

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Pioneer Update

The monthly newsletter for alumni and friends of Glenville State University.

Alumni SPOTLIGHT



Joe Evans '11 is currently a Business Development Manager for Environmental Systems primarily focused on Space and Life Support Systems with Eaton Mission Systems.

He came to Glenville State in 2006 from Shady Spring High School in Raleigh County, West Virginia. Majoring in marketing and business education, Joe was also a

GLENVILLE STATE NIGHT AT GOMART PARK

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Join GSU alumni and friends at
GoMart Park in Charleston, WV!



There's still time to make plans to join us at GoMart Park for GSU Night with the Charleston Dirty Birds!

The gates will open at 5:30PM, and game time is set for 6:35PM. Wear your royal blue and reconnect with GSU alumni and friends.

Glenville State University will be a co-sponsor in conjunction with Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. There will be giveaways and a fireworks show at the conclusion of the game.

Party Patio tickets (which include admission, food, and drinks) are available for \$25 through the [Glenville State University Foundation Office](#). General admission tickets for the game can be purchased through the Charleston Dirty Birds Box Office [online](#), by phone at (304) 344-2287, or the day of the game.

For more information or questions about the event, contact [Vada Woodford](#) or call (304) 462-6382.

member of the Men's Golf Team, a Resident Assistant, and worked in the campus Fitness Center during his time on campus. His father, Charles "Mike" Evans '08 is also a graduate.

After graduating from Glenville State in 2011, he went on to earn an MBA from Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland in 2019.

Joe has worked in commercial, private, and military aerospace for the last 12 years at B/E Aerospace (he got started at B/E Aerospace during his time as a Glenville student, working as a marketing intern), Hanwha Aerospace, and Eaton Mission Systems.

In these roles, he says that he's been blessed to be able to create strategic partnerships with many companies who are utilizing space as a resource to improve and enhance our lives here on Earth. "Seeing this evolve over time has certainly been a highlight in my career," he added.

Joe's wife Hannah is a full-time teacher and new author, having recently launched the non-profit, Curious Kiddos Educational Resources. They strive to help underserved children in the Appalachian region by assisting with their emotional healing from various hardships through books and other programs. He says he's been fortunate to be able to support Hannah through the journey.

In his spare time, he enjoys playing golf, traveling, and spending time with his wife and their dog Sophie.

When asked what Glenville State means to him, Joe said, "Glenville State provided me with not only an education, but also the best times of my life. Through friendships and creating professional connections, Glenville State University truly influenced and

"Grow Your Own" Day Held for Future Teachers

Glenville State University recently welcomed nearly 100 high school students for "Grow Your Own" Day. The event was designed to bring Grow Your Own partner schools together for a day on Glenville State's campus.

Grow Your Own (GYO) West Virginia is designed to recognize promising local high school students and facilitate a career path for them to pursue a career in education. The "GYO West Virginia Teaching Pathway" is designed to address West Virginia's critical teacher shortage. Through the program, high school students who wish to become classroom teachers can fast-track into their careers through a combination of dual enrollment/Advanced Placement courses, and an accelerated pathway. Through this pathway, students can graduate from a partner institution of higher education, such as Glenville State University, with a bachelor's degree in just three years.

"The 'GSU Grow Your Own Day' on campus was a wonderful opportunity to bring all of our partners together for a day of networking and getting to know each other. We appreciate the collaboration and excitement from our county partners, as well as the support and guidance from the West Virginia Department of Education," said Glenville State University's Dean of Education, Connie Stout O'Dell '90.

High school students, teachers, and administrators from Braxton, Calhoun, Fayette, Gilmer, Jackson, Lewis, Nicholas, Pleasants, Pocahontas, and Ritchie counties attended the event.

Throughout the day, attendees visited various classrooms and participated in activities. The students also toured campus and enjoyed lunch.



(l-r) Dr. Kevin L. Evans '87, Jenny Boggs '03, and Ronnie Golden.

