

7-11-2005

## CCU Newsletter, July 11, 2005

Coastal Carolina University

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Coastal Carolina University, "CCU Newsletter, July 11, 2005" (2005). *Coastal Carolina University Newsletter*. 114.  
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# Coastal Carolina

## UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

July 11, 2005

A Newsletter for Faculty, Staff and Friends of Coastal Carolina University

Volume 15, Number 12

## Joan Piroch named interim science dean

Joan Piroch, chair of Coastal's Department of Psychology and Sociology, has been appointed interim dean of the College of Natural and Applied Sciences. She



Joan Piroch

replaces Doug Nelson, who is retiring from the position but will continue to teach. A national search for a new dean is under way.

Piroch joined the Coastal faculty in 1982. She earned a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of South Florida in 1982, a master's degree from Western Washington University in 1974 and a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from Slippery Rock University in 1972. She has chaired Coastal's Department of Psychology and Sociology since 1987.

Nelson, professor of geology and marine science, joined the Coastal faculty in 1973. He earned a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Minnesota in 1968 and a Ph.D. in geology from the University of South Carolina in 1973. Nelson has served as dean since 2003.

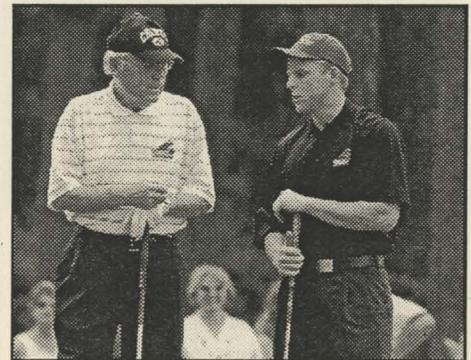
## Quail Creek Golf Club at CCU open

Coastal has assumed the management of the Quail Creek Golf Club as of July 1, according to the terms of a five-year lease agreement between the university and the course's new owner, Glenmark, Inc.

The facility, now called Quail Creek Golf Club at Coastal Carolina University, will be operated as a public course by Coastal's Professional Golf Management (PGM) program.

Students enrolled in Coastal's PGM program will staff the course, under the supervision of head golf professional Chip Weisgerber and assistant pro Charles Johns. Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) will be responsible for maintenance of the golf course and the associated grounds. Allison Butler, an HGTC graduate, is course superintendent, and Zeke Mims, also a graduate of HGTC, is assistant superintendent.

"Quail Creek will provide our students with access to a facility that they can call their home course," said Charlie Thrash, director of Coastal's PGM program. "They will have more opportunities to play and practice, and some will even be able to complete the program's



President Ronald Ingle confers with PGM student Brian Schulte before teeing off.

internship requirements on campus. We will be able to strengthen the PGM-related educational curriculum, and we will be able to increase PGM enrollment."

There are currently about 150 students enrolled in the program. Coastal is one of 17 golf programs across the country accredited by the Professional Golfer's Association of America (PGA). The PGM program requires a four-and-one-half year college curriculum for aspiring PGA professionals.

Coastal PGM students have interned at courses ranging from local ones to Pebble Beach, Pinehurst and Oakmont Country Club.



### CCU Newsletter Publication Dates

Submission deadlines:  
Monday, Aug. 8  
Monday, Aug. 22

Publication dates:  
Monday, Aug. 15  
Monday, Aug. 29

*Coastal Carolina University Newsletter* is published biweekly during the academic year and monthly during June and July by the Office of Marketing Communications. Submissions should be sent to the Office of Marketing Communications in SNGL 204 by noon the Monday before publication.

## Birthdays

### July

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 10 Doug Bell<br>Christi Chambers<br>Elizabeth Willard                 | 22 Don Rockey   |
| 12 Pat Brennan  | 23 Kuir Duke<br>Paul Fowler<br>Johnnie Gore<br>Diane Slusher                        |
| 13 Michael Gilbert<br>Will Hipps<br>Virginia Jones                    | 24 David Gilfillan<br>Sandra Lee<br>Julia Orri                                      |
| 14 Stephen Banta<br>Christina Jeffrey<br>Kim Sherfese<br>Richard Viso | 25 Nancy Goettel<br>Carol Osborne<br>Deborah Vrooman                                |
| 15 Hal Moore  | 26 Trenny Neff  |
| 16 Philip Powell  | 27 Brenda Cox<br>Jose Mireles<br>Michael Ruse                                       |
| 17 June Barfield<br>Julianne Cooke<br>Terrence Fries<br>Eric Koepfler | 28 Les Butler<br>Jamie Kachmarik<br>Kevin Smith<br>Krista Timney<br>Jacquelyn Wiley |
| 18 Janice Cannan<br>Carla Hughes<br>Sandy Williams                    | 29 Jo-Ann Morgan  |
| 20 Peter Lecouras   | 31 Kay Alford<br>Dennis Edwards<br>Jennifer Silver                                  |
| 21 Steve Hamelman<br>Jackie Knox<br>Brandon Spivey                    |   |

