



Rebecca Heffernan

Rebecca was born in Attleboro, MA and moved to Harwich at age 4. She is now a resident of Hyannis and is currently working as a Clerk in Cumberland Farms in Hyannis.

Previous jobs include being a Counselor at the Latham Centers and holding a position with the State Department of Mental Retardation.

Her major here at CCCC is Information Technology-Medical Office. She is a Coaches & Mentors special Assignment Intern and worked for Professor V. Gautam in the spring of '04. During the summer she has been working on a project for the Business Department and one for Arts & Sciences.

She has been married for 15 years and in their "blended family," they have five children who have "a variety of medical issues." Their youngest (the only child they had together) is in 7th grade and the oldest is attending college in Maine.

Caring for her five children, attending college, and working full-time keeps her busy. So Rebecca doesn't have much time for hobbies, but if she gets a few free moments she will turn to her crocheting and needlepoint.

Rebecca's Philosophy of Life:

"It is what it is, and you can only do what you can do."

Her advisor, **Theresa Bowse**, comments: "I am totally amazed at how Rebecca balances her family, a full time job, and her college schedule. She is so very conscientious and amazingly attentive to all of the details. I am so pleased that she is one of our Special Assignment Interns."

Dolores Pelletier

Dolores was born in Falmouth at Otis, lived in Maine for several years, and then returned to Cape Cod where she attended Upper Cape Regional Tech. She is a resident of E. Falmouth.

She started here at CCCC in Sept. 2002, and is in the A.S. program in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting. "It's a wonderful experience for me here. It's so much different to be attending as an adult, and I've finished two years." She expects to graduate in May 2005

Dolores has had a varied experience in the world of work, including a position as photo lab assistant for 15 years with a professional photographer. During the last several years she has tended a laundromat as well as doing photo



lab work while raising two of her three grandchildren, a boy and a girl. She has a 30-year-old son, Todd. She says her fiancé Keith is supportive of her choice to raise her grandchildren: "He's wonderful and helps a lot."

Eventually, she wants to work for a small business where she can learn and apply what she has learned at CCCC.

Dolores enjoys skiing, bowling and motorcycles. "...especially Harleys!" As for traveling, she's seen Texas and Florida and much of New England.

Dolores' Philosophy of Life:

"You need to make sure you have some fun and you also need stability... one day at a time."

Tom O'Connell, her tutor/mentor and advisor, says "She is such a great student! She's diligent, well focused, understands her goals, and does the necessary work to achieve them. And she does this with a very positive attitude."



"THE PATH OF NO RISK IS THE BIGGEST RISK OF ALL."

- Author Unknown



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!

"NOTHING IN THE WORLD CAN TAKE THE PLACE OF PERSISTENCE."

- President Calvin Coolidge

Jennifer Maher

Jennifer was born in Boston and lived in Pembroke, Duxbury and Milton before coming to Cape Cod. She had been coming to the Cape since childhood and now lives in Hyannis.



She started at CCCC in January 2004 after being away from school for quite some time. She worked at State Street Bank in No. Quincy for nine years and at Cape & Islands Steel for three years.

Jennifer has one daughter, age 3 and at CCCC she is concentrating on the Early Childhood Education program with an Infant /Toddler concentration. Part of her motivation for choosing this career path is that her own daughter was helped through early intervention by the Head Start program. "My daughter was helped by learning signing and she was also behind physically and socially. But with help she made

great progress." One of Jennifer's favorite activities is exercising with her daughter.

Her special dream is to go to Discovery Cove in Orlando to swim with dolphins. She has another connection with the ocean; her brother is a Navy Seal. She says, "He's a good one...but everything he does is a secret."

Jennifer's Philosophy of Life:

Her favorite quotation is by John F. Kennedy, *"It's not what your country can do for you; it's what you can do for your country."*

Tom O'Connell, her tutor/mentor, says, "Jennifer approaches challenging tasks with a very positive attitude. Her friendly outgoing personality will always be an asset whether during college or in work settings. It's been a pleasure to see her steady progress."



Erik Raymond

Erik was born at Otis Air Force Base, lived in Middleboro till age 6, and then lived in Maine for about 20 years. He attended a private high school and the University of Maine. Then in '93 his father retired from his military career and the family moved to Falmouth.

His work background includes convenience and grocery stores, carpentry, and odd jobs. Currently, he is Assistant Manager at Burger King.

Erik decided to return to his pursuit of higher education in the spring of 2003 because of a promise he made to his mother (who passed away in 1990) and his desire to "get out of BK" to pursue a career in marketing. He is grateful to the Coaches & Mentors Program for ongoing support and input.

Along with stamp collecting, he also collects sports cards. He is a people person with a great sense of humor and he drives a "very cool" '86 Ford F150 pickup truck which has attracted the envious attention of several faculty and staff members.

His only offspring, he says, is "Baby," his beloved computer. He confesses that he is guilty of treating it cruelly on occasion. Like other babies, "It's a source of pleasure, love, and confusion."

Erik's Philosophy of Life:

"My philosophy is...it happens...so go with it!"

