



Vol. 2, Issue No. 18

October 17, 2014

From the Hawk's Nest is distributed on the first and third Friday of each month. We need your input! Please send your ideas for stories on upcoming events, reports on attendance at conferences, awards and honors received, photos or information on outstanding employees or students to Barbara Elliott, bellott@newriver.edu. **The deadline for the next issue is 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 5.**

Remembering Rahni

Memories of Miranda "Rahni" Borders elicited laughter and tears at a celebration of her life at the Raleigh County Campus on Oct. 6. After introductory remarks by Dr. Washington, a video/PowerPoint presentation was shown featuring comments by colleagues and photos of Rahni. Many thanks to Ralph Payne for his assistance in editing together such a moving tribute.

A number of Rahni's colleagues and some of the students whose lives she touched shared memories of the ways in which Rahni's kindness and compassion blessed their lives.



At the conclusion of the event, Dr. Washington announced that Rahni is being honored as this year's Libby Award winner. The Libby, named for Elizabeth "Libby" Rogers, has been awarded annually since 2007 to recognize outstanding contributions to New River CTC. Rahni's family was given a plaque in recognition of the honor, and Rahni's name will be inscribed on the Libby Award plaque displayed in the Central Administration offices. Dr. Washington also announced that Classified Staff Council has elected to name the scholarship they have established through the New River CTC Foundation in her memory.

Pictured above with Dr. Washington are (l-r) Rahni's mother, Veronica Pettiford; her daughter, Lauren Schofield; and her father, Franklin Borders.

Bruce Sneidman is 2014 Outstanding Contributor



Bruce Sneidman (right in photo), professor of business and office technology systems at the Mercer County Campus and president of the Faculty Senate, was honored as New River CTC's Outstanding Contributor for 2014 at the West Virginia Community College Association/West Virginia Development Association Conference on Oct. 16.

The award was presented by Board of Governors Chair Dave Nalker (left in photo), who noted that Sneidman is an exemplary faculty member, and that his contributions to New River Community and Technical College extend far beyond the classroom. He sets a standard of excellence for himself and the College and works hard in the classroom and behind the scenes to see that those standards are maintained.

"Bruce cares deeply about every aspect of our College—students, faculty, staff, program, quality of instruction, facilities and both internal and external relationships. His preparation and delivery in the classroom are outstanding. At the same time, he maintains a high level

of expectation for student performance and accepts responsibility for helping students achieve at high levels," Nalker said.

Dr. L. Marshall Washington adds, "Mr. Sneidman has done an exceptional job working collaboratively with others across the College. I am always thrilled to communicate and interact with him because he is a true professional, always providing respectful input. It is the College's honor to recognize the achievements of Mr. Bruce Sneidman."

Porter Transferring to Institutional Advancement

Jessica Porter is transferring from her position in the Office of Workforce Education to become the administrative associate for Institutional Advancement and the New River CTC Foundation effective Oct. 17.



In Memoriam

Jerry Bradley, an adjunct instructor at the Greenbrier Valley Campus from 2003-2013, passed away earlier this week. He was well known in the Greenbrier Valley as the former athletic director at Greenbrier East High School.



Medical Assisting Students On the Go

Next week (October 20-24) is Medical Assistant Appreciation Week, but MAST students at New River CTC have gotten a jump start on the celebration. On Monday, Oct. 13, students from the Nicholas County Campus and instructor Karen Tully visited the Summersville City Council to request a proclamation recognizing Medical Assistant Week. In photo at left, Contessa Morris reads the proclamation to the Council.

On Wednesday, Oct. 15, a contingent of students from the Greenbrier Valley Campus traveled to Morgantown to attend the WV Rural Health Conference. The students applied for and received scholarships from the WV Rural Health Association to cover their expenses for the trip. Pictured below are (l-r) Donna Burdette, Christy Harless, Instructor Vanessa Bailey, Tara Campbell, Alexis Young, Christina Frazer and Denise Deskins. On Tuesday, Oct. 21, Bailey and her students will meet with Lewisburg Mayor John Manchester for the signing of a proclamation there.



