

WESTERN *in touch*

A publication for friends & alumni of Western Nevada College
Fall 2010 • Volume 14 • Number 2

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Welcome to in touch!
Enjoy the updates about
Western.

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E-mail: richmans@wnc.edu, or
jesse@wnc.edu
775-445-4410

Message from the Chairman

I just returned from a visit to the Midwest, where I lived almost 20 years ago. Sadly, one of the things that I saw was the devastation an F4/5 tornado can cause. Lake Township and its town of Millbury are located just outside of Toledo, Ohio. On June 6, 2010, in the evening, a massive tornado slammed into this peaceful farming community. (Actually it turned out to be the most powerful tornado recorded that far north.) It destroyed the township's administration offices, police department, high school and scores of homes and farms. It also killed seven people. Ted Kranzes, the superintendent of schools and father of the 2010 Class Valedictorian, was one of those who lost his life. He was at the high school that fateful



Donal Hummer, Jr.

evening, checking on the school's generator and making sure all was secure, when the tornado obliterated the high school with its full force and vengeance. Commencement was going to be at the high school the next day.

The magnitude of

this disaster on a per capita basis was roughly ten times that experienced by Hurricane Katrina. FEMA turned down their request for help, citing in their decision that it wasn't a big enough disaster to warrant any aid.

As it turns out, Lake Township is coming back stronger than anyone could have imagined. The local outpouring of donations and volunteers has been amazing. People who have very little are donating generously. Keep in mind that Ohio is number three in the highest unemployment (Michigan being number two and Nevada, with the worst unemployment in the country). At the end of the day, even though it will take quite a bit longer without any FEMA aid, Lake Township will be stronger and more vital than before the storm.

So why did I include this in my semi-annual article? Our educational system here is much like Lake Township after the tornado hit. Education in Nevada from K-12 through the universities has been devastated over the last three years. Per-student spending is at an all time low, the worst in the nation. The high school dropout rate is the highest in the country and university budgets have been stripped to the bone. And folks, it is pretty clear we are on our own.

While it is true in an election year, we may see

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College Accreditation is Renewed

Western Nevada College has received its notice of re-accreditation from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, following a comprehensive evaluation.

"It's official," said President Carol Lucey. "The Commission was very positive about the progress that has been made at our college, thanks to the diligence and commitment of our faculty and staff. The evaluators also offered us some valuable recommendations for improvements over the coming months."

The accreditation site visit in May was the culmination of two years of preparation, volumes of written reports, and three days spent hosting peer experts who examined all facets of the college. The Commission re-affirmed WNC's accreditation at the associate degree level, and also granted the college accreditation at the baccalaureate degree level, effective from September 1, 2008, when the college began offering its first bachelor's degree, a Bachelor of Technology in Construction Management.

Keep up to date on Western happenings @ www.wnc.edu - Bookmark it!

Increasing Energy Efficiency

NV Energy Recognizes College for Sustainability

In August 2009, WNC President Carol Lucey signed a document committing the college to increasing energy sustainability and making campuses carbon neutral. Efforts to fulfill this commitment are paying off.

NV Energy presented the college with an incentive check totaling \$15,216 in March. The funds offset a

portion of the costs associated with purchasing, installing and operating a retrofit heating and cooling system in the Bristlecone Building at WNC Carson City. The system will yield an annual electrical savings of 182,350-kilowatt hours, or roughly \$21,000. An additional \$9,000 in annual natural gas savings is projected.



NV Energy representatives present a check to WNC.

"Three Cups" Author Mortenson Donates Books to WNC Library

WNC Public Services Librarian Valerie Andersen experienced author and humanitarian Greg Mortenson's good-hearted generosity first-hand when she attended his Carson City lecture last spring. She waited in line for two hours to have her copy of *"Three Cups of Tea"* signed by the author. "I was amazed that he stayed and ensured that everyone had the opportunity to have books signed," Andersen said. "He took time to speak to each person, take pictures and write a message in each book."

When Andersen made her way to the front of the line, she told Mortenson that she was a librarian at the college. Mortenson reached over to his pile of books for sale and gave her two signed books for the college's juvenile collection. "His kindness brought me to tears. I felt like I shared a third cup of tea with him," Andersen recounts.



Donors & Volunteers *Make a Difference*

Each year, donors and volunteers give time and resources to support the college and its programs. Recent assistance included: volunteers from the Sunset and Carson City Rotary clubs who spent a Saturday beautifying and weatherizing the Planetary Walkway at the Jack C. Davis Observatory, as part of the international "Rotary at Work Day." In addition, Bill Bernard of Carson City donated a CISCO switch to be used by the college's Computer Information Systems department to enhance the learning experience for students. WNC extends a special thank you to all members of the community who help make a difference for the college and its students.

"It's true that education costs money. But so does ignorance."

Former Governor Kenny Guinn

DONOR PROFILE- Remembering Kandee

"I Put the Band on the Right Left Hand This Time"

Bob Kahn loves his late wife Kandee Ann and cherishes her memory. His description of their life together is laced with pride, never-ending devotion and honor. He wants Kandee to be remembered forever.