### August

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Arlene Adams<br>Jess Dannelly<br>Roy Talbert<br>Patricia West | 8 William King<br>Esther Simpson<br>Keith Walters           |
| 2 James Moultrie<br>Carol Walters                               | 9 Ronald Gardner  |
| 3 Billy Hills<br>Austin Hirt<br>Timothy Vaught                  | 10 David Evans<br>Sharon Gilman<br>Regina Lee               |
| 4 Roland Howard<br>Howard Warts                                 | 11 Robert Burney  |
| 5 Deryl Edwards<br>Linda Keron                                  | 12 Linda Hollands-<br>worth<br>Albert Jean<br>Charles Moore |
| 6 James Carter<br>Gib Darden<br>Hiroyoshi Hiratsuke             | 13 Philip Massey  |
| 7 Deborah Hardee  | 14 Gerald Boyles<br>Jack Riley<br>Jill Sessions             |

## Orientation sessions 'big success'



Nearly 500 freshmen and transfer students went through the first sessions of Orientation on Coastal's campus in June. Three more sessions are scheduled for July 11-12, 13-14 and 20-21. Krista Timney said the sessions went well for students and parents.

Orientation has been a success so far, according to Krista Timney, director of orientation, who welcomed nearly 550 students in June sessions.

The freshman session, which lasted from June 20 to 21, welcomed 298 incoming freshmen, while the transfer orientation on June 22 received 244 students.

It was a year of orientation firsts,

according to Timney. Freshmen were required to stay overnight in the residence halls for the first time. On campus, students enjoyed new evening activities such as the ThinkFast game show and an ice cream social with a DJ and karaoke.

Nearly 1,500 freshmen and 600 transfer students are expected for the fall 2005 semester.

## Martin to speak at convocation

Pam Martin will be the featured faculty speaker for the Freshman Convocation on Monday, Aug. 15 at 9 a.m. in Brooks Stadium.

Martin is the assistant professor of politics who organized the innovative WebCt classes of Politics 501 (Globalization) in which Coastal students were linked with students in Quito, Ecuador, by means of a two-way video/audio setup.

Martin earned a Ph.D. from the

University of Maryland. Her book, *The Globalization of Contentious Politics: The Amazonian Indigenous Rights Movement*, was published earlier this year.



Pam Martin

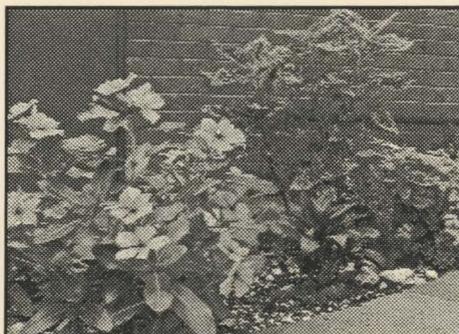
# Garden Academy asks: How does your garden grow?

By Sara Potts

Gardening isn't the first thing that comes to mind when higher education is mentioned, but the addition of two raised gardens at Coastal's Foundation Center has more than the bees buzzing.

Several species of brightly colored flowers adorn the garden, which was planted in early June by Coastal's Gardening Academy of Lifelong Learning. The garden is located in raised brick beds along the side and back of Foundation Center. Yet, what makes these gardens so special is that Coastal's own Lifelong Learning students care for them under the instruction of Basem Hilal, the Gardening Academy's founder.

Students plant, prune and feed the new flowerbeds, which replaced neglected areas around the center. The side garden was once a dumpster, and before they could begin planting, the students had to remove a five-gallon bucketful of cigarette butts from the area. The back garden was the site for a break-in sever-



*A new flower bed at the Foundation Center displays vinca, coleus and salvia.*

al years ago, and glass from a broken window had to be removed from the bed.

According to Hilal, these small gardens are just a taste of what's to come at the center: more beds will be planted, and a 500-pound fountain and indoor garden will soon be added inside the building, next to the Lifelong Learning Center's office entrance. An indoor garden will surround the fountain, featuring spider plants, snake plants and more.

The Foundation Center gardens are an extension of an ongoing gardening project that began with the founding of

the Garden Academy last January. Behind Coastal's greenhouse, an array of at least 50 different species of plants grow, all of which the garden students cultivate.

