Since he was a child, Alan Wolverton has loved nature and respected the environment. These traits were acknowledged by his first-grade teacher, who sent a note to his parents telling them to encourage him to continue pursuing his interest in the outdoors, and solidified in the third grade, when Wolverton watched the trout stream that he grew up near transform from a sparkling, spring-fed stream with plants and fish to a slimy, smelly mess.

“I told my third-grade teacher, Mrs. Seek, that I was going to make sure our waters were not polluted and would find a way to make our streams and environment a better place by doing something productive, instead of just watching our environment be turned into a dumping ground,” said Wolverton, an Edinburg resident.

After graduating from high school, Wolverton enrolled at Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC) to pursue an associate degree in natural resource management. He chose the College because he wanted hands-on training in the region in which he planned to work. Wolverton graduated from LFCC in 1986 and accepted his first job with the National Park Service. Throughout his career, he has held various jobs in the field of environmental protection and natural resource management.

Currently, he works for the town of Round Hill in Loudoun County as a utility supervisor, water and wastewater utility systems chief operator and laboratory director. In these positions, he is responsible for infrastructure planning, reviews of subdivisions and planning for the town’s long-term water resource needs.

Q: What do you want the community to know about LFCC and its impact on the area?
A: I would like the community to know that LFCC offers a fine curriculum at an affordable cost. The education is as high a quality, if not better, than many state colleges. LFCC has given our community many students who have gone on to be leaders in their fields and highly respected by their peers.

I feel that if LFCC had not been located in the Shenandoah Valley area, many rural students would have missed the opportunity to attend college. I know I would have been one of them.

Q: What do you see as your greatest professional achievement?
A: My greatest professional achievement would have to be working in a field that gives so much back to the environment. The field of water reclamation has long been misunderstood. We as a society are moving closer every day to a time when freshwater supplies are critical, and helping to find a solution is one of my goals.

Q: If you could solve one community or national problem, what might that be?
A: As mentioned earlier, clean, fresh and dependable water supplies are taken for granted all over this nation. Within a few short years, we will see more and more cities and towns cry out for freshwater, and there will be no new supplies. My long-term goal is to plan for my town’s freshwater supply 60 to 100 years into the future. Our needs for water and wastewater treatment will demand more of our resources all across the nation. Providing innovative approaches and making sure even a small improvement is not overlooked benefits us all on a larger scale as a nation.

Alan Wolverton
Alumnus Profile

Lord Fairfax Community College
Middletown, Fauquier and Luray, Virginia
http://www.lfcc.edu

LFCC moves into the Science and Health Professions Building. Look inside!
Teaching and Learning

This fall, on the first day of classes, LFCC faculty and students filled the halls and classrooms of the new Science and Health Professions Building. This new facility, which is pictured on the cover, is an important addition to the Middletown Campus and meets the need for additional space for many of LFCC’s technical programs. LFCC is excited about educating students enrolled in its science and health professions programs in a facility with plenty of laboratory space for hands-on learning.

This summer, LFCC was awarded a grant of more than $49,000 from the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services. This funding will enable LFCC to host the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads’ Leadership Summit in 2009 at the Middletown Campus. This event will provide current emergency medical services (EMS) personnel an opportunity to hone and improve their leadership abilities. The summit will seek to enhance the leadership skills of EMS professionals in an effort to increase recruitment and retention of EMS personnel.

LFCC has partnered with Winchester City Public Schools to present a series of workshops titled African-American Parent Forum. The following sessions will be presented by LFCC employees: Student Preparedness for College, Funding Your College Education, Critical Thinking: What Parents Need to Know and Academic Readiness.

LFCC is currently hiring part-time instructors for the spring 2009 semester. The College offers flexible teaching schedules, and individuals with full-time jobs are welcome to teach at LFCC during the evenings. To learn more about these positions, and to apply, visit http://www.lfcc.edu/employment-opportunities.

