

Fall 2013

# Marshall Magazine Autumn 2013

Marshall University

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The Nation's Most Improved Football Team

# Marshall



magazine



## Mr. Smith goes to New York

*Thomson Reuters CEO James C. Smith*



See page 37 for ALUMNI NEWS and more

Autumn 2013

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# Marshall

The official magazine of Marshall University

magazine

Autumn 2013

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on the cover

Thomson Reuters CEO Jim Smith, class of 1981, in his office building overlooking Times Square in New York City. Photo by Rick Lee.

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# Summer with President Kopp



Reviewing the progress of the INTO Center for international students are, from left, President Stephen J. Kopp; Ron May, Marshall's director of facilities planning and management; and Eric Fry, center director of INTO Marshall University.



President Kopp (right) reviews the progress of the Visual Arts Center in downtown Huntington with, from left, Dr. Maribea Barnes, interim director of the School of Art and Design; Daniel Kaufmann, associate professor of art, who teaches photography; and Donald Van Horn, dean of the College of Arts and Media.



Master of Ceremonies Mike Kirtner (left) interviews Dr. Kopp at the 16th annual Paint the Capital City Green event in Charleston Aug. 22.

President Kopp and his wife, Jane, (left) join with (continuing from 3rd left), Director of Athletics Mike Hamrick; Jeff Hoops, for whose family the field is named; Ken Wolfe, representing veterans; Jeffery Hoops (holding Jameson Hoops); Jessica Hoops (with Journey Hoops); Jeremy Hoops, and Leslie Hoops.





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Thomson Reuters CEO James C. Smith speaks with the *Marshall Magazine* in his top floor office which overlooks the heart of New York City.



# Mr. Smith Goes to New York

*From a Kentucky farm to the heart of Times Square, Thomson Reuters CEO Jim Smith has made the climb to the top of the business world.*

From his corner office high atop the skyscraper located at 3 Times Square, Jim Smith has a stunning view of New York City. It seems only fitting that the CEO of Thomson Reuters, a multinational corporation with \$12.8 billion in revenue last year, finds himself in the middle of the bright lights and bustling streets of Times Square. After all, Smith heads a firm with 60,000 employees in 140 countries that provides critical news, information and technology to leading decision makers around the world. What better place to oversee it all than the locale commonly known as the “Crossroads of the World.”

Thomson Reuters is the result of two giant media companies joining forces. The Thomson Corporation, known primarily for the 190 newspapers it once owned throughout North America, also specialized in financial services, health care sectors, law, science and technology research, higher education textbooks and tax and accounting services. In 2008, the company acquired the British-based Reuters Group, best known for the Reuters news agency. However, the bulk of Reuters’ revenue came from providing financial market data to the world. The merger of the two companies forged one powerful multinational entity.

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**By Jack Houvouras**

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Photos by Rick Lee







Smith's climb to the top of the business world is anything but typical. Raised on a farm in Carlisle, Ky., he grew up knowing the meaning of hard work.

"If I ever think about a tough day at work, I always remind myself that it beats baling hay," he says. "That's real, back-breaking work."

A standout football player in high school, he was recruited to play center for the Thundering Herd in 1978 under Coach Frank Elwood. But a series of knee injuries cut his career short following his sophomore year. He remained with the team as a student assistant under new Coach Sonny Randle. The lessons he learned on the football field would ultimately define his management style.

"Football taught me all about teamwork and leadership. I believe that the role of a good manager is the same as that of a good coach – you must orchestrate the team so you get the optimal performance and you must get the right people in the right roles."

It was on the practice field that Smith formed a friendship with current MU Athletic Director Mike Hamrick. The two have remained close for the last 32 years.

"Mike was one of the hardest working players I have ever seen," Smith recalls. "Sonny Randle loved him because of his drive and work ethic. I'm so proud of him and how his career has progressed. And it's great to have him back at Marshall."

Smith's time at Marshall yielded far more than valuable lessons and relationships on the field. He also embraced the academic and social experience.

"For me, going to Huntington was like going to the Land of Oz. I met people from all walks of life. The great thing about Marshall was that it was big enough to offer everything, but small enough that you could interact with your professors. The thing I liked most about being a college student was discovering that



PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMSON REUTERS

**The Thomson Reuters building is located in the heart of Times Square. From his top floor office Smith oversees a \$12.8 billion dollar company with 60,000 employees in 140 countries.**

I love learning. Marshall literally opened up the world to me."

Some of his favorite teachers included Dr. Warren Wooden in English, Dr. Donna Spindel in History and Dr. Simon Perry in Political Science.

"And everybody loved Dan Babb in Chemistry," he adds. "He was a larger-than-life character."

Although he was recruited to Marshall as an athlete, he ultimately found even greater success as a student. He participated in the university's honors program and graduated magna cum laude in 1981 with a B.A. in English.

After graduating he returned home to work as an editor at *The Carlisle Mercury*, a weekly newspaper with a circulation of about 2,500.

"The entire press run fit into the back of a Pinto station wagon," Smith says with a smile. "I know because part of my job was delivering the papers."

Eventually he went to work at the *Charleston Daily Mail* as a copy desk editor and later was named managing editor. It was here that his career path took a dramatic turn. In 1987, Thomson Newspapers bought the *Charleston Daily Mail* and two years later the company asked Smith to take on bigger responsibilities. He began traveling throughout North America reorganizing and redesigning some of the company's 190 newspapers. He was so successful that they asked him to support his colleagues in England where he pulled double duty by both restructuring older papers and launching new publications. Over time his move within the company from the editorial side to the business side just seemed to happen.

"When I was working on restructuring some of our papers, the company brought in a new CEO and a completely different team of business people at the top," Smith explains. "They came from the professional pub-



**THOMSON REUTERS**



lishing side and knew next to nothing about newspapers. I quickly learned that I knew even less about business. It was a marriage made in heaven. I got a chance to work alongside some very bright business minds. "I was just lucky to be at the right place at the right time."

During this period Smith took charge of the Thomson Newspapers operations in North America. Under his watch the company achieved the highest rate of revenue growth in its industry and the second highest profit margins behind only Gannett.

"It's not that journalism became less interesting to me. Business was equally interesting with a different set of challenges," Smith explains. "The qualities that make a good journalist are the same qualities that make a good manager - it's a sense of curiosity. I call it a graduate student's sense of wonder about the world. You want to learn how things work."

Smith's ascent of the company ladder continued over the years which meant travel, and lots of it.

"I lived on airplanes for 15 years," he says.

When he was on the ground he could be found in homes or offices in Chicago, Toronto, London and Connecticut. Smith said the constant travel then - and now - is consuming. As such, there's not a lot of time for hobbies like golf these days, and his game shows it. But he and his wife Pam have tried to "embrace the pace," as he puts it.

"This is a point in time when I have an opportunity to do things I never dreamed of. I also have tens of



**Smith played football for the Thundering Herd from 1978 to 1979 before a series of knee injuries ended his career.**

thousands of families counting on me to work hard and do the right thing. There will be time for golf later."

He said he also looks forward to the day when he can spend more time with his four sons.

On his way up the ladder, the hard work paid off with a series of operating and staff roles as varied as running the company's \$1 billion-plus college textbook business to serving as global head of Human Resources, before ultimately being named Chief Operating Officer of The Thomson Corporation. And in 2012, just four years after Thomson's acquisition of Reuters, he was named chief executive officer.

So how does a kid raised on a farm in Carlisle, Ky., (population 2,010) make it to the top of one of the biggest compa-

nies in the world?

"Damned if I know," Smith says wryly. "You know, I never set out to be the CEO of a corporation. I just wanted to do a good job at the task at hand. Looking back, I've been very lucky."

During his tenure at the company Smith has witnessed a tremendous shift in the way information is gathered and delivered.

"A business that used to own hundreds of newspapers from the *Charleston Daily Mail* to the *Times of London* now distributes intelligent information and software almost entirely via electronic networks. We provide real-time stock quotes from 250 exchanges around the world. We are the go-to source for information in such fields as law, accounting and scientific research.

**As part of his job, Thomson Reuters CEO Jim Smith often travels to countries around the world. He is seen here at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. The meeting included 2,500 top business leaders, international political leaders, selected intellectuals and journalists who discussed the most pressing issues facing the world, including health and the environment.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMSON REUTERS



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Last spring Smith returned to Marshall to give the commencement address and receive an honorary doctoral degree in humane letters.

And we deliver news in 19 languages viewed by over 1 billion people every day. The world is changing and we're changing with it.

"I like to say that we are re-engineering the intersection of information and technology. We are the tool-makers of the Information Age."

"Jim's story is incredibly motivational not just for alumni, but also for our current students," noted President Stephen Kopp. "He took what he learned at Marshall, both in and outside the classroom, and applied it to his own life and career as he climbed the ladder of success in business. He grew up in a small town and then came to Marshall where he developed his talents and made the most of every opportunity before him, he is a remarkable alumnus who is always proud to say he's a son of Marshall wherever he travels across the globe."

Last spring, Smith was invited back to Marshall to give the commencement address and to receive an honorary doctoral degree in humane letters. He described his return to the Huntington campus as one of the most humbling and gratifying experiences of his life.

During his address, Smith recalled the ways in which the college experience affected his life.

"Marshall is a special place. I absolutely loved the classroom environment. Sitting in class was life changing for me."

Smith offered the graduating class of 2013 something he called his four pearls of wisdom.

"One, embrace change and be fearless. You must be continually learning and adapting. The only constant in the world today is change. My biggest regrets are play-

ing it safe. You will never do great things until you free yourself from a fear of failure.

"Two, follow your passion. Find something you love to do and go like hell after it. Nothing on earth is more rewarding than working hard at a job you love.

"Three, values matter. Over the long arc of a career I can assure you that honesty and integrity will take you the furthest in your endeavors.

"Four, be resilient. Success comes from persistence and character. Character is tested most and serves us best in tough times. This university and this town know all about that."

And then Smith, one of the most accomplished graduates in Marshall's 176-year history, offered the most heartfelt and moving portion of his address.

"The university recently turned on the memorial fountain. You will hear the sound made by those 75 streams of water for the rest of your lives. Yes, they will remind you of historic tragedy, but even more they will remind you of the character and resilience of a community that refused to let its final chapter be written on a hillside in Wayne County. Instead, Marshall rose from the ashes to become a world-class institution. The world is changing at an unprecedented pace and for the bold that means unprecedented opportunity. The only thing holding us back is the scope of our vision, our imagination and the courage to dream big dreams." □

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**Jack Hovouras** is the editor of the *Huntington Quarterly* and publisher of the *Marshall Magazine*.



By Keith Morehouse

# A Hopeful HERD

*College Football Preview* Calls MU Football  
the Most Improved Team in the Country

Someone dig the inflatable Ronald McDonald that used to lord over Edwards Stadium out of storage. Maybe it's time to recreate Mycroft's, order a Nitty Gritty Grinder and reminisce a little bit. The preseason prognosticators have awakened the echoes on 20th Street and 3rd Avenue to bring more summer vitality to a fall football season than Herd fans have seen in a long time.

Phil Steele's magazine, *College Football Preview*, is widely respected in the college football world, and he started Herd fans thinking about a hopeful fall by trumpeting Marshall's chances this season, ranking The Herd at #38 in the nation in his magazine, and blaring: "Add it all up and MU

gets the elite designation of my #1 Most Improved Team in the country."

