CareChex recently named the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center at Cabell Huntington Hospital as having the best cancer program in West Virginia and the Huntington/Ashland/Ironton area. It also ranked the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center in the Top 3% of all hospitals in the country for cancer care.

The CareChex quality rating service provides a comprehensive evaluation of all components of medical quality, including process of care, outcomes of care, patient safety and patient experiences.

No other health care provider in the Tri-State even comes close to the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center in the CareChex quality ratings for Cancer Care.

So, if you’re looking for cancer care that’s not only the most advanced and comprehensive in the region – but also the highest in quality, look no further than the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center at Cabell Huntington Hospital – where you’ll find a distinct difference in cancer care.

This data is from The Delta Group, an independent health care information company. The Delta Group, through its CARECHEX® rating service, uses both public and proprietary information to compare the quality of hospital and physician care to national, state and local standards. The program analyzes a variety of process, outcome and patient satisfaction measures to assign a composite quality score and rating.
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The Marshall Artists Series, the second-oldest “town and gown” arts organization in the country, has brought arts, education and entertainment to Marshall for 75 years.
Continued Growth

The new academic year opened in August with record freshman enrollment, near-capacity occupancy in the residence halls and a Huntington campus revitalized with more than $13 million in facility renovations and improvements. A new gateway on Fifth Avenue now welcomes alumni, friends and visitors to campus, and planning for more than $110 million in new capital projects is well under way.

The Huntington campus is more stunning than ever, thanks to landscaping and hardscape beautifications that have enhanced the aesthetics of the grounds. From Point Pleasant to South Charleston and Huntington our centers and campuses rank among the most attractive locations in the state. These aesthetically appealing settings combine to provide welcoming spaces conducive to learning and enjoyment of the distinctive academic and social experiences at Marshall. They also create energizing environs for our faculty and staff to engage in fulfilling work.

Inside our academic buildings, the first phase of major instructional technology enhancements is well under way, as part of a three-year comprehensive plan to refurbish and upgrade every instructional area on campus. Our initiative to expand our academic profile continues in earnest. New degree programs are being developed that complement our strengths in the biosciences and health science fields. Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Public Health and Bioinformatics are included among these developing programs. We are also continuing to expand engineering as well as other high-demand fields of study.

Key to the latter development will be the construction of the new 140,000-square-foot Biotechnology Incubator and Applied Engineering Complex. Thanks to the work of our senior West Virginia State Senator, Bob Plymale, the leadership of the West Virginia Legislature, the Governor and the Higher Education Policy Commission, Marshall is the recipient of $25 million in funding toward the $50 million required to design and construct this new building. This new facility will be juxtaposed along Third Avenue between the current Arthur Weisberg Family Engineering Laboratories and the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center.

Seven additional buildings are planned as part of this new expansion of Marshall’s Huntington campus. These projects include:

- The Fine Arts Incubator in downtown Huntington will become the new home for various Marshall fine arts programs, especially in the visual arts. This major building renovation project opposite Pullman Plaza will enhance the arts and cultural landscape of the city of Huntington, while enabling expansion and increased visibility for Marshall’s fine arts programs.

- The Multipurpose Indoor Practice Complex, which will consist of three interconnected buildings, will be built on the site of the current soccer field. This complex will consist of the Indoor Practice Facility, the Student Athlete Academic Center and the Sports Medicine Translational Research Center. This facility will benefit all of Marshall’s intercollegiate sports teams.

- A new Soccer Stadium Complex will be constructed on the north side of Fifth Avenue on the site of the Veterans Memorial Field House.

- A multi-floor parking structure will be built adjacent to the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse and replace the surface parking lost on Third Avenue due to the construction of the Biotechnology Incubator and Applied Engineering Complex.

- A new, high-technology academic building will be built to provide modern, versatile learning environments for today’s and tomorrow’s tech-savvy students. The student-centric spaces in this building will be designed to empower students to engage in interdisciplinary thinking and learning experiences, which integrate theory and application in immersive 24/7 settings.

The anticipated cost to design and construct all of these new capital projects is $115 million. A little over one-third (about 34.8 percent) of the funding required will need to be raised privately, giving rise to our private fund-raising goal of $40 million. As we enter 2012, the 175th year since our founding, please consider adding your gift to this very important fundraising goal for the future of Marshall University.

Marshall has joined 21 other universities invited to participate with the Lumina Foundation and the Higher Learning Commission in beta testing a new model for regional reaccreditation. This pioneering process, called the “Open Pathways Project,” will allow us to undertake a series of quality improvement initiatives focused on establishing an institutional degree qualification profile. Simply put, we will use comprehensive assessments of our stated learning outcomes as well as evidence of students’ actual learning outcomes – across the curriculum and at the undergraduate and master’s degree levels – to address very important questions about the caliber and distinctiveness of a Marshall education. This initiative places Marshall University in a leadership role nationally.

We are embracing with renewed commitment our dedication to student success and academic innovation. We recognize the special contributions made by members of our Board of Governors, the members of the Higher Education Policy Commission and our legislative leaders for helping Marshall University realize its vast potential. This is a special time in our historic institution’s nearly 175-year history – one of tremendous growth and opportunity. I personally thank our readers for your commitment to Marshall University and helping to fulfill the promise of a better future.

President STEPHEN J. KOPP

STEPHEN J. KOPP
From Huntington, West Virginia, we reach the world.

Permco proudly presents its third facility in China, which houses a new engineering research and development center in Tianjin.

Guo Biao, Chief Engineer (center), and his engineering team.
For the past 75 years, the Marshall Artists Series has been a Huntington tradition.

By James E. Casto • Photos courtesy of Marshall Artists Series
T he audience that gathered at Huntington City Hall Auditorium on the evening of Oct. 15, 1936, came to see and hear one of the best-known Americans of the day – Admiral Richard E. Byrd, the famed polar explorer. As they listened to Byrd and watched his films recounting his adventures, few if any in the audience could have realized they were taking part in a historic event.

Byrd’s appearance was the first presentation in what would become a Huntington tradition – the Marshall Artists Series.

This year the Marshall Artists Series is celebrating its 75th anniversary. That’s decade after decade of bringing the finest of world-class entertainment to the campus and community. During that time, literally hundreds of actors and actresses, singers, dancers, musicians and other talented individuals have performed in Huntington as part of the Artists Series.

Broadway musicals such as Cabaret and The Sound of Music, dramas such as Agnes of God and The Diary of Anne Frank, pop stars including Johnny Mathis and Liza Minnelli, folk singers such as Harry Belafonte and Odetta, jazz greats such as Dave Brubeck and Stan Kenton, dancers such as Agnes de Mille and Dame Margot Fonteyn, symphony orchestras from across the nation and around the world – all these and many, many more have appeared on the Artists Series.

As then-Marshall College president James E. Allen explained in introducing Byrd that memorable night in 1936, his appearance was the first in a series of programs that had been planned as part of the college’s 100th anniversary. The school traces its origin to 1837.

The yearlong series was the brainchild of Curtis Baxter, then a young English professor at Marshall. The series was conceived to last for just the anniversary year but proved so popular that Allen asked Baxter to continue it. Baxter did so in spectacular fashion for year after year, serving at the program’s helm until 1972.

A year after he organized the Artists Series, Baxter asked Mrs. Will Mount to direct ticket sales for it, an important task she undertook with an almost missionary zeal. She would be secretary/treasurer of the Artists Series for nearly 30 years. Today, the Artists Series honors those two pioneers by offering events in two categories each season, the Baxter Series and the Mount Series.

Although the Artists Series was born at Huntington City Hall Auditorium, its success quickly created a demand for more seats and a bigger stage; soon, the Keith-Albee Theatre (now the Keith-Albee Performing Arts
Center) became its home. Over the years, some events have been staged elsewhere, but the grand old theater and the Artists Series just naturally seem to go together.

Founder Curtis Baxter saw the Artists Series as a way of bringing Marshall and the community closer together.

Penny Watkins, a Marshall graduate who’s been executive director of the Artists Series since 1997, notes that many other schools have similar “town-and-gown” arts programs but only one – at the University of Michigan – can claim a longer history than the Marshall program.