LFCC was recently awarded grant funds from the Tech Prep and Perkins Postsecondary federal grant programs in the amounts of $95,902 and $50,000, respectively. The funds will be used to support career pathway alignment between programs at the area high schools and LFCC and fund two career coach positions to provide high school students with career counseling services. Career pathways give students models that they can follow from high school through their postsecondary educational career, providing students with a sequence of educational steps — from certifications, licenses and certificates to associate degrees, bachelor’s degrees and beyond. In addition, the monies will be used for equipment, professional development and resource materials.

For information about the Office of Learning, please contact Margaret Barlow at mbarlow@lfcc.edu or 540-869-0742.

Student Success

For all fall 2008, LFCC’s Financial Aid Office awarded 108 scholarships totaling $13,943.28 through the LFCC Educational Foundation Inc. Scholarship Program. The scholarships provided financial assistance to LFCC students, helping to defray the costs of tuition, fees and books. The application deadline for fall 2009 scholarships is Friday, March 13, 2009.

Area residents can show support for the College by purchasing an LFCC license plate through the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. LFCC will receive $15 for every license plate purchased after the first 1,000 are sold. These monies will be used to establish a Phi Theta Kappa scholarship through the Lord Fairfax Community College Educational Foundation Inc. Interested individuals may view the license plate and/or purchase it by visiting http://www.dmv.virginia.gov/exe2/vehicle/splates/info.asp?idnm=LFCC.

LFCC hosted College Day/ Night events in September, welcoming approximately 80 institutions to the Faquier Campus and 50 institutions to the Middletown Campus. The events, which were free and open to the public, provided individuals with information about various colleges and universities and educated students attending LFCC or other institutions about the transfer process.

LFCC’s Luray-Page County County Center has its first official student club — the Cycling Cannons. The purpose of the club is to promote fitness, friendship and fun by planning recreational bicycle rides once or twice a month.

Spring is the time for students to apply for financial aid for the next academic year. To assist LFCC students and community families with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, LFCC will host Super Saturday on Jan. 31, 2009. Personnel from LFCC’s Financial Aid Office will educate individuals about the financial aid process and offer one-on-one assistance to students and their families with completing the FAFSA form.

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

Partnerships and Outreach

For the 2007-08 academic year, the Office of Workforce Solutions and Continued Education served more than 9,600 individuals in professional development and business and industry courses. The office offered 637 open enrollment professional development classes, serving 3,878 students, and 352 customized training courses for 80 employers, serving 5,751 employees.

The Office of Workforce Solutions and Continued Education impacts area businesses with its training programs. Following are a few customer testimonials:

- “LFCC helped us begin our Lean [continuous improvement process] journey about one year ago. We feel very fortunate to have such an excellent local resource at LFCC to help us.” — Mike Harper, president, Virginia Harbor Services Inc.
- “Our employees have responded very well to the LFCC instructors. I highly recommend LFCC’s professional development and Workforce Solutions if your organization needs assistance with organizational training programs.” — Tom Malcolm, director of human resources, Shockey Precast Group

For information about the Office of Workforce Solutions and Continuing Education, please contact Janam Clark at jclark@lfcc.edu or 540-869-7122.

Resource Development and Public Relations

Visit LFCC’s new and exciting Web site today — http://www.lfcc.edu. Take the time to explore the new site. We welcome your comments and/or suggestions on this important resource!

Celebrate LFCC’s successes by reading the College’s 2007-08 annual report online at http://www.lfcc.edu.

A new, exciting exhibit — "Honored Alumni of Lord Fairfax Community College — Our Pride, Your Legacy…" — made its debut recently. The exhibit creatively features photographs and profiles of some of LFCC’s esteemed alumni. The traveling exhibit will be showcased at the College’s three locations and at special events. To nominate someone for the exhibit, please visit http://www.lfcc.edu/alumni/honored-alumni-of-lord-fairfax-community-college.

Several local dental professionals contributed funds to benefit LFCC’s Dental Hygiene Program. The funds will be used to purchase much-needed educational supplies and equipment that will be used in dental hygiene classes.

The Foundation is raising funds for more than 25 exciting initiatives to benefit LFCC students and employees. For more information, please visit http://www.lfccfoundation.org/ways-to-give/priorities.html.

For information about the LFCC Educational Foundation Inc. and Office of College Advancement, please contact Connie Carter at ccarte@lfcc.edu or 540-869-6077.

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