

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Pioneer Update

Glenville State University Newsletter for Alumni & Friends | October 2025

Alumni SPOTLIGHT



Kim (Wilson) Jude '14 is currently serving as the music teacher and band director at Matewan PreK-8. She has



New River Community and Technical College President Dr. Bonny Copenhaver and Glenville State University President Dr. Mark Manchin at the recent signing ceremony.

Glenville State, New River CTC Sign Pathway Agreement

worked for Mingo County Schools for over 12 years.

During her time at Glenville State, Kim was a member of the Percussion Ensemble, Pioneer Marching Band, Concert Band, and Choir. She graduated in December 2013 with a degree in music education.

After graduating, she began her teaching career as the music teacher and band director at Lenore K-8 while also working alongside her husband Thomas '13 & '14 as his assistant band director at Tug Valley High School. Many of their students overlapped, providing them the unique opportunity to collaborate and strengthen both band programs together. During this time, the Mingo County Music PLC also formed a performance group, which Kim says was both creative and rewarding.

In 2018, Kim proudly participated in the historic statewide teachers' and service personnel's strike, something she calls one of the most meaningful experiences of her career. Since 2019, Kim has been the music teacher and band director at Matewan PreK-8, where she has been able to grow the program further and create meaningful experiences for her students through music.

She was named Matewan PreK-8 Teacher of the Year for 2024-2025 and received the Mingo County Superintendent's Red Carpet Award in 2023.

Outside of teaching, Kim enjoys attending concerts and music festivals, diving into new crafting projects, and staying active with hula hooping. She also loves spending time with her husband and their four-legged family.

When asked what Glenville State means to her, Kim said, "Glenville State is a truly special

Students at New River Community and Technical College (NRCTC) now have a clearer path to earning a four-year degree thanks to a recently signed memorandum of understanding with Glenville State University.

Those on hand for the signing ceremony included Glenville State University President Dr. Mark A. Manchin, NRCTC President Dr. Bonny Copenhaver, Glenville State's Provost Dr. Mari Clements, and NRCTC's Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs Steve Lacek. The event took place at NRCTC's Raleigh County campus.

The agreement guarantees admission to GSU for New River graduates with associate degrees and ensures that credits earned at New River will transfer smoothly into bachelor's degree programs at Glenville State University. The result is a seamless transition that saves students both time and money as they work toward their academic and career goals.

Pathways covered under the agreement include accounting, business management and marketing, computer information analysis, administration of justice, psychology, biology, and multiple teacher education fields.

"This articulation agreement is a wonderful collaboration between Glenville State University and New River Community and Technical College that will ensure that New River graduates have a smooth transition into a four-year degree program and that Glenville State will have applicants for our programs who have already demonstrated that they can succeed at the college level," Clements said. "This partnership is about opening doors and giving students peace of mind. They can move forward knowing that their credits will count, their efforts will matter, and their future is within reach."

Copenhaver noted the close and historic connection between the two institutions. "New River and Glenville State have a longstanding relationship and a special bond that continues to benefit students across our region. By working with our sister institution, we're expanding opportunities across the state and strengthening the higher education pipeline for West Virginia students."



Four to be Inducted into GSU Department of Business Hall of Fame

place where it all began for me. It's where I built lifelong friendships, met the love of my life, and gained the knowledge and experiences that shaped both my career and the life I live today."

We are pleased to feature Kim in this month's Alumni Spotlight and are proud to call her an alumna.

The Glenville State University Department of Business is set to induct four individuals into its Business Hall of Fame as part of the 2025 class.

The 2025 inductees include Timothy B. Butcher '77, Martha Haymaker '86, Professor Emerita Cheryl F. McKinney, and Kyle Warner '14.

The inductees will be recognized at a banquet planned for Friday, October 17 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Mollohan Campus Community Center Ballroom.

[Click here](#) for more information on how to attend the ceremony and to purchase tickets.

Pioneer Football Home Away From Home Games Continue in Harrison, Nicholas Counties

As a reminder, the Glenville State Pioneers are spending the 2025 football season on the road due to renovations at Morris Stadium. The Pioneers are set to play all home games "on the road" at select high school fields throughout West Virginia. On Saturday, October 4 GSU will travel to Robert C. Byrd High School in Clarksburg to face off against the Fairmont State University Falcons for a 1:00 PM kickoff. Then, on Saturday, October 18, the Pioneers will take on Concord University at Nicholas County High School at 1:00 PM. The October 18th game has been designated as GSU's "Homecoming."