Many people mistakenly believe that Marshall fully funds the Artists Series. Not so. Yes, the Marshall Artists Series receives funds from the activity fees paid by students, and in return the students can obtain free or low-cost tickets to series events. But the money from the student activity fees is only a small portion of the program’s annual budget. The rest of the money – hundreds of thou-

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The 65th season of the Marshall Artists Series was kicked off with a production of the Tony Award-winning, nationally acclaimed musical Titanic.
Founder Curtis Baxter saw the Artists Series as a way of bringing Marshall and the community closer together.

sands of dollars every year—must come from ticket sales, corporate grants and private donations.

In addition, a few years ago, Senator Bob Plymale helped secure a state grant for the Marshall Artists Series that was a tremendous help, Watkins says.

“Every year, the Artists Series has to find the dollars to make the next season happen,” said Watkins. “The fact that it has done so for 75 years is a miracle.”

Of course, the university takes care of the Marshall Artists Series where numbers can’t be assigned, with items such as promotional assistance and office space.

In addition to Watkins, the Artists Series has only two other staffers – Angela Jones, who is director of marketing and external affairs, and Donna May, box office and finance administration specialist.

“Most operations the size of ours would have a full-time technical director on staff, but that’s something we just don’t have the money for,” said Watkins. “Instead, we contract with Bill Heaberlin and Ken Bannon of Huntington’s Media Promotions Enterprises, and our local IATSE #369 (International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees), and we rely heavily on them. We also rely heavily on Junior Ross, the longtime operations manager at the Keith-Albee; he’s always taken care of the Keith and, by default, has taken care of the Artists Series.”

Watkins has equally warm praise for the MAS Advisory Board and Robert Edmunds, retired professor of Communications Studies at Marshall, who as head usher for the Artists Series supervises 30 or so volunteers who usher at each program, helping patrons find their seats.

“We can’t begin to thank our volunteer ushers enough for what they do,” Watkins said.

James E. Casto is the retired associate editor of The Herald-Dispatch and the author of a number of books on local and regional history.
Highlights of the Marshall Artists Series 75th Anniversary Season include Young Frankenstein, a Broadway musical from comic genius Mel Brooks; a farewell concert from Glen Campbell; a performance by singer-songwriter Elvis Costello; and a salute to the Artists Series from Mountain Stage.

Season ticket subscriptions, on sale now, are divided into two five-event packages: The Baxter Series package includes Young Frankenstein on November 10; Most Wonderful Songs for Andy Warhol’s Screen Tests on November 29; Glen Campbell: The Goodbye Tour on December 11; 100 Years of Broadway on January 29 and Larry King: Standing Up on March 1.

The Mount Series package includes an evening with Pulitzer Prize winner Lawrence Wright, author of The Looming Tower; Al Qaeda and the Road to 9/11, on September 29; a concert by Elvis Costello and the Imposters on October 8; An Evening With Michael McDonald on November 17; the Broadway musical In the Heights on February 21; and a salute to the Artists Series from Mountain Stage on April 29.

Patrons who purchase a “Superticket” package will receive tickets to all 10 events in the Baxter Series and Mount Series, plus their choice of tickets to Jungle Jack Hanna: Into the Wild Live! on October 11 or An Evening With Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock on October 16.

The season will also see several stand-alone events, including Grammy Award winner Cee Lo Green on September 8; World Music Cabaret on October 13; Comedy Central on Campus on October 14, and OH! What A Piano Can Do on April 13.

For ticket prices and additional information, call 304-696-3326.

Five-time Grammy Award winner Michael McDonald will perform in November.

Wildlife expert Jungle Jack Hanna will bring along his favorite animal friends.

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The Joan C. Edwards Stadium at Marshall University has been home to Marshall football for 20 exciting years.

She stood proudly at the corner of Columbia Avenue and 14th Street— a fixture in the neighborhood for 63 years. Certainly time had taken its toll; old, fragile and unsteady, her better days were long gone. And on this September night in 1991, she must have had an empty, almost wistful feeling. For the first time since 1927, there would be no college football at Fairfield Stadium in the fall.

Across town on 20th Street, the joint was jumping. People jammed into parking lots, tailgating, celebrating and admiring the new glittering showplace for Marshall football. Framed by brick and glass, it proudly announced a new era for the program. Gone were the memories of Fairfield, many of them melancholy, now replaced by a stadium where, for the next 15 years, winning would almost be taken for granted.

“I remember it like it was yesterday,” said former All-American lineman and now Marshall assistant coach Phil Ratliff. “We had to dress at Gullickson Hall because the facility building wasn’t finished. We walked across 20th Street, and the parking lots were packed. The stadium was alive.”

By Keith Morehouse
Photos by David Fattaleh, Rick Haye, Marilyn Testerman-Haye, Greg Perry, Liu Yang
“It was awesome. When you include the facilities building, there was nothing like it in the MAC. It gave us a first-class facility; and if you’re gonna be No. 1, you need to look like No. 1.”

-Bob Pruett, former head coach
Even the head coach, focused on a more-than-worthy opponent in New Hampshire, couldn’t help but be distracted by the scene that night. “Just being in Huntington and seeing over 30,000 people there was unbelievable,” then-coach Jim Donnan said. “It was one of the highlights of my coaching career.”

But what people may not know is the project was almost dead on arrival. It took more than bricks, mortar and glass to get the Joan C. Edwards Stadium at Marshall University constructed. Like many grandiose plans in Huntington, it turned into a political tug-of-war with lots of hands on the rope. Arguments about whether it should be built, where it should be built and who should build it almost doomed construction before it started. “It was like going into labor and wondering when the baby was going to be delivered,” then-Huntington mayor Bobby Nelson recalled. “Everybody said they were for it, but not everyone wanted to work together. Governor Arch Moore was a strong proponent of the stadium, but Gaston Caperton succeeded him as governor and he was lukewarm to the idea at first.”

There were plenty of back-alley battles within the city of Huntington, too. The “Save Our Stores” group didn’t want to give up its commercial properties. Union protestors showed up at the groundbreaking on July 18, 1990, shouting over the shovels that it should be a complete union project. Some politicians even shunned the ceremonies so as not to irritate their constituents. It was political football, but Nelson could play with the best of them. “If you can’t join in and get this done, then get out of the way,” Nelson remembered saying that day. “I knew what it would do for Marshall and what it would do for Huntington.”

Donnan knew what a new stadium would do for his football program, and it was a big reason he left an assistant’s job in Oklahoma to come to Huntington. “When I got on the plane after the interview,” Donnan said, “I told my wife that I wanted to make sure that stadium deal was for real.”

Promises and pretty renderings only get you so far in recruiting battles. “You can have all kinds of pictures and dreams, but you have to level with your recruits,” Donnan said. “Once the stadium was built, we saw a big difference in recruiting. The difference between that first year [in Fairfield Stadium] and the second year was incredible. Guys were lighting up.”

And through the 1990s and beyond, a trip into Edwards Stadium for the opposition was like walking the green mile down that east sideline. The Herd’s record at home was an astonishing 123 wins against 21 losses. For former coach Bob Pruett, the record was even more eye-opening. Out of 60 games at home, Pruett’s teams won 57 of them.

“Don’t get me wrong, it was hard work,” Pruett said. “But at the same time, it gave us a lot of advantages. We had a home field advantage, we had a lot of tradition, and we had a great facility.”

And the wins were memorable. The 1992 National Championship game allowed plenty of Herd fans to vanquish some of the horrid memories from that November night long ago. Another title win over Montana in ’96 cemented Marshall as one of the best 1-AA teams ever. The MAC Championship game in 1999, when the Thundering Herd made up a 20-0 halftime deficit, is fondly remembered by a certain favorite son of Marshall. “We were down big at halftime, but I wasn’t worried,” former Herd quarterback Chad Pennington said. “Now, when Western Michigan held the ball for the first seven minutes of the second half and kicked a field goal, then I was a little worried. I think it’s the first game I ever played in at Marshall where I thought there was some doubt in the fans’ minds.”

