The 2012 Recognition Luncheon, honoring West Virginia Northern colleagues for their years of service, honors and academic accomplishment, along with recent retirees, was held Oct. 5 in the B&O Building auditorium.

The event, coordinated by Peggy Carmichael, chief human resource officer, included a catered meal. Honorees were given certificates, pins, gifts, and a photograph of themselves taken during the ceremony by Hilary Curto, graphic arts designer senior in the Community Relations department. Recipients were as follows:

- **10 Years WVNCC service and 10 Years State of WV service** to Carol G. Cornforth and Cristina M. Riter.
- **15 Years WVNCC service and 15 Years State of WV service** to Michael S. Davis, Arlene I. Kuca, Linda J. Shelek, and Korene M. Silvestri.
- **20 Years WVNCC service and 20 Years State of WV service** to Michele M. Watson.


20 Years State of WV service to Jill L. Keyser.
25 Years State of WV Service to Purnima V. Sharma (1 year of other WV Service) and Janet L. Corbitt (13 years of other WV service.)
30 Years WVNCC service and 30 Years State of WV service to John R. Regan.
The WVCCA Service Award (award-ed in 2011) to Shannon L. Payton and Rebecca S. Yesenczki.
Degrees acknowledged were earned by Deborah L. Bennett, Master’s degree, and Christina M. Sullivan, Master’s degree.
A certification was earned by Emily S. Fisher, Nonprofit Executive Leadership.
Retirees honored were Katherine C. Porter, who retired Jan. 24; Richard C. Pusz, who retired July 23; and Shirley A. Rychlicki, who retired May 15.
Cited as Emeritus Faculty Retirees were Thomas R. Danford and Rychlicki.
Honored for the Phi Theta Kappa Award was Rychlicki.
Art in Motion

Nearly 140 appreciative people attended a performance Oct. 11 by the Dancing Wheels Company, a group of professional dancers from Cleveland that includes those with physical disabilities, at the Wheeling campus’ Education Center multi-purpose room.

Free and open to the public, the hour-long presentation was capped with a standing ovation from the enthusiastic audience. It was clear that the dedicated members of the dance troupe were very pleased with the reception given them by West Virginia Northern.

The performance was part of WVNCC’s observance of Disabilities Awareness Month in October and was made possible through the Diversity for Equity grant program from the state Higher Education Policy Commission. Also during the month, Denise Wycherley, Northern’s student disability coordinator, and Elizabeth Knollinger, program assistant II, held informational barbecues at each campus location, provided good grilled food and excellent information about people with disabilities and how Northern is helping them to succeed in their educational goals.

1. Linda Holmstrand talks with a student about the College’s Tobacco Free initiative.
3. Edwina Mahoney talks to Paul Clayton of AT&T at the Career Fair.
New Martinsville Campus

Campus Blood Drive

Several of the first-year nursing students volunteered their time to help with the Oct. 17 blood drive on the New Martinsville campus. The nursing students provided assistance to the staff of the Red Cross by assuring that potential donors read the screening documents and directed them to the staff if there were any questions. Following the donation process, individuals stopped at the refreshment table where Student Activities provided a variety of Subway sandwiches. Many thanks are extended to those individuals who took time out of their day to make blood donation a priority as 14 units were collected.

WLU Visits the Campus

West Liberty University’s Rhonda Tysk, admissions counselor, visited the New Martinsville campus recently to promote the opportunities available to students who are interested in continuing their education toward a bachelor’s or master’s degree. Stephanie Minis, work-study for the service center, talks to Rhonda about her plans to continue her education at WLU upon graduation from WVNCC. Rhonda also had information about the accelerated Leadership program that will begin at the New Martinsville campus in January 2013. Brochures on this program are available in the lobby. This program is another way the campus is collaborating to provide educational opportunities to the individuals in its service area.

A “Step Up” for Students!

The New Martinsville campus recently completed two major upgrades thanks to capital project funds. One that is seen immediately as the students arrive to the campus is the beautiful set of steps and sidewalk that provides direct access to the Harlen Drive parking area. Swiss Valley Associates designed and installed the sidewalk and steps which allow the students to go between their cars and the campus more safely. Before the steps were installed, many of the students have been known to trek up and down the hillside.

The other project, which is not as immediately visible, but just as much appreciated, is the complete renovation of the first floor men’s and women’s restrooms. While the original facilities were functional, they really just needed updated to meet the expectations of our students and the community. Warm color tones were coordinated among the selection of flooring, partitions, counters, and accessories. The completed project by Swiss Valley Associates and Riggenbach Tile and Carpeting now provides a very beautiful area for students and visitors.
“Are You Prepared?”
Debbie Bennett, New Martinsville campus office administrator, presented a workshop during Tri-Campus Safety Awareness Week on the topic of “Are You Prepared?” The program, which she and Fred Oelschlager, who is based on the Wheeling campus, received training to present, is through a grant-funded project between 3CP2 (The College Community Citizens Preparedness Program) and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration). The presentation reviews a variety of emergencies and threats – storm, flood, landslide, fire, earthquake, biological, etc., and provides scenarios and options for preparing for each. During the presentation, Debbie reminded those attending that even though they may be prepared for an emergency, it also is important to remember to develop a family emergency plan with a contact person who is not in the immediate area. She noted that while it may not be possible to reach local family members, they could all call someone in another state who could relay their status to others. Other topics Debbie covered during the presentation were: sheltering-in-place, preparing emergency kits for home/office/car, and resources available for assistance. Those attending enjoyed lunch and received a small first aid kit, which was provided by the Safety Committee.

