



COLLEGE of
COASTAL
GEORGIA

ALUMNI

The Mariners' Log

Charting the Course Since 1961

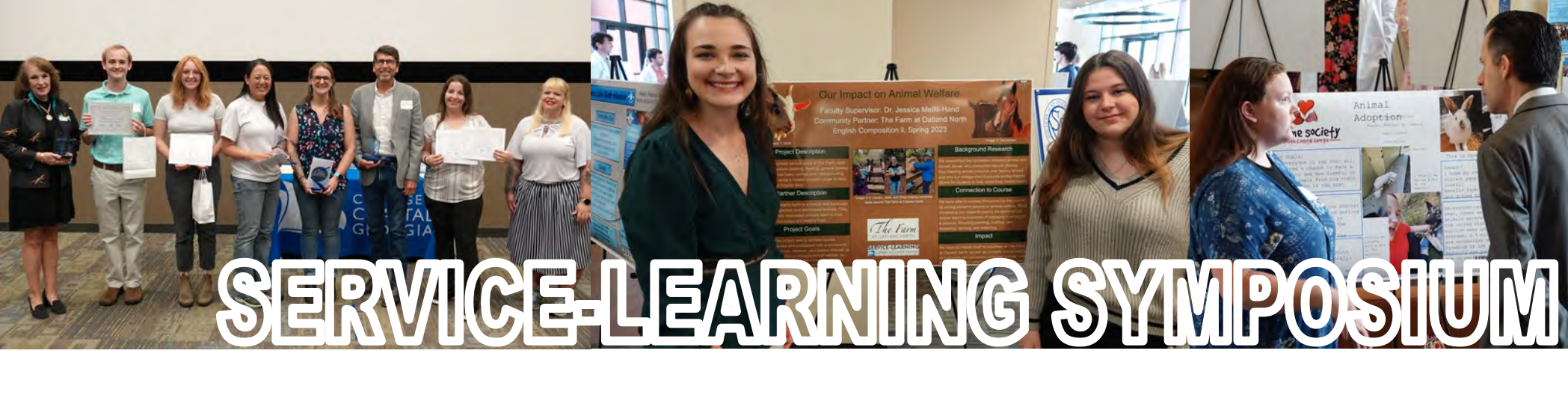
A newsletter for the alumni of the College of Coastal Georgia, Coastal Georgia Community College, Brunswick College, and Brunswick Junior College.



HONORS DAY



ACCEPTED STUDENTS DAY



STUDENT AFFAIRS AWARDS



To view more photos, check out the College's Facebook [page](#).

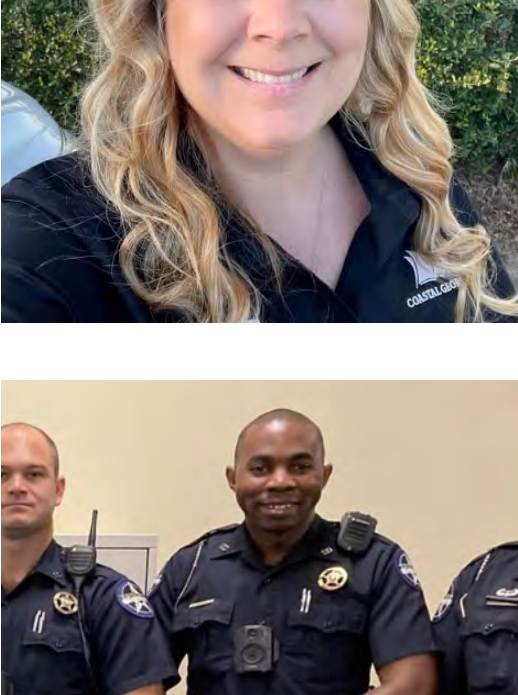
SUPERHERO ALUMNI

We asked our Superhero Alumni nominees to share a little about themselves and their life after graduating from the College. We had such a great response that we will be highlighting a few at a time in subsequent newsletters. Learn more about our Superhero Alumni below:



