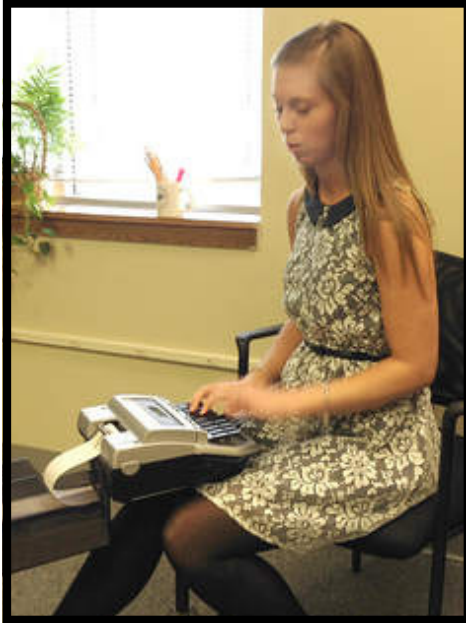


THE GUARDIAN

ISSUE 6 JUNE 2014

CCR MAKES THE LOCAL NEWS!



The Art of Court Reporting

Court reporters typically melt into the shadows during trials, hearings, and depositions, quietly tapping away on their three-legged stenographic machines to capture every word.

The rare time they get noticed is when they're asked to recite the last few words of a witness' testimony or to remind an attorney where he or she left off. Otherwise, court reporters are laser-focused on the task at hand, usually near the judge's bench, typing a mile a minute on an odd-looking machine that makes no sense to anyone else.

"It is a little strange to use at first, but,

after a while, you get the hang of it," said Angela McCullough, 20, of Hobart, while giving me a demonstration.

"The left bank is used for the beginning sound of a word, the thumbs are used for vowels, and the end of a word is on the right bank," she explained while tapping away. "It's three different components all working together, and instead of typing out each letter, we type out the sound of the words."

Got that? Yeah, neither do I. Even after watching it in action, I'm still confused how it works. (Watch my video at posttrib.suntimes.com/news/davich/index.html.)

McCullough will graduate this summer from the College of Court Reporting in Hobart, founded in 1984 by Kay Moody, who began the school in her Hobart living room. CCR is still one of the few family-owned court reporting colleges in the country.

Today, the spacious school on 10th Street employs 30-plus instructors from across the country using online technology to teach classes, including medical terminology, foundations of law, citations, technology, and ethics.

There is a national shortage of court reporters, caused in part by a shortage of court reporting schools, such as CCR, the only one of its kind in the state, according

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great!"

-Zig Zaglar

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STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Francesca Buonpastore

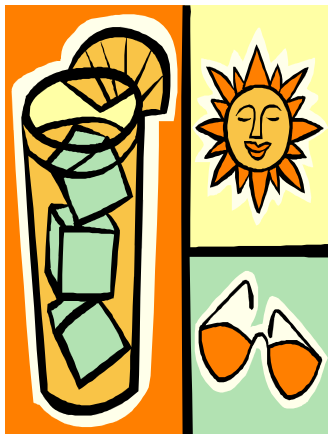
Francesca is a phenomenal writer whose contributions to the discussion board and class participation are outstanding! She also is excelling at the coursework required. Keep up the great work and pass some tests!

Jenny Scharich

Jenny holds herself to a high standard with her work. She is currently a SH130 student, giving it her all! Be confident and you will succeed!

Suleika Olivo

Always a hard worker, Suleika is very dedicated to practicing on her machine! She is going to make a fine reporter soon! Keep this positive attitude and you're sure to reach your goals!



(continued from pg. 1)

to Nicky Rodriquez, CCR's director of admissions.

"We have had 70 graduates in the last three years," said Rodriquez, who will be on my radio show Friday at noon on WLPR, 89.1-FM.

The toughest aspect of being a court stenographer is not the long hours of tedious typing or having to use pinpoint accuracy to document every word, every sentence, every testimony. It's being able to type 225 words per minute with 95 percent accuracy, the strict criteria used in the industry.

