College Goal Sunday
West Virginia Northern once again was host to an extremely successful College Goal Sunday, which this year occurred on Feb. 10 at the College’s B&O Building. According to Janet Fike, vice president of student services, more than 80 FAFSAs were completed, with many more family members receiving assistance in less than a three-hour period.

Students, potential students and their families received free help filling out and submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, during the one-day event that was held at 23 locations throughout the state of West Virginia, including the Wheeling campus of WVNCC in a partnership with West Liberty University and Wheeling Jesuit University.

“We exceeded last year’s FAFSA count and appreciate everyone’s efforts in making the day a success,” Fike said. She also extended “thanks to Sarah Griffith, Kim Hart, Kelly Herr, Alicia Frey and Tami Becker for their assistance. Dave Hanes was a huge help with IT and working with students and families. Also, thanks to student activities workstudy student Tiffany Jackson for her help at registration.”

Of course, the FAFSA is a crucial step for all students who plan to pay for any college with the help of grants, scholarships, work-study funds and/or student loans. The free Sunday workshop was for anyone planning to attend college — for the first time or as a returning student — in the fall of 2013.

Career Fair
Four unique career fairs have been planned for WVNCC students and alumni this April. Lisa Soly, Weirton campus counselor, and Julie Horton, career services counselor, will bring together both college representatives and employer recruiters for “Explore Your Potential: 2013 Career/Transfer Fair.” This fair will be a valuable opportunity for graduating students who are ready to enter the workforce as well as for those planning to transfer to a four-year college or university. “Job Fair Prep” workshops will be offered in late March to help attendees make their best impression. All students and alumni, as well as community members, are encouraged to attend these events.

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A “History Alive” presentation featuring Harriet Tubman, leader of the Underground Railroad, was held at the Wheeling and Weirton campuses of West Virginia Northern Community College to commemorate Black History Month in February.

Tubman is portrayed by Ilene Evans for the program sponsored by the West Virginia Humanities Council and held by WVNCC as a special Lunch & Learn event in the Wheeling campus B&O Building auditorium, and at the Weirton campus.

Tubman was born into slavery in 1820 in Maryland but escaped through the Underground Railroad in 1849. She became the most famous leader of that network, aiding slaves in their escape to free states and Canada.

When the Civil War erupted, Tubman’s Underground Railroad experiences and knowledge of covert opera-
tions made her an invaluable source to federal officers. She served as a spy, nurse, scout and guide for Union troops and was present at the ill-fated assault of Fort Wagner by the 54th Massachusetts in South Carolina. She died in 1913.

This West Virginia Humanities Council program was being hosted by WVNCC and is supported with additional financial assistance from the Office of the Secretary, West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts.

Barnes & Noble Bestseller

Kyrie Straight

Barnes and Noble College Booksellers, Inc., and the WVNCC Bookstore are pleased to announce that Kyrie Straight has been accepted into the B&N Bestseller Management Development Program effective Jan. 8.

Kyrie is a familiar face around WVNCC, beginning work at the Wheeling campus bookstore in August 2010 and graduating from WVNCC with an associate of arts degree in May 2011. Kyrie also assists the WVNCC admissions office by monitoring the COMPASS placement testing sessions.

The B&N Bestseller Management Development Program is a unique opportunity for participants to combine on-the-job training and special projects to prepare them for a career in retail management with Barnes and Noble College, the nation’s leading academic retailer.

The program allows participants to engage in all aspects of store management, book merchandising, general merchandise, marketing and campus outreach under the guidance of a store mentor. The mentor helps ensure a successful completion of the program and assists in the graduate's placement as a supervisor or manager.

Kyrie is slated to complete the program in December 2013.
Donation Made to Middle College

JPMorgan Chase & Co. is providing $51,000 to fund scholarships for college tuition and textbooks for students participating in the Middle College High School Program at the College.

“This generous commitment by Chase will benefit many of our Middle College High School students who have demonstrated they can successfully complete college courses,” Dr. Martin J. Olshinsky, WVNCC’s president, said. “With a vibrant program on the Wheeling campus, and the program’s expansion to the Weirton campus, demand for college credit courses has increased dramatically and so has the need for additional scholarships,” he explained.

President Olshinsky added that the state of West Virginia does not permit WVNCC to waive tuition for high school students and all scholarship funds for those costs must come from outside sources. “Thus, we are extremely gratified that Chase chose to fund our request,” the president, who spearheaded the Middle College High School Program to become the first in West Virginia, said.

The Middle College High School Program is a mentor-based high school experience located on a community college campus. Since the program began in 2009, qualified students from Brooke, Ohio and Marshall counties have attended high school classes at WVNCC with cooperation and assistance of the public school systems involved. The program expanded to the Weirton campus this academic year and plans call for a Middle College at the New Martinsville campus in fall 2013.

