STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS SPONSOR
A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES

Within weeks of the start of school, student organizations on all New River campuses were busy organizing projects to benefit students or provide support to community organizations. On the next four pages are some snapshots of the many ways that New River students are demonstrating their leadership and commitment.

Nicholas County Campus

It has become a tradition for students from the Nicholas County Campus to kick off the fall semester by participating in Summersville’s annual Potato Festival. This year, the SGA sponsored a float in the parade with the theme “Fishing for a New Career,” with proud graduate-to-be Bill Paull leading the way.

Students in the practical nursing program sponsored a booth where they served up goodies and performed health screenings. Pictured at right are Heaven Moore, Christine O’Dell, Cassandra Armstrong and Jessica Waugh.

The SGA also sponsored a “Back to School Bash” featuring a cookout, a live band and door prizes. Boats Keene reports the group fed around 300 people including faculty, staff and students—which means that 200 hotdogs and 225 hamburgers landed on the grill.

Future plans include participating in the Veteran’s Day Parade and a Halloween party. Over the holidays, they will invite Santa Claus to campus and will conduct food and coat drives for needy families.

The Nicholas County Campus SGA team pictured at right includes (L-R) Martha Baisden, student program advisor; Jennifer Stewart, freshman rep; Pam Lanham, president; Bill Paull, parliamentarian; Denise Harvey, vice president; Robert Keene, freshman rep; and Boats Keene, financial aid counselor. Not pictured are Meghan Miller, secretary; Heaven Moore, treasurer; and Kelli Shaffer and Brandon Clark, sophomore reps.

Potato Festival photos courtesy of Mary Igo
Greenbrier Valley Campus

The Greenbrier Valley Campus SGA kicked off the new semester with a Free Food Week (top photo at left), with food provided by several local restaurants. The event was popular with students as well as faculty and staff. President Daniel Hamrick thanked Bellacino’s, Rudy’s Grill, Subway and The Bakery on Court Street for their contributions.

Next up was the SGA Café on October 6. The SGA will sponsor a series of Café meals featuring different ethnic foods over the coming months.

The group sponsored a booth at last Saturday’s Taste of Our Towns (T.O.O.T.) Festival in Lewisburg, serving up veggie and chicken salad pitas. Proceeds will be split between the SGA and Carnegie Hall, the arts and education center that sponsors T.O.O.T.

On Oct. 20, the SGA will sponsor a Halloween Costume Contest, and on Friday, Oct. 22, they will host a Halloween Party where students, their families and community members can enjoy food, crafts, movies and more.

The group also plans to assemble care packages to be sent to troops from the Greenbrier Valley area who were recently deployed to Afghanistan.

Below: Pictured following a meeting of the Greenbrier Valley Campus SGA are: (front row, L-R) Geneva Highlander, sophomore rep; Chris Whisman, vice president; Dodie Bishoff, parliamentarian; Erica Hamrick, secretary; (back row, L-R) Joanna Schwartz, freshman rep; Cindy Smith, treasurer; Rachael Clemons, sophomore rep; Robert West, freshman rep; Esther Kuhn, sophomore rep; Ian Landers, sophomore rep; and Daniel Hambrick, president.
Beckley Campus

The Beckley Campus SGA also kicked off the fall semester with a Free Food Week where faculty, staff and students could enjoy a meal together and get acquainted or re-acquainted.

The SGA-sponsored Constitution Day game show on Sept. 18 was a big success, garnering local television and newspaper coverage. See story on page six to find out who won! In the photo top right, SGA officers Eva March, president, and Matthew Curry, vice president, moderated the game show dressed as Benjamin Franklin and Abigail Adams.

On Sept. 24 the SGA participated in Sherrie’s Sweep, a city-wide clean-up effort. In the photo bottom right, faculty advisor Karen Carter-Harvey and Brandon Haynes are pictured picking up trash along George Street near the Beckley Campus.

The group has already begun decorating the campus for Halloween and will be sponsoring a Halloween party. For the holidays, they will prepare packages for the troops and will conduct a holiday toy drive.

