

top of the hill



DENTAL HYGIENE
75th Anniversary

A TALE OF

Two Chapters

PITTSBURGH



Jay Duffy '69, Head Basketball Coach Jim Crutchfield, Head Football Coach Roger Waialae and Chuck Jeswilkowski '69 are all smiles at the Pittsburgh holiday party.



Carol Frum '60, and Billy Niesslein '08, shown here at last winter's holiday party, catch up on things and enjoy some Hilltop memories.

FLORIDA



Admissions Supervisor Stephanie North, Alumni Director Shane Stack '10 and Development Director Angie Zambito Hill greet longtime WL Administrator Harry and wife, Connie Hein '81, at the Florida Alumni Chapter Reunion last April.



Karen Peterson '63, Linda Babs and Shirley Parry '61, enjoy the Florida Chapter's big spring gathering, held this year in St. Pete's Beach.



Alumni Director Shane Stack, Athletics Maintenance Supervisor Bruce Jochum, Fundraising Consultant Ed Pastilong and Soccer Coach Barry Christmas are shown at Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter's May gathering.



Dinner guests at the Sirata Resort, clockwise from left: Development Director Angie Zambito Hill, Barbara Beck '70, Karen Principe, Rich Glover '63, Leigh McQueen '65, Lou Cardamone '65, Dr. Melvin Sorkowitz '62, Sondra Sorkowitz, Fred Principe '63, David Beck and Alumni Director Shane Stack.

UPDATE YOUR CLASS NOTES:

www.westliberty.edu/alumni/class-notes

SAVE THE DATE - Homecoming:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

- Benefactors Gala ★

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

- Alumni Wall of Honor Breakfast and Induction Ceremony ★

- Dental Hygiene 75th Anniversary Celebration - 9 am,
304.336.8633 for more info.

- Homecoming Parade - 10:30 am

- Alumni and Student Tailgate

- Toppers vs. Urbana, kickoff 1 pm

- Silver Bears Reception + Reunion immediately following game ★★

- All School Reunion, 8pm - 12am, at River City Restaurant, Wheeling ★★

★ By Invitation Only

★★ Please call 304.336.8888 to RSVP.





GRAPHIC NARRATIVE MAJOR

Comics have been in the headlines lots lately due to the popularity of the San Diego Comic-Con gathering and record setting prices for vintage comic books.

West Liberty University begins a graphic narrative major in English this fall that feeds off this comic frenzy, in an academic way.

“Our new major is intended as an interdisciplinary program focused on the study and creation of graphic novels and comics,” said Wally Hastings, professor of English and chairman of the department of Humanities, who is steering the program. “It will prepare students for graduate work or employment as writers, editors, critics or other roles in the publishing and comic book industry.”

The program was developed by the English department, led by then dean of liberal arts now provost, Dr. Brian Crawford. The English professors consulted with the WLL’s College of Art and Communications Dean William Baronak and Associate Professor of Art Brian Fendl to develop the art component. A parallel program for art majors also is in the works.

Currently, the English degree requires three studio art courses, all of which are regularly offered by the art department and two more art courses.

“We are expecting to see lots of interest from our students since many of our art students already plan to work in publishing and are studying graphic design and comic book illustration,” said Baronak.

Several interested students are ready to delve into the comics right now but the English and art professors expect the new major to grow significantly as the year academic year begins.

“We are the first English department to offer this major that we know of, in the world,” said Jeremy Lrance, assistant professor of English and a big fan of the graphic narrative.

Graphic novels have been around for centuries and include drama, adventure, politics, romance and comedy. These stories include superheroes, as well as many average characters, all drawn with a certain style of dramatic graphics to catch the eye.

“The narrative is just as important as the graphics and this is where the English department and academics can step in and use this style novel to study literature,” Hastings said.



SPORTS 2013 HIGHLIGHTS

FOOTBALL



♦ Hilltopper football fans will be treated to the first home night game in Russek Field history. The latest upgrade at Russek Field came over the summer with the installation of a lighting system. The lights come on Oct. 31 when Coach Roger Waialae's football team hosts the University of Charleston in a 7 p.m. kickoff on Halloween Night.

