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Office of University
Communications

September 4, 2015

Weekend to Offer Activities for University Family and Community Members

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—Gardner-Webb will welcome alumni and university friends to campus Oct. 9-10 for a 2015 Homecoming weekend filled with events that celebrate achievements, mark new milestones and offer fun for the entire family.

“Homecoming is our alumni’s chance to relive the memories of their Gardner-Webb days and make a few new memories along the way,” shared Leah Clevenger, director of GWU Alumni Relations. “Our schedule this year has a few long-established events, as well as several new offerings.”

Activities begin on Friday, Oct. 9, when the GWU Alumni Association gathers some of the University’s longest-tenured alums to induct members of the Class of 1965 into the Half-Century Club during a noon luncheon. The day’s festivities also include the afternoon Homecoming Golf Tournament at nearby River Bend YMCA Golf Course, as well as the evening induction of the 2015 class into the GWU Athletic Hall of Fame.

Saturday’s events will get off to a running start at 9 a.m. with the Color Dash 5K. In the afternoon, former students and their guests are invited to the dedication of the University’s new David and Marie Brinkley Softball Stadium. Activities at the stadium will include a softball exhibition.

To celebrate the outstanding career, service, university advancement, integrity and character accomplishments of Gardner-Webb graduates, the alumni association will induct nine new members into the GWU Gallery of Distinguished Alumni during an invitation-only reception at 5 p.m. The entire university family and community are invited to attend the 2015 Homecoming Parade along Stadium Drive at 6 p.m.

“We hope that alumni will plan to spend the day with us on Saturday, Oct. 10,” Clevenger invited. “With a nighttime football game this year on Homecoming, we have been able to add three new events in the afternoon—touring residence halls on campus, the Reunion for the Decades, and the Pup Zone for kids.”

Alums will have an opportunity to tour their former residence halls and then gather with faculty, staff and fellow classmates for refreshments and conversation. “The Pup Zone will be offered at the same time as the reunion to offer a fun and safe atmosphere for children,”

Clevenger explained. “These activities are designed to get children ready for game day. They can have their faces painted, create signs and noise-makers, and burn some energy learning about football.”

In addition to Gardner-Webb’s 7 p.m. Homecoming football game versus Liberty University in Spangler Stadium, the Runnin’ Bulldogs volleyball team takes on Winthrop at 2 p.m. and the women’s soccer team battles Longwood at 7 p.m.

“While on campus, we hope alumni will reunite with classmates and reconnect with their alma mater,” Clevenger encouraged. “There’s no better time to come home to Gardner-Webb than now.”

For complete information about all 2015 Gardner-Webb Homecoming events, visit gardner-webb.edu/homecoming2015.

Key Homecoming Events

Friday, Oct. 9

- Noon Induction of Class of 1965 into GWU Half-Century Club
- 1 p.m. Homecoming Golf Tournament at River Bend YMCA Golf Course
- 6:30 p.m. Athletic Hall of Fame Reception and Banquet

Saturday, Oct. 10

- 9 a.m. Color Dash 5K
- 1 p.m. David and Marie Brinkley Softball Stadium dedication and softball exhibition
- 2 p.m. GWU Volleyball vs. Winthrop University—Paul Porter Arena, LYCC
- 3 p.m. Residence hall tours
- 3:30 p.m. GWU Pup Zone activities for children
- 4-7 p.m. Reunion of the Decades for alumni to connect with university friends
- 5 p.m. Gallery of Distinguished Alumni reception
- 6 p.m. Homecoming parade along Stadium Drive
- 7 p.m. Homecoming football game versus Liberty University

Auxiliary aids will be made available to persons with disabilities upon request 48 hours prior to the event. Please call 704.406.4253 or email

servicerequests@gardner-webb.edu with your request.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University's purpose is to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education by preparing graduates for professional and personal success, instilling in them a deep commitment to service and leadership, and equipping them for well-rounded lives of lasting impact, Pro Deo et Humanitate (For God and Humanity).