A line forms outside of Enrollment Services, left, and in the hallways inside the room Aug. 23 as students seek guidance that will allow them to tie up all the loose ends for the beginning of classes that open in just a few scant days. The rushes weren’t sustained, though, but instead went in a series of waves throughout the day as CCA employees remained on task and efficiently eased out the traffic.

CRUNCH TIME

It’s August 23. Fall semester is looming. Birds are chirping. Loons are howling. And the last-minute rush is on at the Administration Building.

As chaos goes, this wasn’t the pressed doors of a Black Friday sale or daily life on the Justin Bieber security detail.

This is more like multiple loose ends, the shoelaces of a kindergarten class variety: Tie ‘em up; send ‘em off.

It’s Thursday, Aug. 23, two business days before fall semester classes officially begin at Community College of Aurora.

Students need their ID card photos.

Procrastinators seek that course they just have to have but which may have filled long ago. Core classes such as English, Math, Biology and others that are integral degree prerequisites often fall within those parameters, even though they’re offered on numerous occasions.

Some financial aid requirements are only now being realized by late-arriving students and addressed with a countdown clock accompaniment.

But CCA’s staff has the wherewithal to deal with these issues courteously and professionally.

If this particular day, and many others like it, has its own soundtrack, Kathy Jackson, CCA’s official greeter, is the featured artist. The self-proclaimed mother of the college doles out “baby dolls,” “dears” and “love yous” even while activity swirls around her, confidently sending people in all directions like an Administration Building version of the NFL’s Peyton Manning, who’ll famously flap like a bird at the line of scrimmage to ensure everyone is on the same page.

“I have a gift to see when people are lost and confused,” Jackson explained. “Nine out of 10 times, I’m right.”

On this day, there’s plenty of confusion and loss. But those traits aren’t shared by the staffs tasked to deal with the waves of people and flurry of questions, some asked while wobbly children in the infant stage toddle in their
Megan Kinney isn’t a data miner in the classic sense. But CCA’s director of Library Services is using every instrument in her ever-expanding toolbox to try and ensure that staff, students and faculty can unearth the information necessary to ease the classroom experience.

Whether it’s door to door or face to face, online chat to video conferencing, Kinney is intent on not only spreading knowledge on efficient information gathering, but also wants to kick up your Kindle, invigorate your I Pad or animate your Android devices with search capabilities that can find a needle in a high-tech haystack.

“It’s about opening up the whole universe,” Kinney said. “Because people don’t know one percent of what they really have access to.”

The amount of information immediately at one’s fingertips at the Learning Resource Center was limited when Kinney joined the college in November 2010.

It was a place to find books. About 11,000 physical titles were housed between CentreTech and Lowry. There were a set of databases students could use and a basic website. It housed an open computer lab. There were about 8,000 e-books that didn’t get much use. And the interaction with staff meant a face-to-face talk with an employee – if the student even got to the library.

“The bigger thing for me was that the LRC had a very low profile,” Kinney related.

There was some technology in place, but Kinney brought to the job a firm commitment to its expansion and use. Sources now are inarguably more eclectic, modern and plentiful, and can be accessed in a variety of new-fangled ways, including via smart phones and other gadgets (see accompanying chart).

“My thing was taking down barriers and making it easier to find information, while taking advantage of the fact that mobile technology is interesting,” she said.

Kinney is so passionate about getting people digging deeper into information she’s even hosted various technology ‘petting zoos’ to try and familiarize students, staff and faculty to new learning tools, as well as just clear up any uncertainty on how to use certain devices in a laid-back atmosphere.

“We’re on the radar now,” Kinney said. “People are asking what we’re doing now. They’re interested. … We’re getting at what people really need. And throughout the process we asked people what it was they want.”

Megan Kinney has transformed CCA’s library by taking a technological leap and incorporating 21st century tools.
they needed, and basically did that, while bringing in other things they may not have known they needed but now see value in.”

But Kinney is eager to push the envelope even further, with the cooperation of faculty. She and her staff already made 44 visits to classrooms last fall; about 60 more in the spring to provide students, and faculty, with the available research options CCA now provides. But with staffing and time constraints a real issue, reaching an even wider audience took forethought.