"It was a God thing," he said as he described the circumstances surrounding Kandee's decision to become an emergency services dispatcher and how their paths crossed in life. As a teenager, Kandee found her passion as an emergency dispatcher after a chance ride-along with a deputy sheriff. Beginning her career at age 19 in California, she became a pioneer for women in law enforcement as she entered a profession that was dominated by men. During 39 years of service she was highly respected by all of her public safety colleagues and found herself in many interesting situations.

Kandee was a dispatcher during the Mount St. Helens volcano eruption in 1980, and was the voice of the dispatcher on the television show "48 Hours" during the Darren Mack murder case in Reno. But the most exciting event of all, according to husband Bob, was Kandee's decision to accept a job

in Reno where they met in 1987. Nine months later, they eloped.

During a romantic cruise on Lake Tahoe's M.S. Dixie sternwheeler, Kandee requested a song that is now "their song" in Bob's memory – *I Put the Band on the Right Left Hand This Time*.

"Kandee was the most positive person I met in my whole life," Bob said. "She never got upset and always stayed calm. She was the best."

Bob's life journey seemed to be headed for an intersection with Kandee's. As a 6th grade teacher always interested in law enforcement, he became a reserve deputy sheriff for Washoe County in 1984. With teaching skills and a law enforcement background, he served as the Lyon County Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. officer in 1991. He also piloted the very successful "Stranger Danger" program in Lyon County. Drawing on his experiences, he wrote 15 books, three of which are published. Kandee's crime novel, *Dispatched*, was also published and was the culmination of years on the front line.

As an instructor of criminal justice and driver education at the WNC Fernley center, Bob established an endowment to honor Kandee's service in public safety. Scholarships from this endowment will be awarded to criminal justice students into perpetuity. Kandee will never be forgotten.

INFORMATION /CONTRIBUTING

Kandee Ann Kahn
Memorial Scholarship for Public Safety
775-445-3240

CHECKS

may be sent to:
Western Nevada College Foundation
2201 West College Parkway
Carson City, NV 89703

DONATE ONLINE

www.wnc.edu/foundation
Memo: Kandee Ann Kahn
Memorial Scholarship

**Coffee w/Carol**

The foundation is proud to present "Coffee with Carol" events to familiarize the community with the many outstanding faculty and programs at WNC. Join President Carol Lucey at these free, semester discussions. Enjoy coffee and a continental breakfast and receive a "Coffee with Carol" commemorative mug.

DOUGLAS CAMPUS

Friday, Oct. 8 • 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Featured Professor: Dr. Mike Hardie

Topic: Student Learning Styles & the Assessment
of Student Learning

Location: Bently Hall, Rm. 106

RSVP to 775-782-2413 by Oct. 6

CARSON CAMPUS

Friday, Oct. 22 • 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Featured Professor: Susan Priest

Topic: College Success & Buddhist Psychology
Location: Donald W. Reynolds Center, Rm. 103

RSVP to 775-445-3240 by Oct. 20

FALLON CAMPUS

Friday, Nov. 5 • 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Featured Professor: Richard Kloes

Topic: From Stockmarkets to Scandals:
The Evolution of Accounting in America
Location: Virgil Getto Hall, Rm. 304

RSVP to 775-423-5186 by Nov. 3



Fallon Grad Earns National Honor Working Mom Named Coca-Cola Scholarship Finalist

A Fallon woman who graduated in Western Nevada College's class of 2010 has been recognized with a national honor.

Tammi Abshire has been named a 2010 Coca-Cola national finalist in a program administered by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, the national honor society of community college students. The prestigious award includes a \$1,000 reward.

Abshire graduated with an associate degree in criminal justice, and plans to continue her education at the University of Nevada, Reno. At WNC, she was a member of PTK, and served as the Fallon campus honor society's historian. In addition, she is a mother who works in social services at the Schurz reservation.



Tammi Abshire

Nursing Student is Regents Scholar

Nursing student Joshua Pierce is WNC's recipient of the 2010 Regents' Scholar Award. The Board of Regents for the Nevada System of Higher Education annually recognizes students for their academic achievements, leadership ability and service contributions.

Pierce graduated from Western this spring and is continuing his education at the University of Nevada, Reno. While attending WNC, his hard work and commitment was rewarded with foundation scholarships from both the Carson Tahoe Regional Healthcare Auxiliary and Korean War Veterans Carson City Chapter 305. He was also a Carson City Rotary Club scholar and an All-USA Community College Academic Award recipient. His academic prowess was reflected by his 3.66 grade



Joshua Pierce

point average.

Dean of Instruction Carol Lange nominated Josh: "During my encounters with Josh, I have come to admire and respect him as a student, a caring individual, a very hard worker and a dedicated family person."

Pierce expresses sincere gratitude to the WNC faculty and staff as contributors to his success. "They have gone above and beyond in all aspects to help me achieve my goals. Things done here are life changing in ways that other institutions can't match," he said.

"Hitch your wagon to a star."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Wildcat Receives Student-Athlete Award

NJCAA honors Sean Dwyer for leadership and sportsmanship

Wildcats baseball player Sean Dwyer was recognized in May by the National Junior College Athletic Association as a Leaders for Life Student-Athlete of the Week. The Leaders for Life program provides colleges with the resources to develop leadership skills and promote sportsmanship. The program honors student-athletes who represent their school and the community with integrity, respect and responsibility.

