

Parent Electronic News
West Virginia University
November 5, 2018

There will be no classes and University offices will be closed for Election Day tomorrow. <http://bit.ly/WVUElectionDay>

We have turned the corner into November and have four weeks of classes left before Finals Week, December 10-14 <http://bit.ly/WVUFinals2018>, meaning scheduling and planning become quite important! As you look ahead, parents, know that Thanksgiving Break starts with residence halls closing at 7 p.m. next Friday, November 16 and halls reopen Sunday, November 25 at noon. The last day for students to request Break or Football housing for Thanksgiving Break, if needed, is this Wednesday, November 7. Parents Club buses for Thanksgiving are also filling (some full!) and Winter Break bus reservations will begin late this week. See *Holiday Break Reminders* below to help with planning. Also toward the end of next week spring charges should also be available online for those who have registered for spring classes. Balances are due by January 4. A full list of these and other helpful *Upcoming Dates* follow at the end of this message so read on and mark your calendars now!

As a reminder from the October 22 Parent E-Newsletter, the first Off-Campus Housing Fair (featuring all University Apartments and many other off campus options) will be held next Wednesday, November 14: <http://bit.ly/WVUOffCampus>. Remember residence hall options are also available with some discounts for returning students <http://bit.ly/WVUResHalls> including RA opportunities - with an information session tomorrow evening, November 6: <http://bit.ly/WVURA>. Now is the time to ***start*** looking and discussions – remember Student Legal Services encourages students not to sign leases until after fall grades – leases are legally binding contracts no matter if a student is enrolled or not!

Finally, it's always exciting when we get to brag on our students and news from this past week is cause for just such celebration so we thought we'd leave you with a few impressive headlines:

- A record three WVU students named finalists for the Rhodes Scholarship - one of the oldest and most celebrated international awards in the world: <http://bit.ly/WVURhodes>
- Morgan King, May 2018 graduate and current Fulbright scholar studying in Spain, finalist for prestigious British Marshall and Schwartzman Scholarships: <http://bit.ly/WVUKingSch>
- WVU Women win Big 12 Soccer Championship: <http://bit.ly/WVUSoccerChamps>

Congrats and good luck to all our students as we head towards the end of the semester. Let's finish strong! In this edition:

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- November student ticketing requests for Men's Basketball underway – Next game November 9
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- Safety Reminders
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UPCOMING DATES

HOLIDAY BREAK REMINDERS

Breaks and Housing

As a reminder, residence halls officially close for Thanksgiving Break on Friday, November 16 at 7 p.m. and will not reopen until Sunday, November 25 at noon:

<http://bit.ly/ResHallOpenClose>. Housing options for those who wish to stay with us for Thanksgiving Break as well as options for those who wish to return for the WVU Football game are noted on this page: <http://bit.ly/BreakHousingWVU>. Registration for Break and Football housing options must be made in advance and registration closes Wednesday, November 7.

For Winter Break, students and families should also begin to plan ahead for the end of the semester. Students are expected to vacate their rooms within 24 hours of their last final exam to help keep floors quiet for those still studying <http://bit.ly/WVUFinals2018> or by Saturday, December 15 at noon (whichever comes first). If students anticipate difficulty meeting the departure time due to travel schedules, they must contact their Residence Hall Coordinator no later than a week prior to the closing date to see if alternate arrangements can be made. <http://bit.ly/ResHallOpenClose>

Thanksgiving Buses

Still looking for a ride home for your student during Thanksgiving Break? Reservations for most Parents Club buses for Thanksgiving break are still being taken. Buses are confirmed to go to Allentown, PA; Carlisle, PA; Hagerstown, MD; Secaucus, NJ; King of Prussia, PA; and one to Highland, NY, for those in the Connecticut, New York and New England areas. **Remember, the deadline to cancel these reservations has now passed.** The Northern Virginia (space limited), Southern New Jersey (FULL – use King of Prussia above as alternate), Central Maryland and Long Island local Mountaineer Parents Clubs also offer buses to their areas. For online reservations or to review all schedules and details, please go to <http://bit.ly/WVUMPCBuses>. No phone reservations for the buses will be taken. **Please Note** - *The bus to Cleveland, OH has been canceled due to a lack of ridership.*

