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# HE PARTHENON

VOL. 115 NO. 110 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Drinko to have fine free days

THE PARTHENON

Students with library fines have an opportunity for their expenses to be lowered and to give back to the Huntington community over the course of the next week.

The John Deaver Drinko Library will have its first Fine Free Days from April 1 through April 6. Any student with a library fines is eligible to have their fines forgiven for each canned food item they donate, and the donations will be given to the Huntington Area Food Bank, said Kelli Johnson, reference and instruction librarian.

"We understand that students don't have a lot of money, and sometimes you keep things a little bit longer, and you accumulate these fines," Johnson said. "So it was something we could do to help out the people who use our library, and also help out the community."

Students can bring the books they've checked out that need to be returned, as well as their donations, to the circulation desk at Drinko Library. Each canned food item equals \$1 off the students' fines, Johnson said.

Sarah Greer, manag ing director of online learning and libraries, said the Huntington Area Food Bank is looking for protein-rich foods such as peanut butter as well as dry, non-perishable items, and they request

See DRINKO I Page 5

#### Students submit doodles to Go THE PARTHENON the company asked students Art executive director in a goals in this contest," Layne singer

of Art will present artworks travel in time, I'd visit.." from West Virginia's state finalists chosen in the Doodle 4 Google 2012 competition.

Students from grades K-12 submitted their themed artwork to Google for the chance to redesign Google's logo. According to Google's website, Huntington Museum of

to center their artwork The Huntington Museum around the phrase "If I could

> "The Huntington Museum of Art is very proud to have been selected by Google to display the works of West Virginia's top student finalists," said Margaret Mary Layne,

press release.

The local exhibition begins May 22 and continues until June 26, and admission to the exhibit will be free.

"Huntington Museum of Art is very excited about this project as the Museum's goal for the past 60 years of fostering creativity in children parallels perfectly with the

said in a press release.

The museum serves several schools districts in the Tri-State area and encourages creativity with tours and art-making opportunities.

A team of Google judges, as well as a panel of guest judges — including Katy Perry, Phineas and Ferb creator Jeff Marsh and

Jordin Sparks will choose the state

finalists. Public voting begins May 2 to choose the national finalists, one from each grade

The winning logo will be presented on Google's website on May 18.

# fighting hunger in Huntington

BY KEYAIRA MCCAULEY THE PARTHENON

The Ninth annual Empty Bowls Event continues fighting hunger one bowl at a time from 10:30 a.m. through  $2~\mathrm{p.m.}$  Friday, April  $27~\mathrm{at}$  First Presbyterian Church on Fifth Avenue in Huntington.

Jaye Ike, special projects coordinator for the College of Fine Arts at Marshall, said it's really important for us to remember that hunger is a huge issue.

"It's awful to think that somebody is hungry and it's something I think we can get under control," Ike said. "I think hunger in Huntington is much more prevalent then we think it is, I just can't fathom not knowing how I was going to feed my child."

Empty Bowls is a national initiative committed ending hunger. At an Empty Bowls fundraiser, patrons pay \$ 12 and choose a hand-made ceramic bowl. They wait in a cafeteria line and choose a soup and beverage.

"We call it a modest lunch and it's that way on purpose." Ike said. "The point is to feel like you've gone



through a soup kitchen line." **Brittany Spencer, of Cross** 

Lanes, said when she heard about Empty Bowls from friends at Marshall last year, she immediately knew she wanted to participate.

"It's great that people are really trying to help other

people and do something about this," Spencer said. "I have a three-year-old son and I'm glad that he can still have an example of how a community is supposed to come together to support something so important."

Ike said every penny of the

\$ 12 goes to the Huntington Area Food Bank.

"For every person that attends, the food bank is able to provide 64 meals and they serve 96,000 people a month," Ike said. "I think the problem is we don't think about how big it is here."

Empty Bowls was started in Michigan by a high school teacher in 1990. According to the Empty Bowls Aberdeen website, guests were served a simple meal of soup and bread, and were

See BOWLS | Page 5

# Students say iPhone makes life easier

BY SHANE ARRINGTON

THE PARTHENON

Go out onto any university campus and ask students if they would make their lives easier right now if they could. While there may be a random student who gives you an answer against the norm, chances are most will give you the same answer.

Smartphones claim to make lives easier. They provide quick access to the Internet and other media and keep students, professionals, anyone connected while mobile. One Marshall University student, who owns a smartphone, said he'd upgrade to an iPhone in a second because he feels it would go above and beyond his current smartphone.

"They just make life so much easier in my opinion," said Nathan Nau, an international affairs major. "Your overall communication is better - email, text, phone calls, everything. You can also play games with your friends and connect to the Internet."

Walk around any common area on Marshall's campus, and you will see many people with their smartphones out and fingers moving, engaging in one of the various activities available to them in this digital age.

Brittany Cavender, elementary education major, recently exchanged her Blackberry, another popular smartphone, for an iPhone — something she considers an upgrade.