Dwyer, a catcher for Western, completed his first year at WNC. He is studying Civil Engineering, earning a perfect 4.0 grade point average after the first semester and plans to gradu-

ate in spring 2011.

Off the field, Dwyer volunteers with the Special Olympics and is a mentor at a local elementary school. He is a member of the Farmer's State Bank Junior Board of Directors in his hometown, Missoula, Montana, and represents the baseball team as a member of the college's Intercollegiate Athletics Board.

Sean Dwyer



ClassCorner

Mark Mellow – ('94 GS)

Mark and his wife Casandra welcomed their third child, daughter Rene Diane, into their family on May 25, 2010 which is also their 14th wedding anniversary. Rene joins sisters Neva and Vivi. After attending WNC for two years, Mark transferred to UNR and graduated in 1997. He is currently the owner and foreman of Tahoe Fence Company, Inc. in Mound House, NV. Congratulations Mark and Casandra!

Arts Meet Science

WNC Alumnus On the Move to Next Adventure

Gabe Herz is on a remarkable educational journey. The former Western Nevada College student has found a way to combine his artistic passions with his natural ability in the sciences. And it all began as a lab assistant for his WNC physics class.

Raised by an artist in Minden, his primary and secondary education were a mixture of home and public schooling. He suffered no constraints on exploring and fostering his creativity; he preferred building forts, taking things apart, and playing with Legos to traditional subject matter.

"I did math and English kicking and screaming," he said, laughing. "I was uninspired until my senior year of high school, when I had an amazing physics class and a great art class."

In 2004, Gabe enrolled at WNC. He concentrated on building his knowledge base in math and science and supplemented with technology



Gabe Herz's first photo as balloon is launched at NASA's competition

classes in welding, machine shop and automotive technology.

"My goal was to do as much exploring as possible, and I wanted to have a diverse skills set," he said.

He took Professor Robert Collier's courses in physics and astronomy and, as Collier's lab assistant, began to consider physics as a career. Collier encouraged him to apply for a NASA sponsored Nevada Space Grant Scholarship. Gabe received the scholarship and joined a research team at University of Nevada, Reno, Department of Engineering. The team's goal was to

launch a weather balloon which would photograph Earth from near space. Gabe engineered a camera payload which successfully documented the balloon's trip to 107,000 feet.(1) From WNC, Gabe transferred to UNR to pursue mechanical engineering, where he continued to excel and took particular interest in academic challenges related to space exploration. His team took third place in the University Rover Challenge – an international event which asks students to solve problems encountered by the real Mars Rover.

In summer 2009, Gabe attended a NASA workshop with UNR researchers on building sound rocket payloads. Rockets are launched into space to perform 5-10 minute experiments but, instead of going into orbit, fall to Earth after completing the experiments. Again integrating the artistic and the mechanical, Gabe and UNR professors Dr. Wang and Dr. LaComb created a time lapse video of the entire building process which received a standing ovation when shown at NASA's Western Region Space Grant Conference. (2)

As luck would have it, Susan Sawyer of Kennedy Space Center was in the

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Tell Us About Yourself...

You are WNC! Some of you have earned associate degrees or have transferred to four-year institutions. You may have reached milestones in your life that you would like to share. A strong alumni association can provide opportunities for meaningful interaction. But first, we'd like to get reacquainted. Please fill out this form to help us update our alumni database.

Name: * _____
(please print)

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business: _____ Title: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

When did you attend WNC?* _____ Year Graduated* _____

Program of study* _____ Year of Transfer _____

Transfer School* _____

What's new in your life?* _____

*This information may be printed in Class Notes. Yes _____ No _____

Send to: *in touch* • 2201 W. College Parkway • Carson City • NV • 89703

Fax: 775-445-4472 • e-mail: richmans@wnc.edu

Change a Life with a Scholarship

Over and over, the foundation hears from students whose lives were changed by a scholarship they received. Establishing a scholarship is easy, and the options are many.

Annual Giving Awards - Generally donors establish annual giving funds in which they donate gifts to be placed in a WNC scholarship fund. The sum may or may not change annually, per donor wishes. The foundation office confirms donor participation annually and posts scholarship availability accordingly.

One-Time Awards - Donors may establish scholarship awards which are awarded once or in designated increments until funds are exhausted. Memorial donations are often established as this type of scholarship.

Endowment Funds - Donors may establish an endowment with a suggested minimum of \$10,000 and can choose to make payments over a two to four year period. It is suggested that the donor include an additional \$500 per year while the endowment is being funded to allow annual scholarships to be awarded during that time. When the scholarship is fully established, the foundation expends the interest earned during a fiscal year as the scholarship amount, leaving the principal intact to allow the scholarship to exist in perpetuity. Additional gifts to the fund may be made at any time.

The foundation would like to recognize and thank the following individuals and organizations establishing scholarships from March 1, 2010 through August 31, 2010.

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Clark A. Morres Baseball Scholarship - In honor of her husband, Dr. Clark A. Morres, Vice President of Development and External Affairs Helaine Jesse Morres has established a scholarship for baseball student athletes at WNC. The student must be enrolled in 12 or more credits and maintain a 3.0 or better grade point average. One student will be awarded \$500.