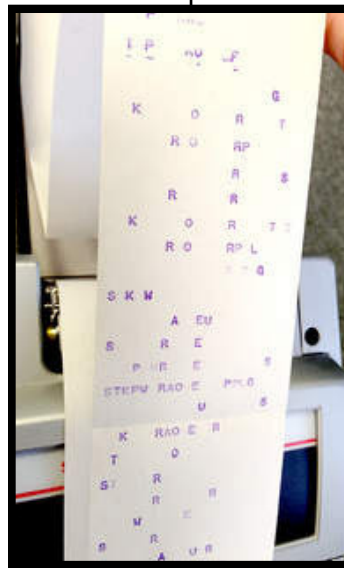
"It's either pass or fail," Rodriquez said. "This is another reason for the shortage of court reporters."

Most people, on average, talk 160 words per minute, though some court reporters can somehow capture more than 300 words per minute on their steno machine.

"We currently have about 60 students working on their exit speeds," Rodriquez said.

They do so by listening to either recorded or live instructions, typing everything they hear and then reading it back to instructors. To the casual observer, it appears extremely hard to do, considering people's different voices, cadences and enunciation problems.

"Court reporters are not thinking about each individual letter or key. They're thinking of sounds. They're not thinking 'ladies and gentlemen of the jury,' they're just thinking this particular stroke of the key. And this will then bring up the words that I need on my transcript," Rodriquez said, showing a typical printout from a steno machine.



It looked cryptic at best, unreadable gibberish at its worst.

McCullough, whose mother also was a court reporter, is up to typing 200 words per minute. Like other CCR students, she continually works on her speed with plans of working in Chicago someday. There, the average pay is \$60,000 a year. Here, not so much despite the median income nationally at \$48,000, according to federal data.

"During my senior year at Hobart High School, I decided to take the court reporting class offered by CCR," McCullough said. "Initially, I took this class to fill my schedule but, eventually, I realized that this is what I wanted to do with my life because not only was I good at it, I genuinely enjoyed it."

At a time when many court reporters were retiring or moving on, she enrolled at CCR three days after her high school graduation in June 2012. She will soon receive an associate's degree in applied sciences so she can pursue a career in four different areas: official court reporting, freelance reporting, closed captioning and computer-aided real-time translation, which aid the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

"The possibilities are endless and enrolling was a no-brainer for me. But, sadly, it's overlooked by so many," McCullough said.

On average, CCR students take three to four years to graduate, with improving their exit speed a huge factor. Several CCR graduates are now working in various courtrooms or attorneys' offices across Northwest Indiana, and others are employed in courtrooms across the country.

Word Trippers By: Barbara McNichol

Word Tripper for May 15, 2014

Hoard, horde – A “hoard” is a large amount of something valuable that is kept hidden; a supply or fund stored up and often hidden away. As a verb, to “hoard” means to collect and hide a large amount of what’s valuable in some way. A “horde” is a large group of people.

“The *horde* will *hoard* what it can in anticipation of the predicted shortage.” – Gary Michael

“The *horde* of nomadic travellers *hoarded* enough food and water for their journey to higher ground.”



A P R I L E V A L U A T I O N S P A S S E D

These students have all passed one or more SAP evaluations during the month of April.

Students who have passed an exit speed have been bolded.

