

View from the Valley

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Table of Contents

PAGE 3 — Valley Briefs

PAGE 4 — Baseball field named Fournier Field

PAGE 5 — WVC programs swap places

PAGE 6 — In-person commencement a success

PAGE 7 — Archers continue to hit their mark

PAGE 8 — Upward Bound staff to present at COE

PAGE 9 — Giving Information

“The key to pursuing excellence is to embrace an organic, long-term learning process, and not to live in a shell of static, safe mediocrity. Usually, growth comes at the expense of previous comfort or safety.”

— Josh Waitzkin



Valley Briefs



WVC plans to use remaining IGEN funds for LED lights

WVC's 255 Committee was approved to incorporate upgrades to the soccer field and IS lab and smaller projects to exhaust the excess and contingency funds from the solar array IGEN grant.



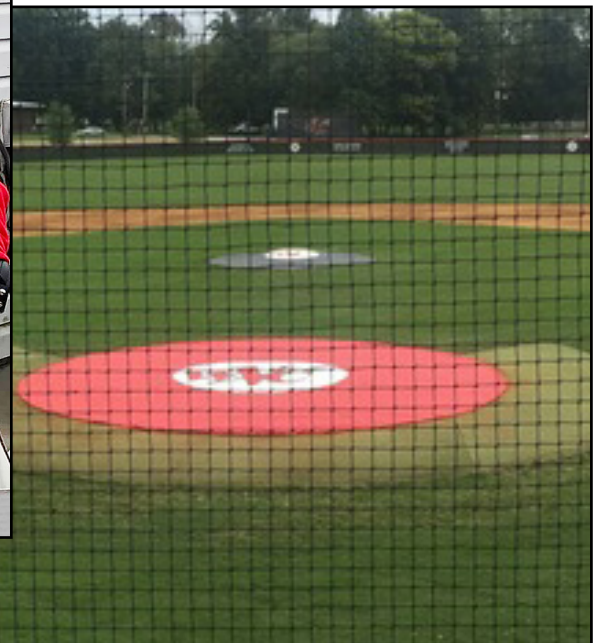
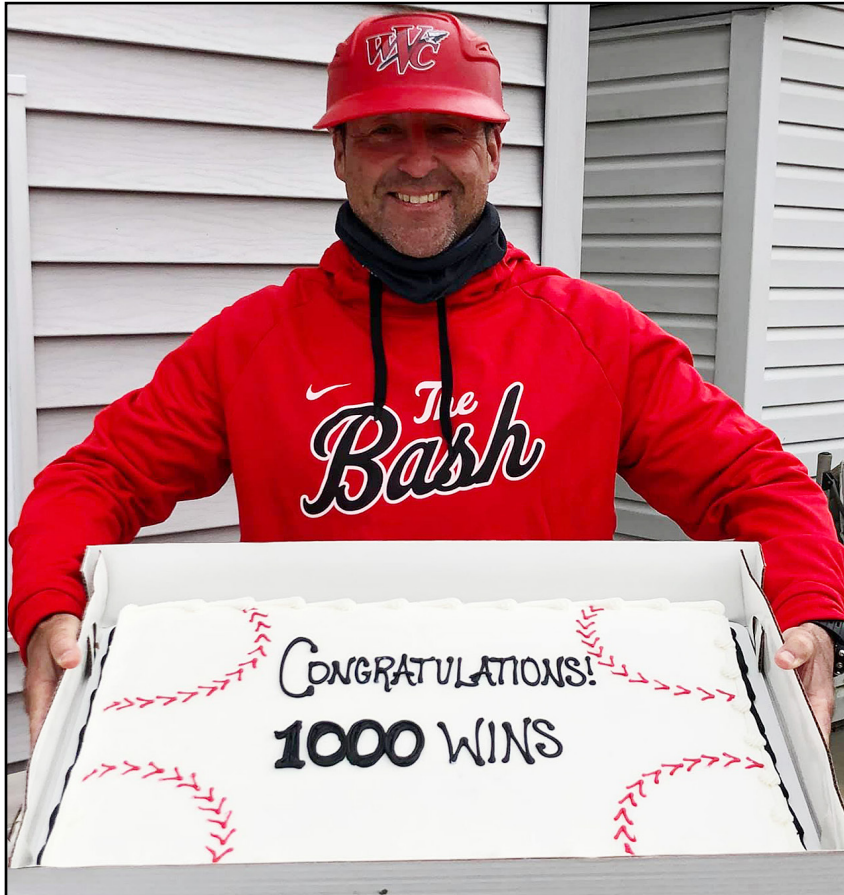
Solar Savings Update

To date, WVC's new solar array has saved 17,000 pounds of CO2 emissions. This reduction is the equivalent of over 127 trees being planted.

