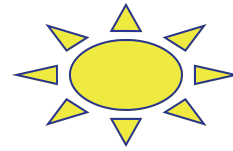


Commuter Connection

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Going Green...



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Going green, or becoming more energy efficient, is an easy way to help protect the environment. As a side benefit, going green can also help you save money.

Probably the best reason to go green is that Earth's population is growing by leaps and bounds. Currently, our population sits at about six billion people. Two hundred years ago, Earth's population was approximately one billion. In forty years, it is estimated that our population will swell by another three billion people. And by 2050, people will have access to only 25 percent of the natural resources that were available per person in 1950. Many natural resources, such as oil and natural gas, are already in limited supply.

If you are interested in doing something for the environment and for the future, going green is actually a simple process. Some of the 'going green' tips from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are as follows:

Buying rechargeable batteries.

Getting better gas mileage. You can get better gas mileage in your current vehicle by making sure your tires are inflated to your car's

manufacturer specifications; removing excess weight from your trunk; keeping your car's engine in good tune; and avoiding jack-rabbit starts when you pull away from stop lights. With gas prices at more than \$3 per gallon, the savings can add up quickly, with the added benefit of less pollution emission. And, if you plan to replace your current car, select one that is fuel efficient.

eCycling, which means taking old computer equipment and other electronics to a local recycling center, to keep lead, cadmium, and other toxic substances out of landfills. For more information about eCycling in West Virginia, go to this website: www.state.wv.us/swmb/ECycle%20Home.htm.

Making the switch from incandescent light bulbs to compact fluorescent light bulbs will help

conserve energy and save you money on your electric bill. Another benefit is that CFL's last much longer than incandescent bulbs.

Reducing your carbon footprint by using public transportation, carpooling, walking, or biking whenever possible to avoid using your car. To learn more about reducing your carbon footprint, go to www.carbonfootprint.com.

Recycling is perhaps the biggest step toward going green. For each ton of paper that is recycled, 7,000 gallons of water, 380 gallons of oil, and enough electricity to power an average house for six months is saved. The energy saved by recycling just one aluminum can will power a television for six hours. And recycling just one glass bottle saves enough energy to burn a 100-watt light bulb for four hours.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”
-Margaret Mead



Blood Drive

The Office of Commuter Student Programs will be sponsoring a blood drive on Monday, March 3rd, 2008. The blood drive will be held at the Erickson Alumni Center on the Evansdale Campus from 10:00AM to 4:00PM.

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. However, only 5% of the eligible US population donates blood in any given year. Healthy donors are the only source for blood. Currently, there is no

substitute. Blood is needed for emergencies and for people who have cancer, blood disorders, sickle cell, anemia and other illnesses.



Some people need regular blood transfusions to live. Imagine if giving blood was part of everyone's life, something you did on a regular basis, like eating at your favorite

restaurant. What kind of difference would that make? For nearly 5 million people who receive blood transfusions every year, your donation can make the difference between life and death. Giving blood is simple and convenient. For more information on the benefits of donating and the donation process, visit www.givelife.org. For more information on the blood drive, or to sign up as a donor or a volunteer, contact Tara at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu.

Dinner N Bowling

Looking for something to do on a boring Monday night? Come out to Suburban Lanes on Monday, February 25th and join us for a few games of bowling.

Suburban is located on Chestnut Ridge Road in the

Suburban Plaza (by Kegler's).

Bowling starts at 9:00PM and lasts until approximately midnight.

The lanes and shoes are on us. All you have to do is bring yourself and have fun!

Dinner will be at 7:30 and the location changes monthly!

If you have any questions or suggestions, email me at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu or check Facebook for updates! We look forward to seeing you at Suburban!



Spring Trip

The Office of Commuter Student Programs is in the process of planning a spring trip for all commuters!

We will be going to King's Dominion amusement park in Richmond, Virginia and stopping along the way at the Hagerstown Prime

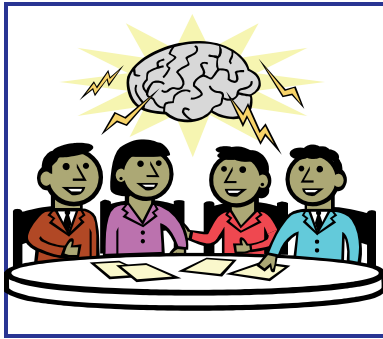
Outlets in Hagerstown, Maryland for some shopping!