Coach Doc Holliday sat in his office on a summer morning very much in the mood to talk about the upcoming season, though in his well-disguised sense of humor, he chuckled at the magazine hype.

"All I can think of is Phil Steele must be David Steele's brother." He grinned at his own joke as he referenced Marshall's Assistant Athletic Director David Steele. Then Holliday quickly went into coach mode, remembering the old axiom that players shouldn't believe all the press clippings, and neither should he.

Marshall's football team hopes to live up to its preseason hype with an improved defense, and returning star quarterback.





Marshall's starting quarterback Rakeem Cato is being touted as a player to watch on several award lists for the 2013 season.



“With QB Cato back and my #1 set of receivers and OL, the Herd have my most explosive offense in CUSA. Defensively, they get a lot of quality transfers and I will call for their defense to possibly be as much as 2 td’s better than the 43.1 ppg allowed last year. While they do draw Tulsa out of CUSA West, they do get the all-important game vs East Carolina at home in the finale. Add it all up and MU gets the elite designation of my #1 Most Improved Team in the country.”

*– College Football Preview*

“We can’t worry about that,” Holliday said of the glitzy magazine predictions. “It’s nice to think that somebody out there thinks we’re pretty good. That’s encouraging when other people think we have a good team, but all potential does is get you beat.”

However there’s plenty of reason to bolster Steele’s argument that this could be a breakthrough year for the Thundering Herd in Conference USA. His isn’t the only magazine that has Marshall picked to win the East Division of the league. Athlon makes the same projection.

For starters, Marshall has plenty of horsepower coming back from an offense that averaged 40 points per game last year. Quarterback Rakeem Cato was the Conference USA Player of the year in 2012 after leading the nation in passing. He completed a national-best 406 passes for 4,201 yards and 37 touchdowns.

“At the end of the year I looked back and looked at my standards,” Cato said. “I had no clue I’d thrown that many yards and for that many touchdowns. It was a great season for me, but we still have to win. It’s about winning.”

Cato’s name is popping up on every one of those post-season quarterback award watch lists. He’s on the Maxwell list (College Player of the Year), the Walter Camp list (Col-



After finishing the 2012 season with 9.17 receptions per game – an average that led the nation – junior wide receiver Tommy Shuler was named to the 2013 Biletnikoff Award Preseason Watch List.



Thundering Herd Punter Tyler Williams was Conference USA’s only semifinalist for the Guy Award last season and has been named to the Preseason Watch List for 2013.



Gator Hoskins (#26) caught 10 touchdown passes last season to lead all tight ends nationally, landing him on the preseason watch list for the 2013 John Mackey Award.





**The Herd's defense should be remarkably improved with new defensive coordinator Chuck Heater and 14 new faces in personnel.**

lege Player of the Year) and the Davey O'Brien list (Best College Quarterback). Three of his teammates are also getting that same kind of pre-season praise at their positions. Gator Hoskins on the Mackey list (Best Tight End), Tommy Shuler on the Biletnikoff list (Best Receiver) and Tyler Williams on the Ray Guy list (Best Punter) – more reasons for Doc Holliday to speak with an air of confidence.

“Number one, I took this job because I felt we could win championships,” Holliday said. “But I knew we had a lot of work to do. We’ve played tremendous schedules, had a lot of personnel turnover and now finally we have our guys in place. I feel we’ve upgraded our personnel, on both sides of the ball, to compete.”

It’s that other side of the ball that relegated Marshall’s players to watching bowl games on television last year. The Herd’s defense gave up touchdowns to the opposition in pinball-like fashion, next to last in the country by allowing 43 points per game. With new defensive coordinator Chuck Heater on board, and new faces on defense, the only way to go is up.

“There’s no doubt, we didn’t do a good job getting off the field on 3rd and 4th downs,” Holliday said. “A lot of it is personnel. Chuck Heater brings tremendous confidence and credibility. He’ll get the most out of those kids. There are 14 new faces on defense – that defense will be remarkably improved.”



And of course the college football cartographers have mapped out a brand new Conference USA. There's no trip to play at West Virginia this year, but two junkets to south Florida, where plenty of Herd players can think of the games against Florida International and Florida Atlantic as quasi-home games. For the first time in Doc Holliday's tenure in Huntington, he gets two home games to start the season, and division rivals East Carolina and Southern Miss must come north to Edwards Stadium this year.

It appears as if the table is set for success in 2013. The Herd hasn't had a winning regular season since 2003. Never has Marshall been picked to win its division in Conference USA. Marshall's coaches, players and fans are teeming with optimism, hoping the magazines don't just make for breezy summer reading. It might happen that the hype and the positive forecasts are backed up by wins – a throwback season indeed. □

**Keith Morehouse** is the sports director for WSAZ NewsChannel 3 in Huntington, W.Va.

## NEW SKY SUITES

It's late July and things are humming along at Edwards Stadium. There are bodies moving in every direction. There's a chaotic symmetry to the constant flurry of activity from a group of guys focused on a singular task. August 31st will be here soon enough and there's much work to be done before the Miami Redhawks come to Huntington.

That very same deadline applies to the Herd players down on the turf, too.

Marshall Athletics Director Mike Hamrick keeps an eye on the construction of four new sky suites at Edwards Stadium just as intently as he steals a glance at the Herd's individual workouts. Football season is not far away, and the view from here is pretty good.

E.P. Leach & Sons is working on a \$3.3 million project which will add four new sky suites to the upper deck of the press box of the stadium, which will celebrate its 23rd birthday this fall. It's all part of a massive athletics facilities improvement plan at Marshall, a plan Hamrick calls way overdue.

"The cost of college athletics rises every day," Hamrick says. "You better keep up with it. Either you generate more revenue or you cut and I'm not interested in cutting. This was a project, that down the road will generate a significant amount of dollars for us."

Four new tenants will occupy the sky suites on game day. They will lease the suites from Marshall and money the University raises will go back to paying off the cost of the project. The plan also upgrades the heating and cooling systems on the top floor of the press box, and adds men's and women's restrooms to the skydeck. There will also be a third elevator to serve boosters, administrators and the media.

Marshall Hall of Famer and former NFL quarterback Chad Pennington was the first in line to claim one of the new sky suites. Hamrick said the amenities will be first class.

"You can go into an NFL stadium or college stadium in the country and you won't be in any better facility from a luxury standpoint than we have right here," Hamrick said.

Pennington has seen Edwards Stadium from a lot of different angles, but never from the vantage point he'll take in this fall.



# The Fourth “R”

Reading, Writing, 'Rithmetic...  
and RESEARCH.

By James E. Casto

People sometimes laughingly refer to education as “reading, writing and 'rithmetic.” Today, colleges and universities are increasingly adding a fourth r-word to that time-honored description. That word is “research.”

Educators say campus-based research not only expands society's body of knowledge, it helps create jobs and steers many young people toward careers in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) disciplines. Little wonder that research now plays a huge role on many campuses.

In West Virginia, federal and state investment in campus-based research has tripled since the year 2000. West Virginia is now 18th in the nation in state-sponsored research and development expenditures, up from 37th in 2006. Much of that growth in funding can be traced to the West Virginia Research Trust Fund, commonly known as the “Bucks for Brains” program.

Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp has labeled the “Bucks for Brains” program “arguably the state's most important initiative in recent memory,” one that “will enhance the economic vitality of our region and advance



Endowed scientist Dr. Jingwei Xie (front) and his research team have developed an active research program exploring the biomedical applications of nanofiber scaffolds.





**Drs. Jingwei Xie and Franklin D. Shuler conduct research funded by the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research through West Virginia's "Bucks for Brains" program.**

knowledge-industry career opportunities for generations to come."

In 2008, then-Gov. Joe Manchin proposed that the state put \$50 million of surplus funds into a trust fund for the state's two primary research universities, Marshall University and West Virginia University, provided that each could raise matching dollar-for-dollar funds from the private sector. The Legislature agreed and the Research Trust Fund was born. Both schools reached their matching goals long before the 2015 deadline set by the state.

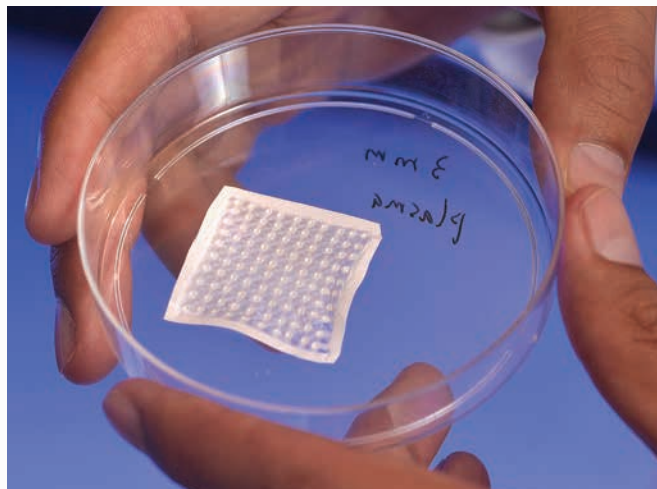
Under the rules governing the program, the

universities can't spend the donations they receive or the state's matching money. Rather, they're required to establish endowments that invest the money and then

spend the earnings. At Marshall, \$15 million in private gifts was matched with another \$15 million in state money for a total of \$30 million, which was then used to establish 16 endowments.

Marshall Vice President for Research Dr. John Maher said "proceeds from these endowments are already impacting research programs across the university - from science to engineering to medicine."

The Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Re-



**One of the most exciting research projects on campus is the development of nanofiber scaffolds which can be used to alleviate a wide variety of conditions including myocardial infarction, and in applications such as tendon repair and skin grafts.**

search (MIIR) Endowment is one of the 16 endowments at Marshall established with “Bucks for Brains” funding. MIIR is the university’s key vehicle to advance regional economic development through entrepreneurship and commercialization of scientific discoveries. As Maher explains, in addition to resulting in life-changing discoveries and innovations, “research also serves as a catalyst for economic development, improving the quality of life for all of us.”

Thus, scientists funded by the MIIR Endowment are developing a focused program of biotechnology research dedicated to producing patentable scientific breakthroughs and creating new businesses based on those discoveries.

Endowed scientist Dr. Jingwei Xie and his research group at MIIR have developed an active research program exploring the biomedical applications of nanofiber scaffolds. This basic research is having translational implications in development of techniques to alleviate

a wide variety of conditions, including myocardial infarction, and in applications such as tendon repair and skin grafts.

The “Bucks for Brains” program is supporting research in obstetrics/gynecology, occupational and environmental health and other medical areas at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

Using funding from the Maier Endowment for Dementia Research, endowed professor Dr. Shirley Neitch is leading a research project to investigate the causes, management and treatment of dementia, including a genetics study of a family whose affected members develop symptoms at a very young age – in their late 20s. Her next step will be to pursue treatment options.

