

The Buzz



WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

WVSU Alumni and Friends eNewsletter

March 2015



A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Gregory V. Monroe, Sr. Athletic Complex was held on March 18.

Upcoming Events

- March 28 Metro Charleston Alumni Chapter Diner en Blanc Party, Charleston, W.Va.
- April 2-3 Second Annual International Human Rights Conference, Institute, W.Va.
- April 25 WVSU Cares Day, Institute, W.Va. and Surrounding Communities
- May 9 Black & Gold Gala, Charleston, W.Va.

Honoring Earl Lloyd's Legacy Wreath-Laying Ceremony set for March 25

West Virginia State University will hold a wreath-laying ceremony on March 25, 2015, at 9 a.m. in the Earl Francis Lloyd Lobby of the D. Stephen and Diane H. Walker Convocation Center in Institute, W.Va. in memory of Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame member and West Virginia State University (WVSU) basketball legend Earl Lloyd. Attendees are invited to sign a book of condolences which will later be presented to the Lloyd family.

Lloyd, the first African-American to play in an NBA game, passed away in February at the age of 86. He was a leader, a pioneer, a veteran, an educator, an executive, a husband, a father, a grandfather and, for those lucky enough to know him, a true friend.



WVSU will hold a wreath-laying ceremony in honor of Earl Lloyd on March 25.

Gregory V. Monroe Athletic Complex Opens Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held March 18

The dedication of the Gregory V. Monroe Athletic Complex was held on March 18. Mr. Monroe, his family, friends, and members of the State family were on hand for the dedication of the complex which will house offices for athletic departments, meeting spaces, a weight training room and the new locker room for the WVSU Yellow Jacket football team.

The Athletic Complex is named in honor of Gregory V. Monroe, a 1980 WVSU graduate and former football player for the Yellow Jackets, who recently made a significant contribution to the University. "Attending West Virginia State was an awesome experience for me. I grew up in Logan, W.Va., and my parents gave me a great start in life, but State expanded my world view. The opportunities that I had there and the support I received from the faculty and staff enabled me to go out and make a life for myself. I would never have accomplished the things that I have without State," said Monroe, who is now a motivational speaker and executive training specialist, living in Orlando, Fla. "I wanted to give back to the University that did so much for me."



Naming opportunities for lockers in the new Gregory V. Monroe Athletic Complex as well as the D. Stephen and Diane H. Walker Convocation Center are still available.

Monthly Member Raffle

February Raffle Winner, March Prize Announced

Congratulations to Gary Barnett, Jr., '12! Gary is our February WVSU Connect raffle prize winner and the owner of a brand new WVSU decorative sign! Show everyone where your heart is with March's prize: A 6" plush Stinger! Members of WVSU Connect will automatically receive an entry into the raffle each month and can gain additional entries and increase their chances of winning by participating in various social media challenges.



March's raffle prize is this 6" Stinger plush!

Vote for WVSU!

Home Depot Retool Your School Grant Program Voting Open Through April 20

Home Depot's Retool Your School Grant Program is back for 2015! Vote for WVSU each day through April 20 at retoolyourschool.com and use #WVSU_RYS15 on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to increase State's chances of winning a campus improvement grant! All HBCUs have been placed into one of three clusters based upon their student enrollment and each cluster will have three grant winners: one Tier 1 \$50,000 grant winner, one Campus Pride \$25,000 grant winner and one Tier 2 \$10,000 grant winner. WVSU is currently ranked 14th within the Cluster 2 group.



Vote for WVSU through April 20 and help the university win a campus improvement grant!

Conference on International Human Rights

Second Annual Conference scheduled for April 2-3, 2015

The WVSU National Center for Human Relations and the College of Business and Social Sciences will host the second annual Conference on International Human Rights April 2-3, 2015, at Erickson Alumni Center. The keynote speaker for the event is Dr. Raymond Smock, who co-edited the *Booker T. Washington Papers* (1972-89) and wrote *Booker T. Washington: Black Leadership in the Age of Jim Crow* (2009).



The 2015 International Human Rights Conference theme honors the legacy of Booker T. Washington (1856-1915).

ROTC Hall of Fame 2015 Inductions

Nominations are now open for eligible inductees

Through April 24, the Military Science Department at WVSU will be accepting ROTC Hall of Fame induction nominations. The ROTC Hall of Fame is intended to honor graduates of the West Virginia State University Army ROTC program and its partnership/affiliate schools who have distinguished themselves in military or civilian pursuits.

