NV Energy Recognizes WNC for Sustainability Efforts

In August 2009, President Lucey signed a document committing the college to increasing energy sustainability and making campuses carbon neutral. These efforts are already paying off.

The recent sustainability project to retrofit the heating and cooling system in the Bristlecone Building 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.

Furthermore, NV Energy presented the college with an incentive check totaling $15,216. The funds offset a portion of the costs to purchase and install the new system, and enable the college to prepare the unit for operation.

Earth Week Activities On Tap

Can hybrid and electric cars really help conserve resources? What is the benefit of using alternative energy sources? How can we do a better job of recycling? Western Nevada College will host a series of activities and exhibits to explore these questions during Earth Week at the Carson City and Fallon campuses:

**WNC Carson City Earth Day Activities – Thursday, April 22:**

**“Trash Talk“**: Identify what items could be recycled, along with a demonstration on composting.

**“Green” Autos**: Hybrid and electric cars will be on display.

**Alternative Energy Solutions**: Exhibits will feature demonstrations of alternative energy sources. WNC’s Recycling Committee will be selling the college’s “We Care” reusable thermal mugs.

**Friday, April 23:**

**Wild and Scenic Film Festival**: The environmental film festival features a collection of documentaries and films covering topics that inspire an appreciation for Earth’s most precious resources. Exhibits and information will be available as well. Doors open at 6 p.m. for giveaways and exhibits; films begin at 7 p.m. Marlette Hall, Cedar Building. Admission: $8. Students: $5 with WNC I.D.

**WNC Fallon Activities:**

**Saturday, April 17**: Students in Beta Theta Iota Honor Society will team up with the city of Fallon to “Keep Fallon Green.” The community cleanup is 9 a.m. - noon.

**Earth Day Activities – Thursday, April 22:**

Students will help increase Earth Day awareness with an interactive planting exhibit. Pots, soil and seeds will be provided for students to create a start-up garden. Reusable water bottles will be distributed to help limit the use of single-use plastic bottles.

IN THE ARTS

The Hills Will Come Alive... With the “Sound of Music”

Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company will bring the classic musical “The Sound of Music” to the Carson City Community Center for two weekends, May 7-9 and 14-16. The timeless favorite is the story of an Austrian postulant who proves too high-spirited for the religious life, and is sent to serve as governess for the seven children of a widowed naval captain. Enduring songs abound, including Edelweiss, My Favorite Things, Climb Every Mountain, 16 Going on 17, and many more. Tickets: 445-4249.

Douglas Art Exhibit Displays Vibrant Colors

Vibrant splashes of color reminiscent of stained glass windows adorn the walls of the Douglas campus through Friday, April 30. The artist, J. Renee Ekleberry, creates her masterpieces from the heart, dabbling in all artistic mediums. She began her pursuit of fine art full time in 1990.

Photo Essay Contest Entries Welcome

Amateur photographers are invited to submit photos that depict “Rhythms of our Community.” Entries should reflect a clear theme of rhythm and diversity through photos taken in northern Nevada. Submission deadline is Friday, April 23 at 5 p.m. http://www.wnc.edu/news/2010-03-02c.php

Students to Bring Galleries to Life with Annual Exhibits

Want to see the world in a hundred different ways? The 2009-2010 Western Nevada College Student Art Exhibition will do just that. Hundreds of pieces in more than a dozen artistic mediums will show in all three Bristlecone Building galleries, April 19-May 14. A reception for artists will be Wednesday, April 28, 4:30-6:30 p.m. At WNC Fallon, the show will exhibit May-14, with a spring art barbecue on Saturday, May 1, noon-3 p.m. The exhibits feature work created by students in art or graphic design classes. Categories include painting, watercolor, ceramics, drawing (both color and black & white media), printmaking, darkroom photography, digital photography, sculpture, mixed media, computer illustration, visual foundations, and, media design, and electronic layout/typography. Juror for the show is Reno artist Maria Partridge.

ATHLETICS

WNC Softball Gets One in Colorado

The Wildcats softball team is at home this weekend for a series against North Idaho College, beginning at 1 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday at Edmonds Sports Complex in Carson City. Come out and support the team! WNC came away with a win in a doubleheader Saturday at Colorado Northwestern Community College. The Wildcats dropped both Friday games in Rangely, 3-1 and 7-5, before they split the Saturday doubleheader with a 4-2 loss and a win in the nightcap, 4-3. “On Saturday, we played much better,” Coach Leah Wentworth said. “We hit the ball hard,” and freshman pitcher Jennifer Watkins was solid on the mound. http://www.wnc.edu/athletics/softball/
Wildcats Baseball Stays on Winning Track
The WNC baseball team moved into second place in the Scenic West Conference after sweeping a four-game series against Colorado Northwestern Community College last weekend. The Wildcats dominated the Spartans 7-2 and 13-1 on Friday, then 15-0 and 8-4 on Saturday. The Wildcats travel to College of Eastern Utah for a four-game stand this weekend. CEU is in fifth place in the SWAC at 6-14, but the Golden Eagles snagged one game from WNC during their visit to Carson City last month. On April 16-17, WNC will host College of Southern Nevada in a critical four-game series at John L. Harvey Field. http://www.wnc.edu/news/2010-04-05b.php