So Kinney devised online instruction sessions and short online tutorials in an effort to push the envelope further.

“I really want faculty to start taking me up on online instruction sessions. Even if you’re teaching an in-person class, schedule the online instruction session for an evening or a weekend, which I’m totally willing to do. Give your students extra credit if they go to it, and they can log in and watch me online talk about how to do research that wouldn’t even take a class session. We have the software.”

The end goal with this refined research is better sourcing, more critical thought, increasingly accurate citations and less plagiarism to those who have the time to log on and take advantage of interactive, real-time assistance.

“It’s come light years,” said history adjunct Ginny Steele, who actually has worked in three libraries, both public and private, in her career. “This is the kind of services our students need. And this is a real college library, rather than a video service.”

Steele had her students in History of the Middle Ages, World History I, and U.S. History to 1877 make use of the hour-long meetings with research librarians. She then began documenting formally over the last two semesters the academic progress.

It has proven to be a major boon.

“No one had ever shown them how to do it one on one and when they get it, they got it,” Steele said.

The LRC not only is busy serving its library function, but the computer lab continues to provide students with help via trained work-study aids. There’s tutoring and writing support and makeup testing housed there, too.

“I want instructors telling their students, ‘Go over there,’ and what I really want is students to tell other students. I feel that’s finally starting to happen,” Kinney said.

One of the next projects involves incorporating the Lowry campus into the resource pool. To that end, Kinney received Perkins Grant funding to provide comprehensive research assistance in open computer labs at Lowry and potentially have customized, touch-screen kiosks that allow students to interface with the entire college’s bevy of available information.

“People don’t know how much it has changed,” Steele maintained. “It’s like the changes for this fall. I’m so excited, because for the first time we’ll have a range of materials available to our students online and through this collaboration that we’ve never had at this level. From 30,000 to 500,000 (titles), that’s fantastic, and Megan is the driving force behind that.”

“But we’ve got to use it,” Steele cautioned. “If we don’t it’s a terrific waste of many minds.”

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New Lowry Cafe gives students another place to call home (cooking)

The sounds of summer on the Lowry campus -- jackhammers, saws -- are about to give way to smells and taste buds.

On Sept. 4, the Lowry Cafe will open its doors in the West Quad, providing a full range of breakfast and lunch options. Paragon Dining Services, the same company that provides food at the CentreTech Grill, will be in charge of the culinary creations at the new facility, too.

Hours of operation will be from Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Construction on the Lowry facility began August 8 and was scheduled for completion just before the Labor Day weekend.

While there will be some features site specific to the new cafe, such as a panini machine and a cold sandwich bar, numerous hot food items will be transported from CentreTech because of its grilling capabilities.

The Lowry Cafe breakfast and lunch items are reasonably priced, with all individual items tentatively slated to cost less than $6 each.

Lowry menus

**BREAKFAST:** Assorted breakfast sandwiches ($3.00-$3.50); breakfast burritos ($3.00); assorted fresh baked pastries: cinnamon rolls, scones, bagels; muffins ($1.25-$1.75); yogurt parfaits ($2.50); seasonal fruit cups ($2.50); assorted snacks ($1.25-$1.50); coffee and juice beverages (prices vary).

**LUNCH:** Artisan sandwiches, made to order: ham, turkey, roast beef, tuna, vegetable ($5.00-$5.50); subs, paninis and healthy wraps ($5.00-$5.50); hamburgers ($4.00-$5.00); pizza (prices vary); variety of hot entree meals: lasagna, spaghetti, enchiladas, tacos, burritos, roasted pork/beef/turkey, baked chicken and many more ($5.00-$5.50); freshly made assorted salads ($3.00-$5.00).
Good Questions with:

Alton D. Scales, CCA President

Alton D. Scales officially joined the college on July 23 and hit the ground running, immediately familiarizing himself with CCA’s people, programs and culture. He talked about some of his initial visions as the college’s new president during a wide-ranging interview conducted shortly after he took office.

1. You obviously came in with a preconceived notion of how well-positioned CCA is academically and where it stands within the greater Denver higher-education arena. How does reality in your brief time here so far match up with your vision?