Fr. James O’Brien Honored

Dr. Martin J. Olshinsky, WVNCC president, participated in the community service of unity and peace on Jan. 20 that marked the birthday of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The event was held at First Presbyterian Church on Chapline Street in downtown Wheeling and was sponsored by the Upper Ohio Valley Clergy Alliance. On behalf of the College, Dr. Olshinsky presented a plaque to Fr. James O’Brien of Wheeling Jesuit University “For His Long-Time Leadership Of Wheeling’s Commemoration Of Martin Luther King Jr. Day” and “For His Commitment to Diversity and Personal Pledge to Dreaming the Dream.” Clergy from various area churches and members of the public attended the service.
1. Nursing students, from left, Stephanie Warner, Samantha Vanmeter, Elaine Lollathin, Chad Chervenick, Allison Broski and Jennifer Leeon, seated, help out at the Red Cross Blood Drive held at the College Feb. 7. Below, just one of the many students who came out to support the Red Cross.

2. Middle College & WVNCC students enjoyed the festivities at the Mardi Gras Party, put on by Student Activities. They tested their skills at the various games and enjoyed a delicious catered lunch.

3. Getting into the Mardi Gras spirit, from left, Cindy Khlon, Judi Hendrickson, Susie Barnette, Cindy Ritchie, Bonnie Peterman and Lisa Ingram.

4. From left, April Schrump, Hilary Curto and Eddie Kokosinski are all smiles, thanks to Lamar Advertising for bringing in a valentine treat!

Mardi gras fun!
NM Friends Sell Candy to Raise Money for Scholarships

The New Martinsville Campus Friends of the College are selling Fannie May candy bars (almond, crisp rice, chocolate and caramel) and See's Gourmet Lollipops (cinnamon and butterscotch) for $1 each to raise money for scholarships. If anyone is interested in purchasing any of these yummy treats, contact Debbie Bennett. She can send them to you through the campus mail or make arrangements for special delivery. The board members meet monthly to discuss ways they can achieve their goals of increasing scholarship awards to local students; continuing to provide emergency, short-term aid for students to purchase required textbooks; improving and enhancing campus facilities; and contributing to campus technology advancements. Those interested in serving on the board or becoming a member, contact Bennett. Memberships available are: Individual: $15; Individual, Lifetime: $100; Family: $25; Family, Lifetime: $150; or Organization/Business: $75.

Soup & Bake Sale

The New Martinsville Campus Activities Board held a Soup and Bake Sale on Feb. 13 to benefit the American Heart Association. Students and staff brought in homemade chili, potato soup and a variety of cookies and candy. Melanie Lamp, student, said, “It was nice having hot soup as a lunch option on such a cold day!” Many of the staff, students and faculty enjoyed the delicious soups and cookies. Beth Brown, CAB, made some Valentine treats for those of us who needed those last minute gifts. Thank you to everyone who made something, bought the food, or simply donated money, a grand total of $94.87 was raised for the AHA.

Wetzel County Relay for Life Recognized for Award

Debbie Bennett, along with other members of the local event planning committee, presented the county with the “Nationwide Top Ten Per Capita Award” for the 2012 Relay for Life of Wetzel County. Debbie and Jennifer Pugh, volunteers for Relay for Life, had previously accepted this award for the county during a Relay University ceremony. This award was presented to Wetzel County for ranking in the Top 10 in the nation per capita in the 16,000 population category; $113,000 was raised by the county’s Relay for Life in 2012.

The planning committee holds its monthly meeting in Room 113 on the New Martinsville campus. The next meeting will be March 18 at 6:30 p.m. For those who are interested in joining the WVNCC Thundering Chickens team, call Lisa Slie or go to the event’s page at www.relayforlife.org/wetzelwv. From there you will need to select “join existing team” and then follow steps to join the WVNCC Thundering Chickens team. The event begins Friday, June 21, at 6 p.m. at the Magnolia High School Track.

Back row, from left, are Wetzel County Commissioner Larry Lemon, Commission Vice President Bob Gorgy and Commission President Don Mason. Front row, from left, are Betty Klug, Jennifer Pugh, Lori McCoy and Debbie Bennett.
PSYC 200 Students Investigate Mental Illness
As a class project, Darcy Ferrell has assigned students in the PSYC-200 Abnormal Psychology class at New Martinsville to investigate the history of mental illness treatment. The class will create a timeline display showing the major events and milestones in treating mental illness along with information about current-day mental health services in the local region. The display will be completed by the end of the semester and placed in Room 212 where it will be used as a learning tool for future classes.

Students participating are Susan Keifline, Melanie Pettus, Meagan Barker, Sara Eller, Patricia Rober, Natasha Dunlap, Tameka Eddy, Misty Murphey and Jesse Edgell. Not pictured is James Allen.

Wetzel County Chamber Awards Dinner & Monte Carlo Night
Karrie Mulhern and Julie Horton joined Larry Tackett and Debbie Bennett at the Wetzel County Chamber Celebration Dinner and Monte Carlo night on Jan. 24. This annual event recognizes the accomplishments of the chamber and its membership during the past year. A special presentation, which highlighted the many ribbon-cutting ceremonies of new businesses that opened during the past year, was given by Don Riggenbach, president. Following dinner, guests were invited to spend their “money” at the various Vegas-type games. Karrie and Julie hit the jackpot a couple times at the poker and craps table, but they managed to lose it all before the night was over. This is another event where the community comes out to show their support of the work being done by the local chamber of commerce.