

Greetings alumni and friends! As winter sets in, exciting events keep happening at NRCC. Keep reading for the latest news and updates.



NRCC Learning Park

Art Print and Notecard Sale to Benefit Alumni Association

Reproductions of an acrylic painting of the college's Learning Park and gazebo (as seen above) are now available in the form of a 12" x 15" art print and notecards. The image was painted by wildlife artist Barbara May who lives in the Little Creek community in Pulaski County. The prints may be purchased for \$20 and packs of 10 note cards and envelopes are \$7.50. A small shipping fee will be charged for mail-in orders. Proceeds of the sale will support outreach efforts of the alumni association. Contact the Office of Planning and Advancement at 674-3617 for details on how to purchase these items.

Calendar of Events

1/10	Fiddle, Banjo and Dance Club Jamboree
1/19	Martin Luther King, Jr., Day (college closed)
1/26	Spring classes begin
2/8	Black History Month program
2/14	Fiddle, Banjo and Dance Club Jamboree
Looking ahead:	
4/21	Summer term registration begins
4/28	Fall semester registration begins
5/15	NRCC graduation

NRV Mall Site = Success

Success of the college's NRV Mall site can be measured in many ways, including enrollment, student satisfaction and community interest. The site served 814 students during fall semester 2007 and 937 students during spring semester 2008. This fall, 1,167 students took mall-based classes.

"Our enrollment has exceeded all expectations with about three times the enrollment from the previous site in Christiansburg," says Dr. Jack Lewis, NRCC president. "We're also pleased with how the curriculum at the site has evolved into a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Center."



Foundation sponsors event for students and donors

Annual Scholarship Brunch Held

During fall semester, over 200 students and friends of New River Community College gathered on campus for the NRCC Foundation's annual scholarship brunch. The event is held for students attending New River on scholarship to meet the benefactors who have established endowed scholarships at the college. Pictured from left are Laura Angle, Patricia Sanders, David Payne, Arby Spence, Christina Davis, Jeanne Whitman and Victoria Carter.

Check us out on the web at www2.nr.edu/alumni

Hurst Named Dean of Arts and Sciences

NRCC has named Carol Hurst of Pulaski as dean of arts and sciences. She began her career in education as a high school English teacher and served several schools in southwestern Virginia. She came to the college in 1988 as a member of the English faculty.

"Education is so important. I feel that this new position is an opportunity for me to support our faculty as they guide students in their educational pursuits," Hurst says.

Duties of the dean of arts and sciences include supervising and evaluating full-time and adjunct faculty, promoting staff development, preparing a master course schedule, enhancing partnerships with public schools including the dual enrollment program for the division, and other administrative responsibilities.

A native of Floyd County, she earned a bachelor's degree in English from Radford University and a master's degree in education from the University of Virginia.

Dr. Pat Huber, NRCC's vice president for instruction and student services, says, "Carol Hurst has served with distinction as the interim dean for the past two years. We are fortunate that her commitment to NRCC's teaching and learning mission as well as her leadership skills will continue to complement the college's work."



Carol Hurst

Faculty and Staff Update

The following individuals have joined NRCC recently as faculty or staff members.

Full time:

Ben Campbell – Instructor of English

Megan Doney – Assistant Professor of English

Angela Lawson – Career Pathways Coordinator

Marc Nester – Instructional Designer/

Assistant Professor

John Saunders – Electronic Technician

Part time:

Donald Cressell – IT Specialist

Sherry Taylor – Administrative Assistant
in Facility Services

In addition, the following individuals have changed positions within the college:

Peggy Dunn – from Career Pathways

Coordinator to Academic Counselor

Amber Clark – from Administrative Assistant to
Instructor of Business Management

Odessa Shupe – from part time in Word
Processing to full time as Administrative
Assistant to the Vice President for
Instruction and Student Services

NRV Schools Gain Advanced Internet Access

The New River Valley's colleges and universities have joined forces to connect to the world's most advanced research network.

The project, dubbed the Multimedia Services Access Point, connects Virginia Tech, New River Community College, and Radford University using high-speed fiber optic cables.

This network allows RU and NRCC to tap into Tech's existing link to national and international research networks.

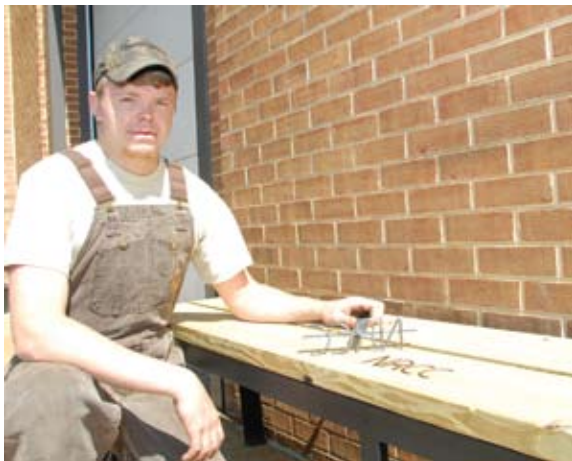
Those networks use extremely high-speed lines to transmit massive research files, allowing academics from all over the world to work together.

"We want ultimately to have our college connected to every learning community in the New River Valley," says NRCC President Jack Lewis.

The plan is also being supported by NRCC's construction of a communications tower at Mountain Lake.

Welding Department Constructs Bench

Several members of the NRCC welding department have constructed an attractive bench which has been placed



Daniel Rorrer, welding student

near the outside entrance of the welding lab. An interesting feature of the wooden bench is the "branded" NRCC that decorates it. The bench and the NRCC branding iron were fabricated by Josh Alberts, adjunct instructor of welding; Tony Jennelle, a recent graduate of the welding program, and Daniel Rorrer who is a current student.