The Beckley Campus SGA officers include (L-R) Rahni Borders, who has been nominated as treasurer; Aaron Scarboro, secretary; and Eva March, president. Faculty sponsor Karen Carter-Harvey is also pictured. Not pictured are Matthew Curry, vice president, and Brandon Haynes and Teresa Becker, freshman representatives. There are a several more offices to be filled.
Medical Assisting students from the Beckley Campus performed health screenings during a Cardiac Awareness Day program sponsored by the Beckley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority on Saturday, Sept. 25. Pictured are (front row, L-R) Jessica Branham, Kristen Cales, MAST instructor Anita Stapleton and Amanda Busby; (back row, L-R) Misty Reckeweg, event chair Dr. Elizabeth Nelson and New River employee Lisa DeLilly, a member of Delta Sigma Theta. “This was the students’ first public health fair and they performed well,” Stapleton said.

Photo courtesy of Lisa DeLilly

MERCER COUNTY CAMPUS

The Mercer County Campus SGA sponsored a Constitution Day program featuring a presentation by Greenbrier Valley Campus Dean Roger Griffith (pictured at right). The program was attended by both New River students and high school students from Mercer Tech, where the campus is located. The celebration included band music, singing of the national anthem reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and a flag-themed cake.

The SGA sponsored free food week during mid-terms and is cooking up other plans for the rest of the semester.

Photo courtesy of Tammie Toler, Princeton Times

The Mercer County Campus SGA (Front row L-R): Krystian Barskile, vice president; Kayleigh Oates, president; and Carol Harris, secretary. Back row: Chris Fenton, treasurer; Brian Testerman, faculty advisor; Angela Patterson, freshman rep; and Helen Clarke, sophomore rep.

Photo courtesy of Lacy McCarty
MEET A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Deborah Hill is the CEO of Summersville Regional Medical Center. She has served on the Board of Governors since 2008. She received her associate degree in nursing and bachelor’s in health care administration from West Virginia Institute of Technology. She went on to receive her master’s in health care management from the WV College of Graduate Studies.

Hill spent the first 13 years of her career working in the long-term care industry as a director of nursing and long term care administrator. She also taught as an adjunct professor at West Virginia Institute of Technology for several years. She came to SRMC in 2000 as the Chief Nursing Officer/Chief Operating Officer. In 2005 she was awarded the position of Chief Executive Officer.

A native of Boomer, WV, Hill currently lives in Mt. Nebo with her husband and seven children. Her eldest and only daughter is a student in biology at West Virginia University Institute of Technology. Her eldest son is a student at New River’s Nicholas County Campus. Her other five children are in the Nicholas County Public Schools. Deborah is proud to be a football and soccer mom along with her professional responsibilities.

She is active in the the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Gilgal United Methodist Church, Community Action Board and other agencies.

Hill accepted the invitation to serve on the New River Board of Governors because she has a strong belief in making higher education accessible to all people, young and old. She notes that we can only improve the communities we live in if we improve the lives of those who live there, and education is that key.

“New River has made a tremendous impact on the availability of education to West Virginia citizens and shows great vision for the future,” she says.

Deborah Hill

UPCOMING STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSIONS

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Beckley Campus</td>
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<td>December 22</td>
<td>Mercer County Campus</td>
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Pam Hull of Flat Top was the winner of the Constitution Day game show on the Beckley Campus. The contest went down to the wire, with Hull winning by answering a tie-breaking question about which amendment deals with search and seizure. Her correct answer of the Fourth Amendment won her a $250 book voucher. She beat out Rahni Borders, who placed second. Danisea Calloway was third; Lora McGraw, fourth; and Jamie Lefler, fifth.

Hull admits to doing a little last-minute Googling to prepare for the contest, but she credits the knowledge she gained in Dr. Willis Nordlund’s American Government class for her understanding of the Constitution.

“It’s the first time I’ve ever gotten a monetary reward for taking classes,” she laughs, but quickly adds that there is a reward in itself in learning.

Hull is enjoying her return to college now that her children are grown. Although she is majoring in paralegal studies, she is even “embracing algebra” now after struggling with it in high school.

