

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Pioneer Update

Glenville State University Newsletter for Alumni & Friends | November 2025

Alumni SPOTLIGHT



Dustin Vaughan '11 is currently the fifth grade English Language Arts teacher at Big Otter Elementary in Clay



Pioneer fans fill the stands of Nicholas County High School stadium for the "Home Away from Home" Homecoming game on Saturday, October 18.

Homecoming Week Culminates with a Pioneer Win over

County, West Virginia; this is his 15th year of teaching. He spent his first eight years teaching at H.E. White Elementary in Clay before moving to Big Otter Elementary, where he has been since.

During his time at Glenville State, Dustin met his wife, Brittney (Berkhouse) Vaughan '12, who graduated in December 2011. The couple has a five-year-old daughter, Bayleigh. He was also a member of the GSC Fishing Club where he and Andrew Darby '12 won at Lake Champlain, advancing to the Northern Regional Championship.

Dustin graduated from Glenville State in December 2010 with bachelor of arts in education degree with specializations in early education and elementary education. He went on to receive a master's degree in educational leadership from West Virginia State University in 2018.

In 2022, Dustin was named a Clay County Schools Teacher of Excellence.

Outside of work, Dustin enjoys hunting, fishing, and camping with his wife and daughter.

When asked what Glenville State means to him, Dustin said, "Glenville State will always be special to me because it's where I met my wife. We both are forever thankful for our time there. It also gave me the skills needed to succeed in my career. I'm thankful for my professors who pushed me to reach my full potential – particularly, Connie (Stout) O'Dell '90 and Shelly (Sheets) Haynes '02. I'm also thankful for the opportunity I had to help start the Glenville fishing club with my then roommate Andy Darby. We had some great times fishing tournaments those two years."

Concord

This year's homecoming festivities were, admittedly, a bit unusual. With all "home" football games being played at various sites around the Mountain State due to ongoing construction at Morris Stadium, several of Glenville State's traditional homecoming activities took a hiatus while most student-centered events went on as usual.

On campus, current students made the most of the week and celebrated with a variety of activities including coronation of the Homecoming Royalty, a mental health awareness walk, a carnival and bonfire, trivia game show, chili cook off, a movie and s'mores on the Alumni Center lawn, casino night, and pep rally.

A special highlight of Homecoming Week came when the campus amphitheater was officially reopened for pedestrians after a year of being closed for renovations and expansion. Donor Jim Gissy and his family were also on hand at the event to flip the switch on a special light beam that was placed atop Clark Hall.

Homecoming Weekend kicked off with the annual Tim Carney '62 Golf Outing. The tournament finished in a four-way tie for first place at -15 under par 55. Jeremy Jenkins' team won the tournament on a scorecard playoff. The second place team was led by Marsha (Shrader) Knight '88; the third place team included Dr. John Westfall, Greg Smith '76, Brad McPherson, and Trent McPherson; and the fourth place team included Colby Cunningham '21, Tina (Burkhamer) Cunningham '87, and Lizzie Bickar '24. Coach Carney's son Steve was on hand for the event as well as other former GSU athletes Steve Gandee '82, Jim Brady '79, and Steve Buffington '75.

Saturday, October 18 saw the Pioneer caravan make its way to Summersville where the Blue and White took on Concord University at Nicholas County High School's stadium. Alumni and friends enjoyed a tailgate with food courtesy of Jason Frymier '06. WV Supreme Court Justice Thomas Ewing '01 joined Glenville State University President Dr. Mark Manchin and Concord University President Dr. Bethany Meighen on the field for the coin toss.

On the field, the Pioneers earned their third-straight victory, beating Concord, 42-30. GSU totaled 474 yards of offense and did not turn the ball over, improving to (4-3, 3-1 MEC) on the year.

[Click here](#) to view a gallery of photos from Homecoming Week.

Alumni are encouraged to join us back in Glenville for Homecoming festivities next year - watch for a date and more information!

