terri passed without needing to take any developmental courses.

The single mother of four, Hailey, 15, Alyssa, 12, James, 9 and Christian, 5, has studied math and chemistry with her oldest daughter. Although she has had no formal training, Terri has fixed computers through reading the manual. Her father, who can identify mechanical parts, and Terri, who can read manuals, have been able to fix many things.

Heck, one wonders if Terri could do surgery if she had a manual.

Her mantra is that she has had to let go of the stress as *"I can only do what I can do and will give it my all. I work and go to school while my children are in school. I study when they are asleep and I try to keep the weekends open for family."* Terri has obtained her Certified Nurses Aid and is completing a degree in health science. Her dream is to be an emergency room nurse. Every course she has attempted, 49 credits worth, she has completed and currently has a 3.63 GPA. Her favorite professor is Amy Clark, who instructed her in Anatomy and Physiology I.

To help her along the way, Terri has received a Wilkens scholarship and a Scarbrough scholarship. Terri's wisdom for her children: *"Don't give up, as you can do anything you to want to do."* Thanks Terri, and I am sure that you will.



Carl Monroe



What do you have when you take a Honda master automotive technician, a homeowner, a Cape Cod Community College student, and a less than stellar high school graduate? You get Carl Monroe who is having good success here at Cape Cod Community College.

Carl graduated from Dennis-Yarmouth High School in 2002 and worked as gas station attendant and state inspector for cars. In 2004, Carl was employed by Hyannis Honda. Now, he is a Master Automotive Technician through Honda and ASE – Automotive Service Excellence. His training has been on-line and at the Honda Training Center in Connecticut.

In November of 2011, Carl was looking for some answers and came to the Coaches and Mentors office in South Building. His first course in college was ECO117, macroeconomics on-line during January intercession. Talk about a reality check. At first Carl was intimidated by the on-line chats, but once he realized that he had much to offer and needed to dive in to pass, he contributed and aced the class.

This spring he took Business Law with Professor Mark Ells at 7 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursdays, and English Composition I with Dr. Michael Olendzenski, (Dr. O), at noon on Monday Wednesday and Fridays. Some people take lunch breaks, others do Composition I. Carl's first paper for Dr. O, needed plenty of work as the corrections were many. He took Dr. O's advise, worked in the Writing Center and aced both classes.

Carl has found the three teachers he has had here to be very helpful. *"They are not going to do the work*

for you, but they are concerned and will help you to succeed. They enjoy teaching."

"I need a challenge or otherwise, I get complacent."

Well Carl, you are certainly challenging yourself and keeping us on our toes.



Deanna Selig



A born and raised native Cape Codder, Deanna overcame many challenges in her youth while growing up in the Yarmouth and Hyannis area. She attended Cape Cod Regional Technical H.S., Falmouth High School and graduated from Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School in 2001. Deanna has five children, four boys and one girl, who range in ages from 2 to 10 years old.

After several years away from CCCC, Deanna returned to the college in the fall of 2011 to pursue a Certificate in Law Enforcement while balancing her numerous family obligations. She is also currently considering continuing her studies to pursue an Associate in Science degree in Criminal Justice.

To compliment her studies at the college, Deanna has just recently completed a nine week hands on course through the Citizen's Police Academy sponsored by Dennis Police Department. She thoroughly enjoyed the experience of riding along with the officers on the job, and learning about the workings of four different types of guns as well as lessons on how to properly shoot them at the shooting ranges. She feels that it's a great opportunity and highly recommends it to students interested in the Criminal Justice field, but reminds everyone that background and driving record checks are required prior to acceptance into the Academy. Deanna would also like to thank Officer Stevenson from the Dennis Police Department for his support and encouragement over the years.

When Deanna has some free time, she enjoys going to Bingo, sketching, and playing all types of video games with her children.

Deanna's Favorite Saying: *"Just do it...if you don't you are going to lose out."*

Quote from Career Counselor Theresa Bowse:

"I so admire Deanna for selecting a non-traditional career choice for women in her Law Enforcement major. I know that she will inspire both female and male students to explore and consider careers that are non-traditional for their gender."



Maryeileen is pictured with her husband Rickie, also a former Coaches & Mentors student.



Maryeileen Sinatra



A Cape Codder for over seventeen years, Maryeileen was raised in Weymouth, MA as the oldest child with one younger sister before relocating to the Cape. She has been happily married to her husband Rickie for 23 years, who is a former CCCC student and also a former member of the Coaches & Mentors Program. Although they have enjoyed 23 years of marriage, their entire relationship spans a total of 28 years. Together they have raised three girls, who are now 26, 23 and 16 years old. They also have been blessed with four grandchildren who range in age from 12 weeks to 8 years old and have had the pleasure of assisting their oldest daughter with their care.

Maryeileen came to the college in 2009 and enrolled in the Medical Assisting Program with the goal of completing the certificate program. She continues to work diligently towards that goal while balancing her work as a hotel front desk clerk along with her numerous family obligations. Recently, during a career counseling/advising meeting, Maryeileen decided that she is determined to continue her education beyond the certificate program and intends to also pursue her Associate in Science degree in Information Technology, Administrative Assistant with a Medical Concentration.

When Maryeileen is not at work, in class or studying, she looks forward to spending time and playing with her grandchildren. She enjoys all types of crafts, crocheting, reading and fishing. She also enjoys an occasional trip to Foxwoods Resort.

Maryeileen's Philosophy of Life: *"Don't let anyone tell you that you cannot do something. Always reach for the stars, and you'll get there."*

Quote from Academic Advisor & Career Counselor Theresa Bowse:

"I continue to be amazed at what Maryeileen balances each day to be a student at CCCC. She is extremely dedicated and very determined to reach her career goals and secure her future in a medical office environment. I have no doubt whatsoever that she will succeed in whatever she pursues and I am so pleased that she is a part of the Coaches & Mentors Program. She is a pleasure to work with."



Brian Geagan



Brian Geagan is new to the Coaches and Mentors Program as of September of 2011. Brian is the eldest of six children. He grew up sailing in Onset, which is part of Wareham. His family is from Newtonville. For the last few years, Brian has been working in the landscape industry and taking courses in horticulture.

In December, he changed his field to Human Services and is very happy having done so. When I talked with Brian, he mentioned Professors Regina Yaroch, Kathleen Clark and Jane Evans in helping him succeed this last semester. In addition to his classes, Brian uses the Captain's Log at the O'Neill Center and has found it to be very successful in those efforts. Brian's Academic Advisor is Maria Sastre.

Once he completes his certificate, Brian hopes to work in advocacy roles for the community, as he is very good at relating to people.

Most recently, Brian completed reading Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson. This plus his romance novels keeps him busy when he is not operating his Ham Radio.



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