

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Pioneer Update

Glenville State University Newsletter for Alumni & Friends | April 2025

Alumni SPOTLIGHT



Arthur "Danny" Williams '76 is currently working for the West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services. He has



Artist's rendering of the proposed Morris Family Health and Fitness Complex at Glenville State University.

Morris Family Health and Fitness Complex Coming to Glenville State

Visitors to campus may notice a bit of construction work taking place in and around the current site of Morris Stadium. That is because the space will soon become the site of the Morris Family

been there since 2012 and he runs the Bioptic low vision driving program. He previously served as a Driver Education Instructor with the Charleston Job Corps Center for over 23 years. Danny says that everyone who has completed the Bioptic Driving program under his instruction has received their Class G Bioptic Driver's License.

Danny originally came to Glenville State after graduating from Braxton County High School in 1971. The Sutton, West Virginia native majored in Health and Physical Education K-12. Danny also completed some post-graduate work at West Virginia University.

Williams is a longtime supporter of Glenville State Athletics and he has shot film and video for both football and basketball – something that he did for over 30 years. During that time, he worked with eight different head football coaches and with six different Athletic Directors.

When Danny first came to Glenville State, he recalls asking if there were any open jobs for keeping basketball stats since he had some experience doing so for BCHS basketball. Coach Tim Carney '62 told him that he already had work-study students doing stats but, a few weeks later, Coaches Carney and Jesse Lilly '48 asked him if he could handle videotaping basketball games. "I said yes and that I would be happy to do it. Don Phillips, who was in charge of the Media Center, instructed me on the college's video equipment. Since I was doing basketball, that spring, Coach Bill Hanlin '53 asked me if I would videotape the spring game for him, and I said no problem. In the fall of 1973, Coach Hanlin asked me if I could film the football games with the 16 mm camera. I said sure, since there was a trip to Michigan for the

Health and Fitness Complex. The facility will be located adjacent to the Waco Center on the Mineral Road Campus.

"Phase one of the project includes demolition of the current Field House, bleachers, press box, etc. Because of this work, there will be no football games hosted at Glenville State in fall 2025," said Glenville State University President, Dr. Mark Manchin.

The Morris Family Health and Fitness Complex will house the Health Sciences programs at Glenville State, in addition to a fitness center, classrooms, and offices.

"With this facility and our renewed focus on health sciences, it is my hope that Glenville State can help equip students with the ability to excel in rural healthcare," Manchin added.

For the fall football season, any games that the Pioneers would have played at home will take place on a neutral field. Plans are underway to take a Glenville "caravan" around the state to different communities, allowing the opportunity to visit and reconnect with alumni and friends in those areas. There are five games that will be classified as home games for the Pioneers in the 2025 schedule, and talks are underway to schedule games in Kanawha County, Roane County, Harrison County, Nicholas County, and Wood County. More information will be released as the football schedule is finalized and published.

Glenville State University to Honor Outstanding Alumni

Glenville State University has announced the names of its 2025 Alumni Award recipients.

The distinguished group includes: Alumnus of the Year Martha (Weaver) Haymaker '86; Alumni Achievement Award recipient Doretta (Pugh) Osburn '85; Community Achievement Award honorees Brenda (Barton) McCartney '76 and Dr. Andrew Minigh '09; Outstanding Teacher Award recipients Rebecha Frashure Catlett '98 and Rachel (Kelvington) Reynolds '04; Outstanding Young Alumni Award recipients Valeri (Sprouse) Jones '16 and Kevin Gray '14; and Posthumous Award recipients Margaret (Miller) Goodwin '51, Dora Jean (Brannon) Bumgarner '59, and Buddy Griffin '71.

Alumni and friends are invited to the Alumni Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 26 to help celebrate this year's honorees. Attendees will gather in the third floor pre-function area of the Mollohan Campus Community Center from 5:00-6:00 p.m. for a social hour prior to dinner in the Ballroom.

