

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2020



BUILDING BEYOND

\$40 MILLION IN PRIVATE SUPPORT
IS NEEDED FOR A NEW HOME FOR
THE JOHN CHAMBERS COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

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NEWSLETTER

Winter 2020

WVU Foundation
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**MAXIMIZING
PRIVATE
CHARITABLE
SUPPORT FOR
WEST VIRGINIA
UNIVERSITY**

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 **WVU Foundation**

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A loyal alumnus and his wife have continued their history of giving to WVU with a \$6 million gift that will expand opportunities for students and increase support for faculty, research and other programs in the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources.

In total, the Wadsworths have donated \$8 million to the Statler College, along with many decades of service and time to the department and college. To honor their contributions and dedication to the department, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering was rededicated as the Wadsworth Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, effective Nov. 8.

Maurice “Moe” Wadsworth, a Clarksburg native who earned a degree in civil engineering from WVU in 1951, is one of WVU’s esteemed alumni. Wadsworth and his late wife, JoAnn, a native of Hagerstown, Maryland, who also graduated from WVU in 1951 with a degree in psychology, met at their freshman mixer in 1947. They have been philanthropic supporters of the University since 1976.

“The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering gave me the basic building blocks I needed to be successful in my engineering career,” Wadsworth said. “We are happy to be in a position to give back to the department and support the University.”

The family’s gift will provide resources that allow the department to reach new heights in scholarly and educational excellence. The funding will establish the Maurice and JoAnn Wadsworth Endowed Chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering, named faculty and graduate fellowships and the Wadsworth Engineering Opportunity Fund. The gift will ensure the department is able to recruit and retain talented and productive professors and researchers while attracting top students.

WVU business college launches campaign to bring new building to fruition

The John Chambers College of Business and Economics will write the next chapter in business education in its new home, transforming WVU's campus, Morgantown and the student experience.

At nearly 180,000 square feet, Reynolds Hall — named for alumnus and financier Robert Reynolds and his wife, Laura, who made this building possible with a generous \$10 million gift — will more than double the space that the Chambers College has in its current building.

This past fall, the College kicked off its campaign, Building Beyond, which has to date raised \$27 million of the \$40 million needed in private support to ensure that WVU has a first-class facility for business education and research. The total project cost is estimated at \$100 million.

“What started as a conversation about the vision for future of business at WVU several years ago has grown into a reality, and it's incredible to see it come together,” Reynolds said. “Laura and I are proud to be a part of a facility that will transform WVU, Morgantown's waterfront, and most importantly, the business learning experience for future generations.”

Situated on the site of the former Stansbury Hall, the new building will greatly change the landscape of the Monongahela River waterfront. Demolition of Stansbury was completed this fall, at which time phase one began with the mass excavation of the site and construction of the building's foundations. The new Reynolds Hall is scheduled to be open in 2022.

“We firmly believe our alumni and friends will step up to help build this state-of-the-art business complex that not only will transform the student learning experience but the Morgantown riverfront area as well,” said B.J. Davisson, WVU Foundation executive vice president and chief development officer.

Representing an integration of start-up culture and entrepreneurial mindset, Reynolds Hall will transform the business landscape of the University, state and beyond and showcase an intersection of technology, innovation and state-of-the-art programming.

Individuals or businesses interested in supporting the Building Beyond campaign can call 304-293-8888 or visit <https://buildingbeyond.wvu.edu/home>. Naming opportunities are available.

Artist's rendering of Reynolds Hall



Third annual Day of Giving brings in more than \$11 million

Donors gave more than \$11 million November 13 during WVU's third annual Day of Giving, topping the \$6.2 million raised in 2018.

It was promoted as "Our University. Our Future. Our Day," and donors responded by making more than 4,000 gifts during the WVU Foundation's 24-hour online giving event totaling \$11.3 million. That's over 1,000 gifts more than were made during 2018's WVU Day of Giving.

"It is so humbling to experience the generosity and support of Mountaineer faithful year after year for the Day of Giving," WVU President Gordon Gee said. "That support is a key component that allows the University to make a difference in the lives of people in West Virginia and the world."

Several global matches and participation gifts, as well as those made at the college/school/unit level, helped to make the day a success.

"The success of our third Day of Giving was beyond what I ever imagined, and I want to thank everyone who participated," said Mary Esposito, who led the effort for the WVU Foundation. "It was truly exciting to see the WVU family respond to our call to give and make a difference. The engagement on social media was excellent as well."

WVU Day of Giving was focused on raising private dollars for the University's greatest priorities and opportunities, including scholarships and unrestricted funds at both the University- and unit-specific level. The event also included WVU Health Sciences and the regional campuses in Keyser and Beckley.



Mountain Loggers Group donates to Children's hospital

The Mountain Loggers Group, Inc., recently made a nearly \$70,000 donation toward its \$500,000 pledge to name the cafeteria in the new WVU Medicine Children's Hospital.

