



After participating in a simulation within the Virginia Appalachian Tricollege Nursing Program's Simulation Lab, a team from Johnston Memorial Hospital is now planning future training sessions there.

The discussions began after the hospital group took part in a simulation led by Jennifer Widener, Charlotte Gilmer, and other members of the Simulation Lab's staff. The demonstration allowed hospital leaders to see the equipment in action and appreciate how it can be used to provide critical training to doctors and nurses.

The group may begin using the laboratory as early as January.

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!



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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Santa Claus is back in town! Or at least he was a few weeks ago when the Student Government Association decorated the College Christmas Tree, mixed up a batch of hot chocolate, and ushered in the holiday season with carols and cookies.

If you missed the annual event, never fear! There's plenty of holiday happiness elsewhere on campus, plastered on doors and covering the hallways from ADM to OTC. (The LRC building still needs a little work!)

Be sure while in the ADM to watch your step. A melted snowman has been seen lingering in the hallway just outside the Workforce Division. Keep your fingers crossed for a frosty winter that will bring him back to life and reward all our hard work with lots of snow days!



VHCC'S GOT TALENT

Some of the most talent members of the VHCC campus community will take to the stage to compete for a variety of fabulous prizes and bragging rights.

Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011

7 p.m. at Keyser-Aday Theatre

Admission is \$2 or 2 cans of food

Sponsored by SGA, SIFE and the VHCC Foundation



CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The annual concert by the VHCC Choir and special soloists this year celebrates its 40th anniversary. The concert will feature a blend of sacred and secular favorites with special instrumental and vocal soloists.

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011

7:30 p.m. at Keyser-Aday Theatre

Admission is \$4 for everyone



PERCUSSION CONCERT

Continuing a holiday tradition, the VHCC Percussion Ensemble presents an evening of holiday favorites with its own special twist.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011

7:30 p.m. at Keyser-Aday Theatre

Free for everyone, donations accepted



HOORAY FOR
SNOW DAYS!

In the event of inclement weather, Virginia Highlands Community College may close or operate on a delayed schedule. When this happens, the College uses VHCC Alert to immediately contact those who subscribe to this user-friendly service. Alerts, notifications and updates can be sent to the following devices:

- E-mail account (work, home, other)
- Cell phone
- Pager
- Smartphone/PDA

VHCC Alert is a free service offered by Virginia Highlands Community College. However, your wireless carrier may charge you a fee to receive messages on your wireless device. You may register at <https://alert.vhcc.edu> and may choose to receive emergency alerts and/or weather related information.



INSTRUMENTS NEEDED

Community members who have unwanted instruments gathering dust in their attics and tool sheds are encouraged to donate them to Virginia Highlands Community College to support new programs offered through the VHCC Music Department.

"Old Time String Band," offered for the first time during Spring Semester 2012, will introduce students to the history and performance of traditional music of the central Appalachian region with topics focusing on musicians, instrumentation, regional influences, and classic tunes. This course will allow students to interact with the rich history of this region and will help them interact with this culture through the performance of fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, stand-up bass, and other instruments specific to this genre. Students enrolled in this course will have the opportunity to learn a new instrument, refine their musical skills, and develop a relationship with other musicians interested in this timeless craft.

In order to equip students with the proper tools, VHCC is collecting string instruments that will remain part of the Music Department for use in future semesters, too. Used fiddles, banjos, mandolins, guitars, and a stand-up bass in good working order are needed.

Students interested in taking this three-credit course should register for MUS-150. The course will be taught by Music Instructor Mary Munsey.

Brass, woodwind, and other string instruments also are being collected and will be used for a "Band Ensemble" course also being offered during Spring 2012. Adjunct Instructor Jay Oberfeiting will teach this course, and interested students should register for MUS-249. This is a one-credit course.

Instruments may be dropped off Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. in Room 114 of the Mechanical Education Building (MEC) on the VHCC campus.

Please contact Alma Rowland, arowland@vhcc.edu, at (276) 739-2437, or Mary Munsey, mmunsey@vhcc.edu, at (276) 739-2454 for additional details and alternate drop-off times.



RENOVATIONS BEGIN

Thanks to the diligent work of the campus committee unofficially dubbed the "Dirty Carpeted Wall Committee," renovations are now under way in the lobby of the Learning Resources Center outside the Keyser-Aday Theatre. New wall treatments and a fresh color scheme will replace the old worn out carpet that formerly covered the walls.

As a companion project, work has begun on Wolf Grounds, the new coffee shop that will be operated by Students in Free Enterprise. Grant funds from Dominion Power are helping to make this project - which will utilize alternative energy sources - a reality.

GOT MITTENS? OR HATS, OR COATS OR SWEATERS?

If you can spare a pair of toasty warm mittens - or other cold weather necessities - VHCC can help you deliver them to someone who will appreciate them throughout the winter months.

- The Mitten Tree now located in the Wolves Den is accepting donations of mittens, hats, and scarves. Items collected will be donated to the Koats for Kids Closet.

- To donate items directly to the Koats for Kids Closet, which is now in its 15th year, you may drop off sweaters, coats, jackets, mittens, and hats to Project EXCEL, ISC-122. The items will be inventoried and delivered to the Koats for Kids Closet located in the LRC building.



LEGISLATIVE TRIPS PLANNED

Faculty and staff members are encouraged to recommend students to participate in trips planned in January and February during the 2012 session of the Virginia General Assembly.

Those chosen will travel to Richmond to meet with Chancellor Glenn DuBois and his staff members, then have individual meetings with Del. Joe Johnson, Del. Terry Kilgore, Del. Israel O'Quinn, Sen. Phillip Puckett, and Sen. Bill Carrico in their legislative offices. Time is also reserved for the students to see the House or Senate in session during their visit.

VHCC's trips are planned for January 30-31 and February 15-16. The College covers all expenses, including lodging and meals for students who are chosen to participate.

In recommending students, please choose those who will represent the College well and may have never had an opportunity to travel to Richmond or to meet our elected leaders. The goal is to help our legislators understand the programs and services we offer, while also helping students to grow personally and academically as a result of the trip.

If you would like to recommend someone, please send their name, a two- to three-sentence biography, and contact information to Anne Dunham at adunham@vhcc.edu.



The 2011 Student Delegation on the steps of the State Capitol