♦ Waialae and his gridders should have more tricks than treats for all 11 opponents this fall as the veteran coach welcomes back a strong nucleus from last year's team, which highlighted the seventh winning season in the past eight years with a pair of wins against regionally-ranked opponents.

♦ Several starters return from an opportunistic defense that led the nation with six interception returns for touchdowns and ranked among the top 10 in interceptions and tackles-for-loss. The offense gained valuable game experience and should get a boost from a solid group of redshirts and a bumper recruiting crop.

♦ "We played very well defensively a year ago," Waialae said, "but we're not just looking to be good again. We have a lot of guys back and we're challenging them to be better. Offensively, we need to do a better job of executing and taking care of the football but the talent is there. It's just a matter of learning to play together and developing a level of trust in each other."



MORE SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS AT
westliberty.edu/toth/sports

SOCCER

♦ Head coach Barry Christmas and the WLU women's soccer team opened some eyes in their first varsity season last fall, picking up the program's first win and first conference win despite playing all their games on the road while construction continued on the West Liberty Soccer Complex adjacent to the north end of campus.

♦ The women's soccer team can't wait to play its first home game at the brand-new West Liberty Soccer Complex, when the Hilltoppers host Chowan (N.C.) at noon, Sept. 7.



Linda Forbes Edwards

50 YEARS IN DENTAL HYGIENE

"Thank you WLU for a great education – for the life-long friends I made there and for my best friend, my wonderful husband!"

When Linda Edwards became a dental hygienist she worked in starched dresses and caps, without surgical gloves or masks, and no ultrasonic instruments. She also stood while working since patient chairs weren't yet designed to allow hygienists to sit.

Recently Edwards marked her 50th year as a registered dental hygienist — just as WLU gets ready to celebrate its 75th Anniversary of the Sarah Whitaker Glass School of Dental Hygiene.

"I've enjoyed my profession and feel blessed to have worked with excellent dentists, staff, faculty and students. I love seeing the results

in Parkersburg till she had a chance to return home and work while preparing to marry her college sweetheart, Dr. David G. Edwards '64, shown above with Linda.

She and Dave married in 1965 and spent the next eight years at WVU except for a one-year move to Sandusky, Ohio, where he taught at the high school. He finished his dental degree in 1973.

Linda found full time employment with Dr. Louis J. Giuliani. The couple chose to remain in the Mountain State near family and to give back to the state that educated them.

Dr. Edwards has been in practice in

Dr. Dianne Forbes took over the practice. Dr. Forbes' grandfather-in-law was also a dentist. Dr. Edwards' brother, Dr. Richard C. Edwards, spent his career in the U.S. Navy as a periodontist. He has a son who is a dentist, as was his father-in-law who practiced in Wellsburg!

"I think there must be a 'dental gene' in our families!" she said.

Nationally, dental hygiene marks its 100th year as a profession in 2013. WLU's program began in 1938, but might not have made it without the special efforts of President Paul Elbin and Director Roxie Stitzer, according to Edwards.

"I THINK THERE MUST BE A 'DENTAL GENE' IN OUR FAMILIES!"

of my work as patients become healthier, smile without being self-conscious and feel at ease through dental education and TLC," she said.

A native of New Martinsville, W.Va., she began college in 1960 as an elementary education major. Going home on weekends, she spent time with her brother, Dr. Bruce Forbes (also an alum), who had just opened his dental practice. It wasn't long before she decided to change her major.

She completed her two-year degree in 1963, and her bachelor's degree in 1964. That included 15 weeks of student teaching at Clay Elementary School, examining children's mouths by the light of a window!

Since West Virginia didn't offer employment for a hygienist in the school system at the time, she began clinical practice

Wellsburg for 40 years. He has taught part time at the WVU School of Dentistry and is currently serving a second five-year term on the state Board of Dentistry. Together, this couple continues to offer the best in dental care.

"We built a new office in 1992, which makes going to work a pleasure!" she added.