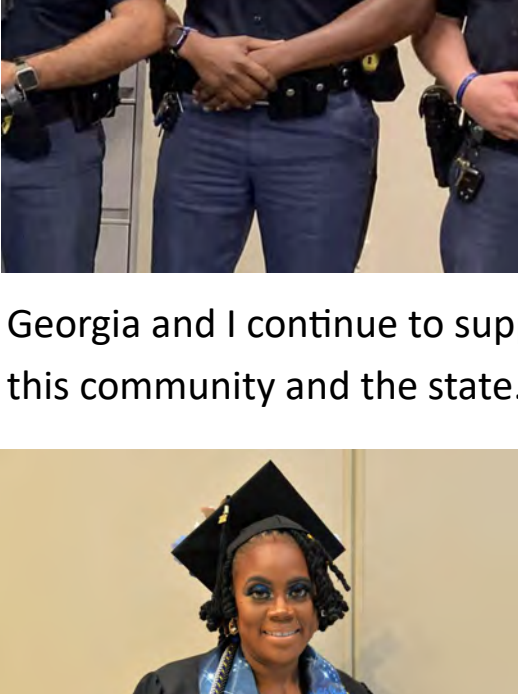
KELSIE FARLEY '22

Since graduating from the College of Coastal Georgia, I have obtained a job working for the College as a Residential Hall Director for Mariner Village. I plan on starting my Master's degree in Higher Education in Fall 2023.



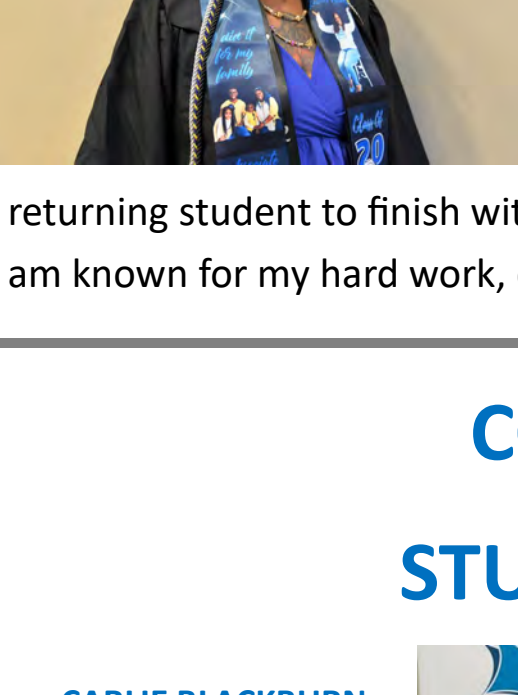
KENDRA LLOYD '16

Since graduating from College of Coastal Georgia, I have been working at the College of Coastal Georgia! I really like my job. I currently have dual rolls as the President's Office Coordinator as well as the Executive Assistant to the Provost. My favorite part of being an alumni is getting to stay in touch with past graduates and follow their lives and success. Working at the College allows me to continue to interact with the faculty, staff and students that I now call friends. There are definitely some students that I hold close to my heart and I love to see them on campus every week, especially my daughter! When I am not at work you can find me in my garden or at the beach. Go Mariners!



ROBERT MYDELL '16

Since graduating from the College in 2016 I have been in law-enforcement ever since. I started with the Glynn County Police Department and served for five years before moving over to the Glynn County Sheriff's Office where I serve in the traffic enforcement division. I recently started my graduate degree from the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega. I am pursuing a masters in criminal justice to help further my career. I try to uphold my standards and values, and how I've portrayed myself in law enforcement and how I treat others. I still to this day talk up the College and what it's done for me. I so appreciate the professors that I had to teach me what I still use to this day. I'm very fortunate to have attended the College of Coastal Georgia and I continue to support the College, their achievements, and what they are attempting to continue to do for this community and the state.



KEILIER RHODES

My name is Keilier Rhodes but everyone calls me Smile. I am born and raised from St. Simons Island, Ga. I'm a 45-year-old single mother of three children. I currently work as a student worker in the Office of Financial Aid, staff member at the Boys and Club, and the catering team at Halyard's restaurant. I also own a small business called Sugarhill On Wheels which features my very own seasoning line and catering. I recently just graduated in Fall of 2022 with my degree in Associate of Science, and I'm currently a returning student to finish with a Bachelors of Business Administration degree with a concentration in general business. I am known for my hard work, determination, and for just being my bright bubbly self with a smile on my face.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 STUDENT HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

CARLIE BLACKBURN

JULIA CIESZESKI

ISABEL DEL'ACQUA

HAYLEY DICKERSON

CAMRYN JONES



MELANI JONES

RILEY JONES

KENDRA PAULSON

MALARIE PEACOCK

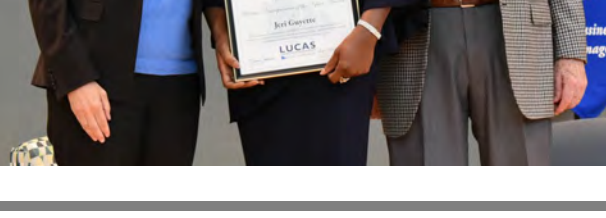
WALTER BOWEN RIDDLE

ALUMNI ENTREPRENEURS



Two College of Coastal Georgia alumni were recognized for their entrepreneurial spirit at the Entrepreneurship Awards Ceremony hosted by the Art and Lindee Lucas Center for Entrepreneurship.

