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GSU View

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## News and Events

### **It's Still the Season**

The holidays may be over, but it is still the season of giving if you have a great reason like the Campus Community Campaign. Donations help create educational opportunities for students, alumni, faculty, and staff and help the entire GSU community succeed. Remember, it's your participation that counts, not the amount of your donation.

Visit the [Campus Community Campaign website](#) and learn why your GSU colleagues and friends have already made contributions. Then make yours today!

### **Blevins Tackles New Role**

Dr. Greg Blevins, chair of the Department of Addictions Studies and Behavioral Health, has been appointed Interim Assistant Dean of the College of Health and Human Services. He will provide assistance to CHHS Dean Linda Samson, who was recently named Interim Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies.

"He's a great choice to lead the day to management of the college," said Provost Jane Hudak. "Dr. Samson will be engaged with the challenge of developing GSU's infrastructure for the research, sponsored programs, and graduate education functions. It's comforting to know that she'll have the assistance of a GSU veteran at the collegiate level."

Blevins has been with GSU for 27 years.

### **Get Involved**

Come one, come all to the Student Involvement Fair on January 22, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. Learn about the more than 40 clubs and organizations working to learn more, contribute more, and have more fun at GSU.

Clubs and organizations wishing to have representation at the fair are asked to register by contacting [Adam Taylor](#) at ext. 7362. Sponsored by Student Life.

### **Happy Birthday, Dr. King**

Student Life is sponsoring a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration on January 12. More than 550 students from area middle and junior high schools will attend a presentation at The Center for Performing Arts, which includes performances by Al Mack of Low Note Productions and Dave, The Piano Man. The key note speaker is Deborah J. Crable, Director of Marketing and Communications for Kennedy-King College, who will present *We are not makers of history. We are made by history.*

The program begins at 10 a.m. and everyone is welcome. For more information, call ext. 4550.

## **Happy Birthday, President Lincoln**

While GSU will not be closed for President's Day, we do get to celebrate the birthday of Abraham Lincoln on February 12. According to State of Illinois statute, his actual birth date dictates the date for State facility closure, unless it occurs on a weekend at which time Friday or Monday will be designated. So GSU will be closed on Thursday, February 12. And don't forget that the university is also closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 19.

## **Great Buys = Warm Clothes**

Get warm with the help of the GSU Bookstore. Crewneck sweatshirts are on sale now for \$9.99 while supplies last.

## **Family Matters – Bob and Cindy Woodard**

***This article is the first in an occasional series focusing on families working at GSU.***

Cindy Woodard provides the first voice heard by many callers to Governors State University. She's one of two full-time telephone operators who field calls to the university.

Bob Woodard, her husband, is superintendent at GSU's Print Shop, which is responsible for producing many on-campus posters, brochures, class lists, and materials for the bookstore and classrooms.

Bob has worked for GSU for 28 years and Cindy has been on campus 11 years. During that time, they've seen changes to their jobs, especially with the advent of new technology.

"When I first started, we actually answered the telephone," says Cindy, who now sits behind two computer monitors. "Now I answer the computer." Bob began his career in the print shop working on presses that used metal plates. "These days, just about everything is digital," he says.

The Woodards, who have been married 33 years, say there are some advantages to being a married couple at GSU. They live in Park Forest, just a couple miles from campus, and can go home for lunch. "And we only need to take one car to work," she adds.

Cindy is a member of the Civil Service Senate, where she serves as corresponding secretary. Both she and Bob have volunteered at a number of GSU activities, including open houses and Harvest Fest.

When asked if they ever worked together before Governors State, Bob recalls a Northwest Indiana nightspot back in the 1970s. They both had part-time jobs. He was a bartender. She was a waitress. "That was where we met," he says. "But after we got married, we stopped working there."

## **Leadership Dialogue – Shackleton's Expeditions**

The Leadership Dialogue series, sponsored by the Metropolitan Institute for Leadership in Education (MILE) at GSU, is designed to develop an understanding the meaning of courage and the strength of endurance. On January 24, Dr. Paul Craig will lead a thought-provoking discussion of leadership and courage as exemplified by Sir Ernest Shackleton, who led an expedition to traverse the Antarctic continent in 1914.

There is no charge to participate in this unique, enlightening conversation. Participants are asked to read *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition* by Caroline Alexander, or be familiar with the topic.

This event takes place in the Hall of Governors from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch is provided. Pre-registration is required. Call ext. 4024.

## **Get Organized and Reduce Stress**

Disorganization can lead to much more than just losing keys or the remote control. It can add stress that is both unhealthy and unnecessary.

Professional organizer, Karen McGregor believes applying organization skills can lead to more time, more space, and more energy for other activities. And increased organization leads to decreased stress. In her two-hour workshop, *Disorganization and Stress: the Link and What to Do About It*, McGregor helps participants identify the reasons for disorganization and learn the skills to become organized.

The workshop will be held on February 7, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the GSU Kankakee Education Center, 187 S. Schuyler Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois. The registration fee is \$25. For information, contact Julie Anderson-Muniz ext. 3313.

## **Alumni Spotlight - Thelma T. Miller**

Thelma T. Miller, BHS ('75) and MHS ('77), has excelled through the years. Recently she was recognized by the Illinois Nurses Association District 20 for *Fifty Plus Years in Nursing* and currently holds a position on the Board of Directors. She has also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Chicago Chapter of the National Black Nurses Association.

Kudos to Thelma on her outstanding success.



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