

WCC Current

The Community Newsletter of Wytheville Community College

Volume 4, Number 1

Spring 2010

Counts Drug honored for philanthropy

Counts Drug, Inc. of Wytheville has been honored with the 2010 Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy. Counts Drug, Inc. was nominated for



Pictured from left to right are: Reed Counts, Betty Johnston, VCCS Chancellor Glenn DuBois, WCC President Charlie White, and Dennis Counts.

the award by Wytheville Community College. The award was given at a luncheon ceremony at the Country Club of Virginia on Tuesday, April 20.

Reed Counts, co-owner, and his son, Dennis Counts, vice president, accepted the award on behalf of the company. They were accompanied by Betty Johnston, Reed's daughter. Co-owner Bill Weisiger was unable to attend the ceremony.

Counts Drug, Inc. has been a strong supporter of Wytheville Community College. During the recent "Forging Futures Capital Campaign," Counts Drug, Inc. contributed \$100,000 toward the William F. Snyder Auditorium project. "We are extremely grateful for the support of Counts Drug," said Dr. Charlie White, WCC President. "With dwindling state funds, private support of the college is more and more critical." The Counts Drug gift was matched by funds pro-

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Barnes, Muncy receive Distinguished Service Awards

Dr. Edwin L. Barnes and Patsy B. Muncy have been honored with Distinguished Service and Teaching awards from Wytheville Community College. Barnes received the Distinguished Service Award and Muncy was announced as the recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award at the college's annual Honors Convocation held May 6.

Barnes came to WCC in 2005 as Executive Vice President. Despite having retired as President of New River Community College several years before, he willingly accepted the position at WCC when the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System asked him to serve. In July, Barnes was named Acting President of Wytheville Community College, a posi-

tion he held until the hiring of President Charlie White in the spring of 2006.

"During his tenure at WCC, Ed played a critical role in leading the college's successful reaccreditation process through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools," said White. "He was also involved in early discussions related to what would ultimately become the Wythe-Bland Community Foundation Scholarship Program, one of the most unique scholarship programs in the nation."

While at WCC, Barnes also worked with both internal and external constituencies to strengthen college

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Fairbanks receives “Excellence in Education” award

Ken Fairbanks, Director of Distance & Distributed Learning at Wytheville Community College, was recently honored with a first-place “Excellence in Education Award” by the Virginia Community College System.

Fairbanks, an Abingdon native, received the award at the VCCS New Horizons Conference in Roanoke for his contribution to “IDOL: Instructional Design for Online Learning.” IDOL is a 10-week online course that provides college faculty with the skills and best practices needed to design effective online courses. The IDOL project was a collaborative effort involving instructional designers from five community colleges.

Other winners included: C.J. Bracken, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College; Kristin Machac, Central Virginia Community College; Joan Osborne, Lord Fairfax Community College; and Ruth Smith, Thomas Nelson Community College.

“We’ve seen explosive growth in distance learning in the VCCS over the past five years and it continues to grow and become more robust each year,” said Fairbanks. “With IDOL and its predecessor TOP: Teaching Online Program, we are trying to make sure quality is maintained through faculty training and that students receive the best online learning experience possible.” Both IDOL and TOP have been recognized by Old Dominion University, which offers graduate and doctoral credit to participants who successfully complete the programs.

Fairbanks, says he is not stopping with IDOL, “It’s an exciting time to be involved with distance learning. I’m currently leading the development team for our next course, entitled MODEL: Multimedia for Online, Distance and E-Learning. This course takes a similar approach to TOP and IDOL, but focuses on developing multimedia that supports effective online

learning. At WCC, we are busy developing training materials for online learners, distance learning policy, and the launch of a peer review process for distance learning courses.”

Fairbanks came to Wytheville Community College in August 2009 after spending seven years working with distance learning at Southwest Virginia

Community College. He is a graduate of King College, East Tennessee State University, and Virginia Highlands Community College.

TOP and IDOL have reached over 400 faculty across the Virginia Community College System and the new MODEL course is scheduled to pilot at four colleges this summer before launching to the entire VCCS (23 colleges) this fall.