In 2012, Neitch was named the inaugural Maier Clinical Research Professor, a professorship established with a \$1 million gift from General Corporation and the Maier family in honor of Marshall alumnus Edward “Ed” Maier’s retirement. The state then provided another

**Dr. Shirley Neitch is leading a research project to investigate the causes, management and treatment of dementia.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY





The 16 endowments funded at Marshall through the Research Trust Fund include the following:

- Chemistry Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship
- Herbert Louis Eiselstein Memorial Scholarship Endowment
- Donald Cain Tarter Biological Sciences Student Research Scholarship Endowment
- Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research Endowment
- Rahall Transportation Institute Endowment
- Pew Endowment for River Research
- Maier Endowment for Dementia Research
- BrickStreet Endowment for Safety Engineering Research
- Fred and Isabella Zacharias Endowment for Obstetrics and Gynecology Research
- Cline Endowment for Translational Sports Medicine Research
- Fletcher Mechanical Engineering Endowment
- Rezulin Endocrinology Research Fund
- BrickStreet Research Endowment Fund
- Huntington Foundation/Frank E. Hanshaw Sr. Endowed Chair of Geriatrics
- Underwood Endowment for Translational Sports Medicine Research
- Steve and Mary Beckelheimer Science Education Graduate Scholarship Endowment

\$1 million in matching money. At the official announcement of the professorship Maier noted that he and his sisters had to watch their mother spend her final years suffering from dementia. “The last 10 years of her life was pretty awful,” he said.

Neitch said it’s her hope that the funding from the Maier Endowment will enable her and her colleagues “to pursue more in-depth clinical research projects, which will have significant impact on the lives of persons with dementia.”

Endowments established with “Bucks for Brains” funding are making possible a long list of projects in other areas, including mechanical engineering, risk management and bioengineering in the College of Information Technology and Engineering; aquatic research and student summer chemistry research in the College of Science; and research at the Nick J. Rahall II Appalachian Transportation Institute aimed at developing systems and processes to make our highways and railways safer.

In addition, the Research Trust Fund will support new faculty and scientists in the university’s planned sports medicine translational research center.

“We clearly owe a thank you to the donors and the state leaders who helped establish the Research Trust Fund,” said Maher. “We look forward to watching these research and economic development initiatives grow and prosper over the coming years.” □

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**James E. Casto** is Associate Director for Public Information at the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI).

# fight cancer.



**It was the most beautiful flower I've ever seen.** When you're fighting cancer, you notice everything. The team in the infusion center at HIMG know that I don't have the strength to keep up my flower garden. They go out of their way to make sure that I have a fresh flower next to me every time I am there for treatment. It's not "service", it's care and they're really, really good at it.

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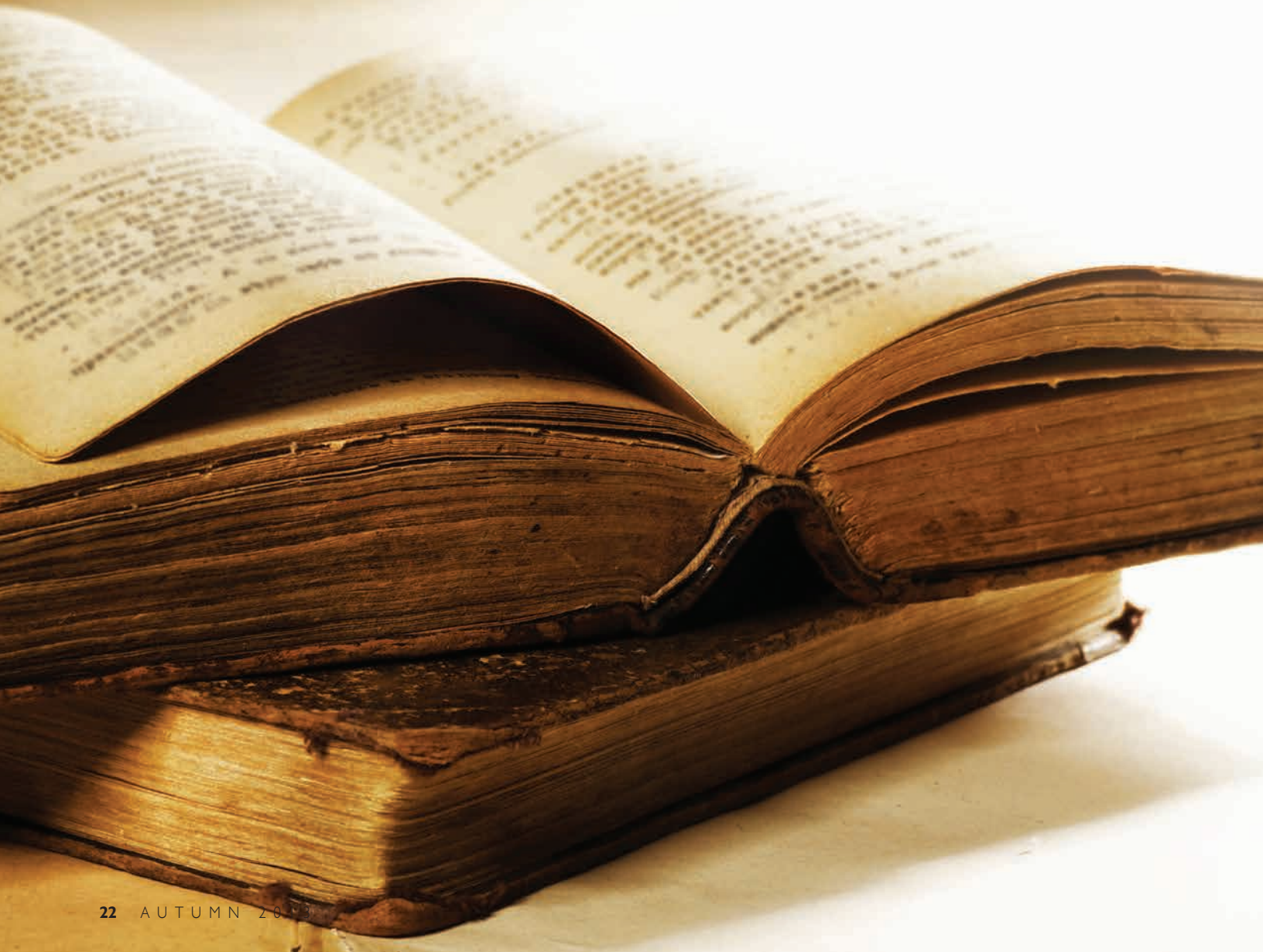
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# *A History of* **Excellence**

By Dawn Nolan



## *Marshall's award-winning History Department creates unique experiences for students*

**W**ith approximately 200 students and 26 faculty members, history might be one of Marshall's smaller programs, but despite its size, the department's enthusiasm is undeniable.

"They are passionate about what they do and their students," said Dr. Frances Hensley, former women's history professor, senior associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of undergraduate studies.

The faculty's excitement for their subject is evident in their achievements. They are published authors and several have been awarded for their teaching efforts.

"The History department has a fairly long tradition of excellence," said Dr. William Palmer, who has personally received the Distinguished Artists and Scholars and the Marshall & Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher award. In addition, Dr. Laura Michele Diener, Dr. Philip Rutherford, Dr. Kat Williams, Dr. David Mills and Dr. Montserrat Miller have each won the Pickens-Queen Teaching Award, and Dr. Daniel Holbrook, Miller and Mills have earned the Charles E. Hedrick Outstanding Faculty Award. Holbrook and Miller received the College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Teacher Award, and both were honored by the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia. Despite their successes, though, the faculty remains humble.

"There really are no stars. It is a department of well-respected, hard-working scholars," Williams said. "My accomplishments would not have happened had it not been for the support of my department."

Whether they are nominating each other for awards or aiding in the development of a new course, those in the department maintain a tight bond. In fact, one thing that Hensley missed most after she transitioned from academics to administration was the conversations with her colleagues.

"There was a lot of interaction about what we were doing and the ideas that we had," she recalled.

Many members will tell you, however, that the most important relationship is with their students.

"What distinguishes the department is its teaching," Holbrook explained. "This is certainly reflected in our awards, but also in our constant re-evaluation of what we do with our students in and outside of the classroom."

Dr. Christopher White is just one faculty member that has expanded his subject beyond the usual confines of his classroom.

"I am happy to have taken Marshall students on uniquely designed trips to Latin America on six occasions," he said.

Students are often given the opportunity to work closely with the faculty to further enhance their educational experience. One example is the Carter G. Woodson project. Developed by Dr. David Trowbridge in 2011, the project is made up of several papers by students that detail a history of the African American experience with a focus in West Virginia.

"It allows them to think more critically and discover unique aspects of Appalachia," described Trowbridge. "I hope it has been a transformative experience."

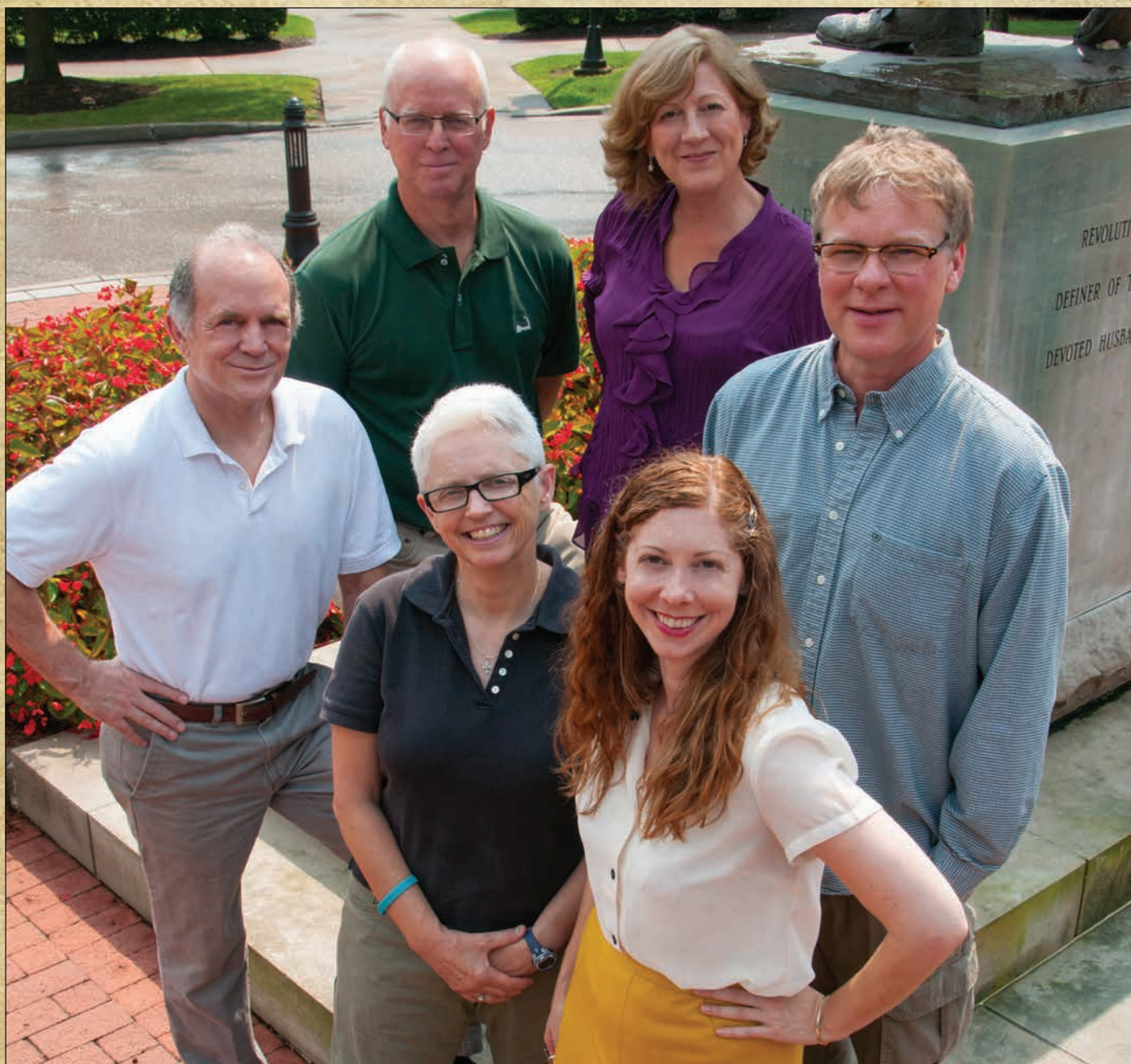
Undergraduate majors in history are required to take a minimum of 36 credit hours, including at least one course of U.S., world and European history.

