

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Pioneer Update

Glenville State University Newsletter for Alumni & Friends | July 2026

Alumni SPOTLIGHT



Gregory James '76 had been serving as the Band Director of the Lumberjack Express at



(l-r): GSU Director of Fundraising Colby Cunningham '21, Senator Ben Queen and son Arthur, Fairmont State University student artists Salem Nichols, Gabriela Reyna, and Hannah Sprout, Gilmer County Commissioner Jacqueline Hashman '14, Glenville City Councilman Eric Squires, family representative of Melvin Wine (featured in the mural) Becky Wine, muralist Joel Dugan, Gilmer County Commissioner Lance Woodford, House of Delegates member Lori Dittman, and GSU Director of Alumni Affairs Dustin

Richwood High School since 1984.

During his time at Glenville State as a student, he was the Drum Major for the Marching Band, and was a member of the Concert Choir, Concert Band, Madrigals, musical theatre, and GSC's chapter of the Music Educators National Conference. In addition to his undergraduate degree in music education from Glenville State, Mr. James also held a master's degree in education from West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Throughout his career, his bands have made multiple noteworthy appearances, including performing at the Indianapolis 500, Gator Bowl, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Kentucky Derby, Grand Ole Opry, Preakness Parade, and professional sporting events in Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. His band performed twice at the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Washington, D.C. with multiple performances at Dollywood and Walt Disney World. The Richwood band also had numerous appearances on local and national television and was selected as one of the "Best of West Virginia" by *West Virginia Living* magazine.

Mr. James was recognized as the Richwood High School Teacher of the Year, was inducted into the West Virginia Band Director's Hall of Fame, earned the Phares Reeder Award for Education from the West Virginia Education Association, was selected to receive the Erma Boyce Award for Community Service from the West Virginia Education Association, and received an Outstanding Teacher Award from Glenville State's Alumni Association.

Crutchfield '09. (Just out of frame on the left are WV State Folk Festival President Dr. David O'Dell and Glenville State University Provost Dr. Mari Clements)

Gilmer County Celebrates America250 Mural with Ribbon Cutting

Community leaders, elected officials, students, Glenville State employees, and local residents recently gathered in downtown Glenville to celebrate the official dedication of Gilmer County's America250 mural.

The mural is a collaborative effort between the City of Glenville, Glenville State University, the West Virginia State Folk Festival, and the America250 Mural Project. The statewide initiative provided funding for new and original works of public art in each of West Virginia's 55 counties, encouraging communities to celebrate their unique histories while honoring America's semiquincentennial.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by Senator Ben Queen (District 12), Delegate Lori Dittman (District 063), members of the Gilmer County Commission and Glenville City Council, representatives from Glenville State University, officers from the West Virginia State Folk Festival, and community members from across Gilmer County.

Created by artist Joel Dugan, the Glenville mural reflects the spirit, culture, and pride of Gilmer County. Dugan is an Associate Professor of Art at Fairmont State University and was assisted by students Salem Nichols, Gabriela Reyna, and Hannah Sprout throughout the project.

[Click here](#) to see photos from the event.



Alumna Recognized with Generation Next Award

Alex (Lay) King '08 was recently recognized as a 2026 Generation Next 40 Under 40 award recipient. The recognition is presented by

Greg was also selected an unprecedented four times as one of "50 Directors Who Make a Difference in the United States" by *School Band and Orchestra* magazine.

In addition to his years of service as a teacher and band director, Greg had also been a member of the Gilmer County Parks and Recreation Board and Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. James had several family connections who attended or graduated from Glenville State, including his mother Helen (Radcliff) James '44, his grandfather W.J. Radcliff '37, and aunts Juanita (Radcliff) Bokanyi '57, Ethel (Radcliff) Gainer '48, Lucille (Radcliff) Westfall, and Lourene (Radcliff) Woodard.