Great Basin Chapter of American Association of Critical Care Nurses Scholarship - In support of students accepted into the nursing program, the Great Basin Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses has established a scholarship. Students must be enrolled in 12 or more credits, have financial need and maintain a 3.0 or better grade point average. The donor prefers that students intend to pursue a career in the critical care field which includes trauma, emergency room, intensive care unit, cardiac care unit, and cardiac surgery unit. One student will be awarded \$1,000.

Jack C. Davis Memorial Scholarship - In memory of beloved husband and father, Jack C. Davis, founding president of Western Nevada College, Mary Davis and her children will award three scholarships in the amount of \$500 each to students pursuing a degree in any field. The students must be enrolled in at least six credits and maintain a 3.4 or better grade point average. Students must have successfully accrued at least 15 or more college credits to be considered.

ENDOWMENTS

Kandee Ann Kahn Memorial Scholarship for Public Safety - Bob Kahn established an endowment to memorialize his wife, Kandee Ann, a respected emergency services dispatcher in Reno for over 20 years. Scholarships funded from the endowment will be awarded to sophomore criminal justice majors who are enrolled in six or more credits with a 2.5 or better grade point average. The donor prefers students who have taken the 9-1-1 dispatcher courses. One student will be awarded \$500.

Miller-Neveerett Scholarship - In memory of his mother and father, Dan Neveerett, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services at WNC, has established an endowment for the funding of scholarships. Dan and his two siblings received advice, direction and financial resources from their parents to help them attain success in their college and professional careers. Most importantly, Evelyn Miller Neveerett and Perry Neveerett modeled a strong work ethic for their children, teaching them that hard work can help you achieve anything in life. To receive the scholarship, students must be enrolled full time and maintain a 2.0 or better grade point average. They also must be involved in community service or have participated in some type of leadership role.

ONE-TIME AWARDS

Dorothy and Rob Ramsdell Honorary Scholarship - In honor of Dorothy and Rob Ramsdell's 50th wedding anniversary, Dr. and Mrs. Clark Morres established this scholarship. Dorothy has been a WNC Foundation trustee since 1999. She and Rob funded the playground at the Child Development Center and its Ramsdell-Smilanich Parent Teacher conference room. They are also supporters of Wildcats athletics as members of the Spartan 300. With Dorothy's interest in Early Childhood Education and Rob's interest in construction, Dr. and Mrs. Morres will provide a scholarship to a construction management student and an ECE student, each in the amount of \$275. The students must be enrolled full time and maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or better.

Marilyn C. Potter Scholarship - Marilyn C. Potter established a scholarship for freshmen nursing students who attend full time and maintain a 3.0 or better grade point average. She prefers that the students are recent high school graduates. Two students will be awarded \$2,000 each.

Minden Rotary Club Erin Hackman Memorial Scholarship - A scholarship has been established by the Minden Rotary Club in memory of Erin Hackman, a local high school student who was tragically killed in an automobile accident. Students must be Douglas County residents, single parents and pursuing a degree or certificate in any field. They must be enrolled in six credits or more, have financial need and have 15 or more credits completed toward their degree. Two students will be awarded \$1,000 each.

Ways You Can Give

The foundation invites you to partner with the college in building a better community. Our greatest resource is education, and educated citizens are our greatest asset.

There are many ways that you can participate in the growth and improvement of WNC. One way is to make a financial gift to the college.

Annual Gift - An individual annual gift has a tax advantage for donors who itemize their deductions. Funds can be designated to address a variety of the college's needs such as scholarships and athletics.

Memorial Gift - A gift which recognizes achievement and shows love of family or friend is a beautiful memorial. When the gift also benefits the community through the education of future generations, it is truly a living gift.

Charitable Gift Annuity - In return for a transfer of cash or property, WNC will send the donor generous fixed payments for life. Payments can be made to the donor, the donor and spouse, or two other persons if desired. This type of gift provides both security and tax benefits.

Endowment - Endowments are gifts that keep on giving. The fund's principal is invested and only the earnings are used to support the desired project. This is an extraordinary investment that changes many lives and builds many futures.

Gifts of Securities & Real Estate - This type of gift has both tax benefits and long term benefits for the college. The donor will receive a double income benefit by giving long-term appreciated securities and real estate rather than selling them to give an equal amount in cash. Initially, the donor receives a deduction for the full present fair market value of the gift. Then, the donor is allowed a complete avoidance of the capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Life Insurance - Donors may now make a charitable gift of life insurance for the cash surrender value of the policy and the current premiums. The insurance donor receives the same basic tax benefits as other donors contributing to WNC.

Will/Bequest - Naming WNC in a will is another way to support the college. This type of gift offers the flexibility in providing for family needs first while receiving the benefit of estate tax deduction for the value of the bequest.

INFORMATION

Helaine Jesse Morres, Vice President of Development & External Affairs, 775-445-3240

Sandi Richman, Foundation Special Projects Coordinator, 775-445-4410

CHOOSE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE - ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

Yes! You can join Western Nevada College's efforts to make a difference by passing along some of your good fortune to those trying to improve their lives through education.

Please make your check payable to WNC Foundation and mail it with the completed donation form to the WNC Foundation Office. All contributions are tax deductible and truly appreciated.