<p>14 SAPs Danielle Cadena</p> <p>11 SAPs Andrea Davis Lucetta Robertson</p> <p>10 SAPs Brett Schatzle Kristin Gertz Michelle Kowalsky</p> <p>9 SAPs Jessica Vanatta</p> <p>7 SAPs Carolyn Collins Daniel Niederkruger Jenny Scharich Kirstine Mowery Melodie Lewis</p> <p>6 SAPs Amy Krueger Ashley Kramer Haley Petrich Kathleen Steadman Kayde Reiken Matthew Van Pelt</p> <p>5 SAPs Amy Strickler Esperanza Parada</p>	<p>Gayle Kees Kristin Westmoreland Margaret Abernathy Ruth Moline Sandra Lopez Shivone Latortue</p> <p>4 SAPs Abby Crouse Alisa Church Becky Colwell Christine Koczur Dee Triche Holly McKay LessSa Lyons Remy Vandekerkhove Veronica Stewart</p> <p>3 SAPs Amelia Patzelt Benn Brooks Bonny Roggenbauer Debrina Jones Holly Harris Jacqueline Hamilton Jessica Rykhus Julie Christopher Kelly Custard Julie Christopher</p>	<p>Kristen Stegeman Linda Dial Lisa Ettema Madison Pacana Mary Orloff Megan Newsom Melanie Bruno Melanie Segalla Riley Trella Sarah Fitzgibbon Shari Conrad Sherrona Williams Suleika Olivo Yvonne Wilson</p> <p>2 SAPs Angela Shaw Bee Cimitier Bonnie Fiechter Caitlin King Chiquita Smith Claudia Meyers Debra Phillips Gaylynn Smith Gina Keener Jamie Benak Joan Yeatts Josey Loney</p>	<p>Juliane Peterson Kenya Shields Kristy Albertson Marion VanHorn Michelle LeGrand Patricia Martin Shannon Finton Tammy Garber Thomas Herman Timothea Brewer Trish McCall</p> <p>1 SAPs Allison Allen Amber Kingsmill Andrea Beilke Angel McCullough Angela Humphrey Angela Macias Brandi Smith Danielle Simpson Debora Mann Eriza Zielinski Heidi Hammond Jenna Gaito Jennifer Wesner Jodi McCall Joelle Maxfield Jonathan Abrams</p>	<p>Lisa Major Lorna Halbert Maria Ciccarelli Megan Reeves Meredith Hoffpaur Michelle Dziubla Mitzi Boardman Monica Eskenasy Nadine Golden Nicole Johnson Nicole Simchak Noraima Galvan Rachelle Cahoon Rebecca Wrasser Rob Leifer Samantha Coday Tanya Powers Terry Romero Tracie Blocker Yolanda Pena</p> 
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JOB OPENINGS

United States District Court**District of Arizona**

These are full-time permanent court reporter positions located in the Clerk's Office of the U.S. District Court, District of Arizona, Phoenix Division and Tucson Division.

Occupational Information: An official court reporter is responsible for the verbatim recording of proceedings of United States district judges and magistrate judges. Official court reporters are employees of the Clerk of Court and are assigned to meet the verbatim reporting needs of district court judges, magistrate judges, and visiting judges.

Salary eligibility is determined based upon certification as shown below.

- Level 1: starting salary, meets minimum qualifications
- Level 2: starting salary plus 5%, requires merit certification
- Level 3: starting salary plus 10%, requires real-time certification
- Level 4: starting salary plus 15%, requires merit and real-time certification

Merit Certification means you have a registered merit reporter certificate from the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA).

Realtime Certification means you have successfully completed a certified realtime examination by NCRA or equivalent exam.

Qualifications: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must have at least four years of prime court reporting experience in the free lance field of service or in other courts or a combination of the two and must have qualified by testing for listing on the registry of professional reporters of the National Court Reporters Association.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Preference may be given to applicants who possess:

- Realtime Certification from NCRA or USCRA;
 - a Certificate of Merit from the National Shorthand Reporters Association;
- software and hardware used to produce Realtime transcripts in the courtroom.

Selection Process: Applicants will be screened for these qualifications and the best qualified applicants will be invited for a personal interview. Participation in the interview process will be at the applicant's own expense and relocation expenses will not be provided.

Judiciary employees serve under excepted appointments and are considered at-will employees. The initial appointment to this position is provisional pending the successful completion of the required background checks or investigations. The United States District Court is a drug-free work place and the applicant selected will also be required to participate in a drug screening test prior to employment.

The court reserves the right to amend or withdraw any announcement without written notice to applicants. If a subsequent vacancy of the same position becomes available within a reasonable time of the original announcement, the district court executive may elect to select a candidate from the original qualified applicant pool.