Kyle Durborow, his tutor/mentor and advisor, reports, "In addition to working 40 and more hours a week, he has a great attitude and his instructors comment on his commitment to being a hard worker. He will be entering his fourth semester in Fall '04 and his upbeat attitude will stand him in good stead."

Cassandra Saunders

Cassandra moved to Cape Cod 10 years ago from Brockton and graduated from Sandwich High School in 2001. Next fall she will begin her fifth semester at CCCC and she is concentrating on the Web Site Design Certificate Program. She says she decided to major in this because she has been working with Web Site design for years and loves it.



Currently, she has four websites that she organizes: her mother's, her mother's friend, and the two companies she owns. She loves to sing and recently recorded her own single CD, "My Time," which she hopes to release this summer. She has been writing music for about 10 years and wrote the words to this single. This CD was produced under

her company, D. Minor Entertainment/Records and she hopes to go on tour with her music in 2007.

D. Minor Entertainment is a management company/independent label and she represents the NYC girl group "Nothing Special." The first official release from D. Minor Records will be Cassandra's single.

Cassandra lives with her Mom and her sister Merrissa, 17, who is also a student at CCCC under the dual enrollment program.

Cassandra's Philosophy of Life:

"I think, therefore I am."

Carol Dubay, Director of Coaches and Mentors, writes: "I first met Cassandra in the fall of 2002 when I helped her with some of her reading and writing assignments. I always looked forward to her visits because she was so high spirited and motivated to learn. I'm not surprised hearing of her many accomplishments, especially in the field of music. When Cassandra makes her mind up to do something, she makes it happen."



Doug Muchler

Doug was born in Dansville, New York, about 60 miles from Rochester and after high school graduation he immediately went to work in the restaurant business where he moved from dishwasher to bartender and then to accomplished chef.

Along the way he did some traveling, and actually hitchhiked across the country. One of his travels brought him to Key West, Florida, where he met his wife

Trish, a therapeutic massage therapist whom he describes as "the love of my life, my best friend, my soul-mate." They married on Valentine's Day and have been together now for 7-1/2 years. They love to travel and actually worked their way around the country in their own motor home. Doug says, "Talk about freedom!"

He enrolled at CCCC in January 2004 and selected the Hotel/Restaurant Management Program as his major. He hopes to open his own bed & breakfast on the Cape with Trish some day. In Colorado, they established their own business which was featured in the local newspaper. Combining their culinary and therapeutic talents, they provided a service which involved Doug going to a couple's home to cook a gourmet dinner from soup to nuts and Trish providing the couple with therapeutic massage.

In 2000, while in Las Vegas, Doug suffered a stroke and underwent open heart surgery. This was followed by a move to Yellowstone National Park where Doug entered Rehab. Recently, he had another health scare and had to undergo open heart surgery again. Now, fully recovered, he says, "I can't wait to get back to CCCC in the fall to start learning again."

Doug's Philosophy of Life:

"Just when you think you're over the journey, there pops up another journey that you need to take. And what you need to do is just start over and do the best you can."

Maggie Hiltzik, his tutor/mentor, reports, "Doug is one of the most diligent and persevering students I've met, despite challenges that he's encountered. He's always positive and has a great sense of humor."

Carol Dubay, Director of Coaches and Mentors, says, "We're lucky to have Doug here, given his culinary experience and entrepreneurship talents. He has such a strong, independent personality and he is an inspiration to us all."



Wanda Allen

Wanda was born and raised on Martha's Vineyard, later moved to the mainland, and now lives in Centerville. Raised in a family of fishermen, she enjoys fishing too. She graduated from Chatham High in 1986 and coached softball there. Also, she coached 6th grade recreational softball for the town of Chatham.

She went on to earn a B.S. in Psychology at Bridgewater State, and worked in human services for about 10 years before deciding to do a career change. In 2001 she enrolled at CCCC, pursued the associate in science degree in accounting, and was active in the Rotaract Club, the Economics Club and Phi Theta Kappa. Also, she was a CCCC student ambassador, serving as a role model for many adult re-entry students. She graduated in the spring of 2004 with high honors.

Recognizing Wanda's exemplary work ethic, Joyce Chasson hired her in the summer of 2003 to serve as her assistant in the O'Neill Center for Disability Services. She's been working there part-time for over a year now. Recently, Wanda took another part-time job at Monomoy Associates as a contract specialist utilizing her skills in accounting and computers. Recently, she was promoted to full-time at Monomoy and her last day at the O'Neill Center is August 20th.

Besides fishing, Wanda loves to golf and take annual trips to Aruba to escape the winter cold.

Wanda's Philosophy of Life:

"Take care of the children as they are our future."

Joyce Chasson, her supervisor, said this about her: "Wanda has been an absolute joy to have working at the O'Neill Center. Wanda not only has a fantastic sense of humor, but she is hardworking, detail-oriented, and sharp as a tack."

Carol Dubay, Director of Coaches and Mentors, notes, "I'm not surprised that Wanda has moved on to bigger and better things, and that her talents have been recognized. I will miss her!"