Linda was an adjunct instructor in the WLU department of dental hygiene for nine years. While teaching, she completed a master's from WVU in communications. She returned to private practice in 1987 and still works part time. Two other hygienists in the Edwards' practice also are WLU alums.

Linda and Dave both come from families of dentists. Her brother, Dr. Bruce W. Forbes, practiced for 50 years in New Martinsville, until his untimely death in 2012. His daughter,

"When the first class completed their studies, the school had not been accredited and the students were not going to be able to take board exams for licensure so they prevailed upon the accreditation agency to examine the program before making their decision. It was the only program in the country at the time not associated with a school of dentistry," she said.

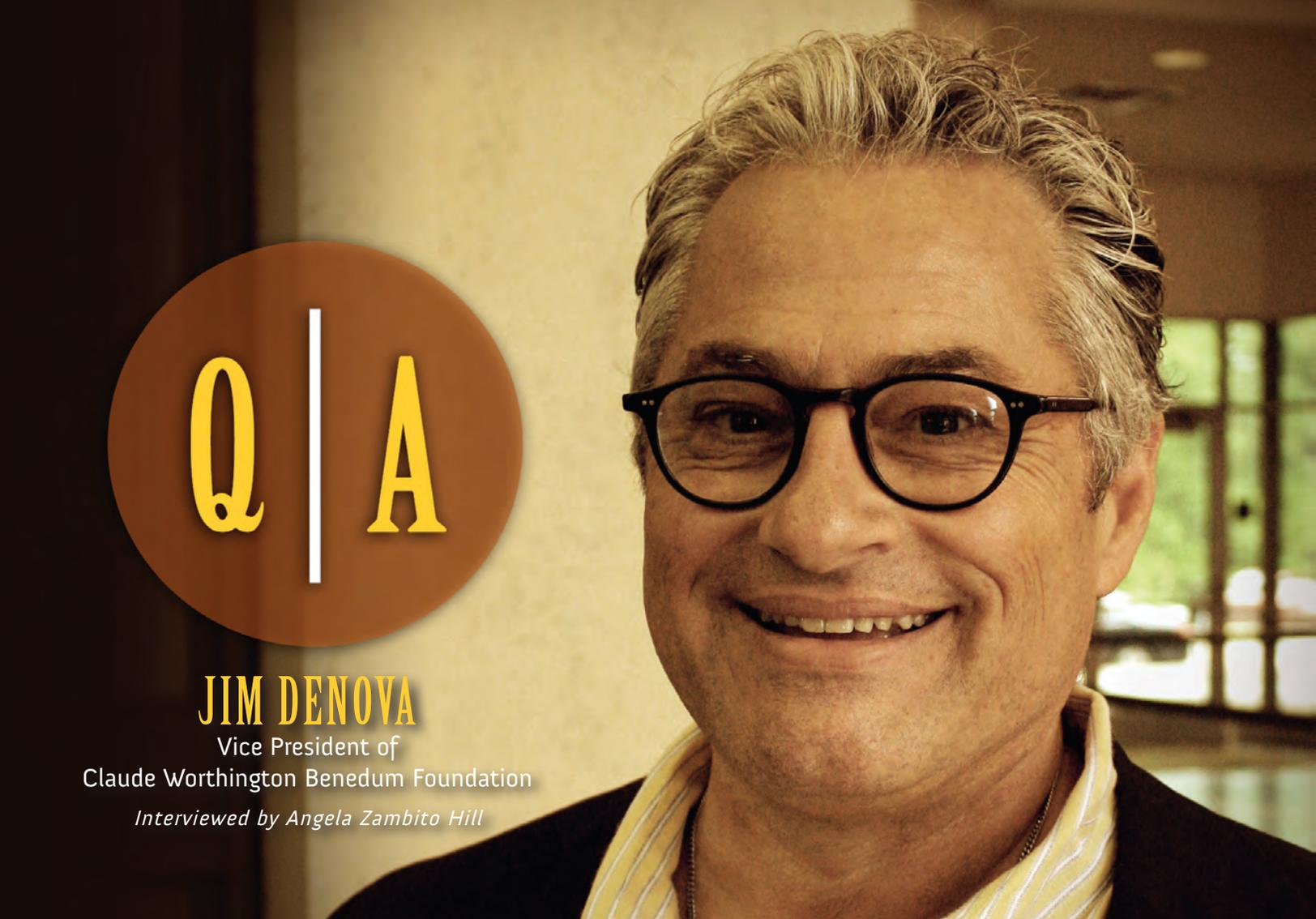
"If not for their persistence, the program would probably have ceased," Edwards said.

