

Commuter Connection

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Welcome Back...



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I am excited about this academic year, and I hope you are too. As Commuter Student Programs coordinator, my assistant Tara Pletcher and I are developing lots of activities for commuting students like you for the upcoming year. Each month, Tara and I treat commuters to an evening of "Dinner 'n Bowling." The next outing takes place on Monday, September 29. We will meet at Puglioni's Italian Restaurant at 1137 Van Voorhis Road at 7:30 PM, which will be followed by bowling from 9:00 PM to midnight at Suburban Lanes on Chestnut Ridge Road. Students pay for their own dinners, but Tara and I pay for bowling. You do not have to come to dinner in order to bowl. If you are interested, join our WVU Commuters! group on Facebook and look

for the event announcement.

Another fun event coming up is the annual commuter trip to Kennywood for Phantom Fright Nights on Friday, October 3. We will board the bus at the front of the Mountainlair at 4:45 PM sharp, and the cost of the event is only \$19, which covers transportation, snacks on the bus, and admission to Kennywood for the entire evening. Check out what Kennywood has in store for Phantom Fright Nights at www.phantomfrightnights.com/. Space is limited to 40 students. If you would like to join us, please contact me at brian.walker@mail.wvu.edu or Tara Pletcher at tara.pletcher@mail.wvu.edu as soon as possible. You may also call us at 304-293-5611. You may also add Tara and me as friends on Facebook for more information.

In addition to other types of programming we will be involved in for this year, Tara and I plan at least one community service event per month. For September, we have organized a Commuter Student Programs blood drive with the American Red Cross, taking place at the Student Rec Center on

Tuesday, September 30 from 1:00 to 7:00 PM. If you present to give blood, your University 101 instructor may give you extra credit, which is what Tara and I are doing for our sections of UI01. At any rate, it's a great way to meet new people and to give back to our community. The Red Cross reports that blood supplies are critically low, and we could use your help in increasing availability.

And don't forget to take advantage of the Commuter Lounge, located in Room 101 at Purinton House, just across the street from Clark Hall on University Avenue. Our parties and many of our programs take place in the lounge, and it's a great place to hang out between classes. We have lockers in which you can store your stuff, wireless Internet access, a microwave and refrigerator, comfortable seating, and much more. The lounge is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, so stop in when you have a chance to meet other commuters like you!

Take care,
Brian Walker
Commuter Student Programs Coordinator

Phantom Fright Nights at Kennywood



Commuters at
Kennywood
Phantom Fright
Nights!

*“Education is not
the filling of a
bucket, but the
lighting of a fire.”*

~W.B. Yeats



Clear your calendars for Friday, October 3rd because we are headed to Phantom Fright Nights at Kennywood! Phantom Fright Nights combines the best elements of America’s favorite amusement park with all the fright of Halloween.

During this special fall attraction, we will be able to ride several rides including Phantom’s Revenge, Aero 360, the Jackrabbit and many more, as well as play a variety of games. All while walking

through Haunted Kennywood and encountering ghosts, vampires, and a multitude of other scares.



Right now you’re probably asking yourself “Where do I sign up?” Well, that’s the easy part. You can either sign up in

the Commuter Lounge or by e - mailing me at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu by October 1st. Act fast though because we only have room for 40 people!

We will be leaving from the Mountainlair by charter bus at 5PM on October 3rd and returning to Morgantown at around 3AM. The cost is \$19 and includes transportation, your ticket to the park and snacks on the bus!

Dinner N Bowling

Looking for something to do on a boring Monday night? Come out to Suburban Lanes on Monday, September 29 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!

It’s a great way to relax, meet some new people and have a friendly competition with your friends!

Before bowling, join us for dinner (on you!) at Puglioni’s at 7:30!

If you have any questions,

e mail Tara at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu. We look forward to seeing you at Suburban!



Commuter Profile

This month’s Commuter Profile is on Melissa Rhodes, a freshman from Pt. Marion, Pennsylvania. Melissa, who graduated from Albert-Gallatin high school, commutes to Morgantown on a daily basis.

She is an English major who aspires to be a high school English literature teacher. She balances her school work with a work study job at Elizabeth Moore Hall.

Melissa said the biggest adjustment she has had to make from high school is checking her MIX account and e-mail daily, as well as struggling to get onto eCampus. In addition, she said that her biggest challenges as a commuter are rising gas prices and, if not for her parking permit on the Evansdale campus, parking.

Each day Melissa drives her from Pt. Marion, parks her car in her

assigned spot near the Creative Arts Center and takes the PRT downtown. For late classes, Melissa moves her car to the downtown campus.

As a freshman, Melissa has already gotten involved at West Virginia University and is navigating the changes from high school and the balance of work and school with a sense of humor and a positive outlook.

Blood Drive on September 30!

Commuter Student Programs is sponsoring a blood drive on Tuesday, September 30. The blood drive will be held at the Student Rec Center from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. But only 5 percent 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 GA Tara Pletcher at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu or log onto www.givelife.org using the sponsor code WVUCommuter.

Many students find that the Commuter Lounge is a good place to study.

"An idea can turn to dust or magic, depending on the talent that rubs against it."
~Bill Bernbach

Upcoming Events

September 25	7:00PM	Wall-E \$3 for WVU students	Gluck Theatre
September 26	7:00PM	The Love Guru \$3 for WVU students	Gluck Theatre
September 27	3:30 PM	Football vs. Marshall	Milan Puskar Stadium
September 28	7:00PM	Mountain Stage	Creative Arts Center
September 29	8:30PM	Adventure WV Leadership Info Session	B&E Room 230
September 30	4:00PM	The Prime Mover Problem	Monongahela Room, Mountainlair
Every Wednesday	7:30PM	SGA Meeting *SGA is a great way to get involved & meet student reps!	Mountaineer Room, Mountainlair
Every Friday & Saturday		WVUp All Night	Mountainlair

Commuter Lounge



Studying in the Commuter Lounge

So, you've got some time in between classes and you're looking for a place to relax, beat the heat and meet some new people? I've got just the spot for you!

The Commuter Lounge in Purinton House offers a friendly, relaxing atmosphere and it's the perfect place to unwind during a stressful day.

The Lounge is complete with a microwave, refrigerator, coffee pot,

television and DVD player, as well as tables and comfortable seating. There are also lockers to store your stuff between classes!

We will be having some events and free food in the lounge throughout the semester, which is even more of a reason to stop by!



Commuters getting to know each other at the Pizza Party