Winter Break Bus Reservations to go live at the end of this week

The reservation system for the Winter Break buses will go live this week. The Winter Break buses travel to Allentown, PA; Carlisle, PA; Hagerstown, MD; Secaucus, NJ; King of Prussia, PA; and Highland, NY, which also services those in the Connecticut, New York and New England areas. The Southern New Jersey, Northern VA, Central Maryland and Long Island, NY, Mountaineer Parents Clubs also offer buses to their areas. Please note that the dates for the winter break holiday buses are as follows:

- Buses leave Morgantown – Saturday, December 15, 2018
- Buses return to Morgantown – Saturday, January 5, 2019

These dates, as always, correspond to the residence hall closing and opening schedule. For details and to make Winter Break reservations, at the end of this week go to: <http://bit.ly/WVUMPCBuses>. Reservations must be made online. The last day to request a refund for the winter buses is Thursday, November 29.

BILLING AND PAYMENTS

Spring Payment Plans Now available, Charges to post next week

As a reminder, spring payment plans via CashNet are now available for five (enroll by November 30) or four month (enroll by December 31) installments. The earlier you sign-up, the more time you have to pay! Please note that the first installment plus the enrollment fee of \$35 will be due when your student signs up for a plan. Even though your student's charges won't show until mid-November, they can still sign up for the plan. They can stop by the Hub or call and our staff can help estimate the amount based on their fall 2018 bill. Any final adjustments can be made once their spring 2019 bill is ready. **Spring 2019 payment due date is Friday, January 4.** If you have questions about billing, aid or payment options, please contact the Mountaineer Hub at 304-293-1988. To stay updated on important spring payment messages or for more information, <http://bit.ly/WVUBilling>.

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Mini Service Organization Fair – November 7

Students interested in getting involved in a service organization can drop by the Mini Service Organization Fair in the Mountainlair Commons Wednesday, November 7 from 11-2 to find out more!

Festival of Ideas Lectures – November 8, 13, 27

Free and open to the public, these lectures take learning outside the classroom and bring national leaders, topics and discussions to our campus. All will be held in the Mountainlair Ballrooms and will start at 7:30 p.m. <http://bit.ly/WVUFestivalofIdeas> Scheduled this month:

- Thursday, November 8 – Nadine Strossen – *HATE: Why We Should Resist It with Free Speech, Not Censorship*
- Tuesday, November 13 – Panelists: Nancy Armour, Kevin Blackstone, Kimberley Martin, Keith Reed and Etan Thomas, Moderated by Tony Caridi – *Patriotism, Politics and the Playing field*
- Tuesday, November 27 – George Yancy – *Why Does Race Still Matter?*

The Arts and performances – November events

For those who are more into the Arts, the Curiosity Series at WVU highlights some of the many events going on through the College of Creative Arts! Whether musical performances, theater productions, new installations in our CAC galleries or at the WVU Art Museum, or even shopping at the semi-annual Pottery Sale later this month from November 30 - December 1 – the Arts are alive and well at WVU. You can also check out the links on this page to the Discovery Series and Emerging Artist Series for events featuring WVU students:

<http://bit.ly/WVUCCAEvents>

- November 1-December 31 – My Hero! Contemporary Art & Superhero Action, Upper Gallery, Art Museum of WVU, Free and open to the public (Art Exhibit)
- November 15-16, 26-30 and December 1 at 7:30, December 2 at 2 p.m. – Cloud 9 by Caryl Churchill, Gladys G. Davis Theatre, Ticketed Event (Play)
- November 30-December 1 – Winter Semi-Annual Pottery Sale, Creative Arts Center Lobby, Free and open to the public (Art Exhibit and Sale)
- December 1 at 7:30 p.m. – Choral Concert: “A Winter Gala”, Lyell B. Clay Theatre, Ticketed Event (Choral)

November student ticketing requests for Men's Basketball underway – Next game November 9

Students who wish to attend WVU Men's Basketball games must request tickets. Similar to student football ticket requests, student request these online but can request for all basketball games within the month. That process is now underway for all November games. Also, requests for the last two home football games are now available. More here: <http://bit.ly/WVUMensBB>

Last Football StudentLOT – November 10

Looking for a great student tailgate? Tell your student to head to the StudentLOT for the last tailgate of the year. Festivities will begin three hours before the noon kickoff!
<http://bit.ly/WVULot>

WVU Off Campus Housing Fair – November 14

Students interested in exploring housing options for next year should attend the Off-Campus Housing Fair Wednesday, November 14, 2018 in the Mountainlair Blue and Gold Ballrooms. If you can't make the first fair, a second fair is scheduled for February 23, 2019 in the ERC/Towers Blue and Gold Rooms. <http://bit.ly/WVUOffCampus>