Marshall’s stirring final drive with Pennington at the controls is a vivid memory in Pennington’s football scrapbook. “I’ve never been a part of a college game where the momentum flipped like that,” he said. It was common knowledge that many teams walked down the ramp on the east side of the stadium feeling down before the game even started. Now, the stadium has reached adulthood and in fact is mature for its age. Has that maturity replaced the youthful swagger in the building where Marshall became nearly invincible? Can Marshall football play the bully again and turn the stadium into its own personal playground once more? The coming seasons will tell. Maybe you can go home again. —

Keith Morehouse is the sports director for WSAZ NewsChannel 3 in Huntington, W.Va.
Two new signature gifts with very different purposes have put Marshall over the halfway mark to its $30 million research program fundraising goal.

Two families with strong Marshall University ties have put the university over the halfway mark in meeting its fundraising goal for the state’s “Bucks for Brains” program to support research.

Earlier this year, General Corporation of Charleston, W.Va., announced a $1 million gift to establish a research professorship in the area of dementia. The gift was made to honor Marshall alumnus Ed Maier on the occasion of his retirement as president of General Corporation.

The professorship will support the work of a biomedical/clinical scientist in the School of Medicine engaged in dementia research, said Dr. Kevin W. Yingling, former chair of Marshall’s Department of Internal Medicine and founding dean of the university’s new School of Pharmacy. This support will foster research dedicated to investigating the cause or causes of dementia and improving the clinical management, treatment and therapeutic outcomes for present and future generations of people who are at risk or are already suffering with dementia.

In July, the Cline Family Foundation announced a $5 million donation to establish an endowment to support

By Carter Taylor Seaton
new faculty and scientists in the university’s planned center for sports medicine translational research. This interdisciplinary field of study combines basic science in tissue growth and repair, gene expression and nanotechnology with biometrics and physiology to address the complex challenges of sports medicine. Marshall’s center will address the challenges of these disciplines across the continuum – from the researchers’ labs to patient treatment.

Both the General Corporation and the Cline Family Foundation gifts have been matched by the “Bucks for Brains” West Virginia Research Trust Fund, which was established by the West Virginia Legislature in 2008 to stimulate world-class research at Marshall and West Virginia University. Qualifying private donations that target the universities’ research initiatives linked to economic development, health care and job growth are matched dollar for dollar by the state’s fund. Marshall’s possible share of the matching funds would be $15 million, and the university has received more than half of the required matching amount in gifts and pledges. Marshall still has nearly $7 million to raise and be matched by 2015.

At Marshall, one of the primary uses for proceeds from the Bucks for Brains endowment is the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (MIIR), which was established in 2009 and has experienced steady growth since its inception. There are now 13 employees at the institute, including scientists, a post-doctoral fellow, research technicians, research interns and support staff. In the last year and a half, MIIR has signed co-development agreements with two major biotechnology companies, and the institute is continuing to pursue similar opportunities with other companies. The scientists who work in MIIR also are supported by federal and private grants.
When successful coal operator, entrepreneur and philanthropist Christopher Cline does something, he does it big, from his 150-acre estate in Beckley that includes a lake, a go-kart track and animal-filled pastures to his generosity when supporting his university. Cline, the founder of Foresight Energy LLC, recently announced that his foundation – the Cline Family Foundation – has given $5 million to establish an endowment at Marshall University to support research faculty and scientists in the university's planned sports medicine translational research center.

Cline, a self-made success story, has never been afraid to gamble on something he believes in. He explained how it all began in the November 2010 issue of the magazine Bloomberg Markets: sometime in 2002, Cline realized that the supply of big coal deposits in central Appalachia was beginning to be used up. The very next day, he spent $300 million on mineral rights, land and equipment that his competitors were abandoning in Illinois because the coal there had too much air-polluting sulfur to be burned in most power plants. He further bet that rules were soon forthcoming that would require scrubbers on power plants to remove these pollutants. So, he thought, if the power companies had to clean the coal anyway, they would prefer to buy the less expensive Illinois product. He was right. Five years later Cline’s investment had quintupled in value, giving him capital to develop the 675 square miles of mines in Illinois he now operates.

Coal is in Cline's blood. Both his father and his grandfather were coal miners near Isaban, W.Va., where Cline grew up. He learned the industry by tagging along with his father to the mines on weekends and holidays, while his mother kept the books for their small company. In 1980, when his father, Paul, bought out his partner, 21-year-old Cline was given the partner's share. At Marshall studying psychology at the time, Cline dropped out before graduating to accept the gift and the responsibility. It was another big gamble that paid off. Today, Foresight Energy owns more than 3 billion tons of coal reserves, mostly in Illinois. But Cline didn’t stop there. Arrangements with Natural Resource Partners and Carlyle Riverstone have helped Cline expand his operation. According to industry sources, his output could reach 80 million tons by the end of the decade.

Although listed as one of the wealthiest men in the United States by Forbes, Cline is still a hometown guy who until recently shunned the limelight. He cares passionately about West Virginia, dividing his free time between his home in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., and the Beckley property he once described as a playground for his four children.

“I attended Marshall University, have been fortunate to have lived and employed people in West Virginia and owe the state of West Virginia and its people for much of my success,” Cline said in announcing his gift. “I wanted to give something back that will be beneficial to the people of the state.”
Dr. Charles H. McKown Jr., Marshall’s vice president for health sciences advancement, said the gift is both timely and a good fit for Marshall’s capabilities. “This huge charitable and humanitarian effort by the Maier family comes at a time when the burden of dementia is rapidly growing in West Virginia and when the accelerated pace of biomedical discovery makes it likely the gift will lead to meaningful breakthroughs in preventing dementia or treating it,” he said. “Those breakthroughs will need to be evaluated, and with its extensive patient network including rural areas, Marshall is ideally positioned to do the clinical evaluations authenticating successful projects while guaranteeing patient safety.”

Dr. Kevin W. Yingling, former chair of Marshall’s Department of Internal Medicine and founding dean of the university’s new School of Pharmacy, said a committee, which will include Maier, will provide guidance on recruiting the professor or professors.

Carter Taylor Seaton is a freelance writer living in Huntington. She graduated from Marshall University in 1982. Her article on West Virginia’s back-to-the-land artisans won a Denny C. Plattner award in 2007. She has recently published her second novel, amo, amas, amat...an unconventional love story. Her first, Father’s Troubles, debuted in 2003.
Marshall’s translational sports medicine research center will be housed in a new facility that will be built through a combination of private donations and bond sales.

In June, Marshall University Athletic Director Mike Hamrick unveiled plans for the private fundraising drive by announcing that Mike D’Antoni and Chad Pennington would act as co-chairs for the “Vision Campaign.” The goal of the campaign is to raise private funds for new athletic facilities, including a state-of-the-art indoor practice facility and a soccer complex. The practice facility, which will benefit all 16 of the Thundering Herd’s athletic programs, will house an indoor field and running track, an academic support center, the Marshall University Athletic Hall of Fame and the sports medicine translational research center. The $30 million in new facilities will put Marshall on par with other NCAA Division I schools across the country.

Hamrick recruited Pennington and D’Antoni because of their “star power” as well as for their reputations for success on the field and court.

“Chad is the face of Marshall football, and Mike is the face of Herd basketball,” Hamrick said. “To have them involved and believing in what we are trying to do will not only make it easier; it will make it fun.”

D’Antoni, head coach of the NBA’s New York Knicks, was a basketball standout at Marshall from 1970-73, which included the exciting 1971-72 season when the team finished 12th in the Associated Press poll – the highest finish ever for Marshall. In the late 1990s, as the university’s starting quarterback, Pennington helped raise Marshall football from the doldrums to its most elite status ever. Under his leadership, the football team finished undefeated in 1999, won the Motor City Bowl and was ranked 10th by the AP – a new high for Marshall football. Hamrick said he hopes the two bring that same spirit of winning to this crucial campaign.

“Once I put my name on something, I make sure we don’t fail.”

-Chad Pennington

Keith Morehouse is the sports director for WSAZ NewsChannel 3 in Huntington, W.Va.
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Capt. Kristopher Nekvinda (left) volunteers with the Vets4Vets program. Through the program he has developed a friendship with Derek Meredith (right), a Marshall student who spent six tours of duty in Afghanistan, Kuwait and Iraq.
When military service members leave active duty, they face a difficult transition. Few civilian jobs offer the challenges, satisfaction and camaraderie they experienced protecting our freedoms and our way of life, and the stresses of college are vastly different from the stresses of serving in the military.