The Mountain Loggers Group presented a check following the Log-A-Load for Kids Auction, held in conjunction with the 83rd Mountain State Forest Festival in Elkins.

"It's heartwarming to see an industry come together for a good cause. In a year that has been trying for the logging community, individuals and companies continue to give their time, product and support to the Log-A-Load for Kids Auction," Danny Sines, president of the Mountain Loggers



Mountain Loggers Group President Danny Sines (second from left) presents the donation to WVU Medicine Children's representatives.

Group, said. "We enjoy our relationship with WVU Medicine Children's and hope to continue it for many years to come."

To date, the Mountain Loggers Group has donated more than \$1.76 million to WVU Medicine Children's.



Luanne and Bob Kittle

Reed College of Media receives largest single donation in school history

Students will be better equipped to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing media landscape thanks to a gift from an award-winning journalist and alumnus.

Bob and Luanne Kittle have been generous contributors to the Reed College for more than 30 years. But their most recent pledge, the largest single donation in College of Media history, will allow them to make an impact on education and journalism in the state earlier than anticipated.

"I'm very impressed with the level of innovation at the College of Media in preparing young journalists," Bob Kittle said. "The College has a unique role to play in guiding West Virginia toward a better future, and we hope this gift helps." Bob Kittle, originally from Dunbar, began his career as editor-in-chief at the Daily Athenaeum.

He maintains close ties to the state and serves on the College of Media Advisory Board. "Good journalism is the engine of social progress. And therefore, promoting good journalism in West Virginia is a way of promoting a better West Virginia," Kittle said. "We hope this gift helps not just the College of Media, but all of West Virginia by promoting good journalism."

At age 70 ½, most people are required to withdraw a minimum amount from their retirement savings accounts on an annual basis, according to federal law. Through a multi-year qualified charitable distribution to the College of Media, the Kittles can donate up to \$100,000 of that annual withdrawal without paying income taxes on the money.

"I think this is a different way of giving that most people don't know about," Kittle said. "We had originally decided to include WVU in our wills. But this allows us to give the money to the University sooner and we get to see the gift being put to good use while we're still living."

Kittle spent most of his career as editorial page editor of The San Diego Union-Tribune. Prior to that post, he was an associate editor of U.S. News & World Report in Washington, where he served as White House correspondent, congressional correspondent and Pentagon correspondent. Luanne is a retired educator who served nearly 20 years as the head of The Rhoades School in Encinitas, California.

Private support needed for Pride practice facility

An institution at WVU for more than 100 years, the Mountaineer Marching Band, will one day have a home of its own. WVU and dedicated alumni are working together to pursue a practice facility for the 330-member band.

The practice facility is supported by the College of Creative Arts, WVU Athletics and the College of Physical Activity and Sport Sciences. It will be a much-needed upgrade for The Pride of West Virginia — its current practice space is a parking lot at WVU's Coliseum. The new facility will be located on the Evansdale campus, replacing Hawley Field, the old home of WVU Baseball.

"One of the most recognizable icons of our land-grant institution, The Pride has long deserved a dedicated rehearsal space, and we are excited to bring this project to life," said Keith Jackson, dean of the College of Creative Arts.



A Mountaineer Marching Band member performs during a WVU football game.

Initial designs include a football-field-sized turf field, a pavilion to protect users from the elements, lighting and sound systems, and climate-controlled storage for instruments and uniforms.

Jackson said support from friends of the Mountaineer Marching Band is vital to keep work moving and complete the facility as quickly as possible. To donate to the Pride of West Virginia Practice Facility, visit <https://give.wvu.edu/music> and click on Pride Practice Facility on the right side of the page.

Eye Institute aids kids with vision impairments

As a teenager, Lauren Clem wanted to drive. But her severely limited vision made driving virtually impossible.

With help from the WVU Eye Institute's Children's Vision Rehabilitation Program (CVRP), Clem's dream became a reality. The program provides vital resources — including medical care, optical devices, assistive technology, mentoring, educational support and more — that improve long-term quality of life for blind and visually impaired children.



Lauren Clem

CVRP has been made possible in part by a \$103,050 grant from The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation (TGKVF) that bolsters program efforts in Boone, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, Putnam and Fayette counties.

"The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation is proud to support the WVU Eye Institute's Children Vision Rehabilitation Program," TGKVF's Stephanie Hyre said. "As a community foundation, we value local programs like the CVRP that provide educational opportunities to marginalized youth, including those with visual impairment. "Through our partnership with the WVU Eye Institute, TGKVF is honored to assist blind and low-vision students in developing the skills and capacities needed to graduate high school, achieve their post-secondary goals and live independently."

Duenkels make program-changing gift to men's soccer

Loyal WVU supporters Dan and Alex Duenkel have contributed a major gift of \$1.25 million to the WVU men's soccer program.