"The requirements of the program are designed to ensure that our majors have a broad foundation in world and U.S. history and historical methods," explained Holbrook. "As juniors and seniors they tend to specialize in the areas of history that interest them, and more often than not, they find that their interests have been broadened."

Students that prefer online learning can also satisfy their requirements. The department offers 14 online courses.

"The discipline lends itself very well to online delivery," said Dr. Donna Spindel, who retired in August as dean of the Graduate College and who was instrumental





**Marshall History department professors include (clockwise from left) Dr. William Palmer, Dr. Dan Holbrook, Dr. Montserrat Miller, Dr. Phillip T. Rutherford, Dr. Laura Michele Diener and Dr. Kat D. Williams. Not pictured is Dr. David Mills.**

in the development process of this teaching mode. “It can be very visual.”

In addition to general history, the department also offers five interdisciplinary minors in African and African American Studies, Asian Studies, Latin American Studies, Sexuality Studies and Women’s Studies. Each requires a combination of history and other courses such as English, art or music.

“It is a way to encourage students to think beyond disciplinary lines, to develop analytic and critical thinking skills and become aware of different perspectives,” explained Dr. Greta Rensenbrink, director of women’s studies.

The history graduate program is one of the oldest at Marshall; however it has continued to evolve. In addition to specializations in U.S. or European history, the department now offers courses and certificates in Appala-



chian Studies, Asian Studies, Latin American Studies, Sexuality Studies and uniquely, Public History.

“In a nutshell, it [public history] is a way to make history interesting and informative to the general public,” explained Nat DeBruin, university archivist and adjunct professor of history. “The program was created to give students at Marshall the opportunity to explore different aspects of the historical profession. Public history offers a wider variety of options that many students are not aware of.” Like some of the undergraduate minors, the program is interdisciplinary.

“History’ doesn’t happen in a vacuum,” DeBruin said. “When you place historical events in the context in which they occurred, you begin to see that it is a very complex story indeed. By offering courses in other disciplines, the Public History certificate allows our students to explore some of these different aspects of ‘history’ and allows them to interpret it in a different light.”

It may be small, but those in Marshall’s history program maintains a type of unwavering dedication that can rival those three times its size.

“It is an entrepreneurial department,” said Holbrook. “We go well out of our way to make sure that we have the resources to do the job that we are required to do.” □

---

**Dawn Nolan** is freelance writer and Huntington native. She received B.A.s in English and psychology from Marshall in 2010 and will graduate with a M.A.J. in December 2013 from the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

# WE ARE MARSHALL

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By Cory Jackson • Photos by Rick Lee

# Behind the Scenes

Marshall's  
Support  
Staff  
Keeps the  
University  
Running

When students flood onto campus this fall - filing in and out of Smith Hall, dining in Harless Dining Hall, racing past flower beds, meeting in the Memorial Student Center and relaxing and studying in their residence hall - another group of people will be there as well, satisfied in the knowledge that they made those students' days possible.

Those people, the support staff of Marshall University, handle housing, dining, maintenance, health and safety, print services, mail service and campus IDs, as well as a multitude of other aspects many don't often think about.

At the helm of these operations is Senior Vice President for Administration Dr. Karen Kirtley.

"Sometimes, we just don't think about the things going on behind the scenes," she said. "These folks - and I think this is indicative of a lot of the people at Marshall - really love this campus and the university. The work they do is absolutely amazing."

The work of the support staff at Marshall isn't just amazing; it's also never ending.

The Physical Plant is responsible for all maintenance and grounds work for the academic and administration buildings on campus. That's 39 buildings and 115 acres.

The Housing and Residence Life department manages room assignments, residence hall maintenance and housekeeping, residence education initiatives,



Joe Justice, Physical Plant electrician, prepares the Huntington campus for the Fall semester. The Physical Plant is responsible for all maintenance and grounds work on Marshall's 115 acres.





Landscapers (from left) John Maxwell, Danny Bowman and Joseph Eplin keep the grounds, including hundreds of flowers, looking beautiful.

Jason Dolly, student assistant, and Kyle Sowards, program assistant, prepare a room in the Memorial Student Center.



Dr. John Yaun, Director of Housing and Residence Life, surveys the grounds outside Wellman Hall.





**TOP RIGHT: Housing and Residence Life employees (from left) Ruth Porter, Angela Bailey and Gloria McFann clean a residence hall in advance of fall 2013 move in.**

**MIDDLE RIGHT: Calvin Rowlings, Grounds Dept. Lead (left), is assisted in mulching by campus service workers Darlene Johnson and Maria Vargas.**

**BOTTOM RIGHT: Raul Olivares, Anthony Smith and Thomas Jessup (from left) work on one of hundreds of HVAC units on the Huntington campus.**

grounds work, and, on a daily basis, feed and house thousands of college students.

Finally, the Memorial Student Center schedules and prepares for all meetings, receptions and events for students, faculty and the community.

Considering all of these services, Kirtley isn't overstating things in saying, "You can't run a university without the support services and staff."

Kirtley balances these services with the help of eight directors. The directors, along with Kirtley and Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp, work together in crafting a setting in which students feel comfortable and safe.

Physical Plant Director Mark Cutlip plays a major role in those respects. In maintaining the administrative and academic buildings, the Physical Plant affects every student on each campus and center, but perhaps not in ways that are immediately noticed and appreciated.

"The two areas people notice are the grounds and the custodial things," Cutlip said.

That speaks well of Cutlip and his staff, since a major focus and recruiting tool of the university is its grounds. New flowerbeds and plantings are added yearly, with great care and thought going into their selection and maintenance.

"They really value what they do," Dr. Kirtley said. "And they're really entrenched in getting the right landscaping, the right plants, the right colors together."

All support staff members want to do what they can to make Marshall University wonderful, she says.

"The number one comment we receive after freshmen orientation is how nice the grounds look," Cutlip acknowledged.

But there are other tasks and workers who are less obvious, but just as vital. The Physical Plant workers also handle moves on campus, new lighting projects, and building maintenance that includes electrical, plumbing and HVAC repair.

"You never see my people who keep the air-conditioning and heating working," Cutlip says.

The importance and dedication of those workers can't be overstated, Kirtley says.

"You walk in a building, and the air conditioning is working," she explains. "Maybe the night before, that HVAC unit malfunctioned, but those workers came in that night to get it





Food Service Worker Supervisor Stephanie Jennings cleans the tables in Harless Dining Hall.

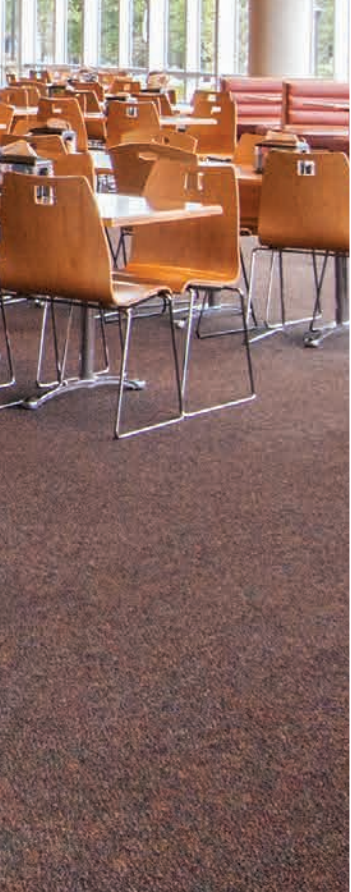






The support staff of Marshall University handles housing, dining, maintenance, health and safety, print services, mail service and campus IDs, as well as a multitude of other aspects many don't often think about.

**Holderby Hall Desk Coordinator Michelle Tobey prepares to welcome new students.**





One of President Stephen J. Kopp's favorite projects is the campus-wide beautification program utilizing flowers grown at the university's student-run greenhouse.







**Barbara Tubbs, Physical Plant manager, supervises the housekeeping and landscaping for Marshall's residence halls.**

back on for the students. That happens all the time, and I don't think people are aware of how much effort goes into keeping this campus running."

Dr. John Yaun, Director of Housing and Residence Life at Marshall University, has some idea. Yaun and his team are responsible for housekeeping and maintenance for the residence halls, housing assignments, and IT issues, among other things. A separate grounds crew and maintenance team ensures buildings and grounds are well-kept and students' rooms are comfortable and safe. "We want them to have as seamless of a living learning experience as possible," Yaun said. "That they don't notice the efforts and work is, in some ways, a good thing; it means the staff are accomplishing our goal of supporting the academic mission of the University by providing a unique residential experience that is a catalyst for student success and development.

While it's easy for those not also behind the scenes to take some of those things for granted, Yaun, Kirtley, and President Kopp do not.

"From the directors, myself and the president, they know how much they are appreciated," Kirtley said.

As Director of Housing and Residence Life, Yaun oversees 50-60 Campus Service Workers, who manage all maintenance and housekeeping tasks in the residence halls. That staff is present from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, and some are on-call overnight to address any issues that may arise. Yaun also oversees a team of Faculty-in-Residence, 57 Resident Advisors, Academic Mentors, Residence Directors, Student Security, and senior staff who work all summer to develop initiatives and co-curricular opportunities that will foster a residential experience characterized by student development and academic success. This is also a large part of the behind the scenes work of getting our residence halls ready for our students, both aesthetically and educationally, to open each fall.

Yaun said, "It's easy to take for granted how wonderful the residence halls and grounds look on a daily basis. This would not be so without the tireless efforts of HRL staff, who take care of our residence halls and grounds, as well as the student learning



initiatives created by our residence life team that support students learning throughout the year.”

William “Tootie” Carter, director of the Memorial Student Center, is familiar with serving people on a daily basis.

Not only do Carter and his staff schedule, organize and facilitate all meetings on campus, but they also serve non-Marshall University events as well.

“During the summers, we’re really busy with off-campus customers,” Carter said. “We have a lot of receptions, and, at the same time, we have orientation for new students.”

During the fall and spring semesters, Carter stays busy coordinating meetings for students, staff, and faculty. During the day, there are mostly faculty meetings, Carter said. Meeting rooms are then typically booked with student organizations until 10:30 to 11 p.m.

Groups arrive to the reserved room to find tables brought in and prepared, chairs provided, the temperature adjusted, any catering taken care of and any necessary equipment waiting.

“They mostly see the end product,” Carter said. “The folks who are participating in the function see none of our preparation;



**William “Tootie” Carter, Memorial Student Center Business Manager**

it’s definitely behind the scenes.”

Carter and staff also take pride in making their building welcoming for students. After surveys from students reported dim lighting and not enough seating, Carter saw to it that new lights were installed and additional chairs were provided.