To help veterans move successfully to their next stage of life, Marshall University established a program called Vets4Vets. Kelly Sweetman, the university’s director of Military and Veterans Affairs, said veterans need to make meaningful connections after serving their country.

“These people see things and experience things that only another service member can understand,” Sweetman said. “As much as one of us tries to understand, we will never understand. It’s so important that we still keep that connection for them. A lot of them feel alone and disconnected when they’re here because they’re not in the fight anymore.”

Sweetman, who was named director of Military and Veterans Affairs in 2010, works with the university’s student veterans as well as students who are considering a military career upon graduation. Her goal is to provide students with impartial information, including the resources they need to start a military career or to adjust to college life upon completion of a military tour. She ensures that student veterans are aware of the Vets4Vets program and all other campus initiatives geared toward service members.

Derek Meredith, a 30-year-old disabled veteran and Huntington native, is currently studying at Marshall University and is an active member of Vets4Vets. As a Marine, he spent six tours of duty in Afghanistan, Kuwait and Iraq over 10 years. He also served in the area as a government contractor with Datapath and Apptis.

“Serving in the military gives you a feeling of camaraderie and purpose in your life,” Meredith said. “When you end up getting out, you no longer have the structured lifestyle that gives you that purpose every day. You get away from the people you were in with and the people who’ve had your same experiences, so you really don’t have anyone to talk to about it. And not many people like to talk to a counselor. They believe that’s a weakness, especially coming from the Marine Corps.”

Most veterans are motivated and focused, but sometimes they need guidance to find their place in civilian life. After Meredith completes his undergraduate degree, he said he plans to work on a master’s degree in business administration. While serving overseas, he specialized in satellite communications; after graduation, he said he’d like to start a telecommunications company.

“Succeeding and being able to say that you succeeded is an amazing drive,” he said. “It’s an internal drive, and I’ll be honest with you – I believe the Marine Corps gave me the bulk of it. When you’re 18 years old, you don’t really have much focus in life. When I joined the Marine Corps, it definitely gave me a purpose – to strive to be a better person, to work harder and to prove to myself and everyone around that it doesn’t matter who you are. You can do this.”

By Bill Rheinlander · Photos by Rick Lee
Military and Veterans Affairs and the Vets4Vets program are helping former servicemen in several ways. The Vets4Vets program maintains a lounge in Room 140 of Prichard Hall, where women and men like Meredith can study, relax and connect with other veterans. In addition, the program is recruiting active duty military to work with veterans in the Vets4Vets program.

One Marine serving as a volunteer is Capt. Kristopher Nekvinda, executive officer at the Marine recruiting station in Ona, W.Va. He said he wants to see veterans like Meredith make the transition from active duty to civilian life as smoothly as possible.

“It doesn’t matter whether Marines like Derek are in uniform or out of it,” he said. “They’re still a part of the brotherhood, and I’m their brother. I want to know that my Marines are doing okay out here, and I want to know if they need something. If sitting down and chatting with them for five or 10 minutes helps them realize they are not forgotten, it is well worth it. The bottom line is that I am going to be there for them, regardless of the fact that they are out. That’s what Marines are about.”

Sweetman said the addition of more active duty volunteers would help Vets4Vets reach even more men and women, adding that the program also would benefit from a larger lounge to serve the approximate 100 veteran students who participate in the program.

“By bringing in active duty volunteers, it seems to make them feel like they’re still Marines,” Sweetman said. “They’re going to take advice from a captain much better than they’re going to take it from me or anyone else; they just have that connection. This is something new we’re trying, and it’s working well. We’re hoping that other branches will come in on it.”

When Meredith enrolled at Marshall, the university put him in touch with Military and Veterans Affairs and introduced him to the Vets4Vets program. The program has helped him channel his energy and ambitions toward productive goals.

“By bringing in active duty volunteers, it seems to make them feel like they’re still Marines,” Sweetman said. “They’re going to take advice from a captain much better than they’re going to take it from me or anyone else; they just have that connection. This is something new we’re trying, and it’s working well. We’re hoping that other branches will come in on it.”

Meredith said getting to know Nekvinda through Vets4Vets also has helped him adjust to college life.

“It keeps you connected, to a point,” Meredith said. “You realize you may not be in the fight anymore, but you’re still a part of the team. It gives you someone to talk to, someone to relate to, so you don’t just feel like you’re alone.”

To learn more about the Vets4Vets program and Military and Veterans Affairs, visit the Vets4Vets website at www.muvets4vets.com.

Bill Rheinlander is a freelance writer who lives with his wife and four children in Scott Depot, WV.
At HIMG, we are a proud supporter of the Herd.

HIMG supports Marshall University in many capacities. Over 25% of our physicians are graduates of the Marshall University School of Medicine and our professional staff includes graduates of many disciplines including business, nursing and more.

HIMG grew out of the ashes of the 1970 plane crash through the loss of community physicians. HIMG continues to honor those through the continued support of Thundering Herd Athletics and the Big Green.

In addition to employing many graduates and its support for Athletics, HIMG provides academic development through internships, externships, mentoring programs, faculty appointments, board appointments, as well as, support of the Marshall Artist Series and many other University initiatives.

The Big Green, along with the support of the Herd Nation, have had an outstanding year!

- Added nearly 1,000 new members helping the Big Green reach an all-time high in membership of 3,055
- Raised over $2.9 million
- Added New Chapters
  - Atlanta, Charlotte, Raleigh and Washington, D.C.

SHOW YOUR PRIDE... SHOW YOUR PASSION

Join The Big Green

(304) 696-4661
On any clear West Virginia night, hundreds of stars are visible in the sky. Most of us learned in science class that the starlight that actually reaches our eyes left the star years and years prior. Perhaps the same could be said of the late Dr. Paul Ambrose. The passion and energy he had for serving mankind still, 10 years after his death, is reaching us today. His light makes an impact on us, not only in Huntington but also around the world, and his work continues in the form of numerous health programs and events.

Ambrose was a physician, Huntington native and Marshall graduate who defied all West Virginia stereotypes and who many hoped would lead this country to a fitter, healthier existence by becoming the U.S. surgeon general one day. He died at the age of 32 when on Sept. 11, 2001, terrorists overtook the plane on which Ambrose was a passenger and crashed it into the Pentagon.

“Paul was very passionate about the things he believed in,” said Paul Ambrose’s mother Sharon Ambrose, retired chief operating officer of St. Mary’s Medical Center. His father is Dr. Kenneth Paul Ambrose, retired professor of sociology at Marshall University.

“Paul saw the need to improve the health of individuals on all levels,” Sharon Ambrose said. “If you looked at the things he was doing, he wanted to have a larger impact through far-reaching programs. He wanted to do things that could change things on a greater level.”

Because of his passion for change and thanks to the people in his life who loved, admired and respected him, Paul Ambrose is, through all of his namesake programs and events, still creating change on many, many levels.

The event most evident locally of Ambrose’s legacy is the PATH, the Paul Ambrose Trail for Health. This year, on September 11, hundreds of Huntingtonians put on their running shoes and met in Ritter Park for the third annual FitFest, a one-day event featuring 5K and 10K races as well as several children’s events, all created to raise money for construction of the PATH. The PATH eventually will connect 26 miles of bicycle and pedestrian trails throughout the Huntington area. Parts of the PATH are under construction now.

West Virginia Sen. Bob Plymale (D-Wayne), director and CEO of the Rahall Transportation Institute, said part of the PATH in the St. Cloud area of Huntington will be similar to what is available now for bicyclists and pedestrians in Ritter Park. The Rahall Transportation Institute has been instrumental in the planning of the PATH.
The Marshall community comes together to mark the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, which claimed the life of alumnus Dr. Paul Ambrose.

By Kimberly Carico
“For a number of years, we’ve been looking at what more progressive cities have,” Plymale said. “They have seamless transportation systems and progressive bike pathway systems. Naming this trail system after Dr. Ambrose is very fitting, with all the things he believed in related to healthy lifestyles and exercise.”

Plymale said he expects eight to 10 miles of the PATH to be completed in 2011, adding that he hopes the 2011 fundraising goal of $100,000 – of which half has been raised – will be met by the FitFest events.

“I think Paul would be proud that his community is stepping up and doing something that is family-friendly,” Plymale said, “and I hope that he would be honored that he is still a driving force at this time.”