We will be leaving Morgantown on Friday, April 4th, by bus, and returning on Sunday, April 6th. Price will depend on how many people sign up

for the trip, but we will keep it as low as possible!

If you have any questions, or are interested in the trip, contact Tara at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu!

Focus Group



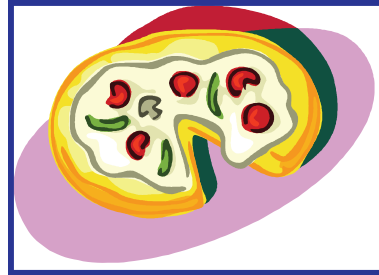
We are looking for commuter students just like you to participate in a brief focus group!

The time commitment is minimal. All you have to do is answer approximately ten questions about the issues that commuter students at WVU face. The time will be arranged at your convenience and we will provide free pizza for your participation!

You can also offer feedback about what types of information would be useful in a Commuter Student brochure that will be

distributed to area high school students!

If you have any questions, or if you are interested in participating, contact Tara at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu!



Check out the new WVU Commuters group on Facebook for all the up-to-date information!

Upcoming Events

February 11	7:30PM	Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra	Creative Arts Center
*tickets available through Ticketmaster			
February 13	7:00PM	WBB vs. Pitt	Coliseum
February 14	2:00PM-4:00PM	Disney Presentation for internships	Shenandoah Room
February 14	7:00PM	MBB vs. Rutgers	Coliseum
February 18	7:00PM	Faculty/Staff Idol	Side Pocket Pub
February 19	9:00AM-2:00PM	Summer Jobs Expo	Mountainlair Commons
February 27, 28, 29	7:30PM	"Comic Potential" by Alan Ayckbourn	Creative Arts Center
Every Wednesday	7:30PM	SGA Meeting	Mountaineer Room, Mountainlair
*SGA is a great way to get involved & meet student reps!			
Every Friday & Saturday		WVUp All Night	Mountainlair

"Higher education must lead the march back to the fundamentals of human relationships, to the old discovery that is ever new, that man does not live by bread alone."
-John A. Hannah

Polar Plunge

This year's 4th annual Polar Plunge will be held on February 16th, 2008 at the Sunset Beach & Marina, Cheat Lake. Registration begins at 12:30 and the plunge is at 2:00PM.

The actual plunge is where all the plungers race into and then frolic in, Cheat Lake within a safety perimeter established by the EMS dive team. Plungers set their own personal goals of how deep to go and how long they want to stay in; within the limits



established by the EMS divers. Some plungers only get their ankles wet; others stay in and frolic until the dive members make them leave the water.

To participate, you must raise \$50 in sponsorships for Special Olympics WV. If you are interested in being a part of the Commuter team, contact Tara at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu. For more information about the actual plunge, check out www.wvpolarplunge.com.

Mountain Line Park & Ride

The Mountain Line Transit Authority has opened a new park and ride location on DuPont Road next to its Westover facility. When you purchase a parking pass, a bus pass is included, offering unlimited trips on all regular, local route buses. Bus service connects the DuPont parking lot to downtown Morgantown with stops at the Walnut PRT, Chestnut Street (behind the Book Exchange) and High Street. Park and Ride rates range from \$45 a month to \$180 per semester with discounts for semester or annual permits. To register for a spot, go to <http://www.busride.org/ParkRide/P&R.htm> or call

Visit the Commuter Student Programs website for information regarding upcoming activities:
www.studentlife.wvu.edu/commuter.html

ARE YOU ON ACADEMIC PROBATION?

*If you are on **academic probation** this semester, Leslie Pinkerton from First-Year Experience will attempt to contact you via your MIX account. Be on the lookout for her messages, or contact Leslie at Leslie.Pinkerton@mail.wvu.edu.*

Valentine's Day Party

Commuter Student Programs will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Thursday, February 14th with a party! The party will be from 11:30AM-1:30PM in the Commuter Lounge, which is located on the first floor of Purinton House in room 101 (on University Avenue, across the street from Stewart Hall). There will be food, drinks, and candy provided, as well as great Valentine's Day fun and games!

If you have any questions, ideas for the party, or if you would like to help decorate the lounge for the party, let Tara know by sending a message to tara.pletcher@mail.wvu.edu!