Tickets for the banquet and social hour are \$25 each and, for planning purposes, reservations are required by Friday, April 18. Call (304) 462-6116 or e-mail at Dustin.Crutchfield@glenville.edu for more information and to make your banquet reservations. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets online.

first game. I again sought out Mr. Phillips to properly operate the 16 mm camera. I became very adept with filming, and I thought that as long as I was nearby I would keep doing filming for football for however long they would have me. To make a long story short, I kept at it through 2008. I only quit because I wanted to see my sons grow up," Williams said.

When the college upgraded its equipment from 16 mm to video tape, the Media Center recorded the home games and Danny covered the away games. This freed him up to run the scoreboard during home games, something he did from 1987 through 1998. He also served a stint as the play-by-play announcer on WKKW radio for Pioneer Basketball from 1981-82.

In recognition of his years of meritorious service to Pioneer Athletics, Williams was inducted into Glenville State's Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2024.

In his spare time, he enjoys golfing and watching sports on TV and in person, especially the *Pioneers*. Danny was also a member of the Sutton Volunteer Fire Department for 42 years. He and his wife Joan reside in Charleston, West Virginia; they have two sons, Patrick Spradling and Riley Scott.

When asked what Glenville State means to him, Danny said, "Glenville State gave me the knowledge and ability to become the good driver educator that I have become. I try to come back as much as I can. Many of the professors and instructors have left a lasting impression on me, especially Jim Riffle who was my Safety and Driver Ed. instructor."

We are pleased to feature Danny in this month's Alumni



Several Glenville State alumni were part of this group that traveled to McDowell County to assist with flood recovery efforts.

Pioneers Pitch in to help with Flood Recovery

Historic flooding hit several parts of West Virginia in February and, as they often do, residents from throughout the state have responded to help their neighbors.

A group from Greenbrier County's Emmanuel Community Church (pictured above) visited McDowell County last month to help with cleanup efforts. That team included several alumni (Asa Dick '22, Elijah Dick '24, and Myles Hutton '21) and current GSU student, Simon Bertram.

Staffers from *West Virginia Executive* magazine, including their Graphic Designer Seth Stover '21, went to Kermit, WV in late February to lend a hand to a local resident who had been impacted by the flooding. The *WV Executive* employees said the woman they connected with had been so busy helping others recover from the floods that she hadn't taken time to tend to her own home – so they pitched in to help clear out her basement.

Jared Bishop '23 worked with the Southern West Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited and other chapters across the Mountain State, the Virginia Tech Fly Fishing Club, and B&G Pro-Shop and Sportsman's Club to assist with a supplies distribution and cleanup.

Several other groups and individuals with Glenville State connections have also raised money, collected supplies, and visited impacted areas to assist with cleanup efforts – kudos to everyone involved!

Due to the widespread nature of the flooding across southern West Virginia, the state has issued disaster declarations for 13 counties.

Spotlight and are proud to call him an alumnus.

Alumnus Receives WVPB's Above and Beyond Award

Carissa (Yoak) Gumm '22 has earned West Virginia Public Broadcasting's Above and Beyond Award for March 2025. Gumm is a fourth grade teacher at Pleasant Hill Elementary School.

As part of the award, she received a certificate and a blue Blenko Glass apple paperweight.

The award recognizes excellence and creativity of Mountain State teachers, and is sponsored by the West Virginia State Treasurers Office. WVPB selects a new teacher each month to recognize for going above and beyond for their students in West Virginia.



Music Alumni Attend GSU Reception at WVMEA Conference

Last month, Glenville State University's Alumni Relations Office hosted a reception during the WV Music Educators Association conference that was taking place at the Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center.

Nearly 60 Glenville State alumni who are working as music, band, and choir teachers throughout the Mountain State stopped by to visit. These graduates are part of the long history of excellence that Glenville State has as one of the premiere institutions in West Virginia to study music and music education.