FitFest and the PATH are just two of the many programs and events that continue today in memory of Ambrose. Almost everywhere he lived, studied or worked now has some type of event, scholarship, symposium or program named in his memory. That in itself is indicative of how many lives he touched in his 32 years and what a remarkable man he was.

While Ambrose could have been considered one of Huntington’s greatest ambassadors, he also dearly loved Marshall University, where he earned his undergraduate and medical degrees. The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine at Marshall University announced in January 2010 the creation of the Paul Wesley Ambrose Health Policy Program, which gives resident physicians in family medicine the opportunity to learn about health policy and how they can become leaders in health policy.

Another opportunity locally for students to serve others is through the Paul Ambrose Memorial Scholarship at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. The scholarship is used to send a team of health care providers to Honduras for one week each year through Global Medical Brigades. Dr. John Walden, chairman of Family and Community Health at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine at Marshall University, directs the international health track in Marshall’s family practice residency program; he also knew Ambrose as a teenager, when they were neighbors in the East Pea Ridge area of Huntington.

“This program is something Paul would really have enjoyed,” Walden said. “It provides comprehensive care to a series of villages in Honduras. During this year’s trip, I was reminded in an email from Dr. Chuck Clements, a professor here in the Department of Family and Community Health who traveled to Honduras with the students, that Paul would really have enjoyed this because of the continuity of care they’re providing.”

Walden said every person who returns from participating in the program in Honduras says they have a life-changing experience.
In remembrance of our friend & graduate

PAUL W. AMBROSE, MD
Class of 1995

December 26, 1968 – September 11, 2001

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
“The effect it has on a medical student is absolutely profound,” Walden said. “It’s about the interaction as a healer, and that has to do not only with treating illness, but with levels of understanding and compassion. They see with their own eyes what happens when you don’t have clean drinking water, so part of this focuses on public health and prevention of disease.”

Locally, individuals can make strides in their own personal fitness and remember Ambrose through FitFest, and Marshall University medical students can use their talents to improve public health even as far away as Central America. However, beyond the Marshall community there are even more opportunities to effectuate change, again, in Ambrose’s memory.

The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program is an opportunity for health professions students to learn how to become involved in changing public health policy. It is an annual symposium in Washington, D.C., that prepares the students to be leaders in changing public health and is offered through The Association for Prevention Teaching and Research. Both Ken and Sharon Ambrose attended the 2011 symposium held in June.

“At the Ambrose Scholars Program in Washington, D.C., former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Koop wrote a letter to all the participants in the program, saying that he knew Paul would be smiling. I think he would be, too.”

- Sharon Ambrose

“Paul was never anybody to toot his own horn,” Sharon Ambrose said, “but I think he’d be very pleased that things are happening. He liked to make things happen. We were just at the Ambrose Scholars Program in Washington, D.C., and [former U.S. Surgeon General] Dr. Koop wrote a letter to all the participants in the program, saying that he knew Paul would be smiling. I think he would be, too.”

Dr. Ambrose met his mentor, Dr. C. Everett Koop, while he was completing his residency at Dartmouth Medical School. While he was there, Ambrose was the only resident on the Council on Graduate Medical Education, one of the many achievements that made him stand out early in his career. So, it is no surprise that today Dartmouth offers the Paul Ambrose Fellowship, which provides medical students in the program the opportunity to work on their master’s degrees in public health while they are doing their residencies in family medicine.

“Paul was very interested in prevention and health policy,” Sharon Ambrose said. “His training at Dartmouth was on health policy.”

Paul Ambrose received his master’s degree in public health in 2000 from Harvard. It was at this time that he worked as senior adviser to U.S. Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher.
There is another namesake award that recognizes those physicians-in-training who want to make positive changes in public health – the AMA (American Medical Association) Paul Ambrose Award for Leadership Among Resident Physicians. The AMA’s student organization, AMSA, also offers an annual institute which, after Ambrose’s death, was renamed the AMSA Paul Ambrose Political Leadership Institute. Through the institute, students are taught skills that will enable them to be influential in changing health policy. Ambrose served as AMSA’s national legislative affairs director in 1995, then later was named its senior clinical adviser within the Office of the Surgeon General.

“Paul Ambrose was an outstanding person,” said Dr. Charles McKown Jr., former dean of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine at Marshall University and now Marshall’s vice president for Health Sciences Advancement. “He was charismatic as well as a successful medical student and a skilled professional. His commitment to improving society inspired those around him at all times. His vision superseded so many of us.”

What might be the most remarkable attribute of Paul Ambrose is that even though the September 11 terrorist attacks ended his life 10 years ago, not even death could stop the work he so dearly loved.

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**Kimberly Carico** is a freelance writer who lives in Huntington, W.Va. She earned a master’s degree in journalism from Marshall University in 1996 and is currently pursuing a degree in nursing.
Simply the Best
The W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications celebrates decades of success.

By Dawn Nolan • Photos by Rick Haye & Rick Lee

Photos of comedian Soupy Sales, newspaper publisher Burl Osborne, CNN correspondent Joe Johns, Pulitzer Prize winner Jack Maurice, U.S. News and World Report editor Marvin Stone and local TV legend Bos Johnson, among several others, line the walls of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications Hall of Fame at Marshall. The School of Journalism and Mass Communications (SOJMC) has produced numerous notable alumni since the program began in the 1920s. West Virginia Hillbilly creator Jim Comstock, author and screenwriter Nelson Bond, former Herald-Dispatch publisher Don Hatfield, noted sportswriter Ernie Salvatore, NPR newscaster Giles Snyder, CNN correspondent Sean Callebs and NFL quarterback Chad Pennington are some of the school’s other prominent graduates.

“Our graduates have been very successful in their communications careers,” said Dr. Ralph Turner, professor emeritus. “They are editors, news directors, public relations leaders and heads of advertising programs. Many of them have risen to the top of their fields.”

The SOJMC’s story began in the 1920s when W. Page Pitt came to Marshall University to serve as an instructor and supervise The Parthenon, the university’s student-produced newspaper. At the time, Marshall did not have a separate journalism program; it was included in the English department and had only five students. Yet, during Pitt’s 45-year career at Marshall, journalism would become a distinct department housed in the College of Liberal Arts, and years later, it would become an independent entity, bearing Pitt’s name, with an enrollment of hundreds of students.

“We strived to become a school of journalism because it is more prestigious than a department,” said Dr. George Arnold, professor emeritus. “It is as high of a ranking as any program can get.”

Dr. Corley Dennison, dean of the SOJMC, said the school has experienced great success, both through its alumni and through its various programs, but none of it would have been possible without the dedication of W. Page Pitt.

“Page Pitt built a strong foundation,” he said, “and we have just built upon it.”

The faculty and staff have played a central role in promoting the school’s success; the 13 award-winning faculty members who make up the SOJMC hold a number of...
awards and honors in their respective fields. Three of them – Arnold, Janet Dooley and Dan Hollis – have received the prestigious Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, and in 2007 Marshall Magazine readers included W. Page Pitt, Ralph Turner and George Arnold in its list of the university’s “Top Professors of All Time.”

Another essential aspect of the SOJMC is its student media opportunities. Celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, student radio station WMUL-FM has had a prized run; in the last 25 years, under the leadership of faculty manager Dr. Charles “Chuck” Bailey, the station and its students have won more than 1,100 national and regional awards, with 130 awards in the last year alone. In 1993, the station was named “Outstanding College Radio Station” by the Marconi College Radio Awards and was runner-up for “College Station of the Year” by the National Association of College Broadcasters. This year, WMUL won 12 first-place awards and eight second-place awards at the West Virginia AP Awards Banquet and 11 awards and two honorable mentions at The

Some of the 1,100 awards won by campus radio station WMUL are displayed in the hallway leading to the station offices. They serve as a reminder of the past accomplishments of the program as well as a motivator for its future success.
Hermes Creative Awards 2011 Competition. However, the station’s success is no surprise to Bailey.

“When students are motivated to learn, afforded adequate training, delivered concise instruction and provided an obtainable set of goals, their success is an anticipated result and not a surprising development,” Bailey said.

