WHAT'S UP?...FEBRUARY EVENTS

Thursday, 15: Dinner & a Movie
Meet at Cheddar’s at 5:30pm for dinner and/or Hollywood Theater at 7:00pm for Movie (time depends on movie being seen)

Monday, 19: 4.0 Congratulatory Dinner
All first-year students who received a 4.0 for the Fall semester at WVU have been sent an email about this congratulatory dinner. If you received the email, please RSVP to brian.walker@mail.wvu.edu or call 293-5611 by Friday, February 16

Tuesday, 20: POINK! Chinese New Year Celebration
Join us for a night of Chinese Culture, food and games in the lounge from 5-8pm

Saturday, 24: Polar Plunge (community service)
Our Polar Plunge team will meet at the Commuter Lounge at noon to car pool. Please see the Polar Plunge article to 1) plunge, 2) volunteer, or 3) to sponsor us!

Wednesday, 28: REC ‘n’ SEEK!
Meet at the REC at 6:30pm to play. Cards will be given out to those who ‘play.’ Read the REC ‘n’ Seek article on page 3 to find out more!

STUDENTS with 4.0 GPA
Congratulations to all commuters who worked hard last semester and received a 4.0! As a celebration of their success, all first-year 4.0 commuter students are being treated to a nice sit-down dinner at The Glasshouse Grill located in the Seneca Center.

Brian Walker has already sent an invitational email to which you must RSVP by Friday, February 16. Please contact Brian via email at brian.walker@mail.wvu.edu or by phone at 293-5611 to reserve your seat! Brian will then email all 4.0 students the time of the dinner for Monday, February 19. Congratulations on your success!

COMMUTER KUDOS!

Could you have two jobs, drive forty minutes to school and earn a 4.0? In her first semester as a freshman, Ashley Lake did. Ashley is an outstanding student and individual. Her secret to success is nothing that we have not heard of before. Then what makes this pre-psychology freshman different from all the rest then?

As a mature young adult, she knows that her education is her main priority and that she is working toward her future. She wanted to start her college career off right, which is why she chose not to live in the dorms as this environment would not be beneficial to her academic success. Ashley also stressed that she does her best work at the library or at home because they are both quiet, well lit, and represent learning.

Ashley is a full-time student who works ten hours at the Office of Student Life in addition to ten hours at the Pac Sun retail store each week. She explained that the forty-minute drive to Morgantown gives her time to relax and plan out her night. Staying organized is essential to her busy schedule, and one of her strategies is to have a list on top of each folder, checking off each assignment when completed.

And, of course, Ashley has a social life. Working at the Office of Student Life has kept her involved with WVU, as well as being a member of the Mountaineer Maniacs. She has been with her boyfriend for two years and has a supportive group of friends and family. Congratulations Ashley! You’re an inspiration to us all and we wish you the best of luck for the spring semester.
**LOGO CONTEST**  The Office Student of Commuter Assistance is still looking for a logo design that will represent the commuters. Here are a few reminders:

- Logo should be a visual representation which would appeal to ages 18 and beyond. (Remember, commuters consist of singles and married persons.)
- Logo should be able to be used for multiple publication purposes, such as t-shirts, *The Commuter Connection*, letterhead, flyers/advertisements, etc.
- Personalize to WVU students
- Can be submitted in any format (CD/zip/paper/etc).
- Please turn in a color & a black/white copy (8.5 x 11 or smaller)
- Submissions due Monday, Feb. 12 to Pascha (commuter GA) in Rm 103 of Puritan House from 12-4pm, Mon-Fri or drop in door folder
- Top three entries will be chosen by Student Affairs staff, with top entry to be voted on by commuters.
- Prize: TBA. Oh! but there will be one!

**DEADLINE:** **MONDAY, FEB. 19**

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**SURVEY SAYS!...RESULTS**

With only five responses, there wasn't a wealth of information but definitely noteworthy comments. Here's what is important:

1) **NO KISSING/ MAKING OUT** in the commuter lounge. It is not appropriate, not the place and makes others feel uncomfortable. Thank you.

2) **CLEAN UP your TRASH** in the lounge. There is no janitor or cleaning fairy for your personal trash. Please pick up after yourselves. It is a shared space. Thank you.

3) **Although the Commuter Lounge is a great place to socialize, please be aware if people are trying to study and keep your voice down.** Thank you.

4) It doesn't seem to matter what nights events fall on, so we will try to change up the schedule to include different days in order to accommodate everyone’s schedule.

Please stop by the Commuter Lounge in the Puriton House to pick up a survey. (They are in the mailbox on the long table.) Or print the attached survey with this newsletter, fill it out and return it the Commuter Lounge or to Pascha’s office, Rm 103 ASAP. I would still like to hear your responses.