"If you like attention to detail, working "up close and personal" with people, and enjoy using your hands and your heart as well as your brain, take a serious look at one of the best programs in the country," she said. "WLU graduates get good jobs.



DENTAL HYGIENE CELEBRATION

- ✦ Alumni Mary Kay Scaramucci, Cathy Seckman, Connie Kuntupis and Marie George present Friday, Oct. 18, for seven hours of Continuing Education at the White Palace, Wheeling.
- ✦ DH Alumni Brunch, Saturday, Oct. 19, ASRC Boyle Room after Homecoming Parade.



Q | A

JIM DENOVA

Vice President of

Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

Interviewed by Angela Zambito Hill

ANGIE: Please share a little of the history of the Foundation.

JIM DENOVA: It was founded in 1944 by oil and gas entrepreneur Michael Benedum and his wife Sarah, both West Virginians, to memorialize their son, Claude, who died in 1918 at age 20. They expressed the wish that grantmaking be focused in West Virginia and Pittsburgh, their native and adopted homes. The Foundation has authorized grants totaling over \$380,000,000 over the years.



ANGIE: What does the Benedum Foundation support and why?

JIM: Two-thirds go to West Virginia and one-third to Pennsylvania to honor our founders wishes. In W.Va., we focus on education, health and human services, community and economic development. In Pa., it's education and economic development.



ANGIE: Since 2002, the Benedum Foundation has graciously given \$1,672,979 to the WLU Foundation, making Benedum our largest all-time private foundation donor! What makes WLU appealing?

JIM: A lot of colleges have tremendous academic resources, but WLU combines academic rigor with community service in a very agile and flexible way. Part of WLU's success with Benedum is that it's open to new ideas and welcomes new partnerships, like recent partnerships with Carnegie Mellon University and the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh.

ANGIE: What kind of WLU programming do you fund?

JIM: Projects in the College of Education are attractive because of its strong presence in the PreK-12 educational system. Your professional development school network, in particular, is a wonderful laboratory for innovation and applied research. The WLU Center for Arts & Education is a successful model of applied research and teacher training that aligns strongly with Benedum's integration of arts and STEM education.



ANGIE: What's your favorite part of your job?

JIM: Getting to meet a variety of interesting people and hear about new ideas. Since Foundation staff generally encounters a lot of organizations that may not naturally connect with one another, we have a rather unique opportunity to forge partnerships. This is particularly true for the Benedum Foundation in regard to interstate partnerships. We can connect public institutions across state lines. We try to use our funds for the kind of regional collaboration that most institutions cannot undertake with public funding.

Thank You Benedum Foundation!



ANGIE'S HILL

Angela Zambito Hill, Director of Development

It is with great pride and gratitude that I'm happy to report that Fiscal Year 2013 was WLU's most successful fundraising year of all time!

Fiscal Year 2013 Highlights:

- ✦ Total Raised - \$4.1 Million
- ✦ 316 New Donors
- ✦ Nine New "Major Donors" (gifts of \$5,000 or more)
- ✦ 758 Alumni Donors Totaling \$2.6 Million
- ✦ 131 Corporate or Foundation Donors Totaling \$993,000
- ✦ 102 Employee Donors (32 percent of all staff!)

With your help we've now set a high bar for Fiscal Year 2014. Yet we are confident that we can have another successful year and look forward to continuing our growing relationship with our alumni and friends.

