

CAMPUS IS STORMREADY

The National Weather Service in Morristown, Tennessee recognized Virginia Highlands Community College as a StormReady® Supporter during a ceremony at the Administrative Building on Oct. 7.

“Through a partnership between the National Weather Service and emergency management, the StormReady program encourages communities to take a proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations and public awareness,” said George Mathews, meteorologist-in-charge of the National Weather Service Morristown, Tennessee forecast office.

Campus officials were presented with a recognition letter and a special StormReady® Supporter sign that will be placed on campus.

The nationwide community preparedness program uses a grassroots approach to help communities develop plans to handle local severe weather and flooding threats. The program is voluntary and provides communities with clear-cut advice from the local National Weather Service forecast office and state and local emergency managers. The program began in 1999 with seven communities in the Tulsa, Oklahoma area being designated as StormReady communities.

Today, there are more than 1,675 StormReady communities. Virginia Highlands community College is the first StormReady Supporter designated in the state of Virginia and the fifth StormReady Supporter in the National Weather Service, Morristown, Tennessee county warning and forecast area.

“The StormReady program is designed to help counties improve communication and safety skills needed to save lives — before, during and after a severe weather event,” said Tim Troutman, warning coordination meteorologist for the forecast office.

To be recognized as a StormReady, an entity must establish a 24-hour warning point or safety location; have more than one way to receive severe weather forecasts and warnings and to alert the public. Other requirements include creating a system that monitors local weather conditions; promoting the importance of public readiness through community seminars; and, develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

Each StormReady Supporter also is required to have a NOAA Weather Radio at the location and also must maintain a close working relationship with the local National Weather Service office, which includes participating in yearly weather preparedness activities.



DOMINION FUNDS CAMPUS COFFEE SHOP

Dominion has awarded VHCC a \$30,000 grant for a campus coffee shop that will be solar powered and operated by students.

Officials from the power company presented a check to VHCC leaders on Oct. 26 during a meeting at Dominion’s Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center, which is currently under construction in St. Paul. Those who reviewed the grant proposal said they were impressed with the plan to include solar-powered products in the coffee shop design.

The coffee shop will be located in the LRC building just outside the Keyser-Aday Theatre and is expected to open in April. The College is currently

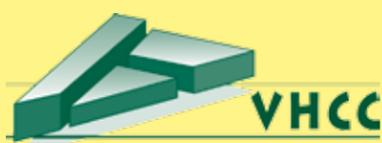
awaiting approval on the proposed location of solar panels that will power the water heater, signs and lights for the shop, said grant writer Betty Domjahn.

In the meantime, members of Students in Free Enterprise and their advisor, Phil Ferguson, are working on a marketing plan and a business plan for the shop. They are also consulting with SIFE members from Blue Ridge Job Corp about the coffee shop that has been operational on their campus for several years.

“We want this to be a campus-wide project that will bring in people from many different disciplines,” Ferguson explained. “Blue Ridge has a great model, so we’re collecting ideas and data from them.”

a taste of Appalachia

The VHCC community celebrated the arrival of autumn with Appalachian arts, crafts and music provided by The Old Oak Revival. Members of the Christian Club made Apple Butter and the Classified Support Staff Association sponsored a chili luncheon that raised more than \$300 for gas cards for students.



VHCC News is produced each month by Anne Dunham of the Office of Institutional Advancement. If you would like to suggest information for the newsletter, please send your ideas to adunham@vhcc.edu or contact her by phone at 276-739-2456. VHCC is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.