“Part of what we’re going to do is do more training, because in the absence of training you can’t be assured that an individual is prepared. The other things we’ll do is start looking at strategically telling our story in ways that individuals will hear it in places where they’re likely to experience it. And we’re going to look at bringing together some types of activities that will bring individuals through our doors that normally pass us on the road. We have a couple of things in mind for that. In an umbrella context, that means some more lifelong learning opportunities – continuing education.”

2. How important is it that people know what it is they are getting at CCA for their investment and differentiating the college from other local institutions?

“I do like predictability, and that’s part of managing variants. ... The things that should be consistent are that you can depend on a courteous and respectful engagement; and a quality experience in the classroom, where at the end of the course your competencies are much higher and you know much more than you did before you entered and now have the ability to apply that knowledge to real-world experiences.

“When we can make sure that’s a common experience, then we’ve narrowed the variants. Because our reputation is one that really tells our story. If you don’t have a good reputation, people won’t come through your door and the value of the degree is diminished. So we have to work on managing that reputation.”

3. What are some of things needed to get the message out as to what this college really stands within the community?

“Part of what we believe diversity brings to us is a varied way of looking at a single topic in the classroom. Because when you come from areas where you have certain political slants, where gender roles, race, ethnicity or color play a role in how you interpret things, when you bring those pieces into a legitimate, genuine conversation, it allows individuals to hear things that they would not have heard normally. If we’re teaching people how to think more so than what to think, they can’t help but go beyond our doors and be better world citizens.”

4. How can the diversity of this area be used to this college’s advantage?

“Part of what I believe diversity brings to us is a varied way of looking at a single topic in the classroom. Because when you come from areas where you have certain political slants, where gender roles, race, ethnicity or color play a role in how you interpret things, when you bring those pieces into a legitimate, genuine conversation, it allows individuals to hear things that they would not have heard normally. If we’re teaching people how to think more so than what to think, they can’t help but go beyond our doors and be better world citizens.”

5. How would you like to see the structure of this college run ultimately, given your own leadership style?

“I believe in participatory governance. But I also believe there are times when it’s my role to make a decision with all the information that I have that may run counter to the will of the body. That just comes with the responsibility. But most generally, we make our decisions collectively.”

Columbine Poets Fest back at CCA for third year

Rosemary Wahtola Trommer and Benita Volk will be the featured poets at the 2012 Columbine Poets Fest to be held September 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Student Centre Rotunda on the CentreTech campus.

Trommer’s workshop, entitled “Moving toward the Voice of Water,” will begin at 1 p.m. and include reading, discussion and conversation about the Sufi poet Rumi. Volk follows at about 3 p.m. and will read from “Leaning toward the Invisible,” this year’s winner of the 2012 Chapbook Contest sponsored by the Columbine Poets of Colorado.

Both Trommer and Volk’s slots within the day’s schedule of events can be seen free of charge by CCA students and faculty showing valid college ID.

The event begins at 10 a.m. Full-day admission is $15 for Columbine Poets and $20 for non-members. Box lunches are available for an extra fee.

For more information, please call 303-431-6774.

... Auditions are being held for an original CCA Theatre Department production entitled “Glimpses: The Rising Dawn, A Community Stands United.” Those interested in requesting a slot for Sept. 4 (3:30-5 p.m.), Sept. 5 (5-8 p.m.) or Sept. 6 (3:30-5 p.m.) should sign up on the sheet posted outside room F103B in the Fine Arts Building on the CentreTech campus.

The play remains a multimedia work in progress and ultimately will be comprised of stories that celebrate the diversity of Aurora. Auditions can be in the form of monologue, poetry, music, dance, spoken word, art or film.

Any media can be used to showcase one’s individuality, talent and creativity, but it must be limited to a one to three minute audition presentation.

Please contact Stacey D’Angelo at 303-340-7529 or Stacey.Dangelo@CCAurora.edu for more information.
Bob Woods and the rest of the Computer Science department are in the midst of ramping up their course offerings to meet a changing world, including an expansion of security offerings.

Defense and security giant Raytheon is just one major contractor the United States has called upon to ramp up its employee certifications in two prominent cyber security areas over the next five years.