☐ Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____ ☐ MC/VISA #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Please direct my contribution to:

☐ Scholarships ☐ Athletics ☐ Performing Arts ☐ Greatest Need ☐ Other _____

Name: _____ (please print) Daytime Phone: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ E-mail: _____

Investing in Our Future

*The following list recognizes those who made a gift to Western Nevada College **between January 1, 2010 & June 30, 2010.***

The WNC Foundation extends its deepest appreciation and gratitude to donors who have so thoughtfully invested in the support of the educational experience for so many students. Where would the college be without their dedicated support? One could argue that the college might not even exist. If your name was omitted from the Leadership Circles, please accept our apologies and contact the Office of Development and External Affairs at 775-445-3240. *On behalf of the college, thank you for the extraordinary opportunities you have helped provide.*

LEADERSHIP CIRCLES 2010

Friend of the College- Up to \$499

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Women State of Nevada

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Mont Adams
Ernie Adler
Advanced Stainless
Agape' Organics
Norris Albaugh
Earl Allen
Dean Altus
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Jerald E. Bardecker
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Burton Consulting, LLC
Jack Byrom
Kenneth Camel
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Capitol Urology, Inc.
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Medical Center
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City of Fallon
Don Clark
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Clearwater Ranch
Howard Collett
Robert D. Collier
Rex Comstock
Robert Conerby
Elizabeth Contreras
Dave Cook
Ed (F.E.) Cook
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Anica S. Corral
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Jeff Davis
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Philip Daykin
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Aaron Demosthenes
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Self Storage
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Jacque Negrete
Sherry Neil-Urban
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NNE Construction
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Holly O'Toole
Kenneth Oates
Salisha Odum
Ormsby Post Acute Rehab
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Spartan 300

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Hampton Inn & Suites -
(Dave Friedrich) (2 shields)
Matt & Anne Hansen
Rebecca & Natalie Holt
Helaine Jesse Morris (2 shields)
Betty Kopffhammer (6 shields)
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(Dani & Bret Andreas)
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Scott & Kristin Whittemore
Roger & Victoria Williams
Phil & Robin Williamson

Expanding Horizons

Care Flight Lands on Campus for Career Event

WNC welcomed nearly 150 ninth grade girls from throughout the college's service area for Women in Non-traditional Careers Day this year. Students (along with the Wildcats mascot) began the day with a helicopter landing and paramedic lecture and demonstration by the crew of Care Flight. The students then spent the day exploring college programs and broadening their

knowledge of career opportunities. Women leaders from the community spoke about excelling as women in the work force, and WNC instructors

presented hands-on experiments and demonstrations to broaden knowledge of potential programs of study and careers such as electronics, information and computer technology, biology, chemistry, physics, welding and criminal justice.

Coordinator of Student Outreach Katie Leao said, "We are creating an environment that encourages students to expand their horizons and discover their potential."



"As Nevada struggles in this difficult time of recession and high unemployment, it is time once and for all to acknowledge that only through a robust and adequately funded education infrastructure, and in particular higher education, will we ever achieve the diversification and growth that we all desire in our economy."

Chancellor Dan Klaich, Sept. 2010

College Welding Center Earns AWS Accreditation

The Andy Butti Welding Technology Center on the WNC Carson City campus has received accreditation by the American Welding Society. The center serves as the only accredited testing facility in northern Nevada and is the location of classroom and laboratory facilities for the study and application of welding technologies.

Dean of Instruction Carol Lange credits members of the college's Technology Division for the achievement: "This accomplishment is the result of a year's worth of hard work on the part of Division Chair Ed Martin and instructor Randy Naylor, with a great deal of support from administrative assistant Laura-Lee Redwine."

WNC offers an associate degree and certificate of achievement in welding technology, along with preparation for individual welder certification, which enhances the skills and employability of graduates.

Ceremony Honors POST Academy Graduates

A new group of law enforcement professionals is ready to serve communities in western Nevada. Twenty-four cadets graduated from the Western Nevada State Peace Officer Academy during an August ceremony. Captain Frank Shyne of the Fallon Police Department was not only the keynote speaker but watched his son, Dan, graduate with the class of 2010.



Tech Prep College Day Gives High School Students a Head Start

A Carson City campus event for high school juniors who are enrolled in Tech Prep courses at their high schools can change the direction of their lives. On Friday, November 19, students who are interested in making a career of a technology trade can learn how to ensure success by continuing their education at Western Nevada College. The event will include two engaging presentations; one will focus on hands-on activities, career outlook, and in-

formation on program degrees offered by WNC. The second presentation will provide an exciting keynote presentation on "finishing what you have started," emphasizing factors within the students' control that can change the direction of their lives such as commitment, motivation, and overcoming procrastination.

INFORMATION

Kevin Edwards
775-445-3241
edwar118@wnc.edu

Join the Fund-Raising Effort

Support the Exhibit Tour of Always Lost: A Meditation on War

Always Lost is a unique collection of photographs, poems, and prose that recognizes the ultimate sacrifice of our American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. Retired Marine Corps Major Kevin Burns titled the exhibit after an observation by American writer Gertrude Stein: "War is never fatal but always lost. Always lost."