The Parthenon is one of the oldest campus newspapers in the country, dating back to 1898. The paper has placed in the West Virginia Press Association’s Better Newspaper Competition for several years, including three first-place finishes in 2010. It has also been recognized as the fourth most-viewed campus paper in the nation, based on the number of hits on its website, www.marshallparthenon.com.

SOJMC students can participate in five professional organizations that share hundreds of awards between them. Student members of the National Broadcast Society at Marshall have dominated the National Broadcasting Society/Alpha Epsilon Rho Competition for years. This year, they won 25 awards, including eight grand prizes. Members of Marshall University’s chapter of the National Broadcasting Society have won more grand prizes in the audio and web categories than any other university.

Marshall’s Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) chapter was named the “National Student Chapter” in 1988 and 1993, and the chapter received the coveted “First Amendment” award in 1993 as well. SPJ advisers Dr. Arnold and Dr. Turner were honored as “National Student Advisers of the Year” in 1990. The Marshall SPJ has won approximately 10 “Student Chapter of the Year” awards, in a region that includes Michigan, Ohio and western Pennsylvania. Hundreds of students have won individual awards regionally and dozens nationally.

The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) is another acclaimed organization within the SOJMC. The Marshall chapter of the PRSSA has won Crystal Awards for several campaigns benefiting local nonprofit organizations. Its 2010 “Helping Hungry Hearts” campaign generated more than $10,000 for the Huntington Area Food Bank and was honored with the PRSA-WV Crystal Award and the PRSA-East Diamond Award. The PRSSA also won a Crystal Award for its 2010 “Empty Bowls” campaign, which raised another $20,000 for the Huntington Area Food Bank. Two PRSSA campaigns, “Trivia for Tots” and “Make Your Mark,” will be submitted to competitions in 2012.

Since 1973, Marshall’s chapter of the American Advertising Federation (AAF) has placed among the top four chapters in the country 15 times, with four first-place finishes at district competitions. Numerous AAF
members have won ADDY awards, and five have been accepted for the esteemed Vance Stickell Internship, which took them to work around the country for such companies as TV Guide, Newsday, Los Angeles Times and Slingshot Advertising. The AAF team ranked No. 7 in the nation after competing in the AAF’s National Student Advertising Competition.

The Marshall chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) has garnered attention as well. In 2004, the organization was named “Rookie of the Year” and was second runner-up in the SIFE Regional Competition in Cleveland. The group was first runner-up in 2005 regionally and second runner-up in 2008 and 2010; it won first place nationally in the Combating Insurance Fraud Competition and has been awarded several grants.

To build upon its history of success, the SOJMC will be adding a new undergraduate major in sports journalism, a specialization in health care public relations and three graduate certificates in media management, digital communications and integrated strategic communications to its prized list of academic programs, beginning this fall.

“Sports journalism has become a genre all its own,” Dennison said, “and the creation of this major and our other additions is our way of staying current with the industry.”

As for the future, Dennison said he hopes to make the school’s graduate programs available online. He also is working to receive reaccreditation; currently, the SOJMC is one of 111 journalism programs in the United States accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC).

SOJMC faculty members attribute the school’s success to a focus on professional preparation, including a first-rate internship program.

“Through the SOJMC’s excellent internship program, started by Dr. Turner many years ago and continued by Professor Allyson Goodman and Sandy York, sometimes our students get great jobs simply by starting as an intern,” said Terry Hapney, assistant professor of public relations.

“The ACEJMC highly praises our internship program, and I believe it is the best program without question,” said Arnold. “We prepare our students for work and make sure they know what they need for life after graduation. That’s the basis for our success.”

Dawn Nolan is a freelance writer living in Huntington. She graduated from Marshall in 2010 with a B.A. in English and is currently pursuing her M.A. in journalism.
I'm the only person who has held the illustrious titles of Marco, student body president and interim president of the university,” laughs Marshall University Board of Governors member Michael J. Farrell. Although he’s laughing, those are excellent qualifications for membership on the Board of Governors. Farrell is also a distinguished attorney and managing partner of Farrell, White & Legg PLLC; he has been named a West Virginia Best Lawyer for more than 10 years. But it’s his passion for education that has kept him active on higher education boards for most of his adult life.

Farrell’s interest in improving higher education actually began during his own college career. Before graduating from Marshall in 1969, Farrell was student body president...
and the first student asked to sit on the University Cabinet. He credits that invitation from then-president Stewart Smith with igniting his passion to serve. At the West Virginia University School of Law, Farrell was president of his senior class. Then, only three years after graduating in 1974, he began serving on statewide higher education boards.

“I have been blessed, I think, to have been a graduate of both Marshall University and the WVU College of Law,” he says, “and I believe those who have been blessed with opportunities to be educated need to give back.”

As one of Huntington’s representatives to the early statewide Board of Regents, the lifelong Huntingtonian continued on each successive board as West Virginia’s higher education governing system evolved – from the Higher Education Interim Governing Board, to Marshall’s own advisory board and, finally, to the current Board of Governors – with a leadership role on each. Then, appointed by Governor Cecil Underwood, Farrell continued on the board through 2003. Following a year’s hiatus, Governor Bob Wise reappointed Farrell in 2004; he served until December 2005 when he resigned to become Marshall’s interim president. Following that six-month stint, Farrell was again reappointed to the Board of Governors by Governor Joe Manchin for his second four-year term.

“He studies all the issues that come to the Board of Governors thoroughly and is prepared with a strong point of view for all discussions,” says Verna Gibson, chair of the Board of Governors.

Farrell admits that his past experiences give him a different perspective and that he’s sometimes in the minority; however, he and the other members are like-minded in their dedication to growing the university, not only in its enrollment but in its physical facilities as well.

“I think each of us has the vision and the aspiration that in the near future, we’ve got to get the administration committed to new academic facilities and support of our faculty so that we can deliver that high quality education that each one of us wants us to have,” Farrell says.

Although he often works 80 to 100 hours a week and has a wife, Anita, along with four grown sons and two grandchildren, Farrell has served multiple times as president of the Huntington YMCA Soccer League and of Little League Baseball in order to provide a positive role model for Huntington’s youth. He teaches as an adjunct assistant professor at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and his mock trial medico-legal programs for both Marshall and WVU are in high demand. A prolific writer, Farrell has authored many law review articles and wrote a chapter in the 2001 best-selling book Advocacy in the 21st Century. Farrell has given literally hundreds of seminars, without charge, because of his belief in giving back.

It’s no wonder he has no plans for retirement. He just doesn’t have time for it.

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Dear Alumni,

The Marshall University Alumni Association supports the mission of Marshall through events, programming, communication and networking opportunities. The importance of being an active part of Marshall University and the alumni association cannot be overstated. The advantage of being an active member is the opportunity to support activities, programming and scholarship efforts that further the mission of the university. Active membership requires only that you make a gift of your choice to the Marshall University Alumni Association or the Marshall University Foundation.

Therefore, an important goal for us in 2011-2012 is to increase the growth of giving or our active membership. We also want to increase the service and support to our alumni base through much improved methods of interaction, connection, and engagement with the use of modern technology. We will continue the improvement in our “Young Alumni” engagement through special activities and programs this year specifically designed to attract them. And last but not least, we will increase our revenue streams through fundraising, friendraising and affinity partnerships to keep our institution strong and competitive.

You can be a part of our team by volunteering, giving and engaging with our Marshall community. Raise your hand today and help our university achieve its goals of providing education and opportunity for all of our students and alumni.

William “Mickey” Jackson
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, 2012.

Qualifications:
• Must be an active member of the Alumni Association through an annual gift to the Marshall University Foundation Inc.
• Must be energetic and enthusiastic in support of Marshall University and concerned with its growth and potential
• Must 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 Dec. 1, 2011, 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_____________
Telephone ____________________________  Email Address_________________________________
Reasons for Nomination______________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Nominee’s Name__________________________________________
Address________________________________________________________________________
City_________________________________________   State______________   Zip_____________
Telephone ____________________________  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 you serve your community and any professional awards you have received. Include civic groups you belong to, volunteerism and community service projects you have been involved with, honors and awards you have received and professional organizations you have joined. (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. For more information, call the Alumni Association at 304-696-2901 or 800-682-5869.
You can return your nomination by emailing it as an Adobe PDF document to sutton11@marshall.edu, faxing it to 304-696-2299 or mail to:
MUAA Board Nominations
Erickson Alumni Center
One John Marshall Dr.
Huntington, WV 25755-6200
Homecoming 2011
Marshall University – Through the Decades

You will not want to miss Homecoming 2011 and Parents & Family Weekend! Marshall University – Through the Decades – there couldn’t be a more appropriate theme. No matter when you may have attended Marshall, you will be amazed at the growth of your alma mater.