Because of the nature of their work, support staff don’t often get recognized by those they serve, but that doesn’t diminish their impact, Kirtley says.

“Sometimes, we just don’t think about the things going on behind the scenes, even though we know that there are folks there who are making things happen,” Kirtley says.

“It takes everybody in these areas to keep

everything moving along, and I think, as a whole, the community is really proud of Marshall University.” □

---

**Cory Jackson** is a Marshall University graduate and an English teacher at Cabell Midland High School. He lives in Huntington with his wife, Hayley, and daughter, Avonlea.

An advertisement for Somerville & Company, P.L.L.C. The background is a blurred office scene with people. In the foreground, a man in a white shirt and blue tie is smiling. The text "Committed to Excellence." is written in large green letters. Below it, a green box contains text about the firm's history. At the bottom right, the name "Floyd E. Harlow, Jr. Managing Partner/CPA" is listed. The bottom of the ad features the company logo, name, and contact information.

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YOUR ALUMNI CONNECTION



## A MESSAGE FROM BERNARD "BERNIE" COSTON

*MUAA National President, Class of '79*

Dear Alumni,

A year has come and gone since I took the reins as your president. I've enjoyed the challenge, and through your support we continue to move the program forward. This coming year will be one in which each of you can make a difference in so many ways, and I personally challenge you to take a step forward in making us the best alumni association in the nation.

While we made numerous accomplishments in 2013, there is always room for improvement. Our focus for this year will be to implement programs that will make your alumni experience more rewarding than before. Our board had its first meeting in July and I'm pleased to say that a prioritized list of action items has been created with a goal of accomplishing all items by this time next year.

Homecoming 2013 and Alumni Weekend will remain annual priorities for us. This year's theme for Homecoming is "Mardi Gras ... Marshall Style." Expect to see a very festive mood around the Huntington campus. Alumni Weekend in April 2014 will be a pinnacle to celebrate the many accomplishments of our outstanding alumni and honor the Class of 1964. In other alumni areas, we will continue to look at expanded use of technology, placing emphasis on our clubs and marketing our name all the while, ensuring we are connecting with you as we grow and advance our association.

As we approach the fall of 2013 great things are happening at Marshall. The Arthur Weisberg Family Applied Engineering Complex building is moving along at a rapid pace. It's due to be completed in 2015. The Big Green's Vision Campaign is showing fantastic progress. If you have not contributed to the program, I encourage you to do so today. It's never too late. Fall is in the air and with it comes the anticipation of Marshall football. Please support the program by coming to the stadium or participating in watching parties across the nation. The team needs to have your support both in person and in spirit.

Remember, your alumni board is here to support and serve our constituents. As always, I encourage each of you to connect with us and become actively involved. Thanks for all you do in support of our great school. Have a great Fall.

Bernie Coston

## ALUMNI RELATIONS STAFF

**MATT HAYES**, Executive Director

**NANCY PELPHREY**, Assistant Director

**ROB ELLIS**, Assistant Director of Membership and Marketing

**SAM WORTHY and STEPHANIE HESS**, Graduate Assistants

**MATT PETERS, GABE STABLE and E.J. HASSAN**, Student Assistants





## MU Alumni Association

*Are you an MU grad, fan or friend? Then activate your membership status today!*

The MU Alumni Association serves more than 85,000 alumni living in all states and in more than 59 countries. The MUAA is the organization dedicated to serving past, present and future students from around the globe.

To become an active member of the alumni association, simply make a yearly gift of your choice to the Marshall University Foundation and/or the Marshall University Alumni Association. This gift will make your membership active for 12 months from the date of your gift.

**As an active member, you are entitled to the following benefits:**

- Network with MU grads in your area or in your field of work
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- Attend pre-game events and receptions in conjunction with the university
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- Discount at the Hall of Fame Café in Huntington

***We look forward to hearing from you.  
Call 304-696.2901 for more information.***

## MUAA Board of Directors

The Marshall University Alumni Association is pleased to announce the 2013 Board of Directors. These individuals have been elected by the active alumni and have made a commitment to serve their alma mater. We want to thank each of them for giving of their time and talents, and helping the alumni association move forward.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President ..... Bernard “Bernie” Coston  
 First Vice President..... Benjamin Sandy  
 Second Vice President..... Robert Wise  
 Treasurer ..... Rebecca “Becky” Morris  
 Secretary..... Charles A. Shumaker

### 2011–2014 ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

George Arnold	Gary Caudill
Bernie Coston	Matthew Lockhart
Jeffrey McDowell	Michael Safcsak
Charles Shumaker	Ralph Turner
Joshua Watson	Robert Wise

### 2012–2015 ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Michael Ballard	C. Blaine Carpenter
Denise Finley	Kellie Jones
Christopher Kirkendall	Max Lederer, Jr.
Melanie Moore	Becky Morris
Elizabeth Watson	Cris Young

### 2013-2016 ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Leigh Ann Shepard	Will Holland
Jon Jones	Megan Kueck
Jason Moore	Jennifer Moreland
Benjamin Sandy	Sharon Stapleton
Jack Trainor	Steven Wellman

### REPRESENTATIVES

Big Green/M Club ..... Steve Williams  
 Black Alumni Association ..... Fran Jackson  
 College of Education and  
 Professional Development..... Harold Blanco  
 College of Health Professions ..... Deanna Pope  
 College of Information  
 Technology and Engineering ..... Elizabeth Hanrahan  
 College of Science..... Chuck Somerville  
 Club Representative ..... Brian Allen  
 Honors College..... Mitzi Cyrus  
 MUAA President Appointee..... Stan Lane  
 MU Foundation Representative ..... Robert Osborne  
 Outreach and Continuing Studies..... Bonnie Prisk  
 Office of the President Appointee ..... Barry Taylor  
 School of Medicine..... Cynthia Warren  
 Student Government..... E.J. Hassan



## Marshall University Alumni Association Board of Directors Nomination Form

The Alumni Association is now accepting nominations for 10 of its 30 elected positions on the Board of Directors. The term of office is three years beginning July 1, 2014.

### Qualifications:

- Must be an active member of the Alumni Association through an annual gift to the Marshall University Foundation Inc.
- Be energetic and enthusiastic in support of the university and concerned with its growth and potential.
- Be available to attend three on-campus board meetings during the year, and be willing to assist in his/her home area in promoting Marshall and the Alumni Association.
- Nominations must be received by January 15, 2014 to the Office of Alumni Relations
- Attach nominee's curriculum vitae/resume.

Please complete this biographical form in conjunction with your nominee in order to provide the nominating committee with the necessary information to assist them in the selection process.

Nominator's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for Nomination \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_ Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Years served on Board (*list dates if previously served*) \_\_\_\_\_

We are very interested in how the nominee serves his or her community, and any professional awards received. Include civic groups the nominee belongs to, volunteerism and community service projects in which the nominee has been involved, honors and awards he or she has received, and professional organizations in which the nominee is a member (please list all pertinent information to assist the nomination committee, including dates and offices held).

Only a maximum of five items would be listed on the ballot. Please list in order of preference.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

Self-nominations will be accepted. The MUAA Nomination and Election Committee will screen the nominations and select no fewer than 10 nor more than 20 for the ballot to run for the 10 director's positions. You can return your nomination by e-mailing it as an Adobe PDF document to [ellis77@marshall.edu](mailto:ellis77@marshall.edu), faxing it to (304) 696-2299 or mailing it to: MUAA Board Nominations, Erickson Alumni Center, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755-6200

**For more information, call the Alumni Association at 304-696-2901.**



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8 NIGHT GREEK ISLE HOPPER Athens (2), Santorini (3) & Mykonos (3)

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10-14 NIGHT ALASKA CRUISE/TOUR  
7-14 DAY EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISES  
7-12 NIGHT MEDITERRANEAN CRUISES  
6 NIGHT LONDON (3) & PARIS (3) (Land)  
6 NIGHT PARIS (Land)

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# CRABFEST

Marshall alumni and other friends of the university came to the annual Crabfest and Cookout at Walnut Grove Farm in Centreville, Md., hosted by Bill and Phyllis Eaton.

Matt Hayes, executive director of the MU Alumni Association, addresses the group.



Crabfest is a yearly opportunity for alumni in the area to meet and greet.



Inflatable toys provide hours of entertainment for the younger set.



# MISS WEST VIRGINIA

## Miranda Harrison



Miranda Harrison (left), Miss West Virginia 2013, is shown with her family: Sherri Richmond McKinney, Nolan McKinney and Rick McKinney.

Miranda Harrison, a third-generation Marshall University student, was named Miss West Virginia 2013 July 3 at the Morgantown Event Center. She will compete in the Miss America scholarship pageant at Atlantic City, N.J., Sept. 15, which will be broadcast on television by ABC.

Competing as Miss Southern West Virginia, her platform was “Never Say Never,” which works to help cancer-stricken children and their families. A talented vocalist, Harrison, who has been invited to audition for the television talent show “The Voice,” sang “Bound to You” from the movie *Burlesque* in the talent portion of the competition.

She’s a broadcast journalism major, with a performance theatre minor, and a fervent cheerleader for Marshall. “I was born and raised in Kelly green and I am so excited to wear it,” the ebullient Harrison says.

And she’s looking forward to giving Marshall some national exposure as well. During the rehearsal week preceding the Miss America competition, the Miss America

organization will be posting photos of the individual contestants on its website. “You will definitely see me in Marshall gear during that week!” she vows.

Harrison has been competing in pageants since she was 14 and has racked up an impressive number of titles. Among others, she was Miss Kanawha Valley 2012 in the Miss America competition, and in Virginia she was Miss Hanover, Miss Southeastern Virginia’s Outstanding Teen, Miss Arlington’s Outstanding Teen, and Miss York County’s Outstanding Teen.

Harrison’s family is passionate about Marshall as well. Her mother, Sherri Richmond McKinney, currently working in public relations as a senior video producer for the Virginia Farm Bureau, graduated from Marshall in 1991 with an RBA degree with emphases in journalism and political science. McKinney’s parents, Ira and Dreama Minks Richmond, graduated in the early 1950s with degrees in education. Before their retirement, Ira was the longtime principal at Maxwell Hill Elementary in Raleigh County, where Dreama was a first-grade teacher.



And Harrison was not the only pageant participant in the family. McKinney, who was a majorette at Marshall, won her share of titles as well, including being a runner-up for the Miss West Virginia USA title. After graduation from Marshall, McKinney was a familiar face to Tri-State TV viewers as she was a news anchor/reporter for WCHS-TV from 1991 to 1998.

“My family has a deep-seated love and respect for Marshall; we bleed green,” McKinney says. “It was so exciting for Miranda to win Miss West Virginia, but it’s even more exciting to know that it is a Marshall girl who won.”

And it appears that soon there will be yet another family member keeping up the Marshall tradition, McKinney’s 12-year-old son, Nolan. He’s caught the MU fervor big time, according to his mother. “All Nolan talks about is going to Marshall; he is a passionate Marshall fan. He can practically quote the whole ‘We Are Marshall’ movie he’s watched it so much,” she says.