The Department of Defense has mandated that 500-600 Raytheon employees have the necessary training in two areas: Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and Security Plus.

That's more than 10 times less than the number already holding those designations at the company. So, in order to ensure their workers are fully up to speed, CCA's next-door neighbor has called upon the college to oversee that training.

The courses, encompassing about 30 students at a time -- though not all tied to the company -- are being rolled out in full force this fall after a spring trial run.

"We're like the continuing education environment for Raytheon," said Robert Woods, director of CCA's Computer Science Department.

The reasons for the arrangement are obvious.

"We are so close and it's beneficial to them to not have to develop in-house training programs," Woods added. "They can get this kind of training by going to a 'boot camp' … that prepares them for the examinations. But we offer it in a college setting. We have all the rigor and structure to handle that, and their employees don't have to go offline. They can continue to work, learn it over a semester and then take the exam."

CCA has been in the process of discussing ramping up the security portion of its courses when Raytheon gauged the college's interest in a partnership. Since then, the college has hired two experienced computer forensics and disaster recovery experts as adjunct faculty: Don Lewis, former computer forensics examiner for the Lakewood Police Department; and Jean Lowry, a longtime IT professional.

Programming, network and web development had been primary areas of emphasis at CCA. The security portion is expanding to reflect the real world as much as fulfill it's new training arrangement. The CISSP and Security Plus offerings now are buttressed by computer forensics, disaster recovery and perimeter defense classes and will be taught by the two new staff members and adjunct Bill Clements, a Raytheon employee.

That an organization of Raytheon's prestige entrusted CCAs computer science program to help with the continuing education of its employees provides further credibility to the college within the community at large.

"The trust that they put us and the relationship we have is huge," Woods said.

Raytheon, which employs about 2,400 in Aurora, approached the college in 2011 about outsourcing its training needs, and steps at CCA were taken not only in terms of added manpower and curriculum but securing necessary equipment.

Computer science faculty Constance Seiden played a key role at CCA by writing the initial Raytheon proposal, taking on an instrumental role in securing funding and working on secure coding initiatives.

The college already was part of a local security consortium with other institutions and teaming with Raytheon is an outward sign that the burgeoning computer science department is making even further strides.

"We will have an even better program in the next couple years," Woods said.

One of the future possibilities includes the potential to use the Disaster Management Institute to introduce various viruses and other problematic issues into the classroom setting for students to resolve. The fact that courses in Security Plus and CISSP are to be housed at the Center for Simulation allows for such real-time experiences to become part of the curriculum.

The training should better position freshly-certified personnel for more diverse and complex kinds of hack attacks.

"Most people don't have a clue. Occasionally your e-mail gets hacked. That's not even what we're talking about," Woods said. "We're talking about defense and cyber war and cyber attacks in the U.S on industry. It's a significant problem."
Hundreds getting individual attention to spur achievement

Three CCA student support programs already share common goals.

Now, they also divvy up square footage via June’s opening of the Student Success Center on the first floor of the Student Centre at CentreTech.

The merging of TRiO, First Year Experience and Transitions, and Scholar Support and Programming into one area ended a moving-box methodology that had often shuttled these programs from office to office.

Moving students on through completion, graduation and transfer takes the programs’ singular focus into a single locale and promotes a more coordinated and collaborative approach toward that agenda.

“Moving them to this space is an attempt to really leverage our resources to support students now that we have a little critical mass around some programming opportunities,” said Libby Klingsmith, coordinator of First Year Experience and Transitions.

The three areas earlier this year combined to take students on trips to local four-year institutions. The hope in having them all housed together is that similar intersections of goals can be discussed more readily and leveraged into further opportunities.

TRiO, which is run by director Daniel Sandoval, focuses strictly on first-generation and low-income students. Scholar Support and Programming leans on third-party agencies to provide scholarship funding. First Year Experience and Transitions has a cohort that serves about 60 students focused on transfer opportunities, while also offering student-success courses to all incoming CCA students.

The physical arrangement with the Student Success Center is the latest outward sign of CCAs commitment towards targeted retention programs that previously included a leadership reorganization that placed Elena Sandoval-Lucero into the role of dean of Student Success.

