



OFFICIAL UC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER / March 2024 / VOLUME V ISSUE III



Dear Alumni and Friends,

One word comes to mind as I think about what transpired at UC in the past month – *grateful*. In February, we held our 6th Give for Gold event and once again, our alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends donated to help us reach our goal. The 2024 Give Day project was to renovate the breezeway that connects Riggelman Hall and Geary Student Union. Your generosity was inspiring along with your desire to leave your mark on campus by purchasing engraved bricks as part of the project. We can't wait to see the final product when we dedicate the space and walkway during Homecoming 2024.

Although we are in the second half of the spring semester, we have many exciting events available to attend at UC. These include business speakers, athletic competitions, scholarship appreciation lunches, and more. Please check our website for upcoming events and join us.

My sincere thanks for everything you do to support our students, faculty, staff and the institution of the University of Charleston to continue to strive and achieve excellence.

Gail Carter

VP of Development



## UC Alumnus Memorialized in a Special Way

Nancy LeFevre ('74) passed away on January 19, 2023. Nancy gave 47 years of service to Kanawha County Schools as a passionate elementary school educator and served for 50 years on the Board of Directors of Camp Caesar's Physical Education Conference. To honor Nancy, her friends, Kathy Stout and Kathy Houchins, worked with the UC

Advancement Office to create a fundraiser that would benefit current UC education students.

This week, Nancy's friends and family were on campus to pass out physical education equipment kits to UC students. These kits were filled with a variety of physical education equipment and will be used when our education students are in the field for their student teaching experiences.

"Nancy was a wonderful elementary education teacher and always tried to incorporate physical education into her lessons. She would be very proud to know these items have been donated in her name," said Suzy Summers.

"This has been a wonderful way to honor Nancy's memory and we really appreciate everything UC has done to make this possible, it's very special," said John, Nancy's husband and Golden Eagle alumnus, class of 1975.

If you wish to contribute to this fund to purchase more items for the UC Education Department, click [HERE](#).

Pictured below left to right are Suzy Summers, Kathy Houchins, Kathy Stout, Tim Ferrell (former student raised, in part, by Nancy), and John LeFevre.





### **Bricks are still available!**

With over 200 bricks already named, the walkway in between Riggelman Hall and Geary Student Union will now be a very special place filled with names of alumni and friends. If you would like to leave a little legacy in this way, please follow the link below. Funds donated to name a brick will be allocated to the Breezeway renovation project slated to take place this summer.

**[Buy a Brick HERE!](#)**

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



### **Jim Holland, '80**

Jim Holland, a native of Dunbar, WV, had a long 30-year tenure working in and around baseball offices throughout southern West Virginia. He is best known for his successful 24-season career (1992-2015) as the General Manager of MLB affiliated Appalachian League professional baseball teams in Princeton, WV. Those 24 seasons in Princeton saw him operating rookie level teams for the Cincinnati Reds five seasons (1992-96) and the Tampa Bay Rays 19 seasons (1997-2015). A total of 84 future major league players were on his Princeton teams during that time.

In 1993, in only his second season at Princeton, he was named the Appalachian League Executive of the

Year for that season. He is still the only person in Appalachian League history to be a five-

time winner of the Appalachian League Award of Promotional Excellence. His career in the pros culminated with him receiving the Appalachian League President's Award in 2015 for his long-term service to the league. He was Corporate Secretary of the Appalachian League from 2002-2012 and a former member of the league's executive committee. He was also named by the Princeton-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce as its 2012 "Citizen of the Year." His other two stops in baseball front office work were during the 1991-92 seasons with the Huntington (WV) Cubs of the Appalachian League plus being Director of Marketing, Sales, and Game Day Operations four seasons (2016-2019) with the West Virginia Miners (located in Beckley, WV) of the summer collegiate Prospect League.

Jim has been honored in two Hall of Fames. He was part of the 2019 induction class for the West Virginia Sports Legends / Artie Museum and, also in 2019, he was selected for the Appalachian League Hall of Fame. In early 2020, Jim announced his upcoming retirement from baseball administration with his final day on the job being May 15, 2020. He is a 1976 graduate of Dunbar (WV) High School, where he was a two-sport letterman. He graduated Cum Laude with a B.A. in Mass Communications from UC in 1980. He was the Sports Editor for the UC student newspaper during his senior school year. Jim now resides in Mercer County, WV with his wife Judy. They are very proud of their son, Warren Hypes, who is Vice President of Creative and Brand for the Tampa Bay Rays in St. Petersburg, FL.



Jim has written a book titled "My Fortunate Detour" and was recently back on campus as the guest speaker for the UC Builder's March Luncheon. The UC Builders was established as the Women Builders by President Leonard Riggelman in 1954. In 1990, the organization welcomed men to its membership and voted to adopt the name University of Charleston Builders. President Marty Roth values the members as builders of the vision and promoters of the image and growth of the University.

The UC Builders have been critical to the continued growth of the University, having donated more than \$400,000 over its history for various projects. Members annual dues fund projects that help improve the quality of life for students. The projects have ranged from intellectual stimulation such as the



purchase of library books and computer software to physical comforts such as the redecoration of the Student Lounge, Frankenberger Art Gallery, the Appalachian Room, as well as scholarships for deserving students, and much more.

This group plans seven luncheon meetings each year, focusing on authors and artists with West Virginia connections. Membership of the UC Builders helps to continue a strong organization that works to uphold the high standards and reputation of the University as well as contribute to the community of Charleston, West Virginia.

To make a reservation or become a member, contact Christina Carr 304-357-4734, [christinacarr@ucwv.edu](mailto:christinacarr@ucwv.edu) or download the [UC Builders Membership Brochure](#).



TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024  
8:00-9:30 am | UC Downtown Innovation Hub  
**MONIKA JAENSSON**  
Attorney and Owner, Jaensson Law  
PROTECTING AND LEVERAGING  
YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
Breakfast & free registration is required  
seating is limited to 20 attendees

Monika Jaensson, attorney and owner of Jaensson Law, will be our next speaker as we offer the second "Fresh Start Breakfast" speaker event. It will take place on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at the Downtown Innovation Hub.

Jaensson will discuss "Protecting and Leveraging Your Intellectual Property."

She has been a leading advocate in intellectual property matters for over 30 years, representing businesses and individuals before the US Patent and Trademark Office, US Copyright Office, and federal/state courts. She specializes in patent trademark and copyright law, guiding innovators to strategically safeguard their proprietary advancements globally.

The event is free, thanks to Huntington Bank, but registration is required as seating is limited. Breakfast will be served.

**[RSVP for the Fresh Start Breakfast HERE](#)**



**The UC Honors College will again host a half marathon and 5k** this spring on Sunday, April 7. The half marathon will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the 5k will start at 8:45 a.m. The course is certified by USA Track and Field. Proceeds from the event go to supporting student initiatives.

The UC Honors College welcomes volunteers to work the marathon, if you are interested in donating your time, please contact Christina Carr, [christinacarr@ucwv.edu](mailto:christinacarr@ucwv.edu) or 304-357-4734.

**[Register for the UC Half Marathon HERE](#)**



# Athletics

## CORNER



### Welcome, Coach Leiby!!

Sarah Leiby has been named our new head coach of our women's soccer program. "I am pleased to announce that Sarah Leiby has been selected as the next head coach for our university's women's soccer team," stated Dr. Stevens. "Sarah brings strong leadership abilities, exceptional emotional

intelligence, and a wealth of experience in the sport which makes her an ideal fit to lead one of our top athletic programs. Additionally, Coach Leiby holds multiple USSF teaching licenses that will enable her to deliver high-quality training sessions to our student-athletes." Read more about Sarah [HERE](#).

**Congratulations, Coach Osborne, on your FOURTH MEC Coach of the Year Title!**

This season, Coach Osborne has led our Men's Basketball team to a MEC Regular Season Championship. The men and women basketball teams will play in the MEC tournament in Wheeling this weekend.

Good luck, Golden Eagles!



**[View a full UC Athletics Schedule HERE.](#)**



All Golden Eagles are invited to participate in the Golden Eagle March Madness Bracket Challenge presented by the UC Alumni Association!

Please click the link below to register to participate and look for an email with additional information coming soon!

[Register to submit a bracket \*\*HERE!\*\*](#)

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# SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY  
MAY 18  
OCEANPORT, NJ



\$25

Includes admission,  
parking,  
program, and  
refreshments.

GOLDEN EAGLE  
ALUMNI GATHERING  
MONMOUTH PARK RACE TRACK

[RSVP for this event HERE!](#)

# JOIN TODAY!

# UC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The 2023-2024 NEW UCAA Swag has arrived!! Now is the time to join and renew your membership.



The UC Alumni Association is a great way to stay engaged, help plan alumni events, network with other alumni, and give back from wherever your wings have taken you!



**The Gold Level** requires a \$100 membership donation and includes a decal, key chain, tumbler, invitations to special VIP events, discounts, and more.

**The Gold Renewal** requires a \$100 membership donation and includes alumni tote, holiday ornament, invitations to special VIP events, discounts, and more.

**The Maroon Level** requires a \$25 membership donation and includes our decal, alumni koozie, invitations to special events, discounts, and more.

**The Maroon Renewal** requires a \$25 membership donation and includes an alumni holiday ornament, invitations to special events, discounts, and more.

**The next UCAA Zoom Meeting will be THURSDAY, April 11th @ 4:00 pm EST.**

**[Click HERE to join or renew TODAY!](#)**

**Thank you to those who joined or renewed their membership this past month - Nishelle Denson**

## ***In Memorium***

***Remembering Golden Eagle Alumni who have passed away in the last month.***

Lloyd Bowne, '66

Nick Ciccarello, Jr., '54

William Workman, '67

William "Bill" Curry, '68

Eloise Canada, '68

Dorothy Halstead

**Please note: This list includes updates provided by family members, newspapers, and other sources. These dates reflect the period during which UC received and processed the information, not necessarily the dates that the individual passed away.**



You're invited to campus!

**March 12** - Inspiring Innovation Speaker Series at the Downtown Innovation HUB, with special speaker, **Monika Jaensson, Attorney and Owner, Jaensson Law.** RSVP [HERE](#)

**March 27** - Builders Luncheon with guest author Stewart O'Nan. RSVP [HERE](#)

**April 3** - Spring Into UC Days, an open house event for high school students interested in attending UC. - Register [HERE](#).

**April 7** - UC Half Marathon and 5K - Register [HERE](#).

**April 14** - Alumni Gathering at the UC Men's Soccer vs West Virginia University game. More details to come!

**For a full UC Athletic schedule, click [HERE](#).**

# SAVE THE DATE



UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON

# HOMECOMING

AND FAMILY WEEKEND

SEPT.  
20-21

# 2024

CELEBRATE TRADITION.  
CREATE NEW MEMORIES.



# LET'S KEEP

# IN TOUCH

Have you recently changed jobs? Did you and your family make a big move? Do you have exciting news to share with your alumni family? We want to hear about it! Update your alumni record so that we can share your successes with the rest of the Golden Eagle family. Keep soaring to new heights!

**Update Your Information HERE**



Gail Carter

Christina Carr

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Director of Alumni Relations

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