Each Wednesday, students learn a gardening tip and are taught how to care for a different herb – knowledge they can apply to the on-campus garden and the Foundation Center garden. They also learn about the medicinal qualities of plants. Hilal instructs his class in a casual environment, even bringing in homemade date cookies as a teaching aid to supplement an earlier class on herbs and spices.

The Gardening Academy is part of Coastal's Academies of Lifelong Learning (ALL), which is a program providing adults the opportunity to attend a variety of classes, without homework and tests, for a yearly membership fee. For more information, visit [www.coastal.edu/lifelonglearn](http://www.coastal.edu/lifelonglearn).

*Sara Potts is an English major interning in the Office of Marketing Communications.*

## Golf professional, assistant named for Quail Creek

Chip Weisgerber has been named head golf professional of Quail Creek Golf Club at Coastal Carolina University, and Charles Johns has been named



*Chip Weisgerber*

assistant professional. Coastal assumes control of the course as part of a five-year lease agreement with the new owner of the property, Glenmark Inc.

Weisgerber, who earned a business degree from Coastal in 1997, comes to Coastal from Wachesaw Plantation Club, where he served as head pro since

1999. Formerly, he was first assistant golf pro at Sandhill Link Inc., in Myrtle Beach and an account executive for MBNA America Bank NA in Wilmington, Del.

Since graduating from Coastal's Professional Golf Management program in 2004, Johns has served as first assistant golf pro at Pine Lakes International Country Club in Myrtle Beach. As a PGM student at Coastal, Johns worked as an intern at the Country Club of Virginia in Richmond, Va.; Sewickley Heights Golf Club in Sewickley, Pa.; the Roaring Fork Club in Basalt, Colo.; and Olde Stonewall Golf Club in Ellwood City, Pa.

Quail Creek Golf Club at Coastal Carolina University is a public course operated through the university's PGM

program, one of only 17 such programs in the nation accredited by the Professional Golfer's Association of America (PGA). The course will serve as a classroom and laboratory for students in the program, who will help staff the facility. In addition, Horry-Georgetown Technical College students will play a vital role in maintaining the course as part of the college's Golf Course Management Technology program.



*Charles Johns*

# CCU alumnus awarded Lance Armstrong fellowship

By Sara Potts

Shlonge Dermody, a Coastal alumna, was shocked and delighted when she got the call in early June that she had been awarded a Lance Armstrong Foundation fellowship. Chosen from 29 candidates, Dermody feels this opportunity is the first step toward her dream career of helping children with chronic illnesses.

The Lance Armstrong Foundation, founded in 1997 by the award-winning cyclist and cancer survivor, was created to educate the public about cancer and develop and fund programs for those living with cancer as well as to support clinical and scientific research – all causes Dermody advocates.

The fellowship requires her to spend a year at the foundation's headquarters in Austin, Texas, where she will work on cancer awareness projects.

Being a cancer survivor was one of the requirements for the fellowship and that made the program a very personal issue for the 22-year-old woman.

Growing up in Danville, N.H., Dermody was a typical teenager until age 16 when she was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The disease

is a type of cancer that can occur at any age, in any part of the body and spreads uncontrollably.

Dermody fought the disease with chemotherapy and stem cell transplants, and by the time she was accepted to Roger Williams University in Rhode Island, her cancer was in remission. When the cancer resurfaced, Dermody moved back home to attend community college during her second round of treatment.

"People were always shocked to learn that I had cancer," said Dermody. "Not a lot of people realize that anybody can have cancer."

When her cancer went into remission once again, she transferred to Coastal where she focused her efforts on preparing for a future career helping those with similar experiences.

At Coastal, Dermody found a program that allowed her to customize her



Shlonge Dermody

own degree when she enrolled in the interdisciplinary studies major.

"The professors at Coastal were great, and they gave me the opportunity to figure out what I wanted to do through the interdisciplinary studies program," said Dermody.

She even took a class in camp administration, which helped develop her future goal: running a camp for children with debilitating illnesses. In the class, she created a business plan for starting a camp of her own, and during the summers she worked as a counselor at different camps for kids with chronic illnesses.

"Camps for these kids are really important," said Dermody. "They don't get to go places like carnivals because of public health issues. These kids rarely get to do things that normal kids do, and camps let them feel like kids again."

In August 2004, Dermody graduated from Coastal and became a personal/office assistant with Resort Services. Ultimately, Dermody wants to run her own camp, but she says she's happy helping people with chronic illnesses in any way that she can.

## Wanted: a few good alumni for 2005 awards

Coastal's Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the 2005 Outstanding Alumni Award.