“I think it sort of models for the campus that we really are about student success and retention, and although each of these programs serves a specific cohort of students, the campus can take what we’ve learned about working with these students and apply those success strategies to other groups of students that they work with,” Sandoval-Lucero said.

About 450 people overall currently are served by the three retention programs. Bradley Jacobson, coordinator of Scholar Support and Programming, sees all of these students linked by their deep exploration of their lives and futures.

“For me, its giving them an arsenal of college knowledge that they can succeed with, and then understanding that they have the support available whenever they need it,” he explained.

Potential participants are located through word of mouth, campus data, and from referrals by advising, instruction and through the individual retention programs to one another. TRiO gets its students through outreach to targeted classes, advisors and advertising.

Klingsmith pointed out that 50 percent of CCA students are first-generation college students, which automatically puts half the student population in the mix for the more intensive help provided by the Student Success Center. Around 60 percent intend to transfer to a four-year institution, which further expands the pool of available applicants to the Student Success Center.

Sandoval-Lucero noted that while CCA can’t serve everyone in similar fashion, there is the possibility of “expanding our reach” to other cohort-based programs and replicating the model into those other areas in the future.

“There’s tremendous opportunity here as we get off the ground,” Kling- smith added. “In some ways, the 450 students or so that we have are our pilot group and they’re going to run through this more intensive programming around being a more successful college student in an effort to be able to grow that and serve more students.”

The main message is that there is now a place at CCA for students that seek more intensive support within advising; individual mentoring; one-on-one interaction with staff; and opportunities to connect with students with similar goals.

A peer mentoring program between Scholar Support and TRiO already has been an offshoot of the new office arrangement. The three programs have been able to more easily discuss student needs and share forms and best practices around mentoring and advising.

Students that failed to qualify for TRiO could be easily ushered into the First Year and Transitions area, another bonus of the close proximity of the programs.

“I think working together can take them to the next level instead of all working separately,” Sandoval-Lucero said. “And having a Student Success Center, for that staff, sort of indicates to them that the college finds value in focusing on retention, success and completion by having one area dedicated specifically to that goal.”

Three parts of the same educational body

The recently revamped Student Success Center housed in the CentreTech Student Centre provides targeted academic and personal support for students in three programs, encompassing their journey from admission to graduation.

- **TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**: Serves first-generation and lower-income students
- **SCHOLAR SUPPORT PROGRAMMING**: Serves cohorts of students typically coming from third-party scholarships, such as Mile High United Way, Denver Scholarship Foundation and the Daniels Fund.
- **FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE AND TRANSITIONS**: Runs classes on student success and transfer programming.
Resources help smooth college ASCENT

A four-day orientation session for the ASCENT program from Aug. 20–23 at Community College of Aurora gave that select group of high school students a preview of the possibilities by connecting them with the campus, people, programs, and information they’ll need to spur achievement.

“It gives them a jump start on how we do things at CCA and preps them for a successful college experience,” said Leigh Bessey, director of Outreach and Recruitment.

Incoming students in ASCENT (Accelerating Students through Concurrent Enrollment) were prepped on majors and career decisions; financial aid and their syllabi; heard a panel discussion from faculty, chairs and deans covering variety of disciplines; told how to track their degree goals; aided with their book store purchases; given a window into available online and research capabilities; and even got to dance to blow off some steam.

Parents also were involved in some of the initial sessions.

There are 74 students taking their first year of college at CCA through the ASCENT program after experiencing concurrent enrollment in high school and earning at least 12 college credits necessary for entry into the program, among other requirements.

Many of these students walk through their high school graduation ceremonies but don’t get their diplomas until after completing at least two semesters of Ascent.

“The biggest thing about all this is some of these guys have never left their high schools, so this is the first time they’ve been on a college campus, and it’s a little bit different. There are high expectations,” Bessey said.

“They don’t understand that your syllabus is your contract … but if you follow everything in that syllabus and do everything you’re asked, you will pass and have a great experience. And it’s also kind of, ‘snooze, you lose.’ ”

Bessey pointed out that among 34 Ascent students last year only three were dropped due to poor grades, which helps demonstrate the effectiveness of the ASCENT summer bridge to the classroom.