COLLEGE CORNER

Nevada Small Farm Conference Draws Large Crowd
More than 160 area farmers gathered at the Fallon campus March 12-13 for the Nevada Small Farm Conference, sponsored by WNC’s Specialty Crop Institute. The event attracted a wide variety of farmers and took steps toward establishing a renewed interest in alternative farming methods and sales strategies in Nevada. Planning is already under way for the 2011 conference, At left, participants learn about how to rate eggs. http://www.wnc.edu/sci/

Nursing Student Receives WNC Regents’ Scholar Award
Nursing student Joshua Pierce is a recipient of the 2010 Regents’ Scholar Award. The Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents annually recognizes students for their academic achievements, leadership ability and service contributions. He maintains a 3.66 grade point average, is a Carson City Rotary Club scholar and an All-USA Community College Academic Award recipient. Pierce graduates from Western this spring and plans to continue his education at the University of Nevada, Reno. http://www.wnc.edu/news/2010-04-07d.php

Nursing Students Supporting Local Charities
WNC nursing students have been active doing community service projects, in addition to their heavy academic workload. Second-year nursing students in Fallon hosted a yard sale and bake sale to benefit Fallon Daily Bread, an organization that serves two free meals to those in need.

Carson City nursing students have partnered with the Food Bank of Northern Nevada and the Carson City SPCA to host a food drive for people and pets, as part of a leadership project. Local businesses are supporting the effort by serving as drop-off locations. In Carson City, donations are accepted at Petsmart on Fairview Drive. In Minden, food may be dropped off at Ironwood Theater, Carson Valley Inn and Lira’s Supermarket, and in Gardnerville, donations are accepted at Scolari’s, Blockbuster and Carson Valley Medical Center. http://www.wnc.edu/academics/degrees/aas/nur/
**Adult Basic Education becomes Adult Literacy & Language**

Adult Basic Education is taking on a new name - Adult Literacy and Language - in an effort to rebrand the program and to bring statewide consistency and focus to the programs available for adult students.

The services provided through Adult Literacy and Language remain the same and include English Language Learning, formerly called English as a Second Language, GED preparation and citizenship preparation. Director Teri Zutter said the name change “helps remove a stigma that the services provided are ‘conditions’ that the college is trying to cure. “These services fundamentally change students’ lives by helping them achieve a standard of education and enabling them to feel equal to their peers. When students feel equal, they can tap into potential that they didn’t know they had.”

http://www.wnc.edu/studentservices/alal/

**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 on Friday, March 19. Students (along with the Wildcats mascot) began the day with a landing demonstration and lecture 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. Coordinator of Student Outreach Katie Leao said, “We are creating an environment that encourages students to expand their horizons and discover their potential.

**“Three Cups” Author Mortenson Donates Books to WNC Library**

WNC Public Services Librarian Valerie Andersen experienced Greg Mortenson’s good-hearted generosity first-hand when she attended the Carson City lecture the author in March. 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.
Phi Theta Kappa Members Attend Regional Convention
Active fundraising and sponsorships enabled Fallon’s Beta Theta Iota Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa to send 10 members and three advisors to the Regional Convention in Sacramento, Calif., in March. The chapter received a two-star status for excellence and progress in the attainment of the organization’s goals. Members Melanie Black, Sean Busey and Kathleen Levine entered artwork and poetry for the awards competition, with Busey receiving a third place Academic Scholar Award for the Nevada/California Region.

Easter Fiesta Welcomes Families
More than 140 children and their families gathered on the Carson City campus to celebrate spring at the Easter Fiesta, Saturday, April 3. The event included egg decorating, an egg hunt, games, prizes and an appearance by the WNC Wildcat mascot. The event was sponsored by the Latino Student Club at WNC.

HOLD THE DATE
April 16: College Day, Carson City Campus
April 30: College Day, Fallon Campus
May 3-5: Northwest Accreditation Team Site Visit – all campuses
May 15: Multicultural Festival, Carson City Campus
May 24: Fallon Commencement Ceremony - 7 pm, Oats Park Art Center
May 25: Carson City Commencement Ceremony 7 pm, Carson City Community Center