A sacred space in which to contemplate the personal effects of war, Always Lost features the Wall of the Dead, photos and names of over 5,000 American service members who have perished in the Middle East since September 11, 2001; the literary work they inspired; Pulitzer Prize-winning

combat photos by David Leeson and Chery Meyer (Dallas Morning News); interviews and portraits of Western Nevada College Iraq/Afghanistan student-veterans; and poetry and a profile

of SPC Noah Pierce, who took his own life after serving two tours in Iraq.

Your donation will support the effort to send Always Lost throughout the U.S. to the colleges, universities, and veteran's groups who are requesting the exhibit, beginning with the University of Wisconsin, Marinette (fall 2010), and the University of Nevada, Reno.



INFORMATION

Marilee Swirczek . . . 775-445-4284
mswircze@wnc.edu

Donate Online
www.wnc.edu/foundation

Student Government Wants Answers from Candidates

The Associated Students of Western Nevada College has joined forces with student leaders from throughout the Nevada System of Higher Education in an effort to hold legislative candidates accountable for their promises as the November election approaches.

The initiative, known as the Nevada Education Pledge, asks candidates to state their intentions in regard to education and funding. By signing a pledge card, political candidates confirm that they support higher education and that they will put effort into saving it from budget cuts and tuition increases.

ASWN President Jason McGill says, "Knowing which candidates have pledged to support education will help the students of WNC make educated decisions during the election. It will also call attention to any candidates who falter on their commitment." McGill met with fellow NSHE student leaders to devise a plan for sharing information about the initiative with the student population.

COLLEGE KUDOS!

Changing challenges into accomplishments

- The college received re-accreditation from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities following a comprehensive evaluation
- The college was given full baccalaureate degree granting authority
- The college survived budget cuts of nearly 20% without retrenching any staff
- Despite the budget cuts, the college successfully absorbed over a 10% increase in enrollment including a 41% increase in full time degree seekers
- WNC graduated its largest class ever, 474 students, in 2009-2010
- The WNC Child Development Center achieved accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children
- The department of Adult Basic Education graduated the largest GED class in the history of the college this summer – 153 students
- The nursing class of 2009 had a 96 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for registered nurses
- The Andy Butti Welding Center has been approved by the American Welding Society to become an accredited welding test facility, the only certified test facility in northern Nevada

In the words of President Carol Lucey, "This is a college of hardworking, wonderful people who were able to turn times of great challenges into proud accomplishments."

Softball

Team Looking Ahead

The Wildcats softball team is looking ahead to next year after it was eliminated from the Region 18 softball tournament in May. WNC fell to Snow College 6-3 in a seven-inning contest.

Head Coach Leah Wentworth said her young team came into the tournament as an underdog in a stellar league that included the No. 1 ranked team in the country – Salt Lake Community College – and 12th ranked College of Southern Idaho.

“We learned so much this year,” the first-year coach said of both her team and herself. “We’re looking forward to getting out strong from the start next season,” she said.

With a new and energetic Wildcats softball team preparing for the 2011 season, Coach Wentworth has a great opportunity to earn some wins in the Scenic West Athletic Conference.

“I am looking for players with a great attitude and a desire to excel on the field and in the classroom,” she said. Wentworth added, “I am happy to be bringing in some local talent, and we are continuing to see interest throughout the West as well.”



Wildcats Wrap Up Successful Season

The Wildcats’ second-place finish in the NJCAA Region 18 tournament was one more feather in the team’s already well-decorated cap.

Coach DJ Whittemore said “some amazing things happened this year.” He ticked off an impressive list for the five-year-old program. “This year’s 43 wins were the second most in program history, our 16-game winning streak was the longest ever; the 91 wins for our sophomore class makes them the winningest in program history; and we finished ranked Number 10 in the

country,” marking the third time in four years that the Wildcats finished the year in the Top 10.

“Although we lost the regional championship game we still feel as though our team competed with a great deal of integrity and fought every pitch of the tournament,” Whittemore said. “I couldn’t be prouder of the fight in our team and the “team first” attitude of our players.”

The Wildcats finished the season 43-17, including 39 games on the road. Whittemore said the second place finish “has steeled the returning freshmen in the drive to bring the championship back to Carson City next season.”

“Sports remain a great metaphor for life’s more difficult lessons. It was through athletics that many of us first came to understand that fear can be tamed; that on a team the whole is more than the sum of its parts; and that the ability to be heroic lies, to a surprising degree, within.”

Susan Casey



Baseball

Wildcats Featured in National Magazine

In the five years since they first took the field as a startup college baseball program, the Western Nevada College Wildcats have become a regional force and a national contender.

The Wildcats were featured in the 2010 issue of Baseball The Magazine, a publication that profiles baseball teams from youth to college level, and is on the lookout for players and teams that stand out.

The three-page feature describes the Wildcats’ history and successes beginning with its first year, when it shocked opponents and other observers by winning the Scenic West Conference championship (which included four NJCAA Top 20 teams). The squad featured only two sophomores, with the rest being freshmen.

Now, the magazine said, the Wildcats are “a perennial power, even in the ultra-competitive Scenic West Athletic Conference.”

Wildcats Coach DJ Whittemore said it is humbling and nice to be recognized on a national level “after years of hard work by many at this college and partners in the community,” as well as the players and the coaches.

