Renee McCue aspires to one day open her own gourmet restaurant in Page County. As someone who loves to cook “anything” and enjoys serving others, she is a natural fit for the food industry. McCue will graduate with an associate degree in business management in 2009. As a future business owner, 24-year-old McCue recognizes the advantages of learning how to operate the business aspect of her future career path and not just the food aspect. After graduating from LFCC, McCue plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree in hospitality and tourism.

Before venturing out into the working world as an entrepreneur, McCue is dedicating herself to her studies at LFCC and is working as an office assistant at the College’s Luray-Page County Center. McCue also volunteers her time at the Center, assisting with various student activities and programs as a way to give back to LFCC. “The College has done so much for me and others,” she said.

Q: What do you see as your greatest personal achievement?
A: Getting through college. If someone told me when I graduated from high school that I would one day want to go back to school, I would have told them that they were wrong. Fortunately, I did come back, and I have enjoyed my experience at LFCC.

Q: What most energizes you and why?
A: That I am pursuing a college degree completely on my own. In high school, there was always someone there to tell me “this is how it is and this is how you do it.” Now, I am attending college because it is what I want to do, and I am succeeding because of my hard work.

Q: Who is your biggest hero and why?
A: My grandmother Edna is my biggest hero. She always knew that I would succeed. Even when it didn’t look like I would be successful, she still always believed in me.

Q: Why do you want to open your own restaurant?
A: I want to open my own restaurant, because I enjoy cooking. Also, I have realized in life that a wonderful meal prepared by someone else can change the outlook on a person’s entire day.

Renee McCue enjoys working at the Luray-Page County Center and assisting students, visitors and employees.
March 2008

Teaching and Learning

- The power of potential! How did the College impact the community last year? What is our student body like? What new and exciting initiatives did we develop? For answers to these questions and more, please read LFCC’s annual report: http://www.lfcc.edu/AnnualReport/2007/index.html.

- The Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) recognized LFCC for outstanding contribution to the Virginia Emergency Medical Services system. This recognition was a result of LFCC’s nomination for the 2007 Governor’s EMS Award at the EMS Symposium in November.

- In November, the Winchester Rotary Club honored John J. “Ski” Sygelski with the Phil Spreenle Vocalational Award at the Winchester Rotary 2007 Fall Social and Awards Night at the Shenandoah Valley Country Club. The award was presented to Sygelski for vocational leadership exemplifying service above self.

For information about the Office of Learning, please contact Margaret Bartow at mbartow@lfcc.edu or 540-868-0742.

Student Success

- LFCC awarded scholarships to 14 general educational development (GED) recipients. The scholarship covered the cost of a one-credit college success skills course and the textbook.

- During the fall 2007 semester, the Student Activities Office began a new program that allows faculty members to apply for funding to sponsor activities outside of the classroom that complement the learning experience in the classroom. The new program received and approved 14 requests, enabling students to enjoy such venues and events as the American Sign Language trade show, BODIES exhibit in Washington, D.C., National Gallery of Art, River’d Inn “Business Dining and Communications Workshop” and Romeo and Juliet at the Blackfriars Playhouse. The program was so successful that additional funding has been obtained for the spring 2008 semester.

- All three LFCC locations sponsored events to remember, celebrate and embrace Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream. A variety of programs took place, including essay contests, musical performances, speeches and video tributes. The College also organized lectures, discussions and videos in recognition of Black History Month.

For information about the Office of Student Success, please contact Cynthia Barbaram at cbbarbara@lfcc.edu or 540-351-1516.

Partnerships and Outreach

- Last year, the Office of Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education served almost 11,000 individuals. The office conducted 525 open enrollment and 72 credit courses, which served 5,031 students; delivered 344 customized training courses for 72 employers, which served 5,922 employees in the region; and offered 227 online classes.

- In response to the global growth of the region’s local business community, LFCC is offering a new course for human resource professionals, providing individuals with the necessary knowledge, skills and perspectives to be successful in a worldwide free market. Other than George Mason University, LFCC is the only college in Virginia that is offering the 12-week Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Global Learning System course. The course prepares individuals for the Global Professional in Human Resources (GPHR) certification exam, and the test is an outstanding preparation tool for HR professionals with international and cross-border responsibilities. Cynthia Soltis, coordinator of business and industry training, recently received her GPHR certification from SHRM.

Resource Development and Public Relations

- In 2007, more than $1.2 million was raised for the LFCC Educational Foundation Inc. Please visit the LFCC Web site to see the list of our generous donors: http://www.lfcc.edu/Foundation/honorroll.html.

- There are more than 25 ways you can support and invest in the College this year! The College is dedicated to the ongoing support of the LFCC Educational Foundation Inc., which raises funds for mission-critical College projects that are not funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Despite the fact that LFCC is a state-assisted institution, state funds provide only 55 percent of the College’s budget. Consequently, private investments are essential to the future of the College and the community. For a list of the investment opportunities, please visit the LFCC Web site: http://www.lfcc.edu/Foundation/investment/index.html.

- On Jan. 10 and 11, LFCC students and employees, College and Foundation Board members, local business leaders and area residents rubbed elbows with former Virginia Gov. Mark Warner and U.S. Sen. Jim Webb. LFCC hosted the two elected officials at the College’s Luray-Page County Center during a tour of the region.

For information about the Office of Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education, please contact Jeann Clark at jclark@lfcc.edu or 540-868-7122.

2008 Calendar Items

Event Date / Time Location
Middletown Campus Commencement Exercises May 9, 2008 / 6 p.m. Middletown Campus
Fauquier Campus Commencement Exercises May 10, 2008 / 10:30 a.m. Fauquier Campus
Corren Community Development Center Groundbreaking June 5, 2008 / 2 p.m. Middletown Campus
Science and Health Professions Building Grand Opening June 5, 2008 / 3 p.m. Middletown Campus

For information about the Office of Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education, please contact Jeann Clark at jclark@lfcc.edu or 540-868-7122.

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LFCC President John J. “Ski” Sygelski and student ambassadors visited the Virginia General Assembly in Richmond in January and February to thank the elected officials who support higher education and learn more about Virginia’s legislative process.