Now more than ever, Marshall University has so much of which to be proud. We are growing in student enrollment, alumni, campus projects and so much more. Come back to the Huntington campus October 14 and 15. Share in the pride we all call MARSHALL!

This year the Thundering Herd takes on the Rice Owls on October 15 at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Here are some of the exciting events surrounding Homecoming. As you read through them, please make plans to attend as many as your schedule allows. If you have questions, call the alumni office at 304-696-2901 or 304-696-3134, or email pelphrey@marshall.edu. Kickoff is 3 p.m., but there is a myriad of events preceding the game, and you won’t want to miss any of them.

Monday, Oct. 10

All departments are invited to decorate their offices using the Homecoming theme. Prizes will be awarded.

Thursday, Oct. 13

11 a.m. – Office decorations will be judged.

6 p.m. – Homecoming Parade sponsored by the Student Government Association. You won’t want to miss Marco, cheerleaders, Marshall dignitaries and members of the Homecoming Court. Come early and find your perfect spot to enjoy the 2011 Homecoming Parade.

Friday, Oct. 14 - GREEN & WHITE DAY
WEAR YOUR MARSHALL GREEN

Picnic on the Plaza – Join us on the plaza of the Memorial Student Center from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for music, games, prizes and lunch...ON US!!!

This is the official kickoff to Homecoming. Come help us say a huge “thank you” to the Marshall community for their support of academics, students and the HERD! Please bring a donation of a canned good to be given to the Huntington Area Food Bank following the picnic.

8 p.m. – Homecoming Concert – Comedy Central on Campus. Featuring up-and-coming stand-up and future stars of comedy: Nick Vatterott, Sheng Wang, Rory Scovel and Jermaine Fowler. Call the Marshall Artists Series at 304-696-6656 for tickets.

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – Champagne Reception. The Marshall University Alumni Association and Black Alumni Association will be co-hosting a Champagne Reception at the Marshall University Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center. The cost is $25 per person.

Saturday, Oct. 15

8 a.m. – The 16th Annual 5K Alum Run, sponsored by the Marshall Recreation Center. Early registration is $20 per person and is available until 8 p.m. on October 14. Race day registration is $25. Pick up packets between 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Recreation Center on October 14.

To be assured of your requested shirt size, please register by September 30. Immediately following the race will be a post-race celebration at the Recreation Center. Call 304-696-4732 with questions or visit www.marshallcampusrec.com.

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Tailgate Blast sponsored by MUAA, The Black Alumni Association, Parents & Family Weekend. Corner of 18th Street and Fifth Avenue. $20 per person.

3 p.m. – MU vs. Rice Kickoff

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Other Related Activities

**BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

The Black Alumni Association Inc. invites all alumni to return to the Huntington campus and join in the fun. See the list of events below. Questions, email Pota Coston at pota.coston@gmail.com or jacksonf@marshall.edu.

**Friday, Oct. 14**

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – Champagne Reception  
MU Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center  
519 John Marshall Dr., Huntington, W. Va. $25 per person.

10 p.m. – 1 a.m. – After Party  
Basement of the Memorial Student Center, BE4  
Blue Lights in the Basement – Old School/New School Jam

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

10 a.m. – MU Black Alumni Association Business Meeting  
MU Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center Conference Room.

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Joint Tailgate with MU Alumni Association, Parents & Family Weekend. Corner of 18th Street and Fifth Avenue. $20 per person.

3 p.m. Homecoming Football Game  
MU vs. Rice Owls at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium

9 p.m. – 1 a.m. – Homecoming Dance  
Memorial Student Center, Don Morris Room (2nd floor)  
$40 per person

**Sunday, Oct. 16**

9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Church Service  
Campus Christian Center

There is truly something for everyone at Homecoming 2011. Join us Oct. 14 and 15 as we celebrate Thundering Herd football and Marshall University... through the decades.

**PARENTS AND FAMILY WEEKEND**

Return to the Huntington campus with your students and the rest of the Marshall community as we celebrate Homecoming 2011. Questions and RSVPs may be made by emailing Vanessa Myers at myersv@marshall.edu.

**Friday, Oct. 14**

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Join the Marshall Alumni Association for Picnic on the Plaza

Noon – 3:30 p.m. – Family Check-In  
Memorial Student Center, Fifth Avenue side

4 p.m. – 6 p.m. – Deans Reception  
Drinko Library, 3rd floor atrium

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. – Breakfast with President Kopp  
Memorial Student Center, Don Morris Room

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Shared tailgate with Alumni Association, 18th Street and Fifth Avenue $20 per person.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES PROGRAMMING BOARD**

**Friday, Oct. 14**

Homecoming Comedy Central on Campus Concert

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

Step Show immediately following the football game at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.
Left: Newlyweds Peter and Suzanne Catucci were in attendance at Crab Fest. Center: Marco overlooks the crowd at the Sixth Annual Crab Fest, held June 25 on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Right: Bill and Phyllis Eaton, hosts of Crab Fest, each receive a thank-you gift from President Kopp and the Marshall University Alumni Association.

Left: It’s a perfect day for over 250 Marshall alumni and friends to gather and socialize while eating Chesapeake Bay crab. Right: Everyone from Crab Fest 2011 invites you to attend Crab Fest 2012. GO HERD!

MUAA President Mickey Jackson presents Dr. Sam Clagg with a gift at the Class Reunion Luncheon. Clagg has been a beloved member of the Marshall University community since 1943 and has served in a number of positions during this time at Marshall.

During the Alumni Weekend Awards Banquet, James Farley (left), ’65, is presented the Distinguished Alumni Award for 2011. Farley is accompanied in this photo by President Stephen Kopp (right) and Rex Johnson, who received an honorary degree from Marshall.


The 2011 Alumni Weekend Award winners pictured from left to right: Christopher Sizemore, Caroline Perkins, Jeffrey Hale, James Farley, Greg Falvo, Richard Slater and Reverend Samuel Moore.
Submit a Nomination for our 2012 Alumni Awards

Deadline is November 1, 2011

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 November 1, 2011. Nominations received after that date will be considered for 2013.

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; an active member of the Alumni Association; shows outstanding achievement in their 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 is qualified as a nominee for one of the awards, go to www.marshall.edu/alumni/nominate.asp. The 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 on April 28, 2012.

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.

I hereby nominate the following person for ________________________________________________________________

Name_____________________________________________________________________________________________
Address___________________________________________________________________________________________
Phone _________________________________________ Business/Occupation____________________________________
Email _____________________________________________________________________________________________
My name___________________________________________________________________________________________
My address_________________________________________________________________________________________
My phone__________________________________________________________________________________________
My email___________________________________________________________________________________________

Please send with the above documentation to:
Alumni Awards Nominations
Marshall University Alumni Association
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755-6200
Plates are currently available in the following states:

**WEST VIRGINIA**

**VIRGINIA**

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**MARYLAND**

In West Virginia, the price of the plate ranges tentatively from $53.50 to $75.00, depending on when your current license plate expires. The plate numbers range from 1001 to 9999.

In Pennsylvania and Maryland, plate numbers are issued consecutively beginning with 0001. Pennsylvania plates cost $54.50, while Maryland plates cost $55.00.

We are pleased to announce that $30.00 of the initial amount for plates in West Virginia is a tax-deductible donation that will be used to fund programs and scholarships sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association.

To request an application for West Virginia, Pennsylvania or Maryland, contact Jonathan Sutton (304-696-2901 or 800-682-5869, jonathan.sutton@marshall.edu). When emailing, please be sure to provide your name and complete mailing address.

In Virginia, check with your local DMV office for more information and pricing.

Through the end of 2011, those ordering plates for West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland will receive a FREE prop plate used in and/or created for the *We Are Marshall* movie, along with a certificate of authenticity.