There has never been a Miss America from West Virginia and Harrison would like to change that. Brimming with bubbly enthusiasm for her new role, she’s serious about representing both the state and Marshall in the best possible light. “I would like to give the nation a fresh look at what West Virginia is really like and who we are,” she says. “I especially appreciate all the support I’ve been given from the university. This is the chance of a lifetime, so I can’t wait to do this for both the state and Marshall.” □



## State of the University 2013

The State of the University Address at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., gave President Stephen J. Kopp an opportunity to speak with legislators, meet with local alumni and bring them up to date on the incredible progress of Marshall University. A celebratory cake for West Virginia’s 150th birthday was served by Newseum host Pam Tabbs, President Kopp and First Lady Jane Kopp.





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# HOMECOMING

## *and Parents and Family Weekend*



Mardi Gras...Marshall Style is music, parades, picnics, floats and excitement...one big celebration at Marshall University. Everyone is wearing green and white and adorned with long beads obtained at different events. This is an opportunity to reunite with old friends, meet new ones and reminisce about your days at MU. If you haven't been to the Huntington campus for a while, you will be amazed at the changes and growth.

Marshall University will celebrate Homecoming Oct. 5 with a new football opponent, the University of Texas San Antonio Roadrunners. You won't want to miss being part of this exciting inaugural matchup. There will be a variety of other events for alumni and fans of all ages.

Here is a list of Homecoming's events. Please mark your calendars and join us for as many activities as possible.

### **MONDAY, SEPT. 30**

All campus offices are asked to decorate using the theme for Homecoming. These offices will be judged and prizes will be awarded at the Friday, Oct. 4, Picnic on the Plaza.

### **THURSDAY, OCT. 3**

Office decoration judging will begin at 10 a.m.

### **FRIDAY, OCT. 4** **MU Spirit Day**

Picnic on the Plaza and Homecoming kickoff 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Join us on the plaza of the Memorial Student Center for music, games, prizes and lunch...ON US!!!. This is the first official event of Homecoming weekend. Help us kick off Homecoming and say a HUGE thank you to the Marshall family and their support of academics, students and the HERD!

This picnic is also a tribute to our success as a university and the generosity of the faculty, staff and students who participated in the MU FAMILY CAMPAIGN. Our success is because of the dedication of the employees at Marshall University. MU students, faculty and staff are among its greatest assets and part of the reason the university is so successful. Their commitment to their work enables the university to fulfill its responsibilities.

You won't want to miss this 3rd annual Picnic on the Plaza sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association and the Office of Development, partnering with Parents and Family Weekend, Student Government Association, Student Programming Board and many others.

### **An Evening with Sinbad – 8:00 p.m.**

The Marshall University Alumni Association in conjunction with the Big Sandy Superstore Arena welcomes actor and comedian SINBAD as part of the Homecoming celebration.

Ranked by Comedy Central as one of the top 100 standup comedians of all time, SINBAD has a loyal following of fans worldwide.





Special student ticket pricing is available by going to the Big Sandy Superstore Arena Box office. All other tickets are available by visiting the box office or Ticketmaster at [www.ticketmaster.com/event/16004B1B77202DFB](http://www.ticketmaster.com/event/16004B1B77202DFB).

You won't want to miss this amazing show to help celebrate Marshall's Homecoming 2013.

## SATURDAY, OCT. 5

### The 18th Annual 5K Alum Run

This 5K course starts on Veterans Memorial Blvd. and ends near Pullman Square. The entry fee is \$20 for early registration and \$25 for late registration. Sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association and the Huntington Lions Club. For questions and registration, contact Joe DeLapa at [joedelapa@gmail.com](mailto:joedelapa@gmail.com).

### Homecoming Parade – 10 a.m.

You won't want to miss Marco, the cheerleaders, Marshall dignitaries and members of the Homecoming court. Come early and find the perfect spot to enjoy the 2013 Homecoming Parade. Sponsored by Student Government Association. For questions and to participate in the parade, contact Jordan Wooldridge in Student Government at [wooldridge3@marshall.edu](mailto:wooldridge3@marshall.edu).

Mr. Ben Hale and his wife, Jan Jenkins Hale, will be the Grand Marshals for the 2013 Homecoming Parade. Mr. Hale is senior partner at Smith and Hale LLC in Columbus, Ohio, an illustrious law firm that traces its origins back to the late 1880s. He earned his B.B.A., in management at Marshall University in 1967 and his J.D. from the Ohio State University in 1970.

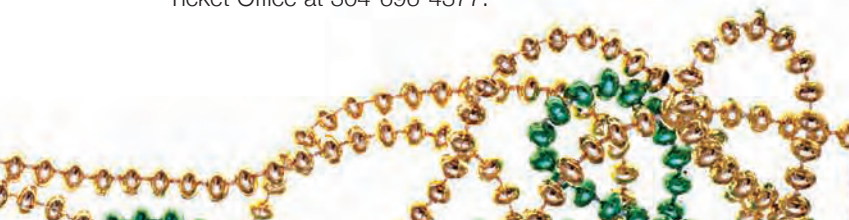
Jan Hale, a '67 Marshall University graduate, and Ben were crowned Mr. and Miss Marshall in 1966 during half-time ceremonies. They have been married 45 years.

### Tailgate Blast 11 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.

MUAA, Black Alumni Association and Parents and Family Weekend are celebrating at 18th Street and 5th Avenue with a joint tailgate blast. Entertainment will be provided by Bravo Live. Cost is \$25 per person. Join us and get ready to cheer on the HERD! Games will also be available.

### MU v. UTSA football – 2:00 p.m. kickoff

Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Contact the MU Athletic Ticket Office at 304-696-4377.



## PARENTS AND FAMILY WEEKEND EVENTS

Take a look at this year's Parents and Family Weekend events for you and your Marshall student. For questions and reservations, please e-mail Vanessa Keadle at [Vanessa.keadle@marshall.edu](mailto:Vanessa.keadle@marshall.edu) or call 304-696-3395.

### FRIDAY, OCT. 4

**11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Picnic on the Plaza with the Alumni Association

**Noon to 3:30 p.m.** Family Check-In. Check in with the Office of Student Affairs at the Memorial Student Center's 5th Avenue entrance and get your Weekend Welcome package.

**6 - 8 p.m.** – Champagne Reception in the lobby of the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse.

### SATURDAY, OCT. 5

**8:30 a.m.** Breakfast with President Stephen J. Kopp in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center. Breakfast will begin after a brief greeting and comments by Dr. Kopp.

**10 a.m.** Watch the Homecoming parade from the 5th Avenue side of the Memorial Student Center.

**11 a.m.-1 p.m.** Homecoming tailgate blast on the field next to Harless Dining Hall. Come hungry and get ready for an exciting day of football! Socialize with other parents and tailgaters from the Marshall Alumni Association and Black Alumni Association. A variety of food and beverages will be provided.

*Optional events with separate ticketing for Parents and Family Weekend:*

### FRIDAY OCT. 4

**7 p.m.** Volleyball vs. Tulane  
Cam Henderson Center

**8 p.m.** Anna in the Tropics  
MU Theatre Presentation in the Experimental Theatre of the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse

### SATURDAY, OCT. 5

**2 p.m.** MU Football Game  
Joan C. Edwards Stadium

**8 p.m.** NPHC Step Show  
Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center





## BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Black Alumni Association Inc. invites all alumni to return to the Huntington campus and join the fun of "Mardi Gras ... Marshall Style." See the list of events below. For questions, prices and registration, e-mail Fran Jackson at [jacksonf@marshall.edu](mailto:jacksonf@marshall.edu)

### FRIDAY OCT. 4

#### Registration

**3-6 p.m.**

*Pullman Plaza Hotel, 1001 3rd Ave. (second floor)*

Will have vendors!

#### Welcome Back Champagne Reception/ Silent Auction

**7:30 -9:30 p.m.**

*Erickson Alumni Center*

Music by Bob Thompson Unit; Silent Auction to raise funds for the Janis Winkfield Scholarship.

#### Laid Back Friday After-Party

**10 p.m. - 1 a.m.**

*Memorial Student Center Basement*

Music by T and T Production

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### SATURDAY, OCT. 5

#### MUBA Business Meeting

**9 a.m.**

*Erickson Alumni Center*

#### Tailgate

**11:00 – 1:00 p.m.**

*18th St. and 5th Ave.*

#### Rhoyal Affair Black Alumni Dance/ Silent Action

**9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.**

*Pullman Plaza Grande Ball Room (second floor)*

Music by Hybrid Soul Project - sponsored by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. Silent Auction to raise funds for the Janis Winkfield Scholarship.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 6

#### Prayer Breakfast

**9 a.m.**

*Kentucky Room, Pullman Plaza (second floor)*

Speaker: Bishop Frederick M. Brown

Music by Rodney Boyden

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## OTHER HOMECOMING EVENTS

### SATURDAY, OCT. 5

**Alpha Xi Delta Chili Fest** - The sisters of Alpha Xi Delta invite all of their alumni, their families and friends to attend the Homecoming Chili Fest. This is a great opportunity to reconnect with sisters you've known for years and meet the newest ones, too. Chili will be served along with drinks and dessert. Be at the Alpha Xi house, 1645 5th Ave., at 10 a.m. For questions contact Sarah Stiles, president, by phone at 304-288-7993 or Rachael Weigart, alumni relations at 304-767-8370.

#### Alpha Tau Omega Alumni and Family Pregame Celebration

- The chapter will be cooking out and providing a mix of fruit and breakfast foods, as well as the usual cookout assortment. All alumni and their families are invited to come. We will have an area for younger family members as well. Be at Tyson Hall, 1429 5th Ave., at 10 a.m. For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Jack Stonesifer by e-mail at [Stonesifer@marshall.edu](mailto:Stonesifer@marshall.edu) or by phone at 202-213-7102.

#### Tri-Sigma Alumnae Homecoming Breakfast

- Sigma Sigma will be hosting breakfast for collegiate and alumnae members of Psi chapter. Parents are also welcome. The collegiate members will have a silent auction of baskets of different assortments, which will benefit our foundation. Come to the Sigma Sigma Sigma house at 1639 6th Ave., between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Contact Emma Cole, alumnae relations, by phone at 304-546-1732.

# Retired Professor to Sign Book at Homecoming

Dr. Bob Barnett will sign his new book, *Hillside Fields: A History of Sports in West Virginia*, at the Marshall University Bookstore on the Huntington campus from 10 a.m. to noon on Homecoming Saturday, Oct. 5. Barnett taught sports history classes at Marshall for 35 years before retiring in 2008.

*Hillside Fields: A History of Sports in West Virginia*, was published by West Virginia University Press and released in May 2013. It provides extensive coverage of Marshall sports, including the beginning of Marshall football. Coach Cam Henderson's NAIB national championship team shares a chapter with WVU's 1942 NIT championship team. The "Ashes to Glory" chapter covers Marshall football from the depths of futility, scandal and tragedy beginning in the 1960s through its rise to national championships in the 1990s and the *We Are ... Marshall* movie. The roles of Marshall alumni favorites, Dr. Dorothy Hicks and Donna Lawson, as early leaders in the development of women's intercollegiate sports, are highlighted in the chapter on women's sports.

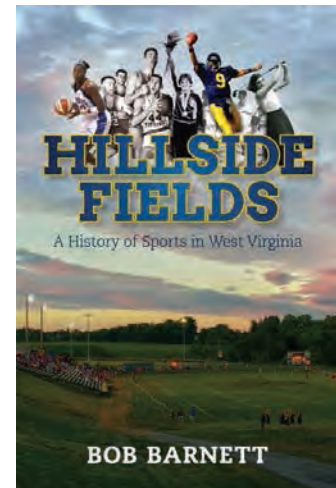
Championship teams at Marshall and WVU and athletic superstars like Jerry West and Mary Lou Retton are familiar to all, but few know many of the untold stories of sports in the Mountain State. *Hillside Fields* chronicles the famous athletic triumphs but also tells the

little-known stories of the triumphs and heart-breaking losses of legendary local teams and their heroes as it records the titanic struggles of a small state competing alongside larger rivals.

