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Barnhill Wins 110 % Award From State Auditor's Office

State Auditor Glen B. Gainer III presented Vice President for Finance and Administration Larry Barnhill with the 110% Award at the 2009 State Auditor's Conference at Snowshoe Mountain last month.

Each year, the 110% Award is presented to an individual who has exhibited an attitude of going above and beyond the call of duty and is an inspiration to those around them. The award citation commended Barnhill's professional excellence and consistent attention to detail in the payment process.

Dr. Spring has announced that Barnhill will retire on November 30. "His can-do spirit and great talents will be sorely missed," Spring said.



Larry Barnhill (left) accepts the 110% Award from State Auditor Glen B. Gainer

Bond Sales Help Finance College Expansion

A *Transitions* reader requested a brief explanation of how bonds are sold to finance capital projects for New River. According to Richard Donovan, Chief Financial Officer for the Higher Education Policy Commission, the first step in the process is to identify a revenue source to pay for the bonds. In the case of the community college system, that source is lottery proceeds. For example, in FY 2008, the legislature appropriated \$5 million in lottery money to pay off bonds.

The next step is to hire bond counsel and an underwriter to prepare the documents required to sell the bonds. The sale must then be authorized by the Governor before the sale can proceed. This preparation phase can take several months. Once all the documentation is complete and approval has been received, the underwriter puts the bonds on the market, where they are sold to brokers. The brokers then sell them to banks, individuals and pension funds, and the proceeds are used to hire architects and build buildings. The bonds will be paid off over a 30-year period.

Workforce Education Coordinates Training of Greenbrier Casino Staff

By Lynn McKinney

The Greenbrier is scheduled to open a temporary casino on Oct. 1. The fact that they met their target opening date is in no small part thanks to the assistance of New River's Workforce Education Department.

On July 31, Bill Loope, vice president of Workforce Education and Terri Baker, program specialist, met with representatives from the hotel at the Greenbrier Valley Campus in Lewisburg. During the meeting, Todd Fishon, vice president of gaming

operations, informed Baker that the resort was in need of table games training for the casino that would be opening in a temporary location on Oct 1.

In a mere 18 days, Baker worked with Fishon, Art Kusakull and Ron Deluge, co-managers of the casino, to develop a format and timeline for a table games training program that would suit their needs and meet the requirements of the WV Lottery Commission. She also had to find a location for the training center; identify instructors and students; retrofit the training center to meet WV Lottery Commission requirements, and move in the training equipment the commission was providing.

On Aug. 17, the Table Games Training Center of New River Community and Technical College opened in White Sulphur Springs. Seventeen students from West Virginia and Virginia completed the five-week black jack course taught Mike Bromley, assistant manager of the casino, and instructor Donna Kusakull.

"In the beginning, we were getting approximately 50 phone calls a day from people who were interested in the classes. Over 200 people are on the waiting list right now," Baker noted, explaining that calls are still coming in every day.

The first course of black jack dealer training ended on Sept. 18. Those completing the training received a certificate of completion and their black jack dealer license.

"I'm delighted that we were able to play a role in an exciting venture that includes the Greenbrier Valley area," Baker said. Upcoming classes will include black jack, roulette and three-card poker. The Casino at The Greenbrier is scheduled to open in its permanent location April 1.



Proud graduates of black jack dealer training class provided by New River's Workforce Education Department pose on the last day of class. (photo by Terri Baker)

NEW RIVER, NOT NRCTC

For several years, the college has made a concerted effort to "brand" the name New River and to stop using the initials NRCTC. Please assist in this effort by avoiding the use of NRCTC in correspondence (internal or external) and on forms. If there are still brochures, forms or other printed materials containing NRCTC and/or the old logo (the dark blue and green mountains) on display on your campus, please discard them. Donna Lewis, interim registrar, and Tracy Evans, interim director of enrollment services, have conducted an inventory of Student Services forms and are working to standardize forms across all campuses. If you have questions about whether forms being used on your campus are correct, please contact Donna, Tracy or Barbara Elliott in Public Relations.

Refsland Establishes Scholarship Fund To Assist Students with Phi Theta Kappa Induction Fees

Dr. Lucie T. Refsland, professor of mathematics on the Greenbrier Valley Campus and advisor for the New River Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, has created a new scholarship fund through the New River Foundation to assist students with induction fees for the honorary society.

The fund was established with a donation in honor of the birth of Lilly Spring, granddaughter of President and Mrs. Ted Spring, and in memory of Greg Shrewsberry, dean of the Bluefield Campus who died last fall. The gift was also in memory of family members of New River faculty and staff who have died in recent months.

Tax deductible donations to this fund can be made in memory or in honor of loved ones. Checks should be made to the New River Community and Technical College Foundation and mailed to 301-B George Street, Beckley, WV 25801. If you would like the family of the person honored to be notified, please include a name and address where the acknowledgement should be sent. Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP) credits are available for donations of \$500 or more. These credits will allow you to deduct half of the amount of your gift directly from your West Virginia income or business tax. To qualify, the \$500 donation must be made in one lump sum.



Student Practical Nurse Organization Officers Enjoy New Allied Health Skills Lab

Student Practical Nurse Organization class officers prepare for skill practice in the new Allied Health Skills Lab at the Allied Health Education Center in Summersville. First row (L-R): Tiffany Osborne, Treasurer.; Jennifer Copeland, Historian; second row Kelli White, President.; Michelle Hughart, vice president; Felicia Spencer, student government liaison; back row Caleb Davis, Secretary. (photo courtesy of Joyce Egnor)