### Results of 2011-2014 Board Election

The members of the new board of directors for the Marshall University Alumni Association began their duties effective July 1, 2011, and will serve a term of three years. Ten new members have been elected, including four from the local community and five at-large.

- Dr. George Arnold ’63 ’65
- Mr. Gary Caudill ’84
- Mr. Bernie Coston ’79
- Mr. Matthew Lockhart ’04
- Mr. Jeffrey R. McDowell ’03
- Mr. Michael D. Safcsak ’05
- Mr. Charles A. Shumaker ’00
- Dr. Ralph Turner ’67 ’69
- Mr. Joshua L. Watson ’03
- Mr. Robert P. Wise ’96

### Officers for July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 are:

Continuing his second year of presidency is:
- Mr. William “Mickey” Jackson ’68

Other officers are:
- Immediate Past President: Ms. Nancy E. Campbell ’79
- First Vice President: Mr. Bernie Coston ’79
- Second Vice President: Mr. Ronald Gazdik ’95
- Treasurer: Mr. Derek Anderson ’00
- Secretary: Mrs. Jill Powell Francisco ’94

Executive Committee:
- Mr. Michael R. Hanlon ’96
- Mrs. Kellie Pelphrey Jones ’06
- Ms. Connie L. Reed ’78
- Mr. Benjamin Sandy ’07

A list of all MUAA Board Members is available at www.herdalum.com.
Joe and Pam Gillette

Joe Gillette and his wife, Pam, have generously supported Marshall University for many years. Joe, a 1973 graduate of Marshall, and Pam, a native of Bluefield, W.Va., now live in Atlanta. They are the proud parents of two grown daughters, Kellie and Kerrie, and four grandchildren.

Because of their major contributions to Marshall University, Joe and Pam are being honored as the newest members of the university’s prestigious Pathway of Prominence.

In addition to his and Pam’s generous financial support, Joe has served on many boards of directors at Marshall, including the Society of Yeager Scholars, the MU Alumni Association and the Marshall Foundation. He currently is president of the Yeager Scholars board and first vice president of the Foundation board, and is a past president of the Thunder Club.

In 2008, the Marshall University Welcome Center was renamed the Joseph M. Gillette Welcome Center in honor of Joe’s late father. Joe and Pam made a financial commitment to the university which resulted in the renaming of the center. Joe said the center’s new name was a way to memorialize his father, who had a lifelong passion for Marshall.

“It was my dad’s dream that I would go to Marshall University,” Joe said. “That dream was fulfilled.”

He also established the Joseph M. Gillette Scholar Award, also named in memory of his late father, in 2006. The scholarship goes to a student selected to be a Yeager Scholar.

Once again, Marshall University is grateful for the very generous support of the Gillettes. Thank you, Joe and Pam, and congratulations on being inducted as the newest members of the Pathway of Prominence.
Visit www.marshall.edu/lalumni for the latest in alumni news.
Hold your hand out to volunteer

The Marshall University Alumni Association is looking for volunteers to work with students, alumni and friends to make a stronger university connection.

Do you have a love for Marshall University and a desire to make a difference?

The Association has many committees and club representative positions that will fit your interests. Visit www.marshall.edu/alumni or call 1-800-MUALUMX to complete your interest form.

Want a meaningful way to give back to Marshall University?

Become a professional student mentor

The Marshall university Alumni Association and MU Career Services offer you the opportunity to support and assist students who are currently walking the same academic path you walked. By becoming a professional mentor, you can:

- Create an environment of open communication and active listening
- Share knowledge about your education, career path, successes and failures and what your experience has taught you
- Gain experience in coaching and advising
- Provide encouragement as students prepare for their careers
- Increase the value of your Marshall degree by investing in future alumni

The Marshall Mentor Network allows you to control the number of students you mentor at one time, how you wish to be contacted and what information you want them to see about you in your mentor profile. Your Marshall Mentor Network account is set up and maintained through Career Services’ online database, Marshall JobTrax. To register, simply go to www.marshall.edu/mentor and enter your email address.

PLEASE NOTE: We hope to have a large mentor pool built up as the semester begins. Please help us by registering NOW! Need more information or have questions? Contact Debby Stoler in Career Services, stolerd@marshall.edu or 304-696-6679.
Imagine what you could do with your special savings on auto insurance.

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For rental information contact:
Krystle Davis Tel: 304-696-3420
or Email: krystle.davis@marshall.edu
perhaps it was the inviting sight of a horseshoe-shaped classroom, or the persistent tap-tap-ringring from an Associated Press wire machine delivering the latest news, but my first class at Marshall University that August 1971 immediately confirmed I had chosen the right major: journalism.

Yes, news mattered to us in those days, a time when social issues drove college students to unprecedented levels of self-expression and activism. The Vietnam War was raging, protests hit Huntington’s own Fourth Avenue and Coach Jack Lengel had just assembled his Young Thundering Herd to continue a football tradition that nearly ended one dark, rainy night that previous November.

These events mattered deeply, but the real comfort I felt came with just one step into my News Reporting I class on Smith Hall’s third floor. It was personal: I had just found my new home, and I would be very happy here.

Like most journalism majors, I often stopped by the newsroom even when I wasn’t taking a journalism class. George Arnold and Ralph Turner - extraordinary instructors who were not yet Ph.D.s in a department that would one day be the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications - were a buzz of activity, though they always found time to greet students, offer feedback on our current writing projects or give a quick word of encouragement.

In all, I would spend four years earning a journalism/news degree and return a few years later for a master’s in journalism/public relations. “J” classes were never easy; in fact, many instructors deducted one letter grade for every single mistake. Four misplaced commas could result in an F! But instead of complaining about such high standards, we rose to the occasion by verifying facts and proofreading stories we wrote for The Parthenon and MU Reports. In an era where tradition was considered passé, we were proud to be part of a longstanding heritage of quality journalism at Marshall University.

In retrospect, the most significant benefit of this tough but nurturing environment was its focus on real-world professional experience. Marshall’s philosophy was to match quality paid internships and graduate assistantships with the best candidates. Students were expected to perform exemplary work, demonstrate businesslike behavior and show commitment to the job. Employers were asked to give their interns a variety of challenging job responsibilities and expect top work. Free internships were not allowed. Though it didn’t occur to me at the time, I realize now a salary requirement boosted student confidence and solidified working terms between students and employers.

I served as a public relations intern for the Huntington Civic Center and a graduate assistant for the Marshall Artists Series. Both proved pivotal to my future career in arts and entertainment. I returned to Marshall in 1988 as executive director of the Marshall Artists Series - a position I loved and held until 1996 when I relocated to Arizona.

I now consult with my own small business, providing PR and fundraising for nonprofit organizations in the arts, social services and education sectors. Working in these student positions at Marshall paved the way for my life’s work.

I’m also a college instructor myself now. In 1997, I became adjunct faculty for the University of Phoenix and was named “Distinguished Faculty” this April. Courses I teach include media, communications and the arts, so I often find myself reflecting upon best teaching methods, relevant materials and experiences to give students that they can use for life. I find a fair share of role models from among my professors and instructors at Marshall University, too, and at times I can even hear their words echoing in a statement I make to my own students: Of course it isn’t easy. College isn’t supposed to be easy, but you can do it, so work harder until you’re proud of what you accomplish.

Today, the field of journalism is itself in jeopardy as amazing new technologies put traditional media at risk. I’m glad to see the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications using technology and social media to engage younger audiences in news and world events. To paraphrase Marshall McLuhan, let’s not confuse the media with the message: quality journalism remains vital to education and a free society.

I dedicate this column, with my gratitude, to Dr. George Arnold and Dr. Ralph Turner, who are both welcome to grade the above. I promise to use their feedback to do better the next time!
On the Go Banking

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HealthGrades Report: Women’s Mortality Risk 40% Lower at Top-Performing Hospitals

A study recently released by HealthGrades, the nation’s leading, independent source of physician information and hospital quality ratings, named St. Mary’s Medical Center among the top five percent in the nation for women’s health and a recipient of the 2011 HealthGrades Women’s Health Excellence Award.

St. Mary’s Medical Center is the only hospital in West Virginia and the Huntington-Ashland-Ironton area to be a recipient for the past two consecutive years.

For more information, visit our Web site at www.st-marys.org.