NEWS AND EVENTS

Snow Blankets Campuses, B&G Staff and Volunteers Rise to the Occasion

It doesn’t happen often, but Western campuses were covered in snow on Monday, Dec. 7, and the college was closed. That doesn’t mean there wasn’t a lot of activity. On the Carson City campus, Buildings and Grounds staff was on the job Sunday most of the night, plowing, spreading sand and using snow throwers. In Fallon, buildings and grounds staff plowed the parking lot and volunteers wielded shovels to get the campus in shape. The parking lot at Douglas was plowed as well.

It’s no surprise that WNC staff pull together when needed, and do whatever it takes to accomplish our mission. When questions arise as to whether the campus is open because of inclement weather, always check the web site home page. If there is no mention of closure, the college is open. [http://www.wnc.edu/]

Baseball Headliner Dustin Pedroia Played in Carson City

When Dustin Pedroia comes to town on January 16 to headline the Wildcats Athletics fund-raising dinner, it will be a homecoming. While many people know about his Rookie of the Year and MVP awards, few are aware that Pedroia spent two summers playing baseball in Carson City as a 17 and 18-year-old before earning a scholarship to Arizona State University. Pedroia played on the Carson Capitals alongside former Nevada High School Player of the Year Joe Hooft who is now WNC assistant coach.

Tickets cost $75 until December 31, and $100 afterward. Tables of 10 are available for $750 until December 31, and $1,000 afterward. The event benefits the WNC baseball and softball programs. Buy tickets: 445-3240. [http://www.wnc.edu/news/2009-12-17a.php]

Holiday Potluck Benefits “Food for Thought”

As part of the annual college holiday potluck Thursday, WNC employees presented a $500 check to the non-profit Carson City group that provides food for the weekends to children who are homeless. Many of the youth are able to eat breakfast and lunch at school, but go without on the weekends and holidays.

Food for Thought provides the children with weekly school backpacks full of food that can be eaten without needing an oven or refrigerator. During the year, the charity will provide more than 100,000 meals to the area’s homeless children. Carson City has nearly 500 homeless children enrolled at all times. Food, clothing and cash donations are requested, with checks made to “Food for Thought, Inc.” Suitable food donations are fruit cups, instant oatmeal, crackers with peanut butter or cheese, microwave soups, etc. Donations may be made at the Human Resources office, 151 Bristlecone, and given to Ellen Shafer.

Post-Xmas Stargazing Open House at Davis Observatory

Western’s Jack C. Davis Observatory is the location for a free after-Christmas open house on Saturday, Dec. 26, from 6-9 p.m. The evening will feature a presentation about the night sky followed by viewing from a number of telescopes, weather permitting. Free cocoa and a special raffle will take place. [http://www.wnc.edu/news/2009-12-17b.php]
**Latino Student Club’s Talent Show a Success**
The Latino Student Club had an amazing supply on talent on hand for its annual show. The club was able to raise almost $900 for scholarships. Faculty and staff members helped out, and special thanks go to WNC Psychology Instructor Janet King and Casey Collins for an “awesome” swing dance. Students worked hard, had fun and earned money.

**E-Mail Service is Changing, Students Need Personal Accounts**
Beginning with the spring 2010 semester, new and returning students will need to provide the college with a personal contact e-mail address. Western has provided e-mail accounts until now, but does not have the money or staffing to set up and support thousands of e-mail accounts for students. Other institutions in Nevada are also taking this route because of the cost, and because almost everyone already has their own e-mail account they use. Further, e-mail accounts are available at no charge through a number of sites including Yahoo!, Google, Hotmail, or any internet provider.

Students are responsible for updating their e-mail contact information on WNC's Web-REG online registration system. E-mail services will be discontinued and e-mails discarded on June 30, 2010, and new students are being asked to provide a personal contact e-mail address at the time of registration for the spring semester. Students can also update their e-mail address online if their personal account changes. Questions: Eric Thornton - 445-3273.

**Paul Muller Elected**
WNC Accounting Professor Paul Muller has been elected president of the Chorus of the Comstock Barbershop singers. The chorus of 30-plus singers is rehearsing for a Christmas show December 19 at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Carson City.

**Staff Training Success**
WNC HVAC maintenance specialist Daniel Smith has completed 40 hours of training from American Trainco to enhance his skills in repairing and maintaining college air conditioning and refrigeration systems. This allows the college to complete more maintenance and repairs with campus staff.

**ARTS**

**Galleries Show Mixed Media, Photos and Digital Art**
Through Thursday, Jan. 7
Bristlecone Building, WNC Carson City
Free Admission   Info: 445-3000
Patrons of the Western's art galleries have come to expect a wide variety of media and artistic styles and the current exhibit will not disappoint, with mixed media, digital art and photographs all on display. The current exhibitions will run through Thursday, Jan. 7. The Main Gallery features Galen Brown, a northern Nevada artist whose “Red, Blue and Other Colors,” is a contemporary and unusual exhibit for this area. Former WNC student Claudia Rios will show her new photographs in the Atrium Gallery. In the College Gallery, a student show will feature photographs from Professor Jayna Conkey’s advanced digital photography class. All exhibits are free and may be viewed during normal business hours. The galleries will be closed between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day. [http://www.wnc.edu/news/2009-11-25a.php](http://www.wnc.edu/news/2009-11-25a.php)