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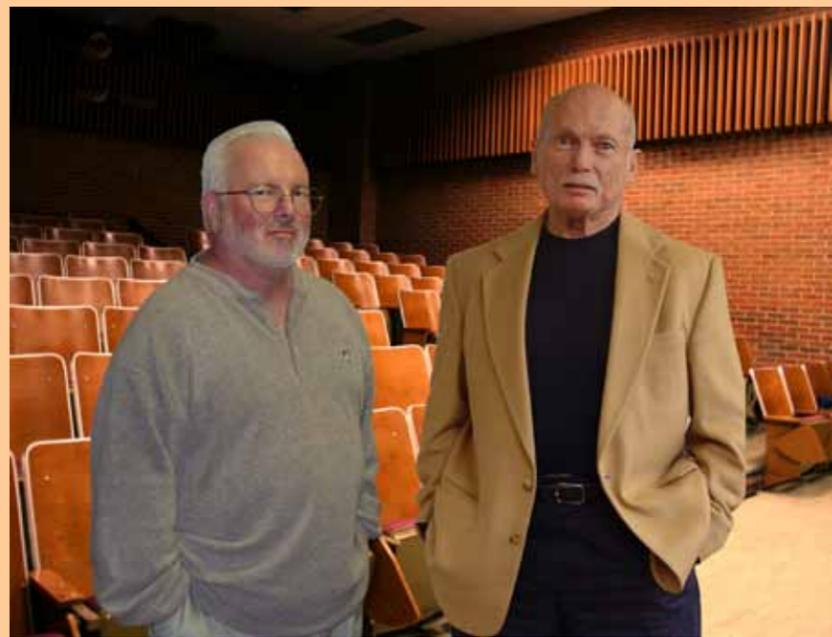
Para la ayuda en español, llama por favor
(276) 739-2436

RETIREMENT SEMINAR SET FOR DEC. 1

The Virginia Retirement System offers free local sessions of the Retirement Education Seminars (RES) and Group Counseling Sessions (GCS).

The Retirement Education Seminars provide general retirement information on Social Security and Medicare and include topics such as estate and financial planning. The Group Counseling Sessions offer more specific VRS information on retirement benefits and the retirement application process.

Sessions will be offered on the VHCC campus on December 1, 2010. Preregistration is required. For more information and to preregister, go to the VHCC Human Resources web page and click on FYI – Retirement Planning – VRS Retirement Education & Counseling Sessions.

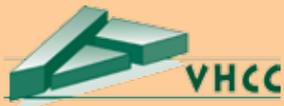


Dedication of the **KEYSER-ADAY THEATRE** AT VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Nearly 40 years after arriving at VHCC to establish a Theatre Arts Program that has resulted in more than 100 live performances and touched the lives of countless community members, faculty members William Van Keyser (retired) and Gary Aday are being honored with the official dedication of the Keyser-Aday Theatre at VHCC. Please plan to attend this special reception and stay for the 2:30 p.m. performance of "Footworks: Three Short Plays by Horton Foote."

SUNDAY, NOV. 7, 2010
1:30 P.M.

KEYSER-ADAY THEATRE
VHCC CAMPUS



Submitted by Kaitlynn Clark, SGA Publicity Chair

On October 7, 2010 SGA & SIFE joined together to have the first Sadie Hawkins Dance. The dance started at 7:30 p.m. and lasted till 10 o'clock. We see several of VHCC's students dancing and listening to the live band Ro-Sham-Bo. Ro-Sham-Bo played a variety of music from 60-70 hits to present hits. Everyone was enjoying spending time with friends and making new ones, Sadie Hawkins was a blast! If the students weren't up dancing with the music, they were eating delicious food from a caterer. If you weren't able to make it to this year's Sadie Hawkins Dance, we look forward to seeing you there next year!!