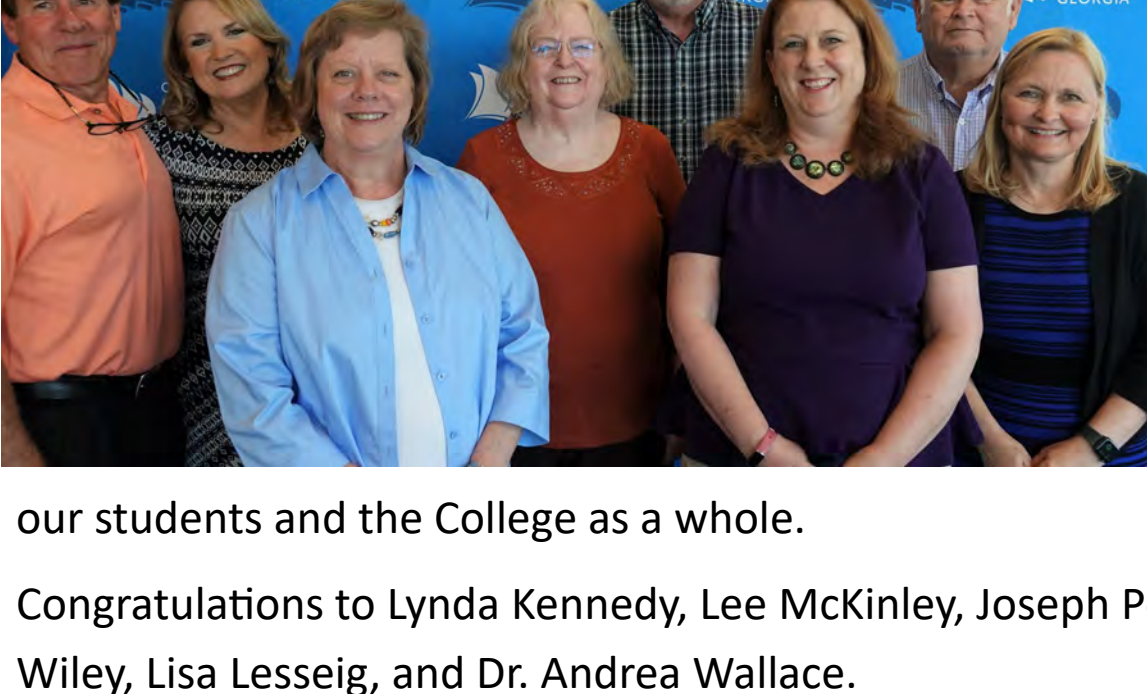
Justin Henshaw '11 was recognized as the Alumni Entrepreneur of the Year. His latest business venture is [GAGE](#), a recognition system that celebrates performance in the workplace and gives employees validation for their work.



Jeri Guyette '16 won the Woman Entrepreneur of the Year award. She is the founder and owner of [Vintage Vixen Cosmetics](#) that caters to women 35 and older.

They, along with other recipients, were recognized for their vision, resourcefulness, and dedication to creative problem solving in the community.

HAPPY RETIREMENT!



The College held a special retirement reception in honor of some of our favorite Mariner faculty and staff who've truly embodied the motto "Every student. Every time."

We would like to express our sincerest thanks and appreciation for a combined total of more than 165 years of service to the College of Coastal Georgia. Their service is sure to have had a remarkable impact on the lives of

our students and the College as a whole.

Congratulations to Lynda Kennedy, Lee McKinley, Joseph Peeples, Teresa Peeples, James Holt, Dr. Jim Wiley, Lisa Lesseig, and Dr. Andrea Wallace.

EVERGLADES TRIP BRINGS STUDENTS INTO WORLD OF WETLANDS RESTORATION



They camped beneath the stars, slugged through mud, slept in close proximity to some gators and returned home with a clearer understanding of the important role wetlands play in today's conservation efforts.