Professor Emeritus John McKinney '73 and Professor Emerita Cheryl McKinney were on hand at the event to visit with the guests and to share campus updates.



A graphic for the Glenville State University Career Fair. It features a blue and white color scheme with a wavy background. On the left, there are three circular images: the top one shows a person at a computer, the middle one shows two people in business attire talking, and the bottom one shows a Beats Solo3 wireless speaker. The main text reads "GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY" in a serif font, followed by "CAREER FAIR" in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. Below this, there are icons for a calendar and a clock. The text "THURSDAY APRIL 10, 2025" and "TIME 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM" are displayed. At the bottom, it says "MCCC BALLROOM" with a calendar icon.

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY CAREER FAIR

THURSDAY
APRIL 10, 2025

TIME
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

MCCC
BALLROOM

Alumni Invited to Annual Career Fair

The annual Glenville State University Career Fair is scheduled for Thursday, April 10 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM in the Molloyhan Campus Community Center Ballroom.

The Career Fair provides recent alumni and current students with an opportunity to connect with many area employers. The Fair is free to attend.

Attendees are reminded to dress professionally and bring copies of their resume. Contact Career.Services@glenville.edu for more information about the Career Fair.

Glenville State alumni may also browse the [Alumni Career Services](#) resources for additional information.



Gilmer County Girls Basketball team

Lady Titans Nab Championship Title Again

Coach Amy (Riddle) Chapman '08 has again led the Gilmer County High School girls basketball team to a class single A championship. The Lady Titans earned the title during the girls basketball

championship that was hosted by the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission at the Charleston Coliseum last month.

"I especially want to thank these young ladies," Chapman said. "What a ride this has been. It's been incredible. They've worked really hard. They're wonderful young ladies and they absolutely 100,000-percent deserve being here right now with this trophy. It's been a blessing and it has been a great week this week, being around them."

The Lady Titans last earned the championship title in 2016.



WV National Guard Adjutant General Retires

Maj. Gen. William "Bill" Crane '91 was recently honored by the West Virginia National Guard at a retirement ceremony. Crane has a long and distinguished career with the West Virginia National Guard, with nearly 41 years of dedicated service. He most recently served as West Virginia's Adjutant General from January 2021 to January 2025.

As the Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Crane provided command guidance and vision to the West Virginia Army and Air National Guard's more than 6,500 Citizen Soldiers, Airmen, and civilians employed through the West Virginia Military Authority. He also provided the overall supervision of the day-to-day operations and management of the readiness, fiscal, personnel, equipment, and real property resources of the agency.

Crane was joined by more than 100 family, friends, and colleagues at the ceremony as they celebrated his legacy of service to both the State of West Virginia and the United States. Photos from his retirement ceremony can be viewed [here](#).

Glenville State University extends congratulations and thanks to Maj. Gen. Crane!

Men's Golf to Host 3 Format Golf Outing in April

The Glenville State Men's Golf program will again sponsor their popular 3 Format Golf Outing on Saturday, April 26. The tournament will take place at the Glenville Golf Club and begin with a shotgun start at approximately 9:00 AM.

This tournament is designed to emulate the Ryder Cup in that it features three separate forms of golf competition. All participants will compete in nine holes of captain's choice (scramble), alternate shot, and 2-man best ball. Each team will consist of only two men and all play will be in foursomes. This will speed up the course of play. This setup also allows the 27 hole format to operate at a brisk pace and helps conclude play in approximately six hours.