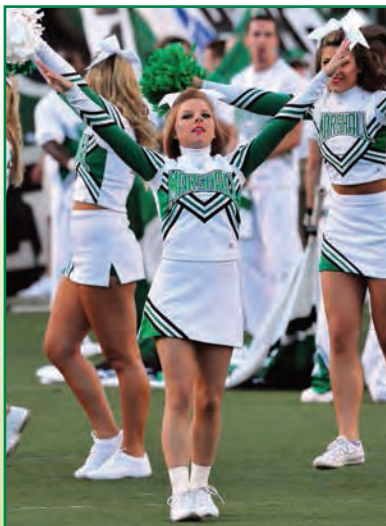
*Hillside Fields* also chronicles the founding of the Oakhurst Links golf club, West Virginia's first girls state high school championship basketball tournament in 1919 and the first black high school basketball tournament in 1925, all of which were pioneer events in American sports history. *Hillside Fields* explains how major national trends and events, as well as West Virginia's economic, political, and demographic conditions, influenced the development of sports in the state. The story of the growth of sports in West Virginia is also a story of the tribulations, hopes, values and triumphs of a proud people.

Barnett and his wife Liz live in Huntington and Sarasota, Florida.

For additional information contact Bob Barnett by phone at 304-523-3901 (h) or 304-633-6047, or by e-mail at [barnettink@aol.com](mailto:barnettink@aol.com).



## Homecoming Reunion for Cheerleading Alumni



Attention all former cheerleaders, cheer coaches, and Marcos: You're invited to participate in this year's Homecoming 2013 events for cheerleading alumni! Here's a list of what's being planned.

### Friday, Oct. 4 - 6:30 p.m.

Meet and Greet Dinner at the John Marshall Room. Cost: \$30 per person.

### Saturday, Oct. 5 - 9:15 a.m.

Meet near the Holiday Inn to walk in the Homecoming parade. Be sure to wear your new "Alumni Cheerleader" t-shirt (available for \$15, advance orders necessary).

Noon Alumni Cheerleading tail-gate prior to the football game with the MClub at the Pavilion. Tickets for the game are available at special rates by contacting the ticket office at 304-696-HERD and referencing MU Alumni Cheer.

The Holiday Inn at 800 3rd Ave. in Huntington has a limited number of rooms available for a special rate as well. Contact them by phone at 304-523-8880 and use the code "Marshall University Cheerleading Alumni."

**See you there! We need your reservation by Sept. 13. Please see the website ([www.herdzone](http://www.herdzone)) for registration and information forms.**





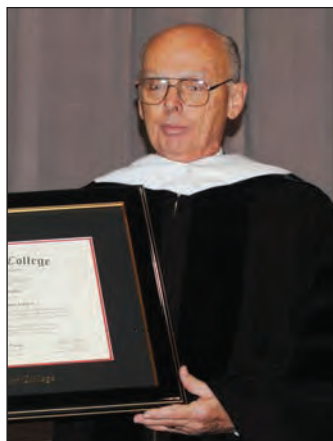
Please share your news with us by sending it to the Marshall University Alumni Association; One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, W. Va. 25755. *Preference will be given to active alumni;* other news will be printed as space allows and should be received within six months of the event. For more Class Notes, go to [www.marshall.edu/alumni](http://www.marshall.edu/alumni).

## 1970s

**Don Raber** (M.B.A.) received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Tusculum College in Greeneville, Tenn. in May 2013. He is a longtime friend of the college and is currently a member of their Board of Trustees. With experience in banking, investment and finance, Raber has served Tusculum College in several capacities, including chairing the Business Committee and as a member of the Executive Committee, the Audit, Finance Investment and Buildings Committee, the Institutional Advancement Committee and as Foundation Investment Advisor. He is the recipient of the Tusculum College Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor bestowed by the college.

After a career spent in finance and banking, Raber founded Aldebaran Financial in 1991. He has also taught at several colleges and universities and has established scholarships at Tusculum College and other institutions.

"Don has lived a life that adheres to the tenants of the



Tusculum College mission," said the college's president, Nancy B. Moody." He has strived for success in his personal life, while never forgetting his sense of community." Participating in the degree conferral was Raber's son, Peter W. Raber, vice president of operations and chief compliance officer for Aldebaran Financial.

Tusculum College, the oldest college in Tennessee, is a liberal arts institution with pathways for career preparation, personal development and civic engagement. In addition to the main campus in Greeneville, there are three off-site locations in East Tennessee.

**Dr. H. Keith Spears** (B.S. '70) has been honored by the Fort Gay High School Alumni Association with its 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award for his career achievements and dedicated public service.

In 1973, while teaching at Fort Gay High School, he established one of West Virginia's first public radio stations, WFGH-FM. The station is still on the air and serves residents of Wayne County, W.Va., and neighboring Lawrence County, Ky. He also spent 28 years as a member of the faculty and administration of Marshall University, where he served in a number of positions, including vice president for communications. In this position, he oversaw the development of the award-winning "We Are...Marshall" branding and served as MU's chief consultant when Warner Bros. made the motion picture, *We Are Marshall*.



Spears later directed a number of endeavors promoting public broadcasting, state museums, libraries and festivals while serving as director for special projects at the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts. Since 2009, he has served as the vice president for graduate and professional studies at Campbellsville University, which is based in Campbellsville, Ky.

## 1980s

**Chris Fabry** (B.A. '82) has received another Christy Award at the 2013 Christy Award ceremony held recently in St. Louis, Mo. A graduate of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, Fabry won in the Contemporary Standalone category for his book, *Not in the Heart*, which follows a down-on-his-luck journalist who gets an "opportunity of a lifetime" story that forces him to seek the truth and make difficult choices as his son awaits a life-saving heart transplant.

Fabry, a talk show host who has published more than

65 books, including nonfiction and novels for children and young adults, is a native West Virginian whose tales of redemption have earned him numerous awards, including two previous Christy Awards and the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association Fiction Book of the Year. His work has received rave reviews from both *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal*. His newest title, *Every Waking Moment*, will be released in September 2013. Fabry's works are published by Tyndale House Publishers, the world's largest privately held Christian publisher of books, Bibles, and digital media.

## 2000s

**Courtney Blain Green** (B.S.N. '03), of Pickerington, Ohio, has earned her nurse executive certification from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Formerly of Huntington, she received a master's degree in nursing administration from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, in 2010. Currently she is an administrative nurse manager at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

## 2010s

**Capri Billings** (B.S. '13) has developed "River Cities Bully Buddies," an adoption and home placement service for Rottweiler and Bulldog breeds in the Huntington area. She is working to attain 501c3 status for the organization.

# IN MEMORIAM

**CHARLES F. ERICKSON**, a Logan County native whose foundation built alumni centers at 13 public and private colleges, including Marshall, died July 4 at his home in Florida.

After attending West Virginia University, Erickson joined the Army and spent two years in Germany. When he returned from the service, he went into business with his father, the late Charlie Oscar Erickson, and together they built the Durfees Cable Company into the largest cable operation in West Virginia. Their holdings later included cable systems in Virginia, Kentucky and Michigan, with the younger Erickson serving as president.

After his father's death in 1993, Erickson honored a promise he had made to him and established the Erickson Foundation to build alumni centers at colleges and universities in West Virginia.

"While the Marshall University Alumni Relations staff mourns Mr. Erickson's passing, we also celebrate the legacy of generosity he leaves behind," said Matt Hayes, executive director of alumni relations at Marshall. "Our deepest sympathies are with his family in this time of great loss. Our office proudly bears the Erickson name as a testament of both Charlie Oscar's and Charles' faithful support and philanthropy."

He is survived by his wife, Laurie; two sons, Charles II of Washington, N.C.; and Brandon of Boca Raton, Fla.; one grandson, two sisters and several nieces and nephews.



**JAMES E. BARTON** (B.A.'56, M.A.'58) of Granville, Ohio/Naples, Fla., died in June. Born in Finleyville, Pa., he grew up in Mason, W.Va., and graduated from Wahama High School, where he was a member of the Wahama Sports Hall of Fame. He attended Marshall on both basketball and football scholarships. After serving in the U.S. Navy he was offered a contract to play football by the Baltimore Colts, where over the years, he became a good friend of Colts coach Weeb Ewbank. Later he was signed to play for the Dallas Texans of the American Football League by the owner, Lamar Hunt. He eventually was signed by the Denver Broncos and finished his playing career there in 1963. He spent two years as a scout for the San Diego Chargers under Head Coach Sid Gilman.

Before his professional football career ended, Barton had entered the insurance business part time and later worked for the General American Life Insurance Company and the Glenn M. Erskine Company. In 1973, he moved to Granville, Ohio, and started Advanced Employee Benefits Inc., which eventually became Jim Barton & Associates Inc. in 1979. He was a member of numerous professional organizations and was a member of the GenAmerica Financial (MetLife) Hall of Fame, the highest honor the company bestows upon its agents. In addition, he was a member of the National Football League Players Association (NELPA) and was President of the NELPA—Columbus (Ohio) chapter. Active in numerous civic and

community groups, he was a member of Marshall's Big Green Club, Ohio State University President's Club and was an Ohio Commodore, an honor bestowed by Gov. James Rhodes. He was said to have relished his membership in the Naples, Fla. PIP (Previously Important People), a group of retired business owners who gathered daily.

One of his proudest gestures was spearheading the Tribute to Licking County (Ohio) World War II Veterans in 2006 and later a separate celebration, "Honoring All Licking County Veterans," in 2011.

"My dad loved Marshall and taught all three of his children the 'Sons of Marshall' song...or at least we can sing a few lines of the song!" says his son, Ben Barton of Granville, Ohio. "His days there sixty years ago were always full of great stories of phenomenal characters. He lived large and was a great friend to many throughout Ohio and West Virginia."

In lieu of flowers, the family requested contributions to the Licking County Salvation Army, Licking County Veterans, Hospice of Central Ohio or the Granville Athletics Boosters.

**JAMES WOODOW "WOODY" RUTHERFORD** 97, retired professor of physical science, died July 26 in Barboursville, W.Va. He was a U.S. Army World War II veteran. Memorial donations may be made to the Nell Elizabeth Cook Rutherford Memorial Scholarship, a fund that was set up in memory of his late wife.





# 2014 Alumni Award Nominations

Deadline for submissions is December 6, 2013

The Alumni Association proudly recognizes achievements of distinguished alumni, friends and students by presenting awards at its annual Alumni Awards Banquet. Past honorees have included outstanding educators, successful business people, prominent scientists, sports and entertainment personalities and ordinary people with extraordinary devotion to Marshall.

**The Awards Committee makes its decision based on nominations received on or before December 6, 2013. Nominations received after that date will be considered for 2015.**

**CATEGORIES:**

**Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna:** Given to Marshall alumni for outstanding national achievements in their particular field of endeavor.

**Alumnus/Alumna Community Achievement:** Given to alumni for success in their particular field of endeavor and personal contribution to their respective communities. (A Marshall alumnus/alumna is any former student who has received academic credit at Marshall University and whose class has graduated.)