Five alumni awards are presented annually, recognizing outstanding alumni from each of the four colleges (E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration, the College of Natural and Applied Sciences, the Spadoni College of Education and the Thomas W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts) in addition to the Overall Outstanding Alumnus of the Year.

The award is designed to recognize Coastal graduates who have shown

exceptional dedication to and support of the university. The nomination criteria and selection will be based on the following:

- involvement in community service, including honors/awards received
- involvement/interest in university-sponsored events or programs
- serves as a role model for current students/peers
- displays a positive image for Coastal in the community
- an alumnus who has made a positive impact in his or her professional career and/or family.

Notification will be sent to nomi-

nees in mid-September. Nominees will be recognized during the Alumni Association's annual meeting on Oct. 29 at 9 a.m. in Wall Auditorium. All alumni, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

Alan Clemmons, class of 1982, a member of the S.C. House of Representatives since 2002, was named the Distinguished Alumnus of 2004.

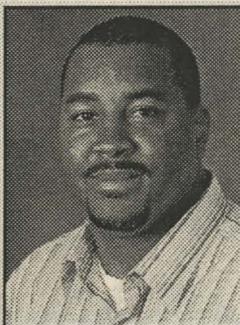
The nomination form can be accessed at [www.coastal.edu/alumni-award](http://www.coastal.edu/alumni-award).

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 349-2586 or e-mail [alumni@coastal.edu](mailto:alumni@coastal.edu).

## Coastal People

### LiDell

**L. Evans** has been appointed assistant director of Residence Life. Evans earned a bachelor's degree from Augustana



*LiDell Evans*

College in Illinois and a master's degree from Western Kentucky University. He brings to Coastal his residence life experience from Western Kentucky University and most recently the University of Connecticut, where he was a staff member of the residence life department.

As assistant director, Evans will supervise a staff of six full-time Residence Hall coordinators, approximately 60 resident assistants, and a staff of 50 desk assistants. He will plan and conduct annual recruitment, programs, hiring, training and professional development. He will also serve as a discipline officer, mediator and referral agent for residents. His office is located in the Residence Life main office in Waccamaw Hall.

**Jennifer Hughes** presented a session on Innovative Laptop Lending at the Carolina Innovative Users Group (CIUG) annual meeting in Charlotte, N.C., on May 13. The CIUG serves Innopac Innovative Interfaces library automated system users from South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia. In her new position in Kimbel Library's Reference Department, Hughes will be responsible for the library's new Access Services Department (circulation, reserves and the upcoming Statewide Borrowing Program).

**Dan Albergotti**, a new assistant professor of English this fall, has won the 2005 Randall Jarrell/Harperprints Poetry Chapbook Competition for his collection, *Charon's Manifest*, which will be published later this year by Harperprints of Henderson, N.C. A native of South Carolina, Albergotti has a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in English from Clemson University and a Ph.D. in English from the University of South Carolina.

**Sharon Thompson** was an invited presenter at the recent 2005 South Carolina Association of School Nurses Annual Conference held in Myrtle Beach. Her presentation was entitled "Health Promotion in School Nursing."

**Terry Fries**, associate professor of computer science, presented a paper, "Autonomous Robot Motion Planning in Diverse Terrain Using Genetic Algorithms," at the 2005 Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference in Washington, D.C.

**Edward M. (Dick) Singleton** thanks faculty, staff and students for the honorary degree, Doctor of Public Service, which he received at commencement on May 7.

"Even though I have three degrees from the University of South Carolina, including a Ph.D. in educational administration, none of them mean as much to me as this honorary



*Dick Singleton*



*Professor Dan Abel unpacks boxes in his new digs at the Coastal Science Center, located in the Atlantic Center. The Department of Marine Science recently moved to the facility, which also houses the Department of Computer Science.*

degree from the institution where I gave nearly a quarter century of service," said Singleton.

Singleton is chancellor emeritus of Coastal and served as chief administrative officer for 20 years, longer than any other leader of the institution.

**Marlon L. Gibson** of Toledo, Ohio, will be the new assistant director of Student Activities - Greek Life. Gibson will be a liaison for the Greek organizations, advise and coordinate various activities and work with other campus offices to sponsor events. Gibson earned a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Toledo, where he was graduate assistant in Greek Life, managing Greek housing with 300 residents and coordinating student programming for the Greek community. Gibson interned in Residence Life at Elon University in North Carolina.

# Coastal Carolina

UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

Office of Marketing Communications

Coastal Carolina University

P.O. Box 261954 • Conway, SC 29528-6054

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- *Piroch named interim dean of science*
- *Orientation sessions welcome new students*
- *CCU alumnus awarded fellowship*

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