Ken Fairbanks

WCC graduates Class of 2010

WCC celebrated the graduation of its Class of 2010 during three commencement exercises held May 7-8. Degrees were conferred on more than 400 students. Two commencement ceremonies were held at the Wytheville Meeting Center adjoining the WCC campus and a third was held at Carroll County High School.

WCC’s total number of graduates for the year was nearly 600.

During the May 7 ceremony, WCC recognized graduates from WCC’s General Education, Business, and Occupational/Technology programs, while graduates of the college’s Health Care Professions programs were recognized during the May 8 event. Later that Saturday evening, a third ceremony was held in the auditorium of Carroll County High School.

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Charles D. Roberts named 2010 Professor Emeritus



Charles D. Roberts

Charles D. Roberts of Rural Retreat has been named Professor Emeritus of Wytheville Community College for 2010.

This honor may be bestowed upon retired WCC faculty members who held faculty rank, had a minimum of 10 years of service, and made meritorious and significant contributions to the college.

Roberts earned his bachelor's degree in 1963 from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and his master's degree in 1969, also from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He joined the faculty at WCC in 1969 and taught in the business department until his retirement as an Associate Professor of Business Management in June of 2002.

During his full-time tenure at WCC, Roberts served on numerous college standing committees and was a sponsor of student clubs. He was a faithful member of the college's Faculty Government Association and provided expert guidance on issues of parliamentary procedure.

Roberts was honored at WCC's May 7 commencement when he led the graduation procession while carrying the college's Ceremonial Mace, which represents the academic authority of the WCC faculty. Roberts was also recognized by WCC President Charlie White during the commencement ceremony.

MTC receives USDA grant to assist manufacturers

The Manufacturing Technology Center (MTC), located at Wytheville Community College, has been awarded a \$50,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant by the USDA Rural Development that will be used to provide technical support to small- and medium-size manufacturers in economically distressed areas of Southwest Virginia.

Types of assistance available include Market Assessments, Quality Control Systems, Process Improvements Using Lean Manufacturing and Six Sigma, Engineering/Process Documentation, Tool Design, and Rapid Prototyping.

Interested manufacturers should contact the Manufacturing Technology Center at 276-223-4709.

Porterfield named Staff Emeritus

Carolyn S. Porterfield of Wytheville has been named the 2010 WCC Support Staff Emeritus honoree. This recognition honors retired support staff personnel who served WCC for a minimum of ten years and whose performance and contributions were meritorious.

Porterfield is a 1969 graduate of WCC. She joined the staff at the college in 1971. She worked in various capacities, including Clerk Typist in the Library and Data Entry Operator in the Admissions and Records Office. At the time of her retirement in January of 2009, she held the position of Information Technology Specialist I in the college's Information Technology Department.



Charlie White and Carolyn Porterfield

WCC accepting applications for Wythe-Bland Scholarship

All graduating high school seniors in Wythe and Bland counties are encouraged to apply for the Wythe-Bland Community Foundation Scholarship Program. The program provides in-state tuition and fees for all eligible graduates of the class of 2010 for up to five semesters at Wytheville Community College.

“This is an incredible opportunity,” said Dr. Charlie White, WCC President. “Every eligible student should consider applying.”

The Wythe-Bland Community Foundation Scholarship Program was established in 2007. To date, the program has served 310 students with tuition totaling more than \$700,000.

“The Wythe-Bland Community Foundation is extremely proud of our scholarship program,” said Dr. Gail Catron, Executive Director. “There are very few other programs like this in the nation. Our Foundation understands the value of education, and the scholarship program is a wonderful way for the Foundation to fulfill its mission of improving lives of the citizens of Wythe and Bland counties.”

Despite rumors, there are no plans to discontinue the program. “We were very distressed to learn that some students and parents thought that the scholarship program was no longer available. That’s simply not true,” stated Catron. “The Board of Directors of the Wythe-Bland Community Foundation is fully committed to continuing this program indefinitely.”

For application information and forms, visit the website at www.wcc.vccs.edu/foundation/wythebland.php or contact Nancy Sauls at 223-4719.