On October 4, we have organized a pregame social (Dutch treat) for alumni and friends! You will find us at Franklin's Bar & Grille at 11:00 AM, ready to welcome you as we gear up to cheer on the Pioneers. Franklin's Bar & Grille is located at 409 Buckhannon Pike in Nutter Fort, WV.

On October 18, join us for our annual alumni and friends tailgate at the Nicholas County High School stadium parking lot area, beginning at 11:00 AM. There will be food available, but – as always – feel free to bring along your own food and beverages (be reminded that alcohol is not permitted on public school grounds). GSU will be providing some tents and tables, but we encourage individuals to bring their own tailgating items as well to ensure everyone has space to congregate and visit.

We hope to see you at one of our "Home Away from Home" games!

Continued Blessings: Community Rallies to Rebuild Blessings Box First Donated by Alumna

In 2020, Autumn (Spangler) Musick '24 was a student at Saint Albans High School in Kanawha County. Before coming to Glenville State to study Exercise Science, she built and placed a "blessings box" in front of Riverview Towers, an affordable apartment complex for senior citizens located in Saint Albans.

Once in place, the box was kept stocked by community residents right up until strong winds destroyed the box during a winter storm in 2024. Several local citizens hoped that the box would be replaced, as it had served as a helpful source of food and other items. Last month, that hope came true as volunteers built and installed a new box before dedicating it at a small ceremony that Musick was able to attend.

An inscription on the front of the box reads, "Take what you need, leave what you can," which is a true testament to that community and its ability to support one another - and it all started with a generous act by a Pioneer!



Alumni Award Nominations Being Accepted

Alumni Council is accepting nominations for Glenville State alumni awards that will be presented in April 2026. Nominations received by December 31, 2025 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), 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](#).

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

Call (304) 462-6116 or email alumni@glenville.edu with any questions.



Mossor Inducted into Mid-Ohio Valley Softball Hall of Fame

Dave Mossor '77 has been inducted into the Mid-Ohio Valley Softball Hall of Fame under the newly established High School Coach category.

Over the years his teams have racked up several accolades including state titles (1992, 2011), state runner-up (1990, 1991, 1994, 1995, 2007, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, & 2021), third place (1993, 2013), fourth place (1999, 2002, & 2004), and made 17 appearances in the WV State Tournament.

Mossor coached 1,174 varsity softball games and 400 junior varsity games with an average of 20 wins a year over 41 years (829 wins and 345 losses). His teams racked up 27 sectional championships in a row, 29 total. They also tallied 24 Little Kanawha Conference Championships and were the runner-up five times. Mossor coached 45 first- and second-team All-Staters and hundreds of all conference players. Additionally, over 50 of his players have gone on to play softball at the college level.

Mossor has been chosen as the West Virginia High School Softball Coach of the Year twice (1992, 2007). He was named as the prestigious Little Kanawha Conference Wayne Underwood Award winner (Coach of the Year among coaches of all sports) in 1998. He earned the league's Coach of the Year honor 10 times. Mossor has been the North head coach on four different occasions in the annual North-South All-Star Softball Classic. In 2024, he was inducted into the Mid-Ohio Valley Sports Hall of Fame.

A 1968 graduate of Harrisville High School, Mossor served in the U.S. Air Force from 1968-71. He spent one year in Vietnam.

A teacher for 36 years in Ritchie County, Mossor is also an accomplished karate participant. He's been inducted into the USA International Hall of Fame in three different categories. He's also been inducted into the Worldwide Hall of Fame and the Universal Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

In addition to his degree from Glenville State, Mossor also holds a master's degree in education from West Virginia University.

The MOVSHOF notes that, for a number of years, West Virginia only had one classification for softball and that Mossor's teams were class A playing AA and AAA in the sectional, regional, and state – so his record could have potentially been even greater.

The Mid-Ohio Valley Softball Hall of Fame induction ceremony for the class of 2025 took place on Saturday, September 27 in Parkersburg, WV.

Alumnus Educates with Classroom Critters

Teachers use various methods to educate students, but for married couple Mat '14 and Casey Richards, animals are the best choice.

The Richards live in Cottageville, West Virginia but teach at different schools in Jackson County. Mat teaches zoology at Ripley High, while Casey is a biology teacher at Ravenswood High School.

Each one shares the classrooms with a variety of animals. Mat has the most with a ball python, bearded dragon, tarantulas, snails, frogs, fish, and even an axolotl. Casey has tarantulas, geckos, a bearded dragon, and an iguana.

Mat has been teaching for 13 years and has been at Ripley High for the last six years. Prior to that, he taught at Roane County and Sissonville.