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

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

Celebrating 150 Years of Art & Music at Glenville State

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Friday, November 17 | 5:00 PM

GSU Fine Arts Center

1875 FREE TO ATTEND 2025

CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL SCHEDULE AND TO REGISTER!

Final Home Away From Home Game Coming to Parkersburg

As a reminder, the Glenville State Pioneers are spending the 2025 football season on the road due to renovations at Morris Stadium. The Pioneers have played all home games "on the road" at select high school fields throughout West Virginia. On Saturday, November 8, GSU will travel to the Erickson All-Sports Facility in Parkersburg to face off against the Wheeling University Cardinals for a 1:00 PM kickoff. This game has been designated as Senior Day for GSU.

On November 8, we have organized a pregame social (Dutch treat) for alumni and friends! You will find us at Flanagan's Place at 11:00 AM, ready to welcome you as we gear up to cheer on the Pioneers. Flanagan's is located at 2107 Pike Street Suite 18 in Parkersburg, WV (in the Southgate Plaza).

We hope to see you at our final "Home Away from Home" game of the season!



Members of the 2025 class of inductees into the Luke DeMarino Memorial Business Hall of Fame (l-r) Tim Butcher, Cheryl McKinney, and Kyle Warner. (not pictured: Martha Haymaker)

Department of Business Hall of Fame Inducts Four

Last month, the Glenville State University Department of Business inducted four individuals into its Luke DeMarino Memorial Business Hall of Fame as part of the 2025 class.

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

The inductees were recognized at a banquet on Friday, October 17.



Members of the GSU Cheerleading Team at Spencer Middle School; they are pictured with the SMS therapy dog, Flora.

GSU Cheerleaders Bring Spirit to Homecoming Pep Rally at Spencer Middle School

The Glenville State University Cheerleading Team took their Pioneer spirit on the road in September as they attended Spencer Middle School's Homecoming Pep Rally to help energize the crowd and celebrate school pride.

Spencer Middle School, which currently does not have its own cheerleading squad, welcomed the GSU cheerleaders as special guests for the event. The team led the pep rally with a series of high-energy cheers, chants, and stunts that had students and staff on their feet.

In addition to pumping up the crowd, the Glenville State cheerleaders cheered on the spirited Staff vs. Students volleyball game, adding excitement and support from the sidelines. They also had the honor of judging the school's Spirit Competition, where each grade competed for the right to carry the coveted Spirit Stick, a symbol of Yellowjacket pride and enthusiasm. After a close contest, sixth grade took home the win.

Head Cheerleading Coach Bridget Carr '18 praised both the GSU squad and the middle school participants, noting the event's importance in building community connections.

"Our team loves opportunities to share the joy of cheerleading and help younger students experience school spirit," said Carr. "The students and staff were incredible. They displayed so much energy, positivity, and pride."

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.

Alumnus is Tamarack Creative Network Member

Shane Moats '23 has recently become a member of the Tamarack Creative Network and has his work featured on their website. Moats creates custom leather pieces ranging from full floral-designed belts and wallets with company logos to tooled leather tops for Hey Dude shoes, Bible covers, rifle slings, and just about everything in between.



Moats says he has never received any formal training in leatherworking – he simply learned by a lot of trial and error, patience, and persistence. Along the way, he has been inspired by masters of the craft like Al Stohlman, Don Gonzales, and Aaron Heizer.

When he isn't crafting custom leather goods, he is a teacher in Spencer, West Virginia – his hometown.

The Tamarack Foundation for the Arts West Virginia Creative Network is the premier statewide platform to connect artists with fellow artists and creative career opportunities. Creative Network members are West Virginian visual, craft, performance, literary, and design artists who are seeking out new connections and increased visibility for their work.

View his Tamarack directory listing [here](#).



*Memorial display honoring the late Marge (Hardman) Burke inside the WV House of Delegates Chamber on Friday, October 10, 2025.
| Photo by Perry Bennett*

GSU Community Mourns Loss of Former Board Chair, State Delegate

The Glenville State University campus community was saddened to learn of the recent passing of Marjorie “Marge” (Hardman) Burke ’53.