Above, Dr. Gail Catron, Executive Director of the Wythe-Bland Community Foundation, addresses guests at a luncheon held April 19. Below, Charlie White greets guests.



WCC President Charlie White presents the college’s Support Staff Employee of the Year award to Derek R. Halsey (right), a resident of Grayson County. Halsey, a 1999 graduate of WCC, has been employed in the college’s Information Technology Systems Office since 1998 as an electronic technician. The presentation was made at a recent in-service meeting held at the college.

Upcoming Events

June 18--“Access WCC” radio program airs on WXBX, 95.3 FM and WWWJ, 1360 AM.

July 5--WCC, the Library, and the Child Dev. Center Closed for Independence Day.

July 6--Second 5-Week Class Session Begins.

July 17--Bluegrass and Old-Time Jamboree, George Wythe High School Auditorium, 7 p.m.

July 30--WCC Carroll County Alumni Picnic, 5-7 p.m. at the Carter Pines Picnic Shelter in Hillsville.



WCC's Child Development Center celebrated its second Pre K 4 graduation with a ceremony held May 13 in Snyder Auditorium.

Glenna Turner named Adjunct of the Year

WCC recently named Glenna Turner of Wytheville as its Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year. The presentation was made by Dr.



Charlie White presents the award to Turner.

Charlie White at the college's annual Honors Convocation on May 6.

In nominating Turner for this award, her supervisor, Dr. Lorri Huffard, wrote: "Glenna has taught Nurse Aide classes for Wytheville Community College for more than 20 years. During this time, she has approached each class with enthusiasm and a unique desire to help every student succeed. She makes every effort to remove obstacles to the students' success, arranging transportation and even bringing lunch for those students who could not afford to buy meals."

Additionally, Turner has ensured that every class has a graduation ceremony. Huffard noted that "because of her encouragement and the positive experiences her students have in her classes, approximately one-third of her students enroll in other health programs at WCC."

Lawson receives Improvement of Instruction Award

Wytheville Community College recently honored John C. Lawson of Fincastle with its Improvement of Instruction Award. The presentation was made by WCC President Charlie White at the college's annual Honors Convocation held May 6.

Lawson's supervisor, Dr. Bruce Brown, nominated him for the award based on Lawson's efforts to launch a Human Services Specialization under WCC's General Studies Degree. Not only did Lawson work to develop the program curriculum and receive necessary approvals, but he also met with senior institutions to ensure transfer opportunities for students. Additionally, Lawson has met with employers to help open doors for employment opportunities for WCC graduates.

Beyond his work with the Human Services program, Lawson has also initiated a film production program at WCC. His first class produced a college recruitment resource that is now published on the college's web page. During 2009-10, students enrolled in his class produced a bi-monthly newscast of WCC events that was also made available on the college web page.

In addition to Lawson's commitment to program development, he has also been recognized for his work with distance learning. He serves as coach of the WCC Women's Volleyball Team and is currently working to establish the Wytheville Community College Golf Team.

Lawson, an assistant professor, joined the social science faculty at WCC in 2004. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Radford



Lawson receives his award from White.

University in 1994 and his Master of Arts in Liberal Science Degree from Hollins University in 1996.

WCC attends annual VCCS Legislative Day in Richmond

WCC students, administrators, and board members attended a Virginia Community College System Legislative Day at the General Assembly in Richmond on February 18.

Virginia's 23 community colleges are each assigned two separate days during the annual General Assembly session. These Legislative Days allow community college students from around Virginia to express their support and appreciation for the educational opportunities afforded them at their particular community college and to encourage their General Assembly representatives to continue supporting Virginia's community colleges. WCC's first Legislative Day on February 9 was cancelled due to winter weather.

Student attendees who participated in the WCC Legislative Day on February 18 were: Adria Umbarger of Smyth County, a Police Science/Corrections double major; Jonathan White of Galax, a Nursing major; Nathanael Welch of Wythe County, a double major in Science (Engineering)/General Studies; Sharonette

Edwards, a Licensed Practical Nursing major, and Christi Dalton, an Accounting major, both of Carroll County; and Robert Reed of Grayson County, also a Licensed Practical Nursing major.