Recognizing Outstanding Employees

Glenville State University President Dr. Mark Manchin honored several employees at the Faculty and Staff Appreciation Luncheon that was held last month on campus.

Individual Awards

Dr. Kevin L. Evans '87, 2023 Faculty Award of Excellence

gave me the skill sets to succeed.”

We are pleased to feature Joe in this month’s Alumni Spotlight and are proud to call him an alumnus.

Jenny Boggs '03, 2023 Staff Employee of the Year Award
Ronnie Golden, Staff Rising Star Award

Years of Service Recognitions

Denise Sprouse, 35 Years of Service
Joyce Riddle '04, 30 Years of Service
Duane Chapman '93, 25 Years of Service
Greta Peters, 25 Years of Service
Jenny Boggs '03, 15 Years of Service
David Hutchison, 15 Years of Service
Dr. David O'Dell, 15 Years of Service



Class of 2023 Takes Part in Graduation Ceremony; Class of 1973 Celebrates 50 Years

Glenville State University’s Commencement Ceremony took place on Saturday, May 6.

The Class of 2023 included graduates who completed requirements for an Associate or Bachelor’s Degree in a variety of academic areas. The class is made up of students from throughout West Virginia and Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia – and Puerto Rico, France, Canada, Bhutan, Rwanda, and England.

Sixteen members of the Glenville State Class of 1973 also returned to campus and were honored as fifty-year graduates. The returning alumni had an opportunity to reconnect with former classmates, enjoy a dinner, and tour campus on Friday before being officially recognized during the ceremony on Saturday.

Those returning to celebrate 50 years included: Linda (Fox) Coffindaffer '73, Janis (Campbell) Derby '73, George Dudding '73, Gary Fields '73, Dennis Fitzpatrick '73, David Grapes '73, Betty Hewitt '73, David Hewitt '73, Roberta (Martin) Jackson '73, Professor Emeritus John McKinney '73, Michael Rust '73, Ricky Sanjulian '73, Peggy (Flesher) Tanzey '73, Dr. William Webb '73, David “Mike” Wilt '73, and Sharon (Sturm) Wilt '73.

Rust, who is also Glenville State University’s current Board of Governors chairman, provided the keynote address.

SHOW YOUR SPIRIT!

SHOP GSU MERCHANDISE ▶

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
PIONEERS

GLENVILLE STATE
EST. 1872
UNIVERSITY
Alumni



Browse Photos from Recent Fine Arts Events

The spring semester featured several outstanding performances from our student musicians and their directors.

View the photo gallery [here](#). The concerts featured include Jazz Band under the direction of Dr. Jason Barr and Mr. Jeremy Carter, Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Garrett Hacker '19, Choir and Chamber Singers under the direction of Ms. Sarah Nale, and Concert Band under the direction of Dr. Lloyd Bone.



McKinney Named WV Professor of the Year Finalist

Cheryl Fleming McKinney, Professor of Business at Glenville State University, was chosen as a finalist for the Faculty Merit Foundation's 2023 West Virginia Professor of the Year recognition earlier this year.

Although Mrs. McKinney was ultimately not chosen for the top honor, she has nevertheless earned the recognition and respect of her colleagues and former students. Congratulations, Cheryl!



MBA Program in the Works at GSU

Glenville State University soon hopes to begin offering its newest graduate-level program, a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree. The MBA program has been submitted to the Higher Learning Commission for review and is pending final approval.

The program will be constructed of 36 credit hours (21 in the MBA core + 15 elective hours) using an accelerated eight-week format.

Applicants may be accepted into the program once it is fully approved.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 10 - GSU Night at GoMart Park

[More Information & Tickets Here](#)

Thursday, June 15-Sunday, June 18 - WV State Folk Festival

Thursday, June 22 - Women's Leadership Circle Paint & Sip

5:30-7:00 PM - GSU Waco Center

[More Information & Reservations Here](#)



New Student Government Leaders Elected

The upcoming academic year will see two new individuals leading the GSU Student Government Association – President Jahzeiah Wade and Vice President Michael Miller. Wade hails from Charleston, West Virginia and Miller is from Beckley, West Virginia. Both are members of the Pioneer Football Team and say they're looking forward to representing the student body.