Mrs. Burke had a distinguished leadership career, serving in the West Virginia House of Delegates for over fourteen years. She had the distinction of being the first woman to preside over the House and to serve as Speaker Pro Tempore and was the only female majority whip in the history of the West Virginia Legislature. She was known as the “Bulldog” of the finance committee and she chaired various subcommittees. Burke provided the leadership needed to establish the State’s first feeder calf marketing pools and the direct sales of calves via video-board sales, which was a truly innovative first for the farmers of West Virginia at the time.

In 2000, Mrs. Burke was selected – alongside 11 other individuals – to be a member of Glenville State’s first Board of Governors assembly. She served as a member of the Board from 2001-2010, assuming the position of Board Chair in July 2003.

Her accolades include induction into the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame in 2002 and the West Virginia Federation of Democratic Women Hall of Fame in 1995. In fact, Marge had long been involved in the local, state, and national Democratic Party, holding several offices, positions, and earning awards. She also received the Friend of 4-H Award twice. In 2003, alongside her husband Billy, Mrs. Burke was recognized as Alumnus of the Year by Glenville State’s Alumni Association. A bridge over the Little Kanawha River in Sand Fork has been named in her honor. In 2023, GSU’s Board of Governors and President Mark Manchin conferred an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree upon Marge.

A celebration of love and life for Marge was held on Sunday, October 26 at GSU’s Fine Arts Center. Memorial contributions to the Billy and Marge Burke Scholarship Fund may be made by clicking [here](#).

Oral History Project Update

Many of our alumni took part in the Glenville State University Alumni Oral History Project that kicked-off in April 2024. As we have previously noted in this newsletter, portions of that project have been delayed.

Project participants had the option to purchase a copy of the oral history book and GSU-branded items. Although the book has still not been printed by the publisher, the apparel items have begun to ship. If you have recently received GSU alumni items - it is likely that the items were purchased as part of this project.

PCI, the book publisher, has assured us that they will ship the publication, 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.

NOVEMBER 2025

Stock The Shelves

PIONEER PANTRY



In a recent survey of current students, around **65% said there had been a time they struggled with not having enough food.** Even though students tell us these periods occur only a few times a semester, it isn't hard to imagine how negatively even occasional food insecurity can be for a young person in college. Your support of the Pioneer Pantry helps us provide students a "hand up, not a hand out" in their times of need.

GIVE TODAY

MAIL CHECKS TO
GSU Foundation
200 High St Glenville, WV 26351

TEXT TO GIVE
Text PANTRY to 24365

SCAN TO GIVE


For More Information :

304-462-6116

foundation@glenville.edu

Donate Now

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Saturday, November 8 - Pioneer Football vs Wheeling University Pregame Social

11:00 AM -12:30 PM - Flanagan's Place (2107 Pike St. Suite 18 in Parkersburg, WV)

Alumni and friends are invited to join us for refreshments (Dutch treat) at Flanagan's, which is located in the Southgate Plaza, before traveling to the Erickson All-Sports Facility to cheer on the Pioneers; game time is 1:00 PM.

Friday, November 14 - Department of Fine Arts 150th Anniversary Celebration

5:00 PM - Fine Arts Center

Join the Fine Arts Department for a celebration of art and music at Glenville State with an art exhibit, reception, and history presentation. Free to attend.

[Click here for more information and to RSVP \(free\).](#)

Saturday, November 15 - GSU Boxing War in the Waco X

Gates open at 5:00 PM, Fights begin at 6:00 PM - Waco Center

Wednesday, November 19 - Scholarship Donors Reception

5:00 PM - Mollohan Campus Community Center Ballroom

Wednesday, November 19 - Concert Choir & Chamber Singers Concert
7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Tuesday, December 2 - Mid-Ohio Valley Alumni Christmas Dinner
5:00 PM - Parkersburg Country Club
Tickets \$35 - [Click here to purchase](#) or call (304) 462-6116



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