“Those people who develop the ability to continuously acquire new and better forms of knowledge that they can apply to their work and to their lives will be the movers and shakers in our society for the indefinite future.”

– Brain Tracy

WVC's baseball field dubbed Fournier Field



Earlier this year, WVC Head Baseball Coach Rob Fournier won his 1,000th game – all of which he won while coaching at WVC. To honor him, the administration decided to name the WVC baseball field “Fournier Field”.

Fournier was certainly surprised. He later sent out the following thank you message:

“Thank you for all your support this season! I am especially grateful to everyone who

worked on the field naming ceremony, particularly AD Mike Carpenter and President Fowler. It may have been the biggest surprise of my life! I’m incredibly humbled by this honor.

I’d like to give a special thanks to Paul Schnarre, who gave a 23-year-old kid from California the opportunity to become head coach of this wonderful program. I will be forever grateful for his encouragement and belief in me.”

Several programs switch places as program offerings grow



WVC is making necessary changes to accommodate both its burgeoning PTA program and its Adv. Manufacturing program's move back to campus. These changes are happening this summer.

On May 11, the President's Council met and proposed moving Small World, previously located in the Science Building, to the International Building. The International program would move to Main Hall 121.

International moved to the former Fitness Center on June 7 while Main Hall 121 is being made ready. Small World moved into the International Building the week of June 14.

The Physical Therapy Assistant program will be moving into Small World's former space, and the Advanced Manufacturing program will be moving into the space formerly occupied by the pool.

WVC's in-person graduation a success



WVC held an in-person graduation on May 14, 2021, in the Spencer Sports Center. Attendance was limited to 500 guests. Masks were required for entrance into the ceremony.

The ceremony was conducted pursuant to the guidelines set forth by local, state and federal authorities. WVC conferred 179 degrees and certificates during the ceremony, with more than half of the graduates deciding to walk in the ceremony.

The college did take a number of extra steps to ensure the safety of its community members, graduates, faculty and staff at commencement.

In addition to limiting the number of guests, WVC spaced out the graduates and guest seating per CDC guidelines. The college also used pre-recorded music for the processional and recessional and recorded the various awards that would typically be presented during the ceremony.

WVC Archery Warriors continue hitting their mark



At the end of May, WVC competed in the 2021 Collegiate Target Nationals.

The Warriors were up against some large competitors as well, facing off against Texas A&M, Union College, and James Madison University, just to name a few.

Six of WVC's eight archers made it through the first elimination round. Three of those six made it through the second elimination round and shot in the Top 8 of their classes the next day.

Sydney Jones and Dillon Thompson took 2nd place in the mens and women's mixed team, and Jalyn Shoemaker took 6th in women's Bowhunter. Dillon and Jalyn earned All American awards.

Archery Coach Earl Lawrence was proud, "We finished 9th out of 30. We are the only 2-year college in the Top 10; I think there was only one other 2-year college in the 30 schools who completed. I can't say enough how proud I am of these kids and want to thank everyone who helps make it possible."

WVC's TRIO Upward Bound staff selected as presenters at COE



The TRIO Upward Bound staff at WVC were selected to present at the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

According to its website, the COE is a nonprofit organization, established in 1981, dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities for low-income, first-generation students, and students with disabilities in all 50 states. The Council works in conjunction with colleges & universities to help low-income students enter college and graduate.

The COE conference features discussions on new trends in college access and retention and connects college leaders to proven best practices that will improve local colleges.

This year, WVC's TRIO Upward Bound staff will be presenting at the conference. Their topic will cover recruitment strategies, their experiences, and will help others develop a plan to reach students.

Congratulations to Tosha Baker, Jonathan Leach, and Brady Martin!

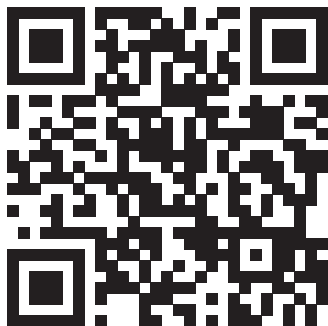
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As boundaries that have separated nations, cultures and individuals continue to dissolve, the role of education has become vital in equipping students for the changes and challenges that lie ahead.

We at Wabash Valley College understand that building a firm educational foundation that meets the demands of our world requires the support of our community.

We are able to provide excellence and accessibility in education, undertake innovative endeavors, dedicate ourselves to student learning and enhance higher education's role in public life because of our donors.

We would like you to partner with us in that endeavor. Call the college at 618-262-8641 or scan the QR code below to learn more about donating to WVC.



WVC