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**POLAR PLUNGE**  Sat. Feb 24

CCEO: William Whitman  
(plastykman104@aim.com)

Polar Plunge is the February community service activity and supports West Virginia Special Olympics

**Team Members:**

William Whitman (captain)  CJ Nickolo (co-captain)  Katie Arber  Mike Johnson  Pascha Adamo (GA)

We will be plunging ourselves into Cheat Lake to help raise monies for West Virginia Special Olympics. We're dressing up & going all out to represent the commuters!

**Want to join the team?**

Contact William at plastykman104@aim.com

**Want to be sponsor?**

Find a team member and pledge what you can

- **Minimum Team Goal** to Participate: $250
- **Team Goal**: No less than $500

Help us make our goal! Pledge today! Check out www.wvpolarplunge.com for more information or questions or contact William (info above). Thanks!

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**COMMUTER CEO’S (CCEO)**

**Want to be a CCEO?**

It’s easy! Just follow these simple steps:

1. Email Pascha for a list of upcoming events and pick one that interests you.
2. Meet briefly with Pascha to discuss your option and course of action.
3. Work by yourself or get your friends to help.

**Why you should be a CCEO**

1. It’s fun  2. It looks great on a resume  3. You get to meet great people  4. **It’s FUN!!**

For another bonus, CCEO’s will be given special recognition throughout the semester, in the final spring issue of *The Commuter Connection*, and presented with a special award at the Spring Dinner in April (another event to be CCEO of).

Email padamorisa@yahoo.com, or stop by her office Mon-Fri from 12-4pm, Rm 103 Puriton House
**BLUE and SOLD**

Ladies and gentlemen... introducing the (relatively) new WVU Blue and $old website! This website allows you to buy and sell almost anything*. Just log onto http://blueandsold.wvu.edu to register.

It's free and easy! No agonizing bidding times—just find and buy! Join now!

* The sale or trade of textbooks is strictly prohibited on this website. Buyers and sellers connect on this site, but transactions are made off the website.

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**UP ALL NIGHT SCHEDULE**

Don’t have anything to do on Friday or Saturday night? Why not check out WVU’s Up All Night?

Up All Night is a weekend series of events, activities, movies, and food provided by WVU for that little bit of extra fun for YOU! Check out this weekend’s schedule. And for a weekly schedule, go to www.events.wvu.edu and click on WVU Up All Night. This weekend: Casino Royale, Boogeyman for $3; Latin Night, Sat, 2/17, Gluck Theatre, 10pm; or midnight breakfast. Bring your ID!

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**BIG BROTHERS, BIG SISTERS**

Volunteers are needed to be a Big Sister or Big Brother to a local child in need of a friend/mentor, a little extra academic help and some quality time with an adult. That adult could be you. If you are 18 years old, have access to a car (you should—you’re a commuter!), and are willing to spend 2-5 hours a week with a young boy or girl at the Boys and Girls Center, then read on!

Volunteers will have reference checks, criminal background and DMV checks as well as being matched up with a little Brother or Sister based on their likes, dislikes, personality and defining qualities for the best match possible.

Please contact Douglas Harvey at 304-983-2383 ext. 103 or big4kids@labyrinth.net for more information or to sign up to be a Big Sister or Big Brother. Local kids need YOU!
Survey Says!... Please fill out the survey below and return to the Commuter Lounge in Puritan House or copy and email back to padamorisa@yahoo.com. Your input is GREATLY needed and appreciated. Thanks!

Directions: For the following questions please circle (or underline if emailing back) or fill in ALL answers that apply.

Academic Standing:   Freshman    Sophomore  Junior  Senior  Transfer

Age:  17-22  22-26  27-32  33-40  41- +

Commuting distance (in miles):  <5    5-10  11-20  21- 40  41- +

Are you?:   full time      part time

Do you work?  No  Yes        If yes, number of hours or days per week: _________________

Are you (for event planning purposes):   single  married  have children

For events, what nights are best for you (ie, what nights would you come out for an event, either on or off campus)?
    Mon  Tues  Wed  Thurs  Fri  Sat (all day trip)  Sun (night)  Weekend trips

Do you check your MIX account regularly?  No  Yes              (if not, you should check it out)

What is the best way to inform you of upcoming events?  (circle all that apply)
    MIX  Flyers in lounge  word of mouth  Other email address

If you would like to be on the commuter email list for updates on upcoming events or to receive the commuter connection, please write in your email address: __________________________________________

Your comments/concerns/ideas/input, especially concerning what you would like to do this semester:
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________