“We are all certainly very proud of our record of accomplishment, especially our student athletes’ academic achievement. The Wildcats have been named an NJCAA Academic Spring Team of the Year every year to date,” Whittemore said.

Chair Message

Continued from page 1

some federal aid dribble in, the fact of the matter is that Nevada has received the least aid of any state in the Union.

So it is up to each of us to help bring Nevada's educational system back from the brink. Many will say that in this recession, investment in education is not possible or affordable. But I challenge all of us by saying it is the best and most important time to do so.

We need to be ahead of the curve when the economy revives. In so doing, when businesses are looking for a place to expand or to start-up, Nevada has what they want: a high quality, educated, skilled and highly motivated workforce that is "Battle Born"

and battle tested. Without education, Nevada will struggle to ever come back.

I assure you that if we help rebuild the educational system, business will come. How do we start? By supporting Western Nevada College and the communities it serves.

The Western Nevada College Foundation is rolling out a Major Gifts Campaign this month. The goal is to raise significant funds to provide substantial capital improvements, plug shortfalls in budgets, and provide additional scholarships. Our investment in education today will pay off tenfold in the future.

Do not be surprised if I or someone from the foundation comes calling. When we do, I hope that to the best of your ability, you "Choose to Make a Difference" and give generously.

It is truly special to see the look on students' faces when they are the first to graduate in their family, or the pride of graduates who return to tell us about the job they just accepted. This is what community is about. This is what Nevada's future is about.

I would like to close by acknowledging the loss of a true comrade in arms; Governor Kenny Guinn was a great champion of education in this state. He understood better than anyone the value of education and how it strengthens a community and a state. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife and children. He was an honest and driven man who would work with all political groups to make sure the right thing was done. His presence will be sorely missed.



The Western Nevada College Wildcats Athletics **SPARTAN 300** is a group of individuals, businesses, and organizations who believe that the community college athletics experience is something worth fighting for.

Each member of the **SPARTAN 300** has pledged to donate \$100 per month for five years (*total pledge \$6,000*) to ensure that Nevada male and female student-athletes continue to have the opportunity to excel on the playing field while they succeed in the classroom. Members of this elite group will have their names inscribed on a permanent "Shield of Honor" that will be displayed prominently at the WNC Carson City campus.

SPARTAN 300 PLEDGE FORM

Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Payment Timing (check one): ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually

Payment Method (check one): ☐ MasterCard/Visa • Enter number: _____ Exp. Date _____

- ☐ PayPal (automatic deduction from checking account)
☐ Online Banking (many banks offer this as a courtesy to their customers)
☐ WNC Employee Payroll Deduction
☐ Bill me

The WNC Foundation Office is available to assist with any of these payment options.

FAX FORM: 775-445-4472

MAIL TO: Wildcats Athletics SPARTAN 300, 2201 West College Pkwy., Carson City, NV 89703

INFORMATION

Helaine Jesse Morres, Vice President, Development & External Affairs • 775-445-3240 or jesse@wnc.edu

SAFEGUARD YOUR ASSETS

Most people take steps during their lifetime to protect their possessions today, like holding multiple insurance policies and installing alarm systems in their homes and vehicles. Only half of all Americans take steps for tomorrow, safeguarding their assets for loved ones and charitable interests.

In the absence of a valid will, the state's "will" is usually a poor substitute for your own careful planning. A qualified attorney can draft a will that insures your wishes are fulfilled for family, friends and charities you love.

Including Western Nevada College in your personal legacy is easy. Add one of these statements to your will or trust and help fulfill the dreams of WNC students.

• Sample Bequest of Remainder of Estate:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the Western Nevada College Foundation TAX I.D. # 880283783, all (or state the fraction or percentage) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal. The Western Nevada Foundation may be contacted, 2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89701, 775-445-3240."

• Sample Bequest of Specific Amount:

"I give, devise, and bequeath _____ (\$ or (%)) _____ to the Western Nevada College Foundation TAX I.D. # 880283783. The Western Nevada Foundation may be contacted, 2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89701, 775-445-3240."

These are suggestions only. Content should be written or revised by legal counsel according to your situation.

INFORMATION

775-445-3240 • www.wnc.edu/foundation/

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS

Wildcats Fund-Raiser



Western Nevada College's eighth annual Wildcats Athletics Benefit which includes a dynamic speaker, three-course dinner, auctions and entertainment, will benefit WNC intercollegiate athletic programs in men's baseball and women's softball.

Saturday, Jan. 15, 2011 • 6 p.m.
Peppermill Hotel-Casino, Reno

TICKETS

\$75 each or \$750 for a table of ten*

INFORMATION

WNC Foundation
775-445-3240 • jesse@wnc.edu

WNC receives no state general funding for athletics and must support the teams through private and corporate donations.

**20% of ticket proceeds will go to the Nevada high school baseball or softball team of donor's choice.*

Major Gifts Campaign

Choose to Make a Difference

Western Nevada College Foundation's major gifts campaign, "Choose to Make a Difference," is the most ambitious effort to raise funds from private sources in the history of the college. Never before have so many joined together in partnership to elevate the college to new horizons of excellence and achievement.