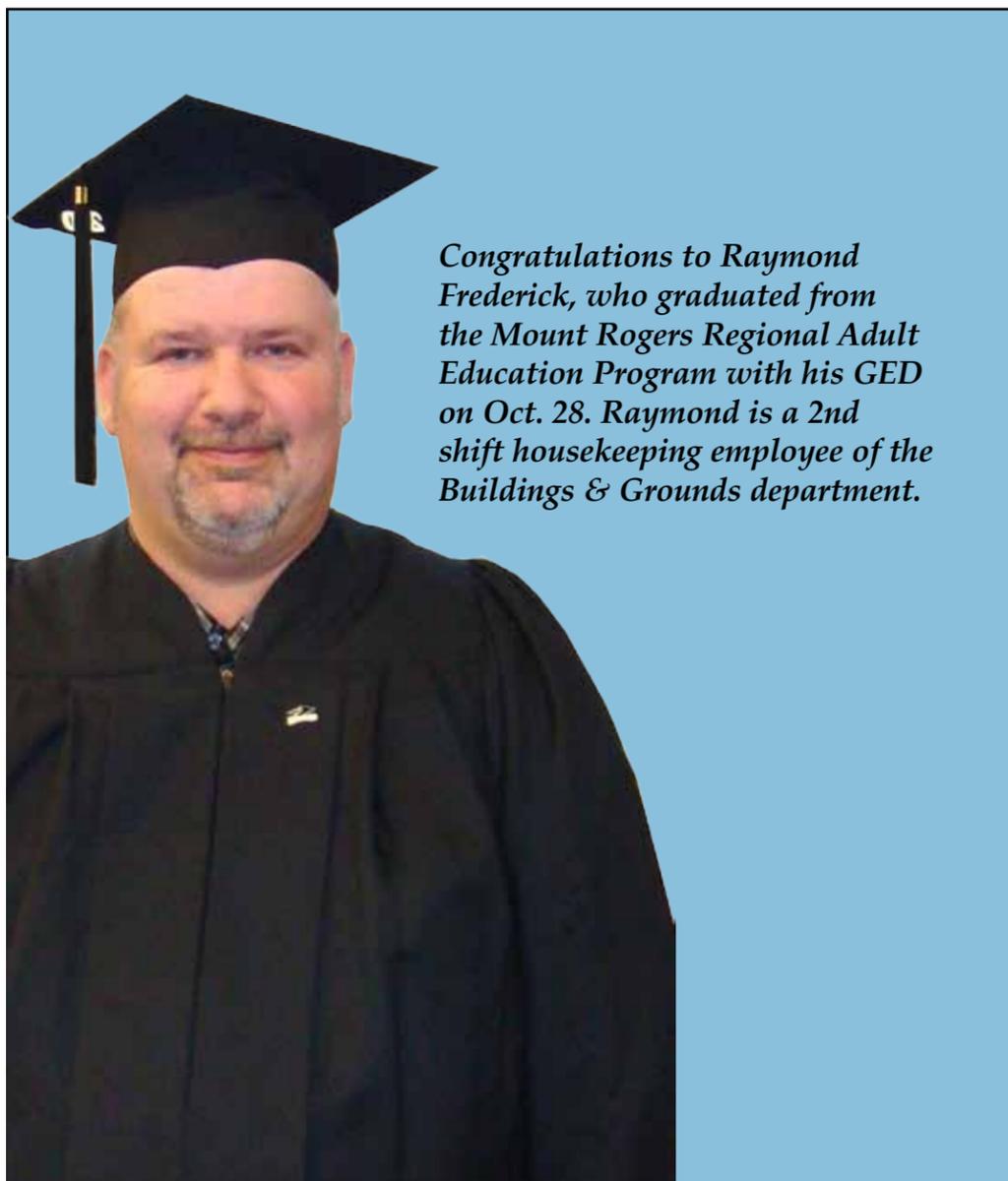
Officials from Holly Help Spay & Neuter were on campus earlier this month to collect 101 pounds of pet food that was collected in the community by members of Students in Free Enterprise. The food drive was part of the club's community service project in September and also included a food drive for humans.

ATTENTION FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

VHCC leaders have worked hard in recent years to create a welcoming and supportive environment for new students. To gauge our success, we're asking first-year students to complete a 15-minute Foundations of Excellence survey that will be distributed via email on Nov. 1. Your input will help us to improve student services and will enter you in the drawing for a 32GB Apple iPod Touch and dozens of other prizes. Please respond to the email survey, which will be available Nov. 1 through Nov. 19.



The ladies from the Division of Workforce Training and Continuing Education posed as rock stars from a few decades back during the Halloween celebration sponsored by the Law Enforcement Club. Scary!



Congratulations to Raymond Frederick, who graduated from the Mount Rogers Regional Adult Education Program with his GED on Oct. 28. Raymond is a 2nd shift housekeeping employee of the Buildings & Grounds department.