When asked what Glenville State means to him, Greg said, "As a third-generation Glenville graduate, Glenville State has been a huge part of my life. I have many wonderful memories with family and friends that revolve around Glenville."

Editor's Note: We were already planning to feature Mr. James in the July newsletter as the Alumni Spotlight prior to his passing last month on June 10. It seemed a fitting tribute to still honor him, posthumously, in this way. We are pleased to feature him in this month's Alumni Spotlight and are proud to recognize his life.

WV News and *The State Journal*.

King is a transactional attorney and member at Steptoe & Johnson PLLC and currently serves as the practice group leader of the firm's Energy and Natural Resources Department Contracts Practice Group. She also serves as the Vice Chair of Glenville State University's Board of Governors and was recognized as the Outstanding Young Alumna in 2020 by Glenville's Alumni Association.

She focuses her practice on complex energy transactions, representing coal, oil and gas, renewables, and utility companies. She handles significant asset acquisitions and dispositions, manages large-scale due diligence projects, and advises clients on carbon capture projects and emissions office credit agreements.

Her professional expertise earned her a spot in Hart Energy's 2019 40 Under 40 in the Oil and Gas Industry and recent recognition in The Best Lawyers in America for Energy, Oil and Gas, and Natural Resource Law.

A native of Gilmer County, King earned her bachelor's degree from Glenville State in 2008 and her Juris Doctor from Washington and Lee University School of Law in 2012. While in law school, she served as executive editor of the Washington and Lee Journal of Energy, Climate, and the Environment and received the Professionalism and Service Award.

She holds several additional leadership roles, including serving on the Board of Trustees for the Energy & Mineral Law Foundation and as an officer for the Institute for Energy Law's Energy Transactions Practice Committee for the 2026-2027 term. She is also a graduate of the Leadership West Virginia Class of 2019.

King lives in Lewisburg with her husband, Ryan, and her stepdaughter Scarlett. She frequently speaks at industry symposiums on emerging topics, including data center development and energy merger and acquisition trends.

Have News? We'd Love To Hear From You!

If you have a news item (new job, professional or community honor, birth in the family, promotion, advanced degree, marriage, etc.), please tell us!

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Glenville State softball student athlete Shelby McDaniels tosses out the ceremonial first pitch during GSU Night at GoMart Park.

Pioneers Gather at GoMart Park for GSU Night

Several Pioneer alumni and friends gathered in Charleston, West Virginia last month for GSU Night at GoMart Ballpark.

Glenville State University Pioneer softball team members Shelby McDaniels, Meghan Stump, and Maci Boggess were on hand at the start of the game to throw out the ceremonial first pitch. The student athletes were joined by GSU President, Dr. Mark Manchin.

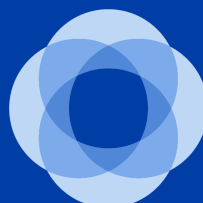
These members of the 2026 Pioneer softball team were on hand following the most historic season in program history, finishing with a 51-18 record and capturing the Mountain East Conference Tournament Championship. Along the way, they earned the program's first-ever NCAA Regional Championship, first-ever Super Regional Championship, and first-ever appearance in the NCAA Division II Women's College World Series.

On the field, the Charleston Dirty Birds bested the High Point Rockers, 6-3. Following the conclusion of the game, several attendees stayed behind to watch a fireworks show at GoMart Park.

[Click here](#) to see photos from the event.

Time to Renew WLC Memberships

Annual membership to Glenville State's Women's Leadership Circle (WLC) runs from July 1 to June 30 - and now is the time to renew your membership or become a first-time member! The WLC is a women's giving circle created and sponsored by the Glenville State University Foundation.



**WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP
CIRCLE**
GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

The WLC was founded on the basis of fellowship, opportunity, and philanthropy. WLC membership provides you invitations to exclusive events, aids in growing the WLC scholarship fund, and helps to create a culture of female empowerment for GSU and in the community.

[Click here](#) to renew your membership or become a new member.