Also attending were WCC President Charlie White; WCC's Vice President of Instruction and Student Development, Dr. Ron Proffitt; WCC's Director of College Development, Dr. Rhonda Catron-Wood; WCC Board Chair William M. Dixon, Jr. and his wife, Rita; and Robert Kegley, President of the WCC Educational Foundation Board of Directors.

Legislative Day participants visited with Del. Charles "Bill" Carrico, Del. Ward Armstrong, Sen. Roscoe Reynolds, Del. Anne B. Crockett-Stark, Sen. William Wampler, and Sen. Phillip Puckett.

The WCC legislative team attended the VCCS Legislative Reception held February 17 at the Library of Virginia, to which all General Assembly legislators were invited. On February 18, the legislative team from WCC also toured the Capitol.

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and community relations. In nominating Barnes for the Distinguished Service Award, Public Relations Coordinator William Veselik pointed

to Barnes' "vast experience, tried-and-true people-based management style, and his personal warmth and understanding" as being key to his leadership as WCC President.

Barnes earned his bachelor's degree from Elon College in 1963, his M.Ed. from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro in 1970, and his Ed.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1976.

He and his wife reside in Gibsonville, N.C. The couple has three children and six grandchildren.

Muncy, an Assistant Professor of Nursing, joined



Dr. Barnes (right) receives his award from Dr. White.

the college's faculty full time in 2005. She earned her associate's degree in Nursing from WCC in 1974, her B.S.N. from Bluefield State College in 1994, and her M.S.N. from Old Dominion University in 2005. Dr. Lorri

Huffard, Muncy's supervisor, wrote: "Patsy is both a model teacher and a model faculty member. She always has a positive attitude, and it is evident from her teaching evaluations that students adore her. She always keeps the students' best interests at heart and will go to extraordinary measures to assist a student when needed."

In addition to being nominated by her supervisor, Muncy was also nominated for the Distinguished Teaching Award by one of her students, Jonathan White. He also emphasized Muncy's commitment to



Dr. White presents Patsy Muncy with her award.

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Melissa Fowler named WCC's Student of Year

Wytheville Community College has named its Student of the Year for 2010.

Melissa Hope Fowler of Speedwell was chosen for the annual honor.

Dena Collins of Cana and Roxanna Jones of Rural Retreat were finalists for the award. All three students graduated recently during commencement exercises held at Wytheville Community College.

Fowler graduated with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Administrative Support Technology on May 7. Her grade point average was 4.0. At WCC, she was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society of two-year colleges, and served as President. She was named to the President's Honor Roll while attending WCC. Fowler plans a career as an Administrative Services Manager.

Fowler was also named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for 2010 and was the recipient of the "Virginia Operations of Camcar/Textron Scholarship," awarded through the WCC Educational Foundation.

Dena Collins worked for more than 16 years at a textile plant before being laid off. During that time, she earned a 10-year perfect attendance award. At the same time she was working full time, she also worked 12 hours a day on both Saturday and Sunday at a produce market in Cana. She says she chose to attend WCC with the hope of bettering herself and learning more skills to return to work. At WCC, Collins excelled academically, earning a 4.0 cumulative grade point average. She was also an active member of Phi Theta Kappa, the college's honor society. She graduated on May 7 with a degree in Management and Accounting.

While attending WCC, Roxanna Jones worked two jobs: one at the WCC Child Development Center and the other at Food Country. Her supervisor at the Child Development Center noted that Jones has excelled in the management of the young children's classroom. She has also assisted with the management of the USDA food program for the Child Development Center.

Jones earned a 3.57 cumulative grade point average while attending WCC. She graduated on May 7 with a degree in Early Childhood Education. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and she served as Sec-

retary of that organization. Jones spoke on behalf of the WCC student body at each of the college's three commencement ceremonies held May 7-8.

To be considered for Student of the Year, a student must maintain a GPA of 3.2, demonstrate leadership skills by contributing time and efforts to campus and community activities, and be a spring graduate of the



WCC President Charlie White presents the Student of the Year Award to Melissa Fowler of Speedwell.