Some incoming Ascent students already have accumulated substantial college credits and can earn an associate degree within one academic year at CCA. These 60 credit hours will classify them as a junior at a four-year institution upon transfer.

Some will need longer stays to get the necessary course load to move on.

“We’re not going to leave them high and dry in April when we send them off. They will still come back to us, just like last year’s Ascent students came back to us, and we’ll still work with them to get them where they need to be,” Bessey said.

SGA has big plans

Engagement through student clubs a top priority

The Student Government Association has adopted a slogan for the next year: Building Unity Within Our Community.

That mindset cuts both ways, with the group attempting to involve both students and greater Aurora alike into a cohesive entity supporting the college and promoting its brand.

“We want to create further identity,” SGA Vice President Rob Hatcher said. “This isn’t just a place for education but for community and culture.”

The plan is tiered and begins with getting a significant boost in numbers and enthusiasm from the 10 on-campus clubs.

A starting point on that front is the implementation of a challenge to those clubs to do structured activities steeped in school and community involvement. Energizing that segment of the student base hopefully will create a reciprocal effect to the general CCA population and beyond.

Tactical implementation of the plan will begin Sept. 4–5 through the ‘rush’ event at both campuses designed to increase the number of club members.

The Sept. 14 SGA meeting will further prod clubs to intermingle more and avoid segmentation in order to better foster campus fellowship and unity.

SGA will go one further to try and join these disparate groups with the anticipated introduction of the ‘Campus Cup,’ which will encompass student engagement, fund raising and other facets. A point system will be implemented and the ‘Cup’ winning club at the end of the year takes home hardware and another potential prize.

Among other SGA items on the agenda in the coming months:

-- Hosting informal open forums to allow for the sharing of concerns and ideas from the general student population and increase accessibility to those in position to help initiate change.

-- Will form a committee to generate ideas for a dual campus memorial service in tribute to the injured and lost in the July shootings at Century 16 Theatres.

-- Beginning research in concert with business and marketing entities designed to seek out what’s required to build a shuttle service between CentreTech and Lowry within the next two years.

TRiO gets into act with its own intro

A group of 65 new fall TRiO students, selected based on need and through a first-time interview process, were initiated into that program Aug. 17.

Program requirements and general information were dispensed, and the TRiO staff, administrators and peer mentors were introduced.

It’s the first time TRiO has hosted the full-day event, which covered the academic year.

A plan is in place to hold similar orientations annually for students that are new to the program.
Ebbs, flows of activity common before classes

From Crunch Time / Page 1

parents’ midst to give the scene a day-care feel.

Got an issue? Go there.
Need an assessment? That-a-way.
Have to see an advisor? Sign in.

CCA workers deal with this every year around this time. Besides, it could be worse. It could be about a week or so earlier, dreaded Aug. 15, when the first students were dropped for non-payment.

Signs are posted in block letters warning students they will be dropped from class unless they have financial aid awarded, a payment plan or have paid. Another placard reads that fall payment is due within 24 hours of registering for classes.

The message often gets lost: for example, with financial aid, it takes six to eight weeks to process awards from the first document submission.

“...You can see the panic,” said Tam-aura Walker, a registration staffer. “It’s like tax deadline day.”

Deborah Hoefler, assistant director of financial aid, perhaps explained the fashionably-late-to-the-party vibe best as the semester draws nearer.

“It’s kind of like if you don’t fix a leaking roof; then all of it sudden it bursts and you get a flood,” she explained. “That’s kind of what happens in here.”

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The flow of traffic into the CCA parking lot is steady as the day begins. One side is two-thirds full; the other slightly less crowded. But classes haven’t yet started so these people are headed somewhere.

Some high school students are at CentreTech to partake in an ongoing ASCENT orientation. But veteran staffers know that the Administration Building will be ground zero for activity if not now, eventually.

A few people mingle in front of the enrollment services desk at this early hour but it’s rock-group sized and not rock-the-boat dimensions.

“It’s highly unusual to be this slow,” Assistant Registrar Valerie Sangiuliano said, peering at the clock on her computer screen. “But it’s only 10 o’clock …”

A lot of knocking on wood occurs when these statements about small or non-existent lines are made, whether in enrollment services, financial aid, at the greeter’s desk or even tucked upstairs at the cashier’s office.

