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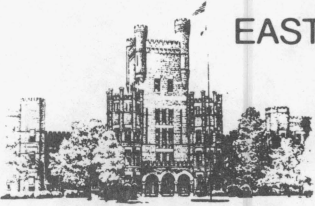
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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

ART TATE, Assistant Director, University Relations
Office: (217) 581-5983 - Home: (217) 348-7553

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

GROTE TO SPEAK AT FOUNDER'S DAY

CHARLESTON, IL.--Eastern Illinois University alumnus C. Nelson Grote will be guest speaker during Founder's Day activities on Saturday, June 23, marking the University's 95th anniversary.

Grote, president of Morehead State University, will speak during the Founder's Day luncheon at noon in the Union University Ballroom. A 1950 Eastern graduate, he received the University's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1978.

The luncheon will follow an open house and historical display in honor of Eastern emeriti faculty from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Union Grand Ballroom.

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FOUNDER'S DAY

To be featured at the open house will be "Firsts" relating to Eastern, such as first publications and earliest faculty photographs, student life and athletics.

A display of Old Main will be a centerpiece, along with historical documents. The desk of Eastern's first president, Livingston C. Lord, will also be on display, as well as the Bible he read from during chapel services.

Special tables within the exhibit area will contain old yearbooks, give-away copies of the original Eastern News, an original Old Main tile, and other items which viewers can see and touch. Colleges and departments will also have historical displays.

Faculty, staff, administrators, alumni and the public are invited to the luncheon and other Founder's Day activities. Luncheon tickets are \$7.50 and may be purchased in the University Relations Office, Room 111, Old Main, 581-5981. Reservations must be made by June 21.

The luncheon will be followed by the presentation of the Lord Distinguished Service Award and University Service Awards.

A special ceremony to present Mrs. Hazel Watson of Charleston an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Tarble Arts Center. Due to the death of her son, Leland of Lafayette, Indiana, Mrs. Watson was unable to accept the honorary degree at the Fall 1989 Commencement.

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Watson, Republican State Central Committeewoman for the 19th Congressional District, has been active in Illinois politics for 60 years and has served as president of the Illinois Federation of Republican Women and as a State Central Committeewoman for 36 years.

Her son's collection of 46 Broadway and off-Broadway show posters will be on display in Tarble. Leland was a professor in arts and theatre at Purdue University and a lighting designer with CBS-TV in New York for several years. His work included Broadway productions of "The Diary of Anne Frank" and "A View From the Bridge."

Eastern was founded on May 22, 1895, by the Illinois General Assembly, but classes did not begin until 1899. Plans are proceeding to commemorate the 100th anniversary during 1994-95.