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BELL TOWER LAKE HOLLIFIELD

BREAKING NEW GROUND

Lake Hollifield Bell Tower Project Underway

A July 30th groundbreaking ceremony on the GWU campus for the new Lake Hollifield bell tower will remain significant for several reasons.

The occasion marked the anniversary of the death of Wyndolyn and Hughy Hollifield's only son, Forrest, who died in combat in Vietnam. The ceremony was also the first chance Mrs. Hollifield had to return to GWU since Hughy Hollifield's death in May.

But while this Tuesday morning could have been a sorrowful time, the focus was shifted to what was an event of celebration. Guests gathered on a knoll overlooking the majestic Lake Hollifield to witness the beginning of something special. A tower, complete with a system of bells called a carillon that can be played electronically or manually, will soon stand for all to see and hear. And the ground on which it will be erected has now been officially broken.

In what some guests called an amazingly short amount of time, the goal for completion of the tower was set by Dr. Chris White, and later affirmed by the construction company's president, as November. "Wouldn't it be glorious to have these bells playing in victory after the November 16th game against Mars Hill?" White asked the crowd.

With an artist's rendering of the tower at his side, White pointed out that it was designed in three very distinct

sections. The top of the structure that houses a massive clock is a replica of the most visible part of the old Huggins-Curtis building, which decades ago before it burned was the main building on campus, featuring dorm rooms, offices, classrooms and a cafeteria. This, the president noted, represents the past.

The ground-level section of the tower has integrated into its architecture a miniature version of the arched window that is seen on the front of Noel Hall,

the newest building on campus that is home to the School of Divinity. Naturally, White said, this is symbolic of the present.

The middle portion of the structure features the carillon. Literally tons of bells will hang here to ring out on any number of occasions. As the Gardner-Webb community eagerly awaits hearing the soothing sounds of the carillon for years to come, Dr. White explained that this represents the future.

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The ceremony gave the opportunity for various individuals to note just what this day meant to them. On behalf of the students, SGA president Michael Mustian eloquently stated, "The commitment you have shown, Mrs. Hollifield, is about the faith and love that will surely continue the level of excellence we as students have become accustomed to at Gardner-Webb. While other schools may have more students or more famous names attached to it, our school has its people. And, Mrs. Hollifield, you are one of those very special people."

Dr. Terry Fern, chair of the Department of Fine Arts, added on behalf of the faculty, "Through this gift you have chosen to improve the world around us, and we thank you. I assure you that the faculty and students will always have occasion to honor and remember you and Mr. Hollifield."



Wyndolyn Hollifield is joined by members of the GWU and Boiling Springs communities to begin the bell tower project.

Set To Dedicate The Country's Most Modern Bell Tower

Students, faculty and staff will gather on the Lake Hollifield complex next week to dedicate the newly completed bell tower. The benefactor, Mrs. Wyndolyn Hollifield, will return to campus for the

event on April 25th, which is also her birth day. The carillon rang for the first time in December when Mrs. Hollifield was again in attendance. The sound of bells has been heard across campus ever

since. Considered the most advanced in the world, the carillon has 48 bells overlooking the lake.

Lunch for students and attendees will follow the 11:00 a.m. program.

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