HOW TO APPLY

The application can be found at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/azduscourts/default.cfm>. Please complete and submit the online application, a resume, a copy of your latest performance evaluation or letter of recommendation, and a cover letter that should include a narrative statement of your background as it relates to the qualifications and skills requested. Please also attach proof of listing on the registry of professional reporters of the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA); and photocopy of your Certificate of Proficiency, Merit and/or Realtime Certification.

Incomplete applications and applications received after the closing date may not be considered. Attachments should be submitted as Word or Adobe Acrobat .pdf documents. Other formats are not acceptable. Please submit your on-line application by Friday, June 6, 2014.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact the Human Resources Division at 602-322-7110.



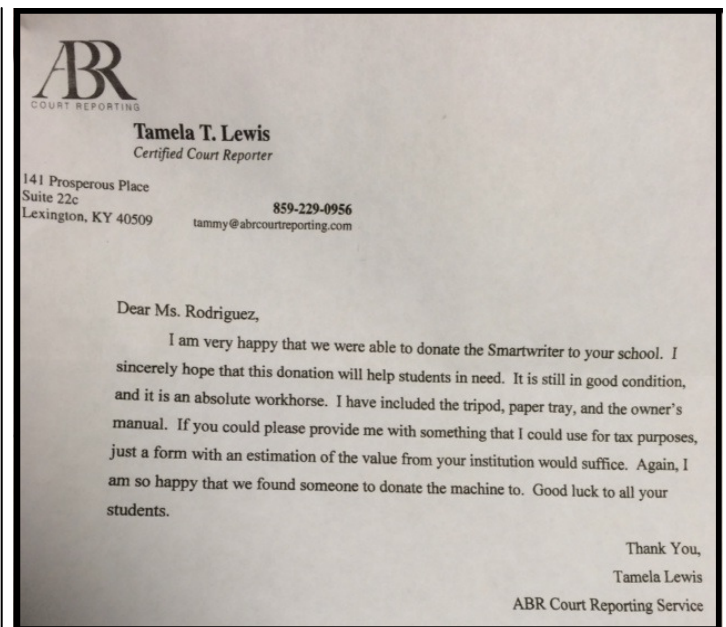
We at Caption Communications are always looking for more quality stenographers to join our team. The hours are flexible, and while some people only work a few hours each week, others work 40. We also work early mornings and evenings, and you may be able to work some hours from home.

If you are interested in a position with us, please send your resume with an information sheet resume@captioncommunications.com.

We are looking for motivated, driven stenographers that can transcribe at speeds of 185wpm or better with at least 95% accuracy.

SHARING IS CARING

CCR would like to recognize the kindness and generosity of Tamela Lewis. She has been so kind as to donate a Smartwriter, including the tripod and paper! Tamela is currently a certified court reporter for ABR Court Reporting in Lexington, Kentucky. She sent the writer, tripod, and paper to our school and included the letter provided. Thanks to Tamela's generosity, this writer will be able to help one of our CCR students pursue his or her dreams of becoming a court reporter!



COLLEGE OF COURT REPORTING

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“Work for yourself...Work for the world!”

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CCR.EDU



Birthdays are in bold print! Happy birthday, CCR students and faculty!

TWEET OF THE MONTH:

Tweet an inspiring quote, personal accomplishment, or a few kind words to @CCRNicky during the month of May and have your tweet featured in June's newsletter!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Semester Break!	2	3	4 Shivone Latortue	5	6 Janet Noel	7 National Chocolate Ice cream Day!
8 Semester Break Ends!	9 Summer Semester Begins! Sandra Lopez	10 Toni Coombs Linda Dial	11 Denise Chase	12 Timothea Brewer	13 Tony Credit	14  Flag Day!
15 Happy Father's Day! Kenya Shields Stacy Mayfield	16 Kristin Gertz	17  National Eat Your Vegetables Day!	18	19 <i>Faculty Meeting</i> Paul Stevens	20  National Take Your Dog to Work Day!	21
22 Kayde Rieken	23  National Pink Day!	24 Kristy Albertson Taylor Atchison	25	26 Carolyn Collins	27  National Sunglasses Day!	28 Madison Pacana
29  National Hug Day!	30 Natalie Kijurna Jennifer Wesner Summer Vaughn	1	2	3	4	5