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student learning. He wrote: "Even though Ms. Muncy had close to 60 students in her first-year nursing classes alone, I have always felt like she has a great one-on-one relationship with me and with every one of my peers. Because she has been through the same program, she always seems to know what we are going through and remember what it is like to be in our shoes."

Muncy also serves on the WCC Nursing Curriculum Committee, the WCC Nursing Student Faculty Committee, and the WCC Admissions and Standards Committee. She also currently serves as Treasurer of the WCC Faculty Government Association. Prior to teaching at WCC, Patsy worked for over 30 years at Wythe County Community Hospital. She resides in Bland County.

The WCC Distinguished Service Awards Program was established in 1990 by Nathaniel W. Pendleton, Jr., and his family in memory of his father, Nathaniel W. Pendleton, Sr., who was a Wytheville construction company executive and member of the Virginia House of Delegates. He was instrumental in passing legislation in 1962 that established WCC and provided its operating funds.

Transfer programs save time and money for students

Wytheville Community College's transfer degree programs allow students to save money while they complete the first two years of their four-year bachelor's degree close to home.

WCC offers associate degrees in Business Administration, Education, General Studies, Liberal Arts, and Science, all of which are designed to provide students with the freshman and sophomore courses they would normally take if they were attending a four-year college or university to earn a bachelor's degree. Once students complete their two-year degree at WCC, they can easily transfer to a Virginia college or university to finish their advanced degree.

However, thanks to WCC's low tuition and students living at home, students can save practically enough by attending WCC for the first two years to pay for their junior and senior years at the four-year college or university.

"Thanks to the transfer agreements the Virginia Community College System has signed with colleges and universities throughout Virginia—and some in other states—it's a simple matter for a student who has completed one of WCC's transfer programs to move on to the four-year institution without a hitch," said WCC President Charlie White. "The whole system is designed to ensure that students are taking the right

courses at the community college so they can start as juniors when they reach the university level."

WCC also offers degree specializations that allow students to transfer to specific universities in order to complete their bachelor's degree. These include a Science specialization in Engineering; a General Studies specialization in Human Services; and several pre-teacher education specializations in Education, General Studies, Liberal Arts, and Science. Students who may be concerned that they will have academic problems after transferring from Wytheville Community College to a four-year institution should have no worries. Studies show that students who transfer from WCC are well-prepared for their junior and senior years and they perform academically as well as they did while attending WCC.

The Virginia Community College System maintains the "Virginia Education Wizard," online at www.vawizard.org. The Virginia Education Wizard (VEW) is a website that is designed to assist prospective students with career and college planning. Info is also available about transfer agreements and how to plan for transferring from a community college to a four-year university. Additionally, the VEW website offers information about financial aid, scholarships, and other topics of interest to students and their parents.

Sharing Holiday Cheer

WCC President Dr. Charlie White, his wife, Peggy, and Dr. Rhonda K. Catron-Wood, WCC's Director of College Development,



visited with many WCC supporters during the 2009 holiday season. Above left, Dr. White is seen visiting with Pearl Dixon of Galax. She is the mother of WCC Board member Susie Dixon Garner. Above right are pictured (left to right) Jerry Parsons of Grayson County, Peggy White, Doris Ward of Galax, Catron-Wood, and Mava Vass of Carroll County. Vass is also a member of the WCC Board.

Students graduate from WCC before earning high school diplomas

Dual enrollment courses are the key to success

Six local students—five from Grayson County High School and one from Rocky Gap High School—recently graduated from Wytheville Community College even though they had not yet graduated from their respective high schools.

The six are dual enrollment students, meaning that they have taken courses that count toward both their high school diplomas and a degree from Wytheville Community College. These, however, are the first students in WCC's service region to have accomplished this feat.

"We've had many students come to WCC from high school with enough dual enrollment courses to allow them to complete an associate's degree within a single year," said Sharon Alexander, WCC's Dual Enrollment Coordinator. "But these six students are the first to complete all of their WCC course work while still attending high school."

The students from Grayson County High School who have earned an Associate in Arts and Sciences Degree with a major in General Studies are: Heather Paisley, Kaitlyn Compton, Molly Mitchell, LeAnna Hines, and Jesenia Ruiz.

