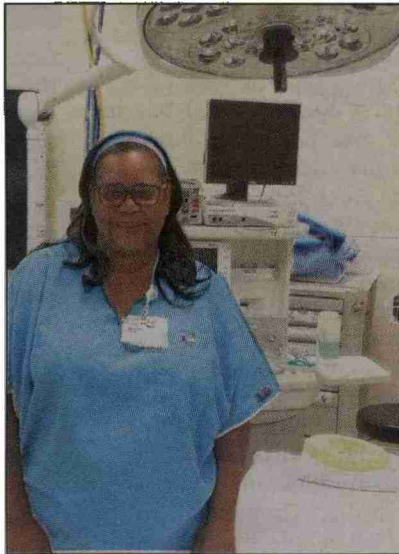


Manchester CC alum consults on Hallmark movie

Zaley Lumpkin, of Windsor, remembers earning her associate degree in surgical technology from Manchester Community College in 1988 and thinking it would be great to teach others to enter the field one day. The 33-year veteran surgical technologist, who is now clinical coordinator and instructor in the college's program, can add another credential to her resume: movie script consultant. Lumpkin, along with MCC grad Timothy Gregus — who is also an instructor in the program — and Terry Kennedy, MCC program director, provided expertise to ensure that an operating room scene played out accurately in the upcoming Hallmark Channel holiday special, "Next Stop, Christmas." The feature film debuts at the end of October. Lumpkin was enlisted to lead the consultation because of her experience in neurologic surgery.



The actual scene is just three minutes long, but it took hours to film, as the crew — along with Lumpkin — worked into the wee hours of the morning. The scene was filmed in Hartford Hospital's Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation (CESI), where MCC surgical technologists are given hands-on, real-world preparation for their certification exams.