Dr. Schuyler Chapman (right) receives the 2026 Faculty Award of Excellence from President Manchin.

Chapman Named 2026 Faculty Award of Excellence Recipient

Dr. Schuyler Chapman, an Associate Professor of English and Director of Glenville State's Honors Program, has been named the 2026 Faculty Award of Excellence recipient. Chapman was recognized at the spring 2026 Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 9.

"I'm incredibly honored to have been selected for this award," Chapman said. "To know that our students and my colleagues have recognized my contributions to the GSU community means the world to me. This campus is flush with terrific teachers. I've learned so much from watching and talking to my peers. To have been selected from among a group of educators who have helped me in so many ways is truly humbling."

Chapman holds a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh and also earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hamilton College. He began serving as a professor at Glenville State in 2018 and teaches American literature courses, women's literature, and first-year writing courses, as well as the seminars in the Honors Program. Chapman also just ended his term as Faculty Senate President, in addition to four years as the at-large Senator. He has also provided service on various campus committees.

When asked what his favorite thing about teaching at Glenville State was, Chapman said, "I get asked this question a lot from students I am interviewing for the Honors Program, and it's the easiest question for me to answer: It's the students. In the best way possible, they keep me on my toes. They will inevitably show up to class with some perspective on an assignment that never even occurred to me."

It's really incredible: Students will say something and all of a sudden material I've taught for years looks entirely different. I love that."

Each spring, the campus community is invited to nominate an outstanding faculty member for this award. Faculty Award of Excellence recipients must be full-time and have taught at Glenville State for at least two years to be eligible. Names of the honorees are displayed on a permanent plaque in the Heflin Administration Building.



Department of Fine Arts Holds 17th Annual Honor Band

The Department of Fine Arts at Glenville State University hosted their 17th annual Honor Band in May, bringing outstanding high school musicians to campus from throughout the Mountain State and beyond. This event marked the first time any honor band in West Virginia simultaneously provided an honor band, honor jazz band, and an

honor percussion ensemble. The guest conductor of GSU's Honor Band was Debra Price, a talented music educator and past county Teacher of the Year award recipient.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Lloyd Bone (honor band), Dr. Jason Barr (honor jazz band), and Jeremy Kirk '04 (honor percussion ensemble) and welcomed over 120 students to Glenville State from all over West Virginia and southwestern Ohio for two days.

"Many graduates of GSU, not only in music, have been recruited through our Honor Band. It is the fourth longest running honor band in WV. We couldn't do it without the incredible care and support of our music alumni. We love them and are very appreciative of all of them," said Bone.

To see photos from GSU's Honor Band, [click here](#).

***Show Your Pioneer Spirit with
a Special Glenville State
License Plate!***



Reminder: Glensville State University alumni, friends, employees, and students who reside in West Virginia are still able to submit a preliminary interest application for a special Glensville State University license plate! ***Preliminary interest applications are only being accepted through August 3, 2026!***

These plates will be actual specialty license plates created and issued by the West Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. When the University receives the first 100 preliminary interest applications, final design and production of the license plate will begin. There are no restrictions on the number of special plates you may obtain.

Those interested in submitting a preliminary interest application for a special GSU license plate should visit www.glenville.edu/alumni/license-plates to learn more and download an application form.

We are not yet to our goal of 100 completed interest applications - help us reach that number and unlock the ability to have these special license plates produced!

Reminder: If GSU does not collect at least 100 interest applications by August 3, the project will be canceled per DMV and WV Legislative rules. Application fees (less any nonrefundable credit card processing fees) will be returned to those who completed an application.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, July 30 - WLC Pottery Painting Class

4:30 PM - Waco Center

[Click here](#) to reserve your spot (free for WLC members, \$25 for non-members)

Wednesday, August 12 - GSU Night at Lambert's Winery

5:00-9:00 PM - Lambert's Winery (190 Vineyard Drive, Weston, WV)



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