

Good morning. Here are the State System News Highlights for April 24, 2019. This summary of news articles related to the State System and the member universities is distributed weekly. **(NOTE:** This is my final distribution of the news highlights; I am retiring Friday. It has been my pleasure working for the State System these past nearly 22 years. I look forward to stepping back and taking it easy for a while. Thank you for all of your assistance over the years, and for all you do to help ensure students succeed.)

- *To view the individual articles, click on the headlines below.*
- *To view past articles and real-time news highlights from Twitter, go to”* www.passhe.edu/news.
- *For regular updates on the State System Redesign, visit the website at: <http://systemredesign.passhe.edu/>*

Connie Otter returns as part of collaboration to boost Conneaut Lake Park

Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Connie Otter is coming back to Conneaut Lake Park. The return of the park's vintage mascot and other additions and improvements were announced Tuesday at a joint news conference by Edinboro University and the Economic Progress Alliance of Crawford County at the university's Center for Branding and Strategic Communication in the Baron-Forness Library. The center is part of the NWPA Innovation Beehive Network, which focuses on facilitating economic development in the region.

The Meadville Tribune

Edinboro University students help to re-brand Conneaut Lake Park

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

It's a new year and a new look for Conneaut Lake Park thanks to a new campaign in partnership with Edinboro University. The collaboration with Edinboro's Center for Branding and Strategic Communication revealing newly created, retro-themed illustrations of the iconic park.

YourErie.com

LHU president hears students' concerns at Town Hall

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

The Lock Haven University campus community was invited to the Sloan Auditorium to hear the most recent updates being considered at the university and voice their concerns on issues.

There were many topics discussed. Students and faculty didn't shy away when it came time for them to ask questions.

By Kiara Tinnin, The (Lock Haven) Express

Free summer housing? More colleges offering deep discounts to attract students

Monday, April 22, 2019

Intent on finishing college as quickly and cheaply as possible, Liam Johnson will have plenty on his mind while taking nine credits at LaRoche University this summer. But the sophomore from Pittsburgh's West End won't have to give a second thought to his campus housing. It's free. Students at Duquesne and Robert Morris universities will have similar offers. And Clarion University is debuting its own variation of this emerging trend, slashing its housing rates for the summer by two-thirds, to \$35 a week.

By Bill Schackner, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A rush for nurses strains colleges and hospitals as health care booms in Pittsburgh

Monday, April 22, 2019

After 19 hours on a plane, Sandra Ajao fought off jet lag as she faced flashing neon lights, booming music and the crash of bowling pins on a recent weekday afternoon in Harmar. Inside a mostly vacant Zone 28 family fun center, dozens of people congregated around several lanes and a counter stacked with pizzas and soft drinks. Ms. Ajao, whose plane from Nigeria had touched down the previous day, could have been disoriented. But she was brimming with the confidence of someone who had achieved a lifelong dream: moving to the United States to work as a nurse. In her home country, she had been frustrated. "The government does not invest in health care, and nurses are moving out," said Ms. Ajao, who worked five years in Nigeria and complained of low pay and burnout. Last month, she started work in the medical-surgical unit of Canonsburg Hospital.

By Daniel Moore, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Test that tick. East Stroudsburg University offering free tick testing for Lyme disease

Monday, April 22, 2019

East Stroudsburg University's tick research lab is accepting ticks for free testing from Pennsylvania residents. The university lab, known as the Pennsylvania Tick Research Lab, will test ticks for Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, and Rocky Mountain spotted fever, according to Brenda Friday, university spokeswoman.

By Mary Ann Thomas, The Tribune-Review

As historically black colleges struggle, Bennett College for women fights to stay afloat

Monday, April 22, 2019

Pilar Hughes watched students crisscross the wide quad at the center of campus, remembering her first year at Bennett College. The tiny classes. The soul food lunches served on Wednesdays. The sisterhood and the overwhelming sense of self-worth the all-women's black college offered. "There is so much love and community here," the freshman said on a warm spring morning. "I'm sure the experiences here will help me in life." And yet, she plans to transfer. Bennett, one of two all-women's historically black colleges in the country, could be on the verge of closure.

By Kurtis Lee and Jaweed Kaleem, The Los Angeles Times

Pennsylvania lab offers free tick testing

Friday, April 19, 2019

East Stroudsburg University's tick research lab is offering free tick testing. "Pennsylvania makes up 33 percent of the total cases of Lyme disease in the United States, so it's a really big health crisis in our state and there are a lot of unknowns when it comes to ticks," said Nicole Chinnici, the laboratory director.

By Kendra Nichols, ABC-TV 27 (Harrisburg)

LHU rises to the challenge, raises \$117,761 for scholarships

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Lock Haven University held its fourth annual All In Day of Giving scholarship fundraiser recently and raised a grand total of \$117,761 — \$93,441 in cash and \$24,320 in pledges. Donations made during the 24-hour event are used toward student scholarships in support of specific LHU athletic or academic programs and donors were able to designate where they wanted their donations to go.

By Kiara Tinnin, The (Lock Haven) Express

Redesigning the system

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Plans to restructure the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) were outlined in brief by state system chancellor Dr. Daniel Greenstein during an open forum at SRU on Monday morning. Since being appointed chancellor in September, Greenstein promised to revitalize the state system, saying that he would explore a wide breadth of options to offset declining enrollment. He proposed what he called a "sharing system" at Monday's town hall, implying that PASSHE schools would share educational resources across the system to provide more opportunity for students.

By Adam Zook, The (Slippery Rock) Rocket

IUP honors philanthropy of Latrobe couple

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

A Latrobe couple who pledged \$7 million to Indiana University of Pennsylvania and helped steer its ongoing fund raising campaign has received IUP's inaugural Award of Excellence in Volunteer Leadership. Tim and Deb Phillips Cejka, of Latrobe and Houston, Texas, were honored for their generosity and work advancing IUP's \$75 million Imagine Unlimited fund raising campaign. To date, the campaign has raised \$62 million and is on track to meet its goals, officials said, due to the dedication of volunteers like the Cejkas.

By Debra Erdley, The Tribune-Review

New Veteran's Center Opens at Lock Haven University

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

A local university in Clinton County is giving back to those who served our country. Lock Haven University announced the opening of its new Veteran's Center on campus. The center offers Lock Haven University student veterans a place to connect and relax. They can also scan their military id card and have access to certain military websites.

By Jayne Ann Bugda, PA homepage