On Sunday March 13, twenty-nine Washington College students and their staff advisor, Maria Hynson ’15 P’19, departed for their much anticipated spring break vacation, not in a plane to the Caribbean or Cancun, but in a fleet of mini-vans to the city of Sumter, South Carolina for the annual Habitat for Humanity Spring Break Collegiate Challenge.

With the combination of a full day of team bonding training at Echo Hill Outdoor School, along with a nine-hour car ride on I-95, this team of four seniors, eight juniors, eight sophomores, nine freshman, and one “grown-up” quickly became a crazy family. This was just the beginning, however, of a week-long journey for this group. As the sun rose on Monday morning, so did the thirty volunteers, ready for a full workday ahead of them.

The team met at the corner of Habitat Court and Habitat Drive where a naked house stood screaming for some TLC. After a safety briefing and instruction from the constriction leader, Bob Brown, along with his right hand man, Drew O'Rourke, the team split up into groups and began to work on their section of the house. Over the course of five days of hard work, learning, teamwork, fun, and much trial and error, the team managed to wire, soffit, vinyl side, apply fascia, and install porch columns, ultimately completing the entire exterior of the house while working alongside potential home owners. Not only did this relentless crew finish each and every job at hand, but they had a blast doing it, from rocking out to “My House” to forming a ten-person conga line. At the end of the day, the students truly understood that they were not only building a house, but they were building hope for a well deserving family. Even though this was the first time Washington College partnered with the Sumter Habitat for Humanity affiliate, the two groups formed a great relationship setting up a strong partnership for the many years to come.
Please welcome the following staff members to the WC Family:

Devon Canfield, Stacey Davis, Beth A. Dulin, Dashawn C. Lister, Dawn D. Truitt and Kylie M. Walls

The following staff have left Washington College and we wish them well in their future endeavors:

Jim Allison, Crystal Lewis and Ken Searles

If we have missed someone, please email us so they can be acknowledged in the next newsletter.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday May 9 – Friday May 13, 2016 – Final Exams for students

Saturday May 21, 2016 – 233rd Commencement

Monday May 30, 2016 – Memorial Day - college offices CLOSED

Monday July 4, 2016 – Independence Day – college offices CLOSED

President Baur will host Dr. Karen Couch, Superintendent of Kent County Public Schools, for an informative session.

You're Invited

Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 4:00 PM
Hynson Lounge

Dr. Couch will provide an update on the work she is doing in the school system with a focus on universal Pre-K initiatives and after-school programming for all local families.

The brief update will be followed by a Q&A session and a light reception where you will have an opportunity to meet Dr. Couch.

This event is open to all faculty and staff members. We hope you can join us.
Colleagues,

A week from now hundreds of our Washington College students will gather in the LFC for the 5th annual WC Relay for Life. Last fall, Kent County decided not to continue with their Relay for Life event, so the Washington College event is now THE Relay for Life in our county. And the student leaders have put in innumerable hours and an incredible amount of work to pull this event together and raise money to provide for cancer patients and research for a cure. A portion of the monies raised stays here in our local community to help our friends and neighbors access information and treatment.

I’d like to invite you to attend all or part of the event next Friday evening, or donate to a participant or team that you want to help support. A local business has pledged $10,000 in matching funds for this remaining week, so our students are motivated to make the most of this opportunity to help them reach their $50,000 goal.

The main event is Friday, April 8, starting at 7:00 p.m. You can find more information on the event, participants, teams, and sign up here:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/ RelayForLife/ RFLCY16SA?pg=entry&fr_id=71319

Best,

Erin K. Anderson, PhD
Associate Professor of Sociology
Washington College
Show Up and Speak Up! Let's Fill the Rooms for the Hospital Listening Sessions

We have another opportunity to show our concern for the hospital in Chestertown by turning out in large numbers for the “Listening Sessions” planned by Shore Regional Health System. There are sessions planned in Kent, Queen Anne’s and the other three Mid-Shore counties. A facilitator will guide the discussion, and System CEO Ken Kozel and members of the board are scheduled to attend.

Please commit to attending a session and urge your friends, family and coworkers to go, too! These are large venues and we need to turn out in large numbers to let the health system know what we need!

Here are the Kent and Queen Anne’s meeting details:

**Tuesday, April 12, 5:30 p.m. - Centreville Goodwill Fire Company**
212 Broadway, Centreville

**Thursday, April 14, 5:30 pm - Kent County High School Auditorium**
25301 Lambs Meadow Road, Worton

**Sunday, April 24, 2:00 pm - Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company**
203 N. Church Street, Sudlersville

For the complete 8-session schedule, go to [www.umshoreregional.org](http://www.umshoreregional.org)

The hospital has said the sessions are meant to “seek a wide picture of our communities’ health needs and make sure our strategies incorporate this information,” and to hear about the specific challenges people face “in living their healthiest lives.”

Scheduled as part of Shore Regional Health’s strategic planning process, the sessions also will serve as input for the Community Health Needs Assessment the corporation is required to conduct every three years under the Affordable Care Act. As part of the session, Shore Regional will share what its strategic planning process recommends about services that should be offered or developed in each county.

**We’ll see you there!**
Did you know that one out of three bites of food you take requires pollination?

**Pollinator Series**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day and Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Beeing Up Close with Sam Droge: Photography Exhibit</td>
<td>SANDBOX, 107 Cross St., Chestertown</td>
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<td>5 – 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>First Thursday Environmental Series: Vanishing of the Bees documentary</td>
<td>Sumner Hall, 206 S. Queen St., Chestertown</td>
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<td>6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>“Pollinator Gardens” a talk by Cindy King</td>
<td>Kingstown Farm, Home &amp; Garden, Chestertown</td>
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<td>6 - 7:30 pm</td>
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<td>April 13</td>
<td>“Mead Making,” a talk by Bill Hingst</td>
<td>Yellow building next to Kent County Public Library parking lot</td>
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<td>6:30 - 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Upper Eastern Shore Beekeeping Association monthly meeting</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
<td>Beeing Up Close with Sam Droge: a lecture on the 430 native Maryland bee species</td>
<td>Hynson Lounge, Hodson Hall, Washington College</td>
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<td>5:30 pm</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
<td><em>More than Honey</em> film screening and Mead Tasting with Charm City Meadworks</td>
<td>Custom House Lawn, 101 S. Water Street, Chestertown (Rain Location: Litrenta Lecture Hall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 pm – mead tasting</td>
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<td>7 pm – film</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>Chestertown Earth Day Festival</td>
<td>Memorial Park, downtown Chestertown</td>
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<td>9 am - 1 pm</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>“Honeybee Colony Management on the Eastern Shore,” a talk by Capt. David G. Smith, Master Beekeeper</td>
<td>Litrenta Lecture Hall, Toll Science Center, Washington College</td>
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<td>4:30 - 5:30 pm</td>
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For more information contact: Jamie Frees, Program and Intern Coordinator for the Center for Environment & Society at Washington College (jfrees2@washcoll.edu or 410-810-7162)