Completed nomination forms, an 8" x 10" photo of the individual, and a biographical sketch can be emailed to wilkersf@wvstateu.edu or mailed to US Army ROTC, West Virginia State University, P.O. Box 489, Institute, W.Va. 25112-0489. Your nomination packet will be considered the last week of May by the Selection Committee. If you have any questions, please call the Military Science Department at (304) 766-3108. Forms must be received by April 24, 2015.



Know a WVSU ROTC alumnus who might qualify for the Hall of Fame? Send your nomination today!

Eastern Region Alumni Chapters Host Campaign Event

Regional event raises support for WVSU's Capital Campaign

The Baltimore and Metropolitan Washington Alumni Chapters of the WVSU National Alumni Association and the Shenandoah Valley Chapter of the National "W" Club hosted a reception for alumni and friends in the eastern region on Saturday, March 14, 2015. President Brian O. Hemphill and various staff members were also in attendance to talk with attendees about the campaign and how alumni can truly make a difference at State.

Realize the Promise, Deliver the Future, the Campaign for West Virginia State University, is an opportunity to help West Virginia State University become the most student-centered, research and teaching, land-grant university in the state of West Virginia and beyond. The campaign features goals for Academic Program & Faculty Support, Student Success, Capital Improvements, Information & Technology, Scholarships and the WVSU Fund.



Every gift made through June 30, 2017, will help the University reach the overall campaign goal of \$18 million.

Metro Charleston Alumni Chapter to Host Fundraiser

Dîner en Blanc set for March 28

The Metro Charleston Alumni Chapter of the WVSU National Alumni Association is hosting a celebration of West Virginia State University students on Saturday, March 28, 2015, at 8 p.m. Dîner en Blanc will be held at the Charleston Woman's Club located at 1600 Virginia Street East, Charleston, W.Va., 25311, and promises a fabulous evening with fantastic supporters and friends of West Virginia State University. Guests elegantly dressed from head to toe, prepared tables, a live band, silent auction and fine dining will set the stage for an evening to remember. Tickets are \$30.



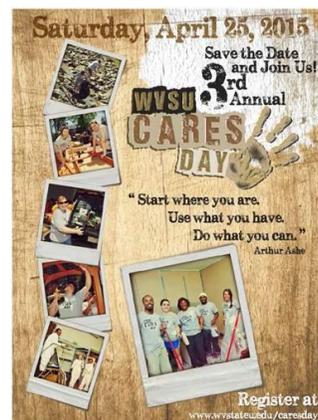
Join the Metro Charleston Alumni Chapter for Dîner en Blanc, March 28, 2015, at 8 p.m.

WVSU Cares Day Seeks Volunteers

Volunteer for WVSU's Third Annual Cares Day on April 25!

The third annual West Virginia State University Cares Day will be held Saturday, April 25, 2015. Through this event, WVSU will bring together Yellow Jacket students, faculty, staff and alumni for a one-of-a-kind service opportunity. Community service can be a rewarding undertaking and the WVSU Cares Day will include many fun, hands-on activities that motivate and involve students while offering a sense of accomplishment and camaraderie.

Service locations will be in the community of Institute, and in Kanawha and Putnam counties. Projects may include outdoor clean-up, working with youth, literacy education, serving meals, office work, and a variety of other worthwhile endeavors. Transportation will be provided and you will get a free t-shirt!



Volunteer for WVSU's third annual Cares Day!

Houston Alumni Chapter Update

Houston Chapter engages students at Houston Black College Expo

The Houston, Texas, Alumni Chapter of the WVSU National Alumni Association represented WVSU at the Houston Black College Expo on February 28, 2015. Members of the chapter spent their day meeting with hundreds of local students and talking with them about West Virginia State University.

Developed in 1999, the College Expo serves as a link between minorities and college admissions and, in addition to Texas, sponsors events in California, Georgia and Maryland.



Members of the Houston Alumni Chapter talking with local students at the Houston Black College Expo in February.

NY/NJ Alumni Chapter Update

Verizon Black History Celebration for STEM promotes HBCU education

The NY/NJ Alumni Chapter of the WVSU National Alumni Association was one of four HBCUs participating in Verizon's Annual Black History Celebration for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) earlier this year in Basking Ridge, NJ. Sixty students from the Bronx Academy for Software and Engineering (BASE) and James Madison High School in Brooklyn attended the program. Attendees practiced computer coding with employees from Verizon, Google and Black Girls Code and met with HBCU representatives from West Virginia State University, Howard University, Morgan State University and Florida A&M University.



NY/NJ Alumni Chapter members pose with other HBCU representatives at the Verizon Black History Celebration for STEM.



WEST VIRGINIA STATE
UNIVERSITY

Alumni Relations

100 East Hall, P.O. Box 1000 Institute, W.Va. 25112
Phone: 304.766.3387 Email: alumni@wvstateu.edu