The campaign is the result of a disciplined evaluation process which identified critical needs not met by traditional funding sources. The board of trustees of the WNC Foundation commissioned comprehensive interviews of 97 top community and business leaders. These leaders identified

four major priorities that focus on the need for scholarships, expanded facilities, and upgraded instructional equipment. Major improvements in these areas are seen as critical to increased productivity and continued strength in our work force.

The WNC Foundation is leading the college in developing and expanding instruction and services, and in creating new and better ways to do both. A major gifts campaign will make the difference between an ordinary and an extraordinary college.

INFORMATION

775-445-3240 • jesse@wnc.edu

The WNC Foundation wishes you a bountiful harvest,
a peaceful holiday season and a wonderful new year!

The holiday season is filled with lots of activity but also times of reflection. We are thankful for our own blessings and often want to share them with others. When you consider year-end giving, we hope that the students at WNC will come to mind.

GALLERY EXHIBITS 2010-11

CARSON CAMPUS Main Gallery - Bristlecone

Through November 12

"The Wider View - Panoramic
Photography"
by Hal Starratt

November 29 – January 27, 2011
"Figurative Drawing & Painting"
by Alison Harris

February 14 – March 25
Larry Williamson

April 11 – May 6
"Student Art Show"

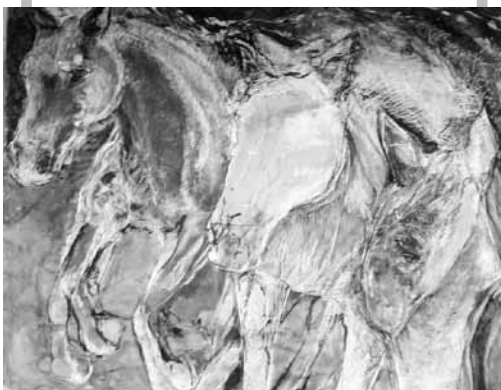
College Gallery - Bristlecone Through November 12

"Wild Horses"
by Maria Partridge

November 29 – January 26, 2011
"Stream" by Jill Brugler

January 25 – February 25
"Lone Mountain Writers"

April 11 – May 6
"Student Art Show"
Information: 775-445-3000



"Three Horses" by Maria Partridge

The SPOTLIGHT is on Broadway!

Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company

White Christmas

November 6-7, 12-14, 19-21

The sparkling new stage adaptation of the beloved Irving Berlin movie with added Berlin favorites, bursting with spectacular production numbers and warmed with your favorite songs.

Tickets: \$20/\$18/\$16
Carson City Community Center
Call 775-445-4249

Timeless Enchantment

WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE FALLON presents

Cinderella, the Enchanted Version

November 11-13, 18-20

The beloved story of a magical fairy tale is reborn with the Rodgers and Hammerstein hallmarks of originality, charm and elegance. With great warmth and more than a touch of hilarity, the hearts of children and adults alike will soar when the slipper fits. A cast of more than 50 members will bring alive the miraculous kingdom of dreams-come-true.

Tickets: \$12/\$10/\$8
Churchill County High School Auditorium
Call 775-423-5186

Alumnus Adventure

Continued from page 5

audience and invited Gabe to attend NASA's Lunabotics Mining Competition, a program designed to encourage development of innovative lunar excavation concepts. Sawyer asked Gabe to create a time lapse video of the week-long event. He took over 50,000 photographs and was offered an internship at the Kennedy Space Center for the rest of the summer. In addition to his engineering work there, his final project was a time-lapse video of the preparations involved in getting a robotic humanoid ready for space flight

to the International Space Station. (3)

Gabe is now in his senior year at UNR and fondly remembers his WNC education. "I'm really fortunate to have been able to develop some of the hands-on trade skills such as machine shop and welding at WNC," he said. "You sit in a lecture and get theory, but these trade skills have allowed me to put the theory into practice. As an engineer, that's what it's really all about."

Whatever his future holds is sure to be adventuresome, and his continued contributions to science marked by uniquely innovative design and mechanics.

"It was pretty neat that I got to mix my two interests, photography and engineering," Gabe said.

CONNECT...

- (1) www.youtube.com – search Nevada BalloonSat
- (2) www.youtube.com – search RockOn 2009 Workshop.m4v
- (3) www.youtube.com – search Robonaut2: Getting packed for space flight

FOUNDATION OFFICERS

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Robin Williamson, Secretary-Treasurer • Roger Williams, Immediate Past Chair

COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Carol A. Lucey, Ph.D.

VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

WNC is guided by the principle that there shall be no difference in the treatment of persons because of race, religion, color, age, sex, including a pregnancy-related condition, sexual-orientation, military status, or military obligations, disability, including veterans with service-connected disabilities, or national origin, and that equal opportunity and access to facilities shall be available to all. Similarly, there shall be no difference in the treatment of persons who file charges of discrimination, participate in a discrimination proceeding, or otherwise oppose discrimination. It is our policy to comply fully with the non-discrimination provision of all state and federal regulations with regard to recruitment, admission, financial aid, activities, hiring, promotions, training, terminations, benefits and compensation.

*Invest in our
community's future.*

*Remember the WNC
Foundation in your
charitable giving.*



Western Nevada College
FOUNDATION
2201 West College Parkway
Carson City, NV 89703

~ Choose to make a difference ~