Staff Receives Training on CPR/AED & First Aid
During the Tri-Campus Safety Awareness Week, Beverly Gibb, New Martinsville Parks and Recreation director, provided CPR, AED, and basic first aid instruction to the staff. Each of those attending had an opportunity to practice their skill in assessing the victim, instructing someone to call 911, administering rescue breaths, and performing CPR. Beverly is shown waiting for Ina Robinson to administer rescue breaths to a victim and demonstrating the process for using the AED to Jack Midcap and Bob Gibb. Beverly Gibb provided an overview on basic first aid situations and explained the importance of remaining calm and contacting emergency personnel as soon as possible. During this presentation, it was noticed that the campus’ AED and first aid kit were not accessible to the faculty, students, and public after the service center closed. Because of this, these tools have been relocated to the main, first-floor hallway near the bookstore where they are quickly available to all.

Debbie Bennett, presenter, “Are You Prepared?”
Beverly Gibb, Instructor, and Ina Robinson.
**Resource Fair**

During the last week of August, Christina Sullivan, director of “Academic” Student Support Services, coordinated a very successful Resource Fair for the New Martinsville campus. Representatives from a variety of local agencies participated and talked with students about their services. Those attending included Theresa Hoskins, coordinator, Wetzel County Family Resource Network; Donna Smittle, Doolin Security Savings Bank, and representatives from Birth to Three, Department of Health and Human Resources, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate for children), Bayer Heritage Credit Union, Peoples Bank, and WesBanco.

**NM LRC Activities**

On Sept. 9, the Magnolia High School Early Entrance students visited the New Martinsville campus to attend a library orientation conducted by Janet Corbitt, campus librarian. The students were accompanied by their instructors Stacy Barcus and Rhonda Fiest who had requested the session. The students were introduced to the library databases for books and periodicals and were shown the different types of search techniques that would be most successful with their topics. Janet also demonstrated logging in to the student portal and setting up their email accounts which is necessary for them to access the databases.

“The student response has been gratifying,” Janet said. “They have kept Miranda (Stokes, her assistant) and me extremely busy with their book requests, both from our school and other libraries. It’s wonderful that their instructors made sure they were given this opportunity to become familiar with finding and using college resources.”

The library’s display of new or interesting books reflects a Halloween theme this month. “Halloween Horrors” includes both fiction and non-fiction offerings. Shirley Jackson is well represented with two of her classic horror novels, We Have Always Lived in the Castle and The Haunting of Hill House. A collection of sci-fi/horror short stories edited by Harlan Ellison also is on display. The non-fiction books include two histories of witchcraft, an examination of the curse of the Hope Diamond, essays on the Twilight phenomenon, and an analysis of the role of supernatural creatures in the mythology of man. The displays usually are changed monthly and are used to introduce students to new acquisitions and to books that reflect the season.

In addition, during the week of Sept. 17-21 the New Martinsville LRC commemorated the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution with a display of selected books themed around the Constitution or issues in constitutional law.

The New Martinsville LRC also set up an area with information on voter registration in preparation and anticipation of the Nov. 6 Presidential Election. Informational sheets have been made available to LRC patrons that detail how to register to vote in West Virginia, Ohio, or Pennsylvania.
Weirton Campus Speaks!

October was a month for Weirton campus representatives to make presentations for the public. Jessica Roberts, a student in Mechatronics and Phi Theta Kappa president, spoke to the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College about the Mechatronics program. Tina Edwards, program assistant 1, made a presentation at the Weirton United Way Kick-off Luncheon and Mike Koon, campus dean and vice president of workforce development, spoke at the Weirton Rotary Club.

Students in Frank DeCaria’s World Cultures class heard a presentation from Dr. Jugunder Luthra about Hindu Culture. Dr. Luthra is a local ophthalmologist who is a native of Pakistan.

Halloween Invasion

Ghosts, goblins and fairy princesses invaded the Weirton campus on Oct. 19 for the Children’s Halloween Party sponsored by student activities. The Campus Activity Board decorated the student center and hosted the event for more than a dozen trick-or-treaters who played games and received treats.

Just in Time for Winter...

Weirton campus received a new tractor through capital funds. The tractor is bigger and more heavy-duty than the small tractor that had been in use for a number of years.

Nursing Get-Together

The Weirton Campus Big Sisters/Brothers – Little Sisters/Brothers Nursing Banquet was held on Sept. 27 at the Weirton K of C Hall. The event gives first-year nursing students the chance to network with the more experienced second-year students and offers a chance for the students to relax before the rigors of the program set in. In addition, second-year students were recognized for their accomplishments in the first year and received pins.