Chaos is always just around the corner on these types of days.

“This afternoon will probably get crazy right around lunch to about...
You have to learn to be a really fast talker,” predicted Nichole Creger, an admissions specialist. “As long as I have product knowledge necessary to process the kinds of federal documents, calls and questions are extremely specialized. "There's no one to call," she said matter-of-factly.

But even with the hustle that surrounds them, with people surrounding their desk, and feeling the eyes of all the onlookers, Ayanna Doyle smiles after helping a student. “Have a blessed day,” she says, before calling out another name.

Angela Baty, Doyle's co-worker, is asked if she ever feels as if she wants to call in the National Guard for assistance during these times. “It's for debate," she replied with a smile. "I've been telling everybody just a fun time of the year," said Megan Harris, an admissions specialist. "But it's manageable," Walker said. "But it's manageable."
Information bank

Dr. Betsy Oudenhoven, vice president of student affairs, announced that the college has contracted through Aurora Mental Health Center to have counseling support on site for 20 hours per week for the academic year in wake of the July 20 Aurora Mall shootings.

AMHC already is providing services with no out-of-pocket costs for the rest of 2012 for many of those directly and indirectly impacted by the tragedy at Century 16 Theaters. The organization’s funding comes via donations, which can be made through the Community First Foundation at www.GivingFirst.org/amhc.

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Dr. Peggy Norwood resigned her position as full-time psychology faculty after six years. Her final day at the college was Aug. 19.

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Amie Thompson has been hired as Administrative Assistant III for the Academic Enrichment, English as a Second Language, and Social Sciences departments.

Two new staff members were added to the Student Affairs division. Javon Brame began his new position as assistant to the VP on Aug. 27. Barbara Lindsey joins the staff Sept. 5 as coordinator of career services, fresh off an interim director’s post in career development at Johnson and Wales University.

Vicki Graham, was added as a full-time faculty member in Communication. She previously taught at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, Calif., and Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, Calif.

Several others with previous ties to CCA are adopting new roles within Liberal Arts, including Audra Pickett; Candace McClelland-Fieler; Laura Stone; Rachel Ankeney; and Bobby Pace.

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Faculty and staff are invited to take advantage of free fitness training at the Lowry gym from 4-9 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The gym is staffed with top graduate trainers Angela Hofer, Patrick Sheets and Jack Howard. Please call 303-340-7072 or 303-340-7076 for more information.

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A Shred-A-Thon will be held Sept. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Colorado Community College System Foundation and five community colleges, including CCA. The event will take place locally at Credit Union of Colorado locations in Lakewood and Southeast Denver.

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Global Initiatives and the ESL Department are hosting an hour-long lecture Sept. 6 at 6:15 p.m. entitled, “Post 9/11 Religion and Community: Interfaith Strategies for Peacemaking,” in the CentreTech Rotunda.

Dan Buttry, co-pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dearborn, Mich., home of the largest Arab Muslim population in North America, will be a special guest.

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The third cohort of the Integrated Nursing Pathway Program encompasses 30 CCA students, all striving for their bachelor’s degree through a collaborative effort with the University of Colorado College of Nursing.

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CCA Human Resources will host the annual health and wellness fair Oct. 2 from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at CentreTech. All employees and their families can take advantage of numerous free health screenings. Several other fee-based testing options also will be available, as will flu shots for $25. Please contact Debbie. Irvine@CCAurora.edu before Sept. 28 to sign up for blood and/or blood density tests or flu shots.

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Free online training sessions of Turnitin plagiarism software are now available for use in D2L in the Dropbox feature. Please visit http://turnitin.com/en_us/training/professional-development for more information.

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Nominations for this year’s Student Success Awards are being accepted through Oct. 12. Nomination forms are available on the colleges website underneath the ‘Our People’ tab.

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Local artist Joel Cook will be featured at the Donna Moravec Gallery at Lowry in a show running Oct. 11-Nov. 15.

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International Student Orientation was held Aug. 23, hosted by the Student Services staff.