“I like New River,” she says. “It has the academics, but it is also has more of a family atmosphere. We have very, very good instructors. They guide you, but they expect you to do your work. It’s the best of both worlds, and it is more geared to my personality than a bigger school. It’s a great school.”

Hull thought the contest was a great idea and suggested that the SGA might want to sponsor similar competitions in other subject areas so that New River’s best and brightest in other disciplines would have a chance to shine.
The Classified Staff Council met on the Greenbrier Valley Campus on Friday, Sept. 24. Chair Mary Igo introduced President Spring, who opened the floor to questions about issues that were of concern or interest to employees.

The first question concerned the outsourcing of janitorial services. Spring explained that with the continued expansion of New River facilities, such as the addition of the 93,000-square-foot training center at Ghent, the demands on the building services staff are going to be greatly increased. The college is pilot testing the use of an outside vendor to do heavy cleaning overnight on the Beckley Campus and at Ghent. Their work is being scheduled by Julius Brown, lead trade specialist on that campus. Spring emphasized that no full-time employees will lose employment, as there is a tremendous amount of work to be done to keep the campuses properly maintained.

Asked about the situation with the new Raleigh County Campus, he explained that the Higher Education Policy Commission is considering whether the college can combine a $4 million allied health building with New River’s headquarters and classroom building at the Public Higher Education Center location in Beaver. If approved, the addition will mean 4,000 square feet of instructional space for allied health programs to be shared with other institutions. There are still concerns about whether New River will have the ability to operate and maintain space at the PHEC. He said that until those issues are resolved, “it’s sort of a moving target for us.”

In response to a question about the pool in the student activities building on the Greenbrier Valley Campus, he said that a lease was being drawn up which would give the Greenbrier County Commission the use of the pool for the community, with the stipulation that the college would not manage or maintain it. He anticipated that negotiations on the lease would begin within the month.
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS: THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

One of the important goals of the major gifts campaign is to raise funds for New River’s scholarship endowment. With the vast majority of New River students needing financial assistance in order to attend college, establishing a scholarship fund is a way to leave a permanent legacy to benefit students for generations to come.

New River’s scholarship endowment is currently valued at over $2 million. This semester alone, $44,400 was awarded, and additional funds will be distributed next semester.

Setting up a scholarship fund is very simple. A minimum donation of $10,000 is required for the scholarship to be fully funded, and a very basic fund agreement is all the paperwork that is required. The funds are invested in a permanent endowment so that the principal is never touched. Once the fund reaches the $10,000 threshold, the annual earnings from the fund are used to pay for the scholarship. Scholarship endowments are administered by the New River Community and Technical College Foundation under strict guidelines established by the federal government. Donations are of course deductible from federal income tax. If you make a single donation of more than $500, you could also qualify for a Neighborhood Investment Fund credit on your West Virginia taxes.

As a scholarship donor, you have the ability to name the scholarship fund and to determine the criteria by which recipients will be selected. You can also designate that the scholarship be awarded on a particular campus. Because there was a foundation to support the Greenbrier Community College Center before New River was established, a number of scholarships already exist for students on that campus. Now that the foundation encompasses all campuses, scholarships are being created for students on other campuses, and it is possible to establish a scholarship for which any New River student would be eligible.

$10,000 is a lot of money, especially for state employees. But there are ways to build up a scholarship fund that make it possible for those of moderate means to make a difference. You can take up to five years to build the fund up to $10,000. (Home Run Campaign pledges can be made over a five-year period through payroll deduction.) Another idea is to find a group of people of like mind who would like to go together to create a scholarship. Perhaps family members might want to establish a fund in memory or in honor of a parent or grandparent. Colleagues might want to pool their resources to honor an outstanding faculty member, fellow employee or outstanding student. Be creative! There are many, many ways to let your philanthropic spirit shine through.

Way to Go Classified Staff!
Let’s hear it for the classified staff on the Greenbrier Valley Campus for achieving 100 percent participation in the Home Run Campaign. And a BIG congratulations to the Beckley Campus classified staff, who have pledged over $5,000 to the campaign to date.