He attended Glenville State for biology and wanted to be a zookeeper.



"While I was in college, I did some mentoring at a summer camp for some high school students," he said. "I fell in love with it; I decided I loved working with high school students. So, I changed my major

that week to biology education so I could be a science teacher.”

[Click here](#) to read the full article by Barbie Layton from the *Jackson Star & Herald*.



Walt Helmick, former West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture, passed away last month on September 6. Helmick is pictured here during a visit to Glenville State University in 2016.

GSU Community Mourns Loss of Former WV Agriculture Commissioner

The Glenville State University campus community was saddened to learn of the recent passing of Walt Helmick, former West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture and husband of GSU's current Vice President for Administration, Rita Hedrick-Helmick.

Helmick passed away on September 6, 2025, following a battle with cancer.

First elected in 1976, Helmick held public office for 49 continuous years, beginning with the Pocahontas County Board of Education, the Pocahontas County Commission, the West Virginia House of Delegates, and the West Virginia Senate where he rose to the rank of Finance Chair. He was elected to the position of West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture and served in that role from 2012-2016. Helmick finished his political career with one last six-year term serving as President of the Pocahontas County Commission. For Walt, public service was a calling, not a career; he dedicated his life to the betterment of his beloved State and its people.

Funeral services for Helmick will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 4 at First Presbyterian Church in Charleston, WV.

[Click here](#) to read Helmick's full obituary.

Oral History Project Update

As previously noted in this newsletter, the Glenville State University Alumni Oral History Project has been delayed.

We have been in contact with the publisher, PCI, regarding updates to this process. Those who purchased items (a copy of the oral history book, apparel, etc.) should have also been contacted by PCI with an update. The project is experiencing a delay with both the apparel production and with the printing of the book.

PCI has assured us that they will ship the publication and apparel items that have been ordered as soon as they have an estimated ship date. However, at this time they do not have an estimated date of when that will occur.

If you wish to cancel your order due to the long delay, please call 1-800-982-1590 or email PCIService@publishingconcepts.com.

Campaign Spotlight

When you give to the Pioneer Fund, you are not only making a donation – you are changing the trajectory of a student's life. You are giving that young person from a small town the chance to be the first in their family to graduate. You are helping a future teacher, nurse, or business leader discover their potential. You are strengthening the heartbeat of this university so it can continue to serve central West Virginia and beyond.

Thank you for your support!

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Don't delay, this special team shop closes Wednesday, October 8th!

Shop Now

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 4 - Pioneer Football vs Fairmont State University Pregame Social

11:00 AM -12:30 PM - Franklin's Bar & Grille (409 Buckhannon Pike in Nutter Fort, WV)

Alumni and friends are invited to join us for refreshments (Dutch treat) at Franklin's before traveling to Robert C. Byrd High School to cheer on the Pioneers; game time is 1:00 PM.

Tuesday, October 7 - Cancer Awareness Auction sponsored by the Pioneer Shooting Club

5:00 PM - Mollohan Campus Community Center Ballroom

Proceeds benefit Glenville First Baptist Church Cancer Fund

Thursday, October 9 - Little Kanawha Reading Series: Heather Loudermilk

4:00 PM - RFK Library

Tuesday, October 14 - Music Fest Concert

7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Friday, October 17 - Tim Carney Tribute Golf Outing

9:00 AM - Glenville Golf Club

\$80 Entry Fee - Call (304) 462-6052 to sign up

Friday, October 17 - Department of Business Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

5:30 PM Reception; 6:30 PM Dinner - Mollohan Campus Community Center Ballroom

Tickets \$50 for individuals or \$250 for a table - [Click here to RSVP](#)

Saturday, October 18 - Pioneer Football vs Concord University Pregame Tailgate

11:00 AM - Nicholas County High School Stadium (19 Memorial Park Rd Suite B, Summersville, WV)
Alumni and friends are invited to join us for our "homecoming" tailgate prior to the game.

Thursday, October 23 - Little Kanawha Reading Series: Kaitlin Ensor, Bob Hutton, & Jason Gum '05

4:00 PM - RFK Library

Friday, October 24 - "Nightmare at the Races" Pioneer Derby

6:30 PM Doors Open; 7:00 PM Races Begin - Waco Center

Tickets \$25 *Proceeds benefit Women's Basketball*

Friday, October 31; Saturday, November 1; Friday, November 7; & Saturday, November 8 - "Dracula, Case of the Silver Scream"

7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Play authored by GSC alumnus, David Grapes '73, who will be on hand at the November 7 performance



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