Miranda Cox, a senior at Rocky Gap High School, will complete an Associate in Arts and Sciences Degree with a major in Science during the summer term.



Miranda Cox

"We are pleased that these students have taken advantage of this opportunity," said WCC President Charlie White. "Dual enrollment courses are a great way to challenge academically prepared students."

Another advantage to dual enrollment classes is the fact that students are able to take the courses in the familiar high



Pictured from left to right are Heather Paisley, Kaitlyn Compton, Molly Mitchell, LeAnna Hines, and Jesenia Ruiz.

school setting. White noted that this is particularly important for encouraging students who might not think they are capable of doing college-level work. "Dual enrollment courses encourage many students to attend college who might otherwise have never considered enrolling," said White. "The fact that it is now possible to complete an associate's degree while still in high school will obviously encourage even more students to consider furthering their education beyond the associate level."

Despite the benefits of the program, students and parents must understand that dual enrollment courses are not a breeze.

"Since dual enrollment courses are meeting the requirements of both the high school and WCC, the students are held to the same academic standards as if they were sitting in a classroom at the college," explained Alexander. "The dual enrollment teachers in the high schools are fully-credentialed adjunct members of the WCC faculty, and the courses they teach must be of the same high quality as those taught by our full-time faculty members."

One of the biggest advantages offered by dual enrollment courses is the fact that students can get a head start on their careers. "Imagine taking your first steps out of high school and having your associate's degree

WCC graduates truck drivers at ceremony on May 6

On May 6, Wytheville Community College graduated nine students who have completed the college's Truck Driving Training Program at the Crossroads Institute in Galax.

The students celebrated completion of the program by receiving their Entry Level Driver Certification and a Certificate in Truck Driving Training.

Families and friends of graduates were in attendance, along with faculty and staff of WCC. Dr. Charlie White, President of WCC, delivered the commencement address.

Receiving certifications and certificates were Justin R. Alderman of Hillsville, Steven G. Anders of Fries, Ronald F. Freeman of Fancy Gap, Tammy A. Juzwak of Stuart, Elden R. Lewis and Jamie L. Osborne, both of Hillsville, Greg D. Porter of Max Meadows, Timothy W. Speer of Cana, and Keith R. White of Galax.

Osborne received the Student Achievement Award. This award goes to the student who achieves the highest average grade in all five courses and maintains exceptional attendance.

In order to complete the Truck Driver Training Program students must successfully complete 18 credit hours of study while maintaining a "C" or better average. In addition to achieving program completion,



Pictured left to right (front row): Bill Reeves, Instructor; Mark Nuckolls, Assistant Instructor; Steve Anders; Tammy Juzwak; Greg Porter; left to right (back row): Jamie Osborne; Rusty White; Tim Speer; Robert Lewis; Ronald Freeman; Justin Alderman; Mark Farmer, Assistant Instructor.

these students took their Commercial Driver's License certification administered by the Division of Motor Vehicles this week and all graduates passed certification and are now Class A Licensed Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators.

WCC's Truck Driving Training Program is a grant-funded program made possible by the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission. Recruitment is now underway for upcoming summer and fall classes. For more information on Truck Driving at WCC, please contact Bill Reeves at (276) 744-4974 or email at wcreevb@wcc.vccs.edu.

Green Energy seminars set for Crossroads June 12 and 19

Wytheville Community College will sponsor two Green Energy seminars at the Crossroads Institute in Galax on Saturday, June 12, and Saturday, June 19, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The events are free and open to the public. The Green Energy seminars are designed to give a basic understanding of passive solar and solar water heating systems. These seminars will give attendees

a basic knowledge of the power of solar and a history of solar heating. They will cover the basic understanding of how solar power can and will contribute energy savings for homeowners.

The green energy seminars will cover:

- Facts about the sun and how it can work for

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Students passed out Mardi Gras beads during the annual Spring Fling held on campus April 6. The event featured free food, free Starbucks coffee, and free music provided by a live band.

•Dual

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already in hand,” said Alexander. “You can transfer to a four-year college or university, finish your bachelor’s degree at age twenty, and begin earning good money in your career while your high school friends still have two years of college remaining.”

