**Duke Energy’s $75,000 gift supports engineering program**

A gift from the Duke Energy Foundation is enabling the Kimmel School to purchase new power systems laboratory equipment and provide student scholarships, faculty development and programming to encourage more students across Western North Carolina to explore engineering as a profession. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**Provost, husband establish fund for high-achieving students with financial need**

As a first-generation college graduate, Western Carolina University Provost Alison Morrison-Shetlar says that she intimately understands the many challenges that students face today with the rising cost of tuition and other expenses. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**Live Nativity scene, College Night headline Dillsboro holiday festival**

Community members attending Dillsboro’s annual Lights and Luminaries festival this year are invited to “Follow the Star” to a live Nativity scene, and Western Carolina University and Southwestern Community College faculty, staff and students will be welcomed as special guests on the opening night of the festival on Friday, Dec. 5. WCU faculty member Betty Farmer and public relations students are coordinating College Night festivities. ... (CONTINUE READING)

**Speakers stress regional approach at LEAD:WNC summit**

Approximately 275 business leaders, chamber of commerce representatives, elected and appointed officials, educators, economists and entrepreneurs participating in the LEAD: WNC summit gathered at WCU for a day of discussion centered on six sectors of the region’s economy – education, tourism, health care, innovation and technology, the creative arts and natural products. ... (CONTINUE READING)
BRIEFS | thereporter.wcu.edu/category/briefs
Handmade Holiday Sale scheduled for Thursday
Former Mouseketeer to host evening of music, stories, laughter Dec. 2

ACHIEVEMENTS | thereporter.wcu.edu/category/achievements
Read about the latest achievements of faculty and staff, including Andrew Bobilya and Ben Tholkes.

HEADLINES FROM WCU NEWS SERVICES | news-prod.wcu.edu
‘Sounds of the Season’ to be presented Dec. 7 at WCU
Dulcimer Winter Weekend coming up Jan. 8-11 at Lake Junaluska
Georgia naturalist honored by organizers of WCU plant conference
N.C. commerce secretary discusses ‘economic health’ during visit
WCU Board of Trustees to meet Dec. 5
Bardo Arts Center to present ‘Cinnamon Grits’ holiday musical Dec. 12

EVENTS | calendar.wcu.edu
Nov. 20 | Annual Handmade Holiday Sale
Nov. 20 | Ali Eshraghi: International Week Keynote
Nov. 20 | Early Music Concert
Nov. 21 | Kids Climb
Nov. 22 | Men’s Basketball vs. Hiawassee College
Nov. 21-22 | Film: “As Above, So Below”
Nov. 22 | Women’s Basketball vs. Presbyterian
Nov. 24 | Women’s Basketball vs. Campbell
Nov. 27 | WCU Pride of the Mountains Marching Band performs in Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade
Dec. 2 | Lindsey Alley Performance
Dec. 3 | Women’s Basketball vs. North Greenville

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWSWATCH | news-prod.wcu.edu/higher-education-newswatch
Names and Faces: HHS senior to perform in Macy’s parade | Hickory Daily Record (about local students headed to Macy’s parade with WCU band)

The Most Popular Colleges in America Aren’t the Ones You’d Expect | Mic.com (about most popular colleges, based on increase in applications, with WCU at No. 7 and comments from Phil Cauley)

Haywood grads to march in Macy’s Parade | The Mountaineer (Waynesville) (about local students participating in the WCU marching band appearance in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade)

Boyle column: Will Moffitt return? | Asheville Citizen-Times (includes comment from Chris Cooper)

WCU sets out to break down WNC’s barriers | Asheville Citizen-Times (editorial about LEAD:WNC summit)


Western leads the way for a new regional success story | The Mountaineer (Waynesville) (coverage of the LEAD:WNC summit)

UNC-system budget committee deliberates budget-cut strategy | Durham Herald-Sun (about UNC system budgeting includes comment from WCU Chancellor David Belcher)

Hickory High Trumpet Player to Perform in Macy’s Parade | WHKY-TV 14 (Hickory) (TV/radio station has story about local students heading with marching band to Macy’s Parade)
Police Seeking Suspects in WCU Armed Robbery | WLOS News 13 (includes interview with Ernie Hudson and students)

New charter school has links to neoconservative Challenge Foundation | The Sylva Herald (includes comment from school board member and WCU faculty member Diane Martinez)

Collected Words: Interview with Annette Debo | KVSF 101.5 – Santa Fe (N.Mex.) (radio station has interview with Annette Debo on the poet H.D.)

ATHLETICS | catamountsports.com
Track: Williamson announces Catamount track & field's 2014-15 schedule
Football: Benson tabbed CFPA Receiver of the Week
Women’s basketball: Sherae Bonner named CRONS Freshman of the Week
Men’s basketball: Sinclair named Southern Conference Player of the Week
Women’s volleyball: Piechota, George and Vervelde earn conference honors