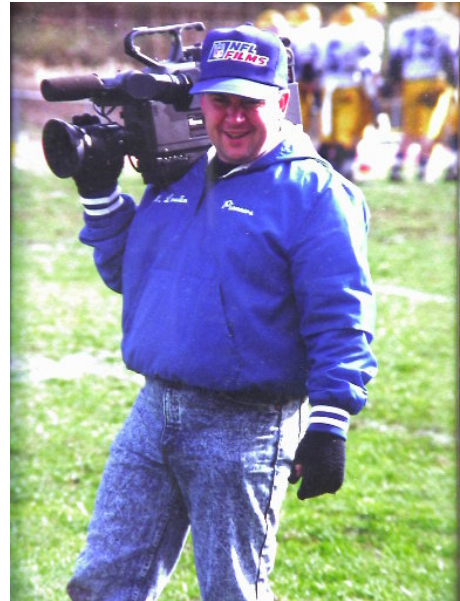
The tournament coincides with Glenville State's Alumni Weekend and will conclude prior to the Alumni Awards Banquet scheduled that same evening to begin at 6:00 PM.

All revenue generated from this event goes toward assisting current members of the Glenville State Men's Golf team.

Former GSC Director of Public Relations Passes

Glenville State's former Director of Public Relations, Mark Loudin, has passed away after a battle with cancer. Loudin was a notable personality in the north central West Virginia news market when he came to Glenville State in 1992. He helped raise the visibility of Glenville State in the region and beyond during his tenure. Loudin was also integral in recording and preserving GSC history, both in photos and on film.

The Pioneer Community extends its sympathy to the Loudin family.



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Alumni Musicians Spotlighted in Artist Feature

Born & Bred, a resource covering the music of those “born and bred” in the Mountain State, has recently selected folk artist Woodbine for their Artist Feature series.

Woodbine is comprised of Brittany McGuire '15 on vocals and guitar, Jeremiah Hatfield on guitar and vocals, Lily Moore on violin and vocals, and Nick Blake '21 on bass. The band released their first single, “Pine Warbler,” on March 14.



[Click here](#) to read the entire Artist Feature and hear “Pine Warbler” – a song that Born & Bred says is “perfection.”



The Braxton County High School wrestling team, under the direction of Coach Sterling Beane, are this year's runner-up for the Single A state title.

Beane Named Class Single A Coach of the Year

Braxton County High School wrestling coach Sterling Beane '70 was recently named the Single A Coach of the Year and received the Mike Stump Award. His team earned the runner-up spot for this year's A state title. [Click here](#) to watch an interview with Beane.

PIONEER ATHLETICS

Check out these fall game schedules and come out to support the Pioneers!



Baseball



Softball



Men's Golf



Women's Golf



Track & Field



Boxing

Interested in Joining the Pioneer Athletic Club?

As a member, you directly support Pioneer student-athletes through scholarship. Annual Pioneer Athletic Club membership gives you exclusive access to premium areas at Morris Stadium and the Waco Center, where you will have a bird's eye view of the football field and McPherson Court.

[Click here](#) or call (304) 462-6382 to learn more about membership benefits and how to enroll.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, April 15 - Women's Leadership Circle Lunch & Learn
Featuring Guest Speaker Dr. Monica (Null) Beane '96

12:00 PM - GSU Mollohan Campus Community Center Ballroom
[RSVP Here](#)

Tuesday, April 15 - Little Kanawha Reading Series: Ann Pancake
4:00 PM - Robert F. Kidd Library

Wednesday, April 23 - Choir & Chamber Singers Concert
7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Friday, April 25 - Buddy Griffin '71 Tribute Event
7:00 PM - WV Music Hall of Fame (Inside the Town Center Mall); Charleston, WV

Saturday, April 26 - Men's Golf 3 Format Golf Outing
9:00 AM - Glenville Golf Club

Saturday, April 26 - Alumni Awards Banquet
5:00 PM - GSU Mollohan Campus Community Center
[Click here to purchase tickets!](#)

Friday, May 2 - Glenville Masters Tournament Benefitting Women's Golf
10:00 AM - Glenville Golf Club

Friday, May 2 - Concert Band Concert
7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Friday, May 9-Saturday, May 10 - 50 Year Graduates Weekend
Celebrating the Class of 1975



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