Students who earn a WCC degree and don’t have plans to transfer to college will more than likely find the job outlook bright. “While their classmates are struggling to find minimum-wage jobs,” said Alexander, “studies show that dual-enrollment students who have already earned a degree will be commanding much higher salaries and benefits.”

For more information about dual enrollment classes at your high school, contact your guidance counselor or call Sharon Alexander at 276-223-4753.

•Green

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us—8-9 a.m.

- History of solar heating—9-10 a.m.
- Overview of passive solar and the way it works—10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Overview of solar water heating and how it works—1-3 p.m.
- Questions and answers—3-4 p.m.

For more information about attending either of the Green Energy seminars, please call the Crossroads Institute at 276-744-4974.

Work begins on second phase of Snyder Auditorium

Phase two of the William F. Snyder Auditorium project is well underway on the WCC campus as an addition to Grayson Hall. Utility, water, and sewer lines have been relocated. Most of the excavation at the site has been completed and wood forms for the concrete foundation of the addition are now in place.

“We are very excited that this project is moving forward,” said Dr. Charlie White, WCC President. “I know that Bill Snyder, Carolyn Sanders, and all of the other donors who supported the project will be pleased to see it completed.”

Sanders first conceptualized the project and provided a generous matching gift program to help raise funds for the project. The new auditorium complex will include the 200-seat auditorium, additional stage and wing space, Dixon dressing rooms, the Johnson lobby, and a small catering kitchen.

Substantial completion of the project is tentatively scheduled for late fall, and a ribbon cutting/dedication ceremony is being planned.



Concrete forms are now in place on the site of phase two of the Snyder Auditorium project.

•Counts

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vided through a matching gift program established by local philanthropist Carolyn Frazier Sanders.

Not only did Counts Drug, Inc. monetarily support the capital campaign, but Reed Counts also served on the campaign's "Lead Gift Committee." He volunteered his time to assist the college in soliciting additional gifts. The campaign successfully raised \$3.1 million.

Reed is also a charter member of WCC's Concert Band. This band, made up of a diverse group of musicians from the college's service region and beyond, performs at least twice annually, as well as during special events.

"Contributions to the community college system will result in more productive lives for more individuals over a longer period of time than any other contribution I can think of," said Reed Counts. "I expect the community college system to continue to make a high-quality, affordable education available to area students and to expedite the growth of the college to meet the needs of an ever-increasing enrollment."

The Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy is hosted by the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education (VFCCE) to honor the leading philanthropists from each of Virginia's 23 community colleges, as well as the system's statewide foundation. This marks the fifth year the awards have been given.

This year's class of distinguished philanthropy leaders has contributed a combined total of \$10 million dollars to Virginia's community colleges.

"These distinguished individuals are sharing with us their secrets to creating the opportunities of tomorrow. From their hearts, from their hands, from their

experiences, they give of themselves. Along the way, they are elevating people's lives by affording them hope and the opportunity of higher education. And we can never say thank you enough," said Glenn DuBois, Chancellor of Virginia's Community Colleges.

Each of the award recipients will have a scholarship named after them and awarded next fall to a student attending their community college. The scholarships are funded largely by the Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation.

•Graduation

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The Friday night procession of graduates from the WCC campus to the Wytheville Meeting Center was led by the recently-named Professor Emeritus for 2010, Charles D. Roberts, a retired Associate Professor of Business Management at WCC.

The Wythe County Junior ROTC color guard presented the United States and Virginia flags during the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem at the beginning of the Friday ceremony. The Carroll County Junior ROTC color guard handled the same duty at both Saturday ceremonies.

William M. Dixon, Chair of the College Board, gave a welcome and introduced platform dignitaries and special guests at all three ceremonies. Gary C. Hancock, Chair of the State Board for Community Colleges, brought greetings from the State Board at each event. Student commentary was provided during all three ceremonies by Roxanna Jones, a member of the graduating class.

Dr. Ron Proffitt, Vice President of Instruction and Student Development, presented the Class of 2010 to President White, who conferred the degrees at all three events.

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