A group of nearly 30 College of Coastal Georgia students benefited recently from the real-life learning experiences the college aims to offer. During a trip with their professors to the Everglades National Park in Florida, the students learned about wetlands restoration and the kinds of research being done to preserve these ecosystems.

The trip allowed students to see and touch what they'd so far only discussed in a classroom.

"Leading up to it we had talked a lot about the process of wetland restoration and wetland ecosystems generally," said Emily Tarsa, assistant professor of environmental science and wetland ecology at CCGA who went on the trip.

"We had tied in some of the work that's being done down there, but the Everglades generally is the Mecca of wetlands restoration. They've spent billions of dollars trying to restore that system."

The three-day trip included a guide-led walk through the Everglades — when the students recall being in muddy waters so high it reached their thighs — as well as a trip to Sweetwater Wetlands Park, which is an important

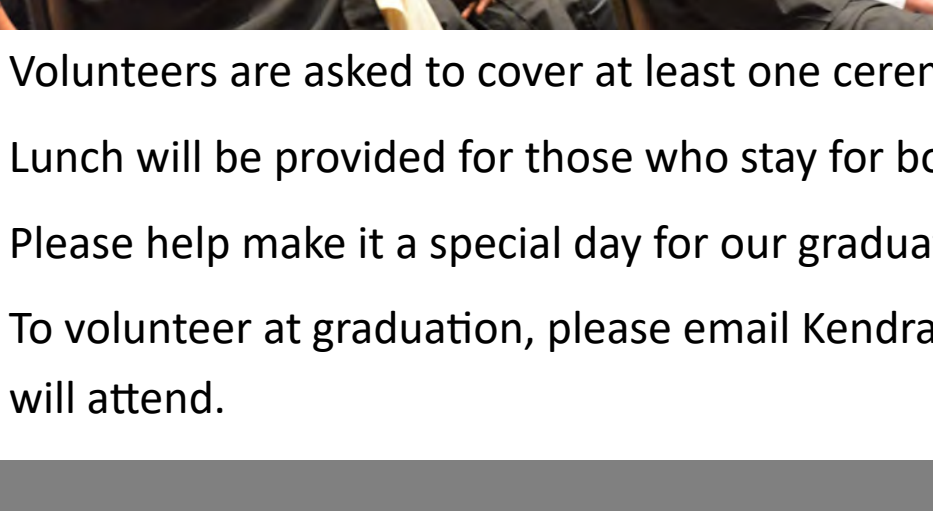
space for stormwater collection.

"They collect all of the stormwater from the city of Gainesville and clean that water through these natural wetlands before it moves on to Paynes Prairie," Tarsa said.

She asked a colleague at the University of Florida to share her and her students' research in wetland restoration.

"There's a whole world of research that goes on, and a lot of it is larger scale than what we do here," Tarsa said. "To see how students could move into that in graduate school or beyond is a cool thing to observe."

Read more about the trip [here](#).



VOLUNTEER FOR SPRING COMMENCEMENT

It's that time again! Your help is needed to make our Spring Commencement a success.

Graduation is on Saturday, May 6 at the Jekyll Island Convention Center.

With the growing size of the ceremony, graduation will be divided into two ceremonies:

Nursing and Health Science students will graduate at 9:30 in the morning. (Volunteers are needed at 8:00 a.m. for this ceremony).

The rest of the students will graduate at 1:30 in the afternoon. (Volunteers are needed at 11:00 a.m. for this ceremony).

Volunteers are asked to cover at least one ceremony. Both would be great!

Lunch will be provided for those who stay for both.

Please help make it a special day for our graduates by volunteering.

To volunteer at graduation, please email Kendra Lloyd at klloyd@ccga.edu and specify which ceremony you will attend.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

There is always something going on at the College of Coastal Georgia. Here are some upcoming events:

- SOURCE: May 1, Campus Center, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Spring 2023 Commencement: May 6, Jekyll Island Convention Center. Commencement will be divided into two ceremonies:
 - Nursing and Health Science students will graduate at 9:30 a.m.
 - School of Arts and Sciences and School of Business and Public Management students will graduate at 1:30 p.m.
- 4th Annual Mariners Classic: May 9, Frederica Golf Club. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. Click [here](#) to register.
- Student Success Summit: May 11, Southeast Georgia Conference Center, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Check out the College of Coastal Georgia [Calendar](#) for all events.

STAY IN TOUCH

We would love to stay in touch with you. Please tell us about yourself and what you've been up to after college. Update your contact information [here](#).

Questions? Contact alumni@ccga.edu.