Workforce Development Offers New Courses in Biotechnology and Fire Science

This fall, NRCC offered two courses for the first time through the college's Workforce Development department: Fire Science and Biotechnology.

The fire science course provides an overview to fire protection and covers numerous topics related to careers in fire protection, strategies and understanding of fire services, and laws and regulations connected to fire service. Training hours are recognized by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

The new biotechnology course is the first in a series of offerings that will lead to a proposed Laboratory Technician Career Studies Certificate. The goal of the laboratory technician program is to develop, train and provide the workforce needed to fill current and projected job openings in technologies industries in the New River Valley and surrounding area. The curriculum will prepare students for positions as technicians in many different types of laboratories, including pharmaceutical, academic, private, and diagnostic facilities.

Foundation Scholarship Applications Available

The NRCC Educational Foundation is offering over 130 scholarships to students who will be attending next year. These \$1,000 scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis, with selection criteria including financial need and academic performance.

The application deadline is February 16 for scholarships to be used at NRCC during the 2009-2010 academic year.

If you know of students or potential students who might be interested in applying, please encourage them to contact the Financial Aid Office (674-3615) or the Office of Planning and Advancement (674-3617).

NRCC Implements Emergency Alert System

The college has implemented a new system, "NRCC Alert," to communicate important details about closings or emergencies. The system provides emergency alerts and updates to students, faculty and staff via e-mail, cell phones, pagers and other handheld devices. This free service may be accessed at the college's home page (www.nr.edu). There is no software to install or extra equipment to purchase; all that is required is a simple registration process. Upon registration, users choose a password so they can manage their account online, and are then ready to receive alerts in the event of an emergency.

This is one of a series of measures NRCC is taking in planning for emergency situations. For questions or comments about emergency preparedness at New River, contact Dr. Mark Rowh at 674-3617 or mrowh@nr.edu.



State officials visit mall site

House Appropriations Staff Tour Mall Site

Two staff members from the Virginia House of Delegates appropriations committee recently visited the NRCC mall site in Christiansburg. The committee works with legislators and senior government officials in analyzing and developing financial, budgetary and policy recommendations on issues involving the Commonwealth's budget and related legislation. Pictured from left are Robert Vaughn, house appropriations staff director; Jack Lewis, NRCC president; Glenn DuBois, VCCS chancellor, and Mike Poldiak, New River Valley Mall manager. Anthony Maggio, house appropriations legislative fiscal analyst, also attended.

Hamblin Awarded National Coca-Cola Scholarship

Tegan Hamblin, a student at NRCC from Newbern, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Through the Coca-Cola Two-Year Colleges Scholarship Program, the Foundation awards a total of 500 scholarships annually to students attending higher education institutions granting two-year degrees. All recipients have demonstrated academic success and participated in community service.

Hamblin says she never imagined how joining a club in the fourth grade would have shaped her life and career goals. She is a national 4-H All Star, an honor that may be equated to the Eagle Scout rank in Boy Scouts.



Tegan Hamblin

After receiving an associate degree in education from NRCC in May 2009, she plans to transfer to Radford University and major in elementary education. Her career goal is to remain in Pulaski County and teach in the local school system.



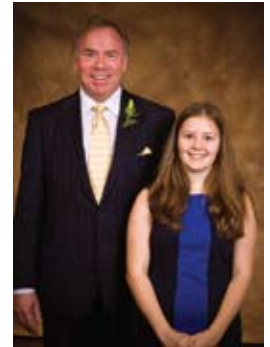
From left, Cahoon, Harris, Warlitter, Tucker

Grads Return To Recruit New Hires

Several employees of MeadWestvaco (MWW) Corp. recently visited campus to talk with students in the instrumentation department to recruit upcoming graduates to work for their company. Among the MWW employees were four New River graduates. Pictured are Patrick Cahoon – '91; Scott Harris – '07; Tim Warlitter – '86; and Ricky Tucker – '93. MeadWestvaco is a packaging manufacturer located in Covington.

NRCC Names Gibbs Commonwealth Legacy Scholar

Stacy Gibbs of Pulaski has been awarded the Gilmer, Sadler, Ingram, Sutherland & Hutton Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship at NRCC. She was one of 30 community college students honored at the annual Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship luncheon which was held at the Omni Hotel in Richmond. This scholarship program is sponsored by the Virginia Community College System (VCCS).



Glenn DuBois, VCCS chancellor, (l) and Stacy Gibbs

Gibbs graduated from Pulaski County High School in 2008 with a 4.0 grade point average achieved while taking college preparatory classes, participating in the choir, and working a part-time job. She also served as vice president of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and won first place in the FCCLA state competition. Gibbs aspires to be a teacher.

Each legacy scholarship is named in honor of a philanthropic leader who has been a supporter of the local community college. In NRCC's case, this year's award was named after the Pulaski law office of Gilmer, Sadler, Ingram, Sutherland & Hutton, which over the years has generously supported the college through scholarship contributions, service on boards and in other ways.

College Family Mourns Passing of Longtime Supporters

The NRCC family mourns the passing of three of its most stalwart supporters. H. W. Huff, Jr., Novella Dixon Mayberry and Archa Vaughan, Jr., all of Pulaski and longtime friends to NRCC, have passed away. Huff, Mayberry and Vaughan were dedicated supporters of the college and especially the Foundation's endowed scholarship program. Thanks to their generosity, students for years to come will benefit from scholarship assistance. They are remembered fondly by the students, faculty and staff of NRCC.