Record number of students anticipated this fall

The WCU community is making preparations to welcome what is expected to be a record number of students for the start of fall semester classes on Monday, Aug. 18. The new academic year also ushers in changes in campus dining, parking and shopping.

WCU named ‘top adventure college’ in outdoor magazine poll

Results from an online poll have been tallied, and WCU has been announced as the No. 1 college for outdoor adventure in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic by a leading outdoors magazine.

‘Big Birthday Bash’ to celebrate WCU’s 125th year set for Aug. 26

The free event will include games, music, prizes and a picnic on the lawn featuring barbecue, hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, watermelon, funnel cakes, deep-fried goodies, lemonade, tea and – of course – birthday cake.

Parking at the center of campus to cost $3 per hour

The cost to park in the 85-space parking lot at the center of campus near the Alumni Tower, Coulter Building and Forsyth Building will be $3 per hour from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays starting Monday, Aug. 18.

WCU faculty, WNC teachers to launch regional program for math teachers

A team of WCU faculty members and Western North Carolina mathematics teachers are establishing the Smoky Mountain Math Teachers’ Circle, a professional development community to help teachers bring
new excitement and interest in mathematics to their students. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**WCU, Mission receive $1 million grant to improve regional nursing care**
A federal workforce diversity grant of more than $1 million will enable the School of Nursing to partner with Mission Health in an effort to increase the quality of nursing care provided to patients in rural Western North Carolina. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**Ticket sales for Mainstage theater season begin Aug. 6**
The School of Stage and Screen’s Mainstage season for the 2014-15 academic year includes two plays and two musicals. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**WCU’s lifelong learning institute starts this fall**
WCU is launching a new lifelong learning institute aimed at people age 50 and older across Western North Carolina who are interested in enriching their lives through the pursuit of knowledge. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**PHOTOS: Students enjoy Mountain Arts and Heritage Event**
Nearly 200 WCU students in the Academic Success Program and two new summer learning communities, Catamount Gap and WHEE Teach, explored how the arts convey heritage, culture and community at the Mountain Arts and Heritage event held at the Mountain Heritage Center in July. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**BRIEFS | thereporter.wcu.edu/category/briefs**
Opening Assembly set for Aug. 13
Photo studio to open for new employee photographs, headshot updates
Leadership Academy participants selected

**ACHIEVEMENTS | thereporter.wcu.edu/category/achievements**
Read about the latest achievements of faculty and staff, including Scott Barlowe, Claire Burns, Sam Fowlkes and Brett Woods.

**HEADLINES FROM WCU NEWS SERVICES | news-prod.wcu.edu**
Catamounts getting ready for season
Promotions planned for WCU’s home football games
WCU sponsoring three political debates on campus
Athletic training students awarded national, regional scholarships

**EVENTS | calendar.wcu.edu**
Aug. 11 | WNC Civil War Roundtable
Aug. 13 | Chancellor's Opening Assembly
Aug. 15 | Freshman Move-In Day
Aug. 18 | First Day of Classes
Aug 20 | Serena: Faculty Workshop with Ron Rash
Aug. 21 | ArtTalk/Reception: Gary Kachadourian
Aug 21 | Jason Ham, Euphonium, Guest Recital
Aug. 26 | 125th Anniversary - Big Birthday Bash

**HIGHER EDUCATION NEWSWATCH | news-prod.wcu.edu/higher-education-newswatch**
Moral Monday faces tough odds in November | Asheville Citizen-Times (includes comments from Chris Cooper)

Senior pooch gets chance at new life | The Sylva Herald (about a local beagle adoption, includes comments from Mary Adams)

Why do we own pets? | Australian Broadcasting Corporation (quotes Hal Herzog)

When Friends Leave | Inside Higher Ed column by Nate Kreuter

Smith and his WCU friends to compete in Pocahontas Am | Bluefield (Va.) Daily Telegraph (about members of the WCU golf team planning to play in an upcoming tournament)

UNC Charlotte fishing team wins national college bass-fishing title | North Carolina Sportsman (about the Bassmaster College Series tournament that includes information about WCU’s Bass Cats finishing 24th)

American business women’s association awards 3 scholarships | The Charlotte Observer (about a WCU junior winning a scholarship from the American Business Women’s Association)

UNC Asheville honors local middle school students | Asheville Citizen-Times (mentions some WCU academic award winners and research presenters in a roundup of education news)

Can font help with reading disabilities? | The Gazette-Virginian (about a WCU graduate student in school psychology looking for data for her thesis)

Coaching greats Joe Miller, Jack Holley headed to NCHSAA Hall of Fame | Port City Daily (includes information about a late WCU alum being chosen for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame)

Nursing student wins scholarship | The Sylva Herald (about a student in the RIBN program receiving a scholarship)

Partnership addresses need in rural care | Asheville Citizen-Times (editorial about $1 million grant and partnership with Mission Health to address rural health care needs)

Retire Here, Not There: North Carolina | Marketwatch.com (about best places to retire includes mention of WCU in a story about North Carolina)

Religion meets environment in WNC | Asheville Citizen-Times (includes comments from Chris Cooper)

Growing the business of bark in Asheville area | Asheville Citizen-Times (business profile on a client of WCU’s Rapid Center, with comment from Monty Graham)

Why Catamounts could be better football team | Asheville Citizen-Times (about upcoming football season)

Rising Seas: Will the Outer Banks Survive? | National Geographic (includes comment from Rob Young)

Giving UNC campuses renewable energy options | Raleigh News & Observer (guest column by Tom Ross about flexibility on renewable energy options includes mention of WCU successes in conservation)

Our View: Report Card for July 25 … A to Western Carolina University’s new lifelong learning institute | Asheville Citizen-Times

Reviving folk agriculture in the modern food economy | Mountain Xpress (including comment from Jim Veteto)
ATHLETICS | catamountsports.com
Catamount Football Fall Report #4: August 5, 2014
Volleyball reports for camp on Wednesday
VIDEO: Catamount Football Fall Report #3
Todd Herman promoted to women's soccer associate head coach