**Distinguished Service:** Given for loyal and unselfish service to Marshall. This award is NOT limited to Marshall alumni.

**The Young Alumni Award:** Presented to an alum who is 35 years old or younger, is an active member of the Alumni Association, shows outstanding achievement in his or her field of endeavor, has a personal commitment to his or her community and demonstrates service to Marshall University and its students. This award is not open to members of the MUAA board.

**The Dr. Carolyn B. Hunter Faculty Service Award:** Established to recognize contributions and to provide incentives for continued service from faculty to the community, the university and students in their respective fields.

For a list of past award winners or to submit the name of an individual you believe to be qualified as a nominee for one of the awards, go to [www.herdalum.com](http://www.herdalum.com) and go to "Alumni Awards" under the "Who We Are" menu. This nomination form must be received in our office by the above date. The Awards Committee will review the qualifications of nominees and select the recipients.

Award winners will be asked to submit a number of photos for a video presentation during the Awards Banquet. Please make sure the nominee would be willing to submit these photos within two weeks after notification of having won the award. He/she must be able to attend the Alumni Awards Banquet in April.

Please include the following to support your nomination in order to provide the selection committee with as much information as possible:

1. An explanation of how your candidate fulfills the criteria for the award category for which he/she has been nominated;
2. The nominee's vita/résumé, including career highlights, volunteerism, honors and awards, community service, professional organizations, publications, etc.;
3. Letters of nomination detailing personal knowledge of the candidate and his/her personal and professional achievements; and
4. Other supporting documentation, such as copies of magazine and newspaper articles.

\* All categories may not be awarded each year!

I hereby nominate the following person for: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee's Business/Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My Address: \_\_\_\_\_

My Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

My Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this form with the documentation indicated above to:**  
 Alumni Awards Nominations  
 Marshall University Alumni Association  
 One John Marshall Drive  
 Huntington, WV 25755-6200

## SPOTLIGHT

# Max Lederer

He came to Marshall on an ROTC scholarship, but it didn't take long for Max Lederer to distinguish himself, not only in his commitment to the military and his studies but to student affairs as well. And a rich mixture of the military and the law has sent him on a swift trajectory, which today finds him heading up a prestigious and iconic publication known and read by millions throughout the world.

Lederer, who is the publisher of the independent U.S. military publication, Stars and Stripes, and a member of the Marshall University Alumni Association Board of Directors, originally came to Marshall from Lockport, N.Y., because of their ROTC program. As a cross-country and long-distance runner, he found the MU track team was an added enticement. But once in Huntington, it didn't take long for the political science major to become heavily involved in student activities and ultimately take on leadership roles.

Perhaps as a precursor to the law degree he would go on to earn, he spent three years on the Student Court, serving as Chief Justice his senior year. An avid outdoorsman, he made time to serve on the Outdoor Recreation Committee for three years, chairing it as a senior. In addition, he was a resident advisor for three years in Holderby Hall, one of the bigger residence halls at the time, and was a walk-on member of the MU track team during his freshman year.

But as busy as Lederer was on campus, he never lost sight of the goals that had brought him to Marshall, compiling an impressive academic record that culminated in his graduating cum laude in 1982 with a B.A. in political science. Upon graduation, he was commissioned

as a distinguished military student with the Army through Marshall's Reserve Officers' Training Corps program.

Throughout his distinguished career, the military and the law would be inexorably blended. Prior to starting his military career, he earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of Richmond and was subsequently selected for the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He had active duty assignments with the Trial Defense Service in Fort Sill, Okla., and later as a Command Judge Advocate (CJA) in Korea. After a year, he was selected to serve as Senior Trial Counsel for the Combined Field Army where, while assigned to these two positions, he tried over 40 courts-martial, including three homicide cases. In 1989, he was assigned to the Second Armored Division (Forward) (2AD) in Germany and for the next 2 years worked in posts in various parts of Northern Germany as Chief of Administrative Law.

Lederer was deployed to Operation Desert Storm/ Shield with 2AD as the Command Judge Advocate (CJA), for which he was awarded the Bronze Star. And his stay in Germany became even more memorable when he met his future wife, Sabine, while he was stationed there.

In 1992, after completing his military career, Lederer

began his association with the publication that is synonymous with the U.S. military across the globe. Stars and Stripes has a storied history of delivering news on military matters to the military community wherever they may be located. The only independent source for news and information that operates from inside the U.S. Department of Defense, Stars and Stripes is editorially independent of any outside interference and influence and has for





“ My parents believed in volunteering and service and that was one of the things I looked for when I was a student at Marshall. ”

decades produced objective, factual, staff-produced stories relevant to the military community. His first assignment was as General Counsel at European Stars and Stripes (ESS), a position he remained in until his selection as General Manager in December, 1996. As General Manager for ESS, Lederer had the distinction of being the first civilian in the 57-year history of European Stars and Stripes to attain this level of senior management within the newspaper.

“I like to tell people that after four years of doing their legal work I had learned enough secrets that they had to put me in management,” he says, laughing.

In July 2000, he assumed the directorship of the newly created Central Stars and Stripes (S&S) office in Washington, D.C, and was also designated the S&S General Counsel worldwide. As General Manager he supervised the business operations of the Central Office. As General Counsel, he provided legal services to Stars and Stripes worldwide and supervised legal services provided by two other legal assets, while coordinating with legal offices within the Department of Defense and the Department of Justice worldwide. Among his notable accomplishments during this time was the opening of seven different print sites throughout the Middle East and the delivery of the newspaper each day to service members serving at military bases.

In 2007 Lederer became only the second full-time civilian publisher of Stars and Stripes worldwide. As publisher he’s responsible for the worldwide business and editorial operations of the publication which reaches 350,000 readers daily. And with the swift technological advances in information delivery, Stars and Stripes had to adapt and change as well.

“Most news organizations, particularly formerly newspaper type news organizations, have had to change,” he says. “What some people lost for a time was the concept that the product is not the newspaper, the product is the content. The newspaper is merely the delivery mechanism. With the exploding information age, we had to reinvent the publication so we could deliver the content in all the

different types of venues and we have done that very successfully.” And today, he points out, the publication has stepped up technologically and now reaches readers worldwide utilizing 14 print sites around the world, a native website, iPhone app, Android app and an iPad edition, all in addition to the 70,000 copies of the newspaper that are distributed daily.

These days Lederer makes it back to the Huntington campus as an Alumni Association board member but there’s another welcome reason for

these visits as well— son Nikolai, a senior majoring in History, is carrying on a budding family tradition. “He had been looking at colleges, and in fact we had visited eight or nine, but he hadn’t applied to Marshall. But when I visited friends here and he came along, he fell in love with the place, so Marshall was definitely his choice.” Son Kristoph will soon be going to school in Maryland.

There’s another Lederer family tradition that the clan eagerly looks forward to, one they’ve been carrying on for 13 straight years. Each Thanksgiving hardy family members strap on running shoes and head out into the cold (“It’s usually in the snow,” Lederer, still an avid runner, says wryly,) to take part in the Buffalo (N.Y.) Turkey Trot, the longest running race in the U.S. It’s a real family gathering, as his sons, brother and cousins all brave the elements to take on the eight-kilometer challenge and just have fun.

As Lederer strolls the campus during visits here, memories of his time in class and as a campus leader flood back. “One of my strongest memories is of Professor Clair Matz. He had a big influence, talking about what you do with your career, what value do you want to return,” he remembers. “Both my parents were school administrators, that’s where I started to formulate my belief about public service and that’s why my career has ended up being about public service. I think it’s more fulfilling and worthwhile to serve the public rather than just take from people. My parents believed in volunteering and service and that was one of the things I looked for when I was a student at Marshall. I looked for a fulfilling experience and a chance to serve with ROTC, student activities and the Student Court and now with the Alumni Association.” □

A man in a dark grey suit and white shirt stands in a grand, well-lit hallway with large columns and a polished floor. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows architectural details like a balcony and a doorway.

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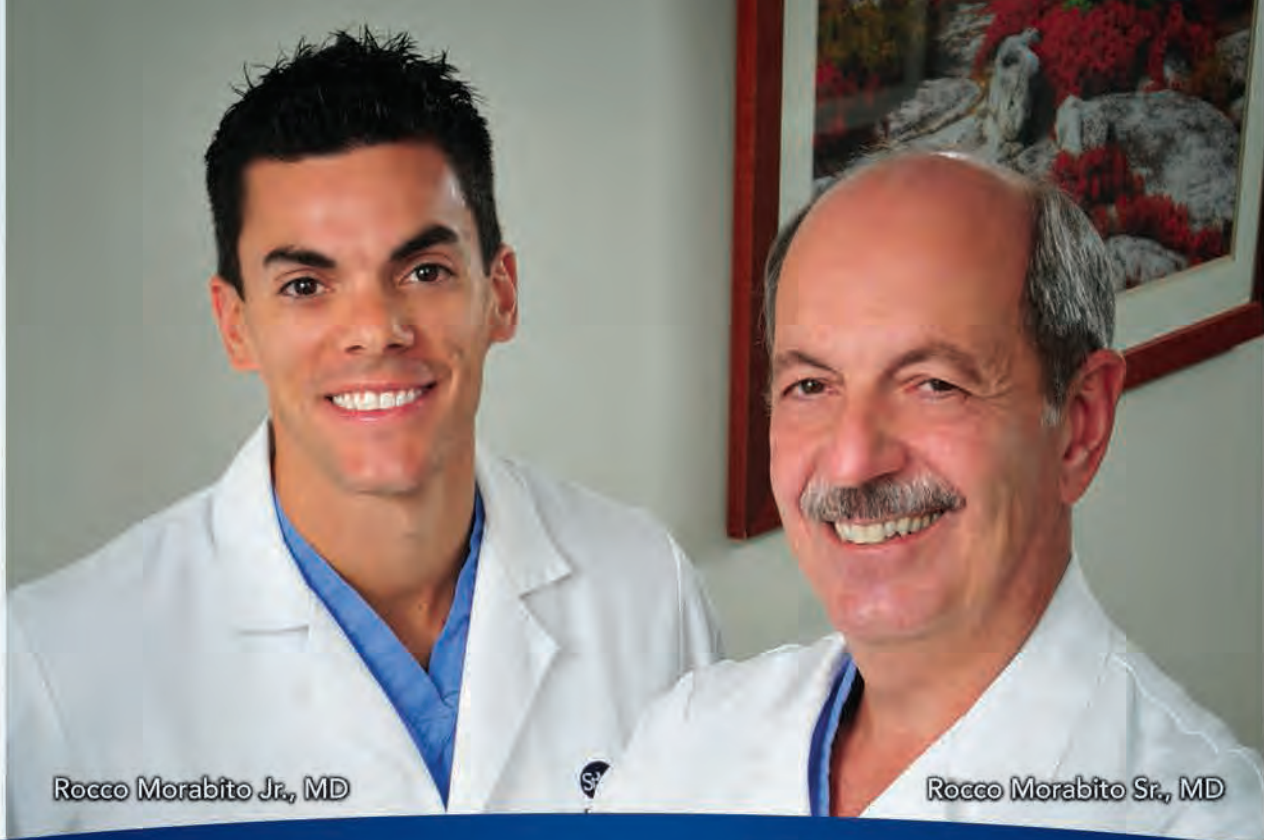
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