State Farm Courtyard Dedication

VFTH

8/18/16

A new courtyard is open next to the Augenstein Alumni Center, just in time for the start of the fall semester.

It’s all thanks to State Farm Insurance agency as Amy Bingham explains in this week’s View from the Hill.

State Farm has long been a huge supporter of Western Kentucky University. Now the company has an even bigger presence on campus in a spot we can all enjoy.

Craig Browning \ WKU Foundation

Ralph Dillihay \ State Farm Agency Field Executive (Retired)

Lee Robertson \ Development and Alumni Relations

It’s been years in the making, but the State Farm Courtyard is now complete.

“The Augenstein Alumni Center now has overflow capacity into the courtyard. Chili’s restaurant next door will be able to use it for their patrons.”

A total of 17 State Farm employees, 16 of whom are WKU alumni, as well as the State Farm Foundation, gave 165 thousand dollars in gifts, pledges and matching contributions to make the courtyard possible.

“It’s been fifty years since I was a student at WKU and 40 since becoming a state farm agent. The years here enabled me to be successful at State Farm.”

Long time WKU fixture Lee Robertson, known as Mr. Western, says the significant gift is the latest example of State Farm’s long standing support.

“I’m proud of what State Farm has done for Western through the years. I thought they were part of Western for 30 years. Every time we’d have a basketball game there would be 50 of them lined up on the floor. “

Browning says the State Farm Courtyard will be ideal for events like Opening Act, a huge tailgating opportunity for alumni prior to home games.

“It will be a great gathering place from the terrace into the Augenstein Alumni Center lobby area itself. A free flow down into the courtyard. “

“What we have created and dedicated here today will live far far into the future.”

The State Farm Courtyard is part of the overall Alumni Square Plaza which is supported by the WKU Foundation and includes the new Chili’s Grill and Bar.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

####