On Thursday, Oct. 23, MAST students at the Raleigh County Campus will hold a health fair in the lobby of 167 Dye Drive from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

wvOASIS Payroll Update

Remember that all employees need to be signed up to access MyApps by November 1, 2014. This is crucial to reporting your time and receiving a pay check in the new wvOASIS state system in 2015. Watch for a very important email to all employees soon.

Wear Jeans to Work and Support the United Way



Friday, Oct. 24 is Denim for A Difference Day. For a \$5 donation, employees can wear jeans to work that day. Donations support the United Way of Southern West Virginia, which serves Raleigh, Fayette, Nicholas, Wyoming and Summers Counties. You can also designate your donation for the United Way of Greenbrier Valley, which serves Greenbrier, Monroe and Pocahontas.

Donations should be given to your campus representative in advance. The contacts are Rita Holcomb (Mercer County Campus), Drema Amick (Nicholas County Campus), Jessica Porter (Advanced Technology Center) and Amanda Baker (Raleigh County Campus and Greenbrier Valley Campus).

Accreditation Visit Is Almost Here!

After two years of hard work and anticipation, the Accreditation visit by the team from the Higher Learning Commission will take place Oct. 27-29. Employees will receive a schedule of opportunities to meet with the team. You are encouraged to participate whenever possible. If you need to brush up on the Self-Study presentation, a video is now posted on the website. There is a link to it from a Home Page announcement. During the visit, please wear the accreditation button and anniversary pin you received at the presentation, and also your College name tag if you have one.

NIP Tax Credits Available to New River CTC Supporters



The WV Office of Development granted the New River CTC Foundation \$55,000 in state tax credits for gifts that benefit disadvantaged West Virginians. The Foundation has established scholarship funds at each of our four campuses, and we invite faculty and staff to help our students while paying a portion of their state taxes. Here's how it works:

Donors

- Make a gift of \$500 or more
- Receive half of it back as a West Virginia State Tax Credit
- Take a Federal income tax deduction for the full amount of the gift
- Help New River CTC make education accessible and affordable

Students

- Receive need-based scholarships
- Reduce loan obligations
- Can stay in school
- Know that someone has invested in their success

EVERYBODY WINS! For more information, please contact Karen Harvey at x1042 or kharvey@newriver.edu.

Mercer County Campus Hosting Business After Hours October 30

The Mercer County Campus will host a joint Business After Hours for the Greater Bluefield and Princeton/Mercer County Chambers of Commerce from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 30. Please attend and help us show off our beautiful new facility!

KUDOS!

Libby Rogers has at last completed the extended road trip during which she gave presentations on the Accreditation Self Study Report to all full-time employees. As always, she has done an outstanding job of steering the Self Study process and preparing the report. We can approach the accreditation visit with great confidence thanks to her incredible dedication and hard work.



Boats Keene successfully defended his title as the hot wings eating champion of Nicholas County at the Potato Festival on Sept. 13. He bested 11 other contestants by downing 10 hot wings in one minute to earn the title for the fourth straight year. He is pictured with Aaron Maloney (left), owner of Maloney's Restaurant and Sports Pub, sponsor of the contest, and runner-up Antonio Strino (center).



Check out our Facebook page for more information on College events. Just click on the logo above or connect from the home page of the website.

Keep us Posted!

Share the good news about what's going on at New River CTC. Send your articles, photos or Kudos to Barbara Elliott, belliot@newriver.edu. Many thanks to Vanessa Bailey, Amanda Baker, Karen Harvey, David Nalker, The Nicholas Chronicle, Connie Rhodes and Karen Tully for their assistance with this issue.

The deadline for the next issue of *From the Hawk's Nest* is 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 5.

Mission

New River Community and Technical College provides accessible, affordable, quality education and workforce programs to meet the needs of the region it serves.