Robert Farley, Leslie Baker and Kay Carpenter have been elected to new positions on the New River Community and Technical College Board of Governors.

“We are honored to have the guidance of these three individuals on our board of governors,” said New River President Dr. Ted D. Spring. “Their experience and leadership will be an asset to our organization and we look forward to their continued commitment to the college.”

Farley, president and CEO of the Princeton-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce, has been elected to the board of directors as the organization’s chairman, and as a member of the executive committee. Farley also serves on both the Princeton Community College’s Board of Trustees and the Mercer County Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Glenwood Park Retirement Community and Memorial Hospital boards, the Mercer-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce and the Regional School Board Strategic Planning Committee. She also sits on the governing boards of the Southern West Virginia Irish Heritage Festival, the Beckley Kids Classic Festival and the Beckley Renaissance.

Kay Carpenter was elected secretary of the board and has been an educator in Mercer County for over 30 years. She has held the position of director of special education and Title I area administrator, assistant superintendent and superintendent. She also serves on a number of state educational committees including the West Virginia Textbook Adviisory Committee.

Leslie Baker has been elected as vice chairman of the New River Board of Governors. She has worked at the West Virginia University Charleston Campus for 17 years while beginning her career as a volunteer, she has since become a key member of the museum’s administrative team. Baker has completed grant-writing workshops and seminars conducted by the College of West Virginia, the West Virginia Division of Culture, History, and the West Virginia Division of Tourism and the Grant Institute.

Baker is a past member of the West Virginia Governor’s Cabinet on Children and Families and is a member of the Raleigh County School Board Strategic Planning Committee. She also sits on the governing boards of the Southern West Virginia Irish Heritage Festival, the Beckley Kids Classic Festival and the Beckley Renaissance.

In addition to his duties on the New River Board of Governors, Farley serves on both the Princeton-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce and the Hunter Country Development Authority, the Mercer County Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Mineral Park Retirement Village Advisory Board.

Farley retired from Appalachian Power in July 1996 after 29 years of service. He joined the Princeton-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce in November 1995 as an executive assistant and became the organization’s president and CEO in January 2006.

Leslie Baker has been elected in 2006 as vice chairman of the New River Board of Governors.

The members were each elected to two-year terms.

www.newriver.edu
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New River Elects Three Members to Board Positions

(continued from page 4)

Thomas Jefferson...

While dressed in full colonial attire, Lafayette asked the telegram once made by a great justice of the United States Supreme Court: “The Declaration of Independence was the promise,” he said, “the Constitu- tion is the fulfillment.”
Lifelong Learner Turns 75
For Ruby McCutcheon, 75 is just another number. She has been through life’s trials and tribulations and at a time when many would retire, McCutcheon, 75, has realized her goal of earning a college degree.

McCutcheon, who will turn 75 on Sept. 4, is entering her final term at New River Community and Technical College’s Martinsburg Campus as an Art Education major. McCutcheon, who was laid off in 2007, had been working in the manufacturing sector for 20 years.

“When I was laid off,” McCutcheon said, “I thought that was it. I thought my career was over.”

“Patience is important,” said McCutcheon. “I just feel like one of the students here,” she said, “I’d be the first to admit it.”

“Ultimately, though, McCutcheon realized that her age was just another number, and she decided to go back to school for a new set of skills and a new outlook in the workplace is equally important.”

“Lifelong learners are needed in the workforce because of the ever-changing demands of the job market,” said McCutcheon. “It is important that we all be prepared to learn and adapt to new situations.”

Thomas Jefferson Visits New River
President Thomas Jefferson was a graduate of the University of Virginia, and his portrait can be seen in many classrooms across the country. In 2007, President Jefferson visited four of New River Community and Technical College’s four campuses recently to speak to students on the significance of the U.S. Constitution and participation in the democratic process.

“Seeing an enrollment increase like ours is a morale booster,” said Dr. Spring.

“A university’s performance depends on how well it serves its students,” said McCutcheon. “The Constitution is something that we must all be committed to.”

“75 is just another number,” McCutcheon said. “I think I’m just getting started, and I’m looking forward to what the future holds for me.”

“I just feel like one of the students here,” she said. “Everyone8 was nice to me, and I feel welcome. I don’t feel old, but I also don’t feel young anymore.”

-- Libby Belcher, Editor

Hello! From the Editor

Welcome to another edition of the New River Community and Technical College’s in-house publication, New River. We are excited and optimistic to be a part of this vibrant community and its community colleges.

Current and prospective students of New River Community and Technical College will not find a substantially increased in their education costs, unlike those attending 12 other West Virginia colleges following a major hike in tuition rates approved by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.

The tuition increase range from 2.5 percent at Mountain State University to 9.4 percent at West Virginia State University.

The increases are aimed at making the role of education a more affordable and accessible to everyone in our region, a goal that continues to be the focus of this publication.

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