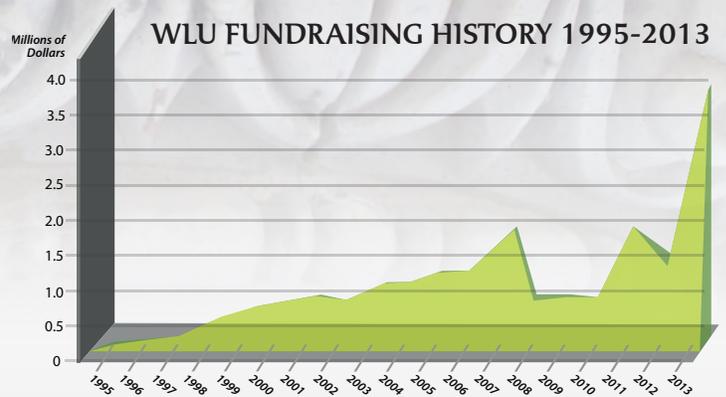
As the *Capital Campaign for a Great University* heads into its second year we will continue to focus on funding projects like Campbell Hall of Health Sciences, Kelly Theatre and Russek Field.

However, there is an area of opportunity that alumni are encouraged to help with: our alumni giving percentage is just 4.2 percent. In order to secure much larger gifts for capital needs,

Foundations and other major donors want to know the commitment of our constituency and this number is highlighted in grant applications and fundraising requests.

Gifts of \$50, \$25 or even \$1 will grow our alumni participation percentage. We humbly ask for your support!

Again – thank you for all that you do! We hope to see you on the Hilltop soon!



WEST LIGHTS *the Night*

Thanks to the generosity of alumnus **GARY E. WEST '58**, the athletic department will have artificial lighting at historic Russek Field for the 2013 football season.

"We are grateful to Gary for his ongoing support and expect this gift of lighting to add a whole new dimension to our football program. Our players, coaches, fans, campus and the entire community thank him for his gift. It will add dramatically to the experience of both the fans and student-athletes," said President Robin C. Capehart.

Russek Field features a MondoTurf playing surface and seats 4,000 fans.

The lighting represents phase two of the football stadium upgrades funded by West, since the turf, installed in 2008, also was a West gift. This new project is expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$500,000.

"This benefits many teams, individuals and groups besides football athletes. The campus community benefits tremendously. We

thank Gary for his ongoing generosity," said Athletic Director Jim Watson. "This allows practice in the evening, which is important with class schedules."

The construction firm selected after bidding the lighting project was Plavchak Construction Company, Jefferson Hills, Pa. The lighting system is designed by Musco Lighting, Canonsburg, Pa.

"The addition of new lighting will give us more options when planning our season. This year we'll play our first night game on Halloween — when we take on the Charleston Golden Eagles," said Head Football Coach Roger Waialae, now entering his ninth season leading the Hilltoppers. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

The 2013 season marks the 88th year of intercollegiate football and the Hilltoppers' first season of competition as a charter member of the NCAA's newest Division II all-sports league, the Mountain East Conference. To follow Hilltopper athletics, visit hilltoppersports.com.



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SAVE the DATE!
 October 19th is Homecoming •

Topper **SPOTLIGHT**



READ MORE ABOUT FEATURED ALUMNI AT
westliberty.edu/toth/spotlight



JESSICA CRIGHTON '13

Just a few months post graduation and this alumna has found her dream job! She's now working in London, England, as digital media assistant for the University of Hertfordshire, England. With her degree in Digital Media Design, she works in a field that uses her education, technical skills and natural creativity.



CURTIS JOHNSON '81

His name is synonymous with jazz. His saxophone skills made him one of the region's best-known musicians, performing both solo and with orchestras like the West Virginia Symphony, the Wheeling Symphony and the Pittsburgh Symphony. He's also backed some of the biggest names in the business, including icons Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin and current artist Landau Eugene Murphy, Jr.



KIM NUZUM LAWRENCE '75

After 25 years of working in educational public relations, Kim volunteered on a political campaign and has never looked back. Her 180-degree professional about-face has been exhilarating for her and for Rainmaker Media Group, a Charleston, W.Va., ad agency. She's a recognized and respected name in the region and brings her own special flair to her work everyday.