WVU Day of Giving – November 14

Kick off the season of giving with the WVU Foundation's Day of Giving November 14: <http://bit.ly/WVUDayOfGiving>. Last year alumni, family and friends of WVU helped raise nearly \$3 million in one day: <http://bit.ly/WVU2018DOG>

Donate and Get a Parking Ticket Forgiven – through November 16

Does your student have a parking ticket they need to pay? The WVU Transportation and Parking Office Hands of Hope Campaign will run until November 16 and forgive a ticket for a donation to Pantry Plus More, a nonprofit organization started by a WVU student that stocks local school pantries. For details see <http://bit.ly/ParkingDonation>

December Graduation, Register to walk – by December 7

December graduates are reminded to register online to note that they intend to walk in commencement activities before December 7: <http://bit.ly/WVUGradWalk>. For more on Graduation: <http://bit.ly/WVUGraduation>

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Spring Health Insurance Waiver available until December 28

NOTE: Students with an approved waiver on file from fall of 2018 have opted out of the WVU Aetna student health insurance plan for the entire 2018-2019 academic year and do not need to complete this spring waiver. For those others who wish to request a spring waiver, the spring 2019 student health insurance waiver opened at <http://bit.ly/SIOWaiver> on Monday, October 29rd, with a deadline for completion of December 28th. Eligible students without an approved student health insurance waiver on file will be automatically enrolled in the WVU Aetna student health insurance plan at a cost of \$1,000 per term, assessed to the student's account. For more information about the WVU Aetna student health insurance plan, view the 2018-19 WVU Aetna Plan Summary. Contact the WVU Student Insurance Office at sio@mail.wvu.edu with questions or concerns, or for assistance completing the student health insurance waiver.

Safety Reminders

With the Daylight Savings this past weekend (Nov. 4) it will be getting darker even earlier. Please help us remind your student of safety resources such as the WVU Alert and LiveSafe App. The LiveSafe App is free for students to download has great features such as SafeWalk, where they can have someone (a roommate or maybe even you) virtually walk with them if they are ever out late at night to make sure they get where they are going: <http://bit.ly/WVUSafety>. LiveSafe also features an anonymous reporting feature that allows video and pictures to be uploaded to help with investigations. Also your student can sign you up as parents/guardians to receive WVUAlerts on your cell phone or via e-mail: <http://bit.ly/AlertsParents>. We each play a part in the safety of our community!

Flu shots still available

Flu shots are still available on campus. Students can go to Student Health <http://bit.ly/StudentHealthHome> during normal business hours (7:45 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Friday and 9:45 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays to receive a flu shot – no appointment needed. Students need to bring their student ID and insurance card.

UPCOMING DATES

- Election Day, University Holiday (no classes): Tuesday, November 6
- WVU Day of Giving: Wednesday, November 14 <http://bit.ly/WVUDayOfGiving>
- Spring charges post to STAR accounts and Parent/Guest Portal (if student is registered for spring): Week of November 14 <http://bit.ly/WVUBilling>
- *University Housing Closes for Thanksgiving Break: Friday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.*

- *University Housing Reopens: Sunday, November 25, noon*
- Last day to enroll in a five-month payment plan for spring charges: Friday, November 30
- Spring E-Bills sent to WVU Mix addresses for those who owe a balance: Week of December 5
- Finals Week: Monday, December 10-Friday, December 14 <http://bit.ly/WVUFinals2018>
- *University Housing Closes for Winter Break: Saturday, December 15, noon*
- December Commencement: Saturday, December 15, 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
<http://bit.ly/WVUGraduation>
- LAST day to enroll any spring payment plan (four-month): Monday, December 31
- Spring Bills Due: Friday, January 4 <http://bit.ly/WVUBilling>
- *University Housing Reopens: Saturday, January 5, noon*
- First Day of Spring Classes: Monday, January 7

Residence Hall Opening/Closing Dates: <http://bit.ly/ResHallOpenClose>

Academic Calendar: <http://bit.ly/WVUAcademicCal>

2019 Fall Family Weekend Date Set

Mark your calendars for September 27-29 for Fall Family Weekend 2019 !

/Katie Gallagher and Lisa Hanselman

Office of Parent Relations

West Virginia University