"We appreciate the trust and confidence that Dan and Alex have bestowed on our department and men's soccer program with this generous gift," WVU Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Shane Lyons said. "We will be able to improve our training and game preparation with this gift and

our men's soccer student-athletes will benefit greatly. Many thanks from the Mountaineers to Dan and Alex for being great teammates."

The donation will help the program upgrade its current practice facility that is located behind the Mountaineer Tennis Courts in the WVU Coliseum complex. The upgraded facility will be named Duenkel Field to recognize this generous gift.



Alex and Dan Duenkel

Irvin Stewart Society New Members

The Irvin Stewart Society honors those who have included gift provisions in their wills, created income-producing gifts, provided for testamentary donations of retirement assets, donated life insurance, and transferred their real estate remainder interest to benefit WVU and its affiliated organizations.



Fran Berry '70, '72, Highlands Ranch, CO
Janice M. Carpenter, PharmD '92, '97, Westerville, OH
Paul R. Carpenter, Westerville, OH
Glenn Caulkins, New York, NY
Frank J. Clark '69, Saint Augustine, FL
Mary K. Clark '79, Saint Augustine, FL
Denise L. Cobb '73, Naples, FL
Brian E. Cobb, Naples, FL
Claudia J. Cola '77, '78, Austin, TX
Maria Corsi, Burke, VA
Robert E. Corsi, Jr. '75, Burke, VA
Joseph P. De Santis, PhD '88, Miami, FL
Ashley E. Donkerbrook, Fair Oaks, CA
Gregory Donkerbrook '10, Fair Oaks, CA
Jennifer N. Dorre '98, New York, NY
Thomas M. Frassrand, Austin, TX
Kathy D. George, Ellijay, GA
Thomas M. George '78, Ellijay, GA
Linda Hagerty '83, Morgantown, WV
William H. Hagerty '62, '69, Morgantown, WV
Debora D. Halbritter '82, Henrico, VA
Marc A. Halbritter, JD '77, '80, Henrico, VA
Donna S. Hastings '71, Charleston, WV
Shannon Herrera-Kacik, Virginia Beach, VA
David D. Hill '80, Charleston, WV
Susan T. Hill '80, Charleston, WV
Garland S. Hudson '70, Orange Park, FL
Joseph T. Kacik '89, Virginia Beach, VA

Luanne G. Kittle, Carefree, AZ
Robert A. Kittle '75, Carefree, AZ
Fred Leif '73, Brunswick, GA
Lynne Pappas Leif '73, Brunswick, GA
Laura Mann, West Palm Beach, FL
Thomas F. Mann, MD '73, '77, West Palm Beach, FL
Christopher McElroy '89, Wexford, PA
Mary Gerkin McKinley '82, Wheeling, WV
Rustin M. Moore '86, Dublin, OH
Mark J. Nigrini, Morgantown, WV
Steven A. Perrine, Ravenswood, WV
Vida A. Perrine, Ravenswood, WV
Barbara Francine Rahal, EdD '74, '86, Edinboro, PA
George Edward Rahal, Edinboro, PA
Cynthia L. Roth, Morgantown, WV
Richard C. Schoppert '57, Palatine, IL
R. Anne Shale '67, Beavercreek, OH
Patricia Sheedy, San Mateo, CA
William M. Sheedy '88, San Mateo, CA
Beverly K. Spees, Westerville, OH
Larry G. Spees, EdD '76, Westerville, OH
Susan O. Streib '68, '70, Morgantown, WV
Douglas P. Toth, Pittsburgh, PA
Janet L. Toth '79, '80, Pittsburgh, PA
Margaret Hess Watkins '60, Columbus, OH
Lt. Gen. Kenneth R. Wykle '63, Burke, VA
Mary O. Wykle, PhD '65, '66, Burke, VA

A listing of all members can be found at www.wvuf.org, select Donor Recognition and Irvin Stewart Society.



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WELLS FAMILY CONTINUES LIFETIME OF SERVICE WITH TOWER SOCIETY GIFT

Alumni Joe and Gina Wells became the newest members of the WVU Alumni Tower Society by making a contribution to the WVU Alumni Association, helping to retire the building debt of The Erickson Alumni Center.

“We wanted to give back to the Alumni Association because our WVU degrees have provided us with the opportunity to become successful,” said Joe Wells.

Joe and Gina each graduated from WVU in 1987 and have dedicated their lives to supporting their alma mater. In 1994, Joe became president of the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association.

In that role, he and Gina hosted numerous events bringing alumni together and started scholarships for students from their area.

In 2002, Joe was selected to become a member of the WVU Alumni Association Board of Directors and served during a pivotal time, when the decision was made to construct a new alumni center.

“We hope our gift will help sustain the incredible facility and valuable programming the Association administers in service to alumni and the University,” said Joe Wells.