"Mike and I are absolutely exhilarated to be in office," Wade said. "The thing we genuinely are most looking forward to under our administration is not only making campus as a whole better, but more importantly ensuring the improvement of the entire study body and their experience while they are enrolled."

Scholarship Corner

A monthly spotlight on one of the scholarship funds managed by the GSU Foundation



Cody Mullens Memorial Scholarship

Cody Mullens was a 2019 Glenville State graduate and a West Virginia Division of Forestry employee who was tragically killed in the line of duty while fighting a forest fire in Fayette County in April 2023.

The scholarship aims to support a student interested in pursuing a degree in Forest Technology through Glenville State's Department of Land Resources and is for West Virginia residents. Faculty within the Department of Land Resources will review the applicants and choose a scholarship recipient.

"Cody loved everything about forestry, from when we were little until the day he died. He also loved his time at Glenville and his friends that because his family. This scholarship means his honor and his passion will live on forever. Cody was the type of person that would do anything to help anyone, so I know he would love this scholarship so much. My family wants to thank everyone for contributing and

sharing this scholarship in memory of my brother," said Emily Rose, Cody's sister.

Donate to this fund by using the button below.

[Donate Now](#)

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

HOMECOMING 2023

Saturday, October 14



Vada Woodford (left) and Karen (Bush) Lay '79 (right) with WLC scholarship recipients Rebekah Hypes and Natalie Fout.

Women's Leadership Circle Holds Lunch & Learn, Scholarships Awarded to Students

Alexandria "Alex" (Lay) King '08 and Evelyn Post '69 were the featured speakers at the Lunch and Learn series held earlier in the spring.

King is a Washington and Lee University School of Law graduate and currently practices with Steptoe & Johnson PLLC in addition to her role on the GSU Board of Governors. She was also Glenville State's 2020 Outstanding Young Alumna.

Post studied at WVU and Morehead State University after Glenville State and currently serves as the Executive Director of Central WV Aging Services, Inc., a social services organization with over 550 employees. She is also the President of the Braxton County (WV) Board of Education. Post was also the State President for the WV School Board Association from 1994-1995 and was Braxton County Commissioner from 2000-2006.

Pioneer Debate Team Takes Part in Tournament

Glenville State University's new Pioneer Debate team competed in the National Educational Debate Association's Online Tournament this spring. The team notched two top ten overall finishers, including an award-winning fifth place finish by sophomore Pre-Nursing major McKinzie White and an eighth overall finish by senior Athletic Conditioning and Coaching major and GSU Football Offensive Lineman Jahzeiah Wade. Sophomore Honors Program student and Criminal Justice major Rebekah Hypes and sophomore Management and Land Surveying double major Noah Miner also took part in the tournament.

Pioneer Debate is a co-curricular activity and competitive debate team within the Department of Language and Literature. Students develop professional skills in critical thinking, civil listening, argumentation, constructive persuasive cases, research, and creative problem-solving

After the presentations, WLC scholarships were presented to two current students, Rebekah Hypes and Natalie Fout.

through weekly meetings, online and in person debates, and community engagement events. Participation in Pioneer Debate is open to all GSU students.



Nominate a Glenville State Grad for One of Our Alumni Awards

Alumni Council is accepting nominations for alumni awards to be presented in April 2024. Nominations received by December 31, 2023 will be considered for the upcoming year's awards. Those received after that date will be saved for the following year's consideration.

Award categories include Alumnus/Alumna of the Year Award, Alumnus/Alumna Achievement Award, Community Achievement Award, Outstanding Teacher Award (Public Schools), Alumni Chapter Award, Posthumous Award, and Outstanding Young Alumnus/Alumna Award.

Read more about the award categories, consideration criteria for each, and download a nomination form by clicking [here](#).

The Alumni Council will review all nominees and decide, by majority vote, who the award recipients will be. Awardees will be announced next spring.



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