"I actually just got my iPhone about a month ago," Cavender said. "I got one because everyone else has one. But it is worth it. With all the apps on there, I am never bored. I'm always listening to the Pandora app I also downloaded the Marshall app. So I could check my email quickly and access Blackboard right before class to see if any of my classes have been cancelled. It's very convenient."

The Marshall MU Mobile app is a free app that up and using her laptop

provides students with quick access to a large variety of Marshall specific information. As Cavender said, students can access their email and Blackboard accounts, but on top of that they can also check Marshall news, athletic schedules, campus maps and more.

"The Marshall app is great, and I think more students should download it," said Hilary Gibson, precommunications disorder major. "I use that and I also use Google a lot. If there's something I'm questioning I automatically go to my Google app and Google whatever question I have and there's the answer, so quick."

The convenience of the iPhone is so great, according to Gibson, that she uses it not only uses it while on the go, utilizing Wi-Fi and 3G, but also while it in her room. She said just bringing out the iPhone is easier and faster than powering when looking for a quick

"I'm definitely team iPhone," Gibson said. "My roommate has a Droid, and I hate it. It's so confusing and she doesn't have access to all the apps I have so there are things we can't do together."

Cavender with Gibson in finding iPhone's better than other smartphones.

"My Blackberry wasn't anything special. I'm definitely pro-iPhone," Cavender said. "I'm definitely a fan of the Otterbox cases. I have dropped this thing off a two-story building and it's still perfect."

Cavender and Gibson said they both agree that their lives are easier because of their iPhones. They help them stay connected through various aps, not only to the world in general, but also to specific things like Marshall.

Shane Arrington can be contacted at arrington16@marshall.edu.



page designed and edited by CRYSTAL MYERS myers 132@marshall.edu

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# Financial aid options for summer classes now open

THE PARTHENON

The options are open for students who are in need of financial aid for summer classes.

According to the Office of Financial Assistance, about 74 percent of Marshall Uniundergraduate population receives financial

These students receive their financial assistance from loans, grants, scholarships student and employment.

Kathy Bialk the director in the Office of Financial Assistance said Marshall offers a wide variety of merit-based scholarships and need-based financial aid programs to provide you mer classes, in order to with even greater value and affordability.

The office awards just about \$140 million to graduate, undergraduate and professional students.

Financial aid mination has many different factors. For the students who rely on financial aid every semester to help them through their undergrad, the amount you receive back from financial aid all depends on your attendance.

Students who take sumreceive financial aid, must apply before the April 16 deadline.

"The deadline for financial aid for the state of West Virginia grant is on April 16," Bialk said. "If any students miss this deadline, they will have to borrow more money

towards student loans."

Erik Bjornson, undecided junior from Huntington, said he needs to make sure he gets some credit hours under his belt this summer.

"In order for me to graduate on time, I will need to take summer courses," Bjornson said. "That means I will have to apply for financial aid, and I am so glad that I did.

Bjornson said he already receives money from the state during his fall and spring semesters,

pay for courses.

Will Justice a business sophomore from St. Albans, W.Va., said he likes that Marshall offers summer courses for him to take online and on campus.

"The classes are very greatest thing is being able to receive that financial aid so I can take them" Justice

plan to take one three credit hour class online and one

during the summer to help three credit hour class on campus this summer.

> "The chance to be able to take summer classes so I can get ahead of my graduation date, and to have that opportunity to have aid is such a blessing" Justice said.

Justice said overall the tuconvenient for me, but the ition that him and his family pay for him to go to Marshall has been very affordable and easy to work with.

Marshall's tuition and fee Justice said his friends rates are 31 percent lower than the national average at any public four-year school.

# Sophomore gives back to Vietnamese community

BY KAYLA MARCUM

THE PARTHENON

pub-Sophomore relations major Alexandra Franke spent her spring break giving back to a community: A Vietnam community.

Franke and her church, Vineyard Community Church of Etna, Ohio, participated in the "Free Wheel Chair Mission." The idea behind the mission is to take a small team of church members to Vietnam to assemble wheelchairs for those in need.

This past trip was Franke's second to the country. She said her first trip to the country was an experience she'll never forget.

"It was a huge culture just felt like a totally different world. When I first went, it seemed like it was a completely different planet. I tell people it's hard to believe that God made all this. It's just a totally different world."

Franke said she had always had an interest in mission trips, but when her pastor first announced that he would be taking a small group to Vietnam, she knew she had to go.

"(Mission trips)



Alexandra Franke (left) spends her spring break in Vietnam to assemble wheelchairs for those in need. This was her second trip to the country.

something I prayed about for a long time and just waited for the right time," Franke said. "But when our pastor told us that he felt like he needed to send a team to distribute the wheelchairs that we bought, I just felt it."

Franke was very emotional about the decision.

"I started crying," Alex said. "I told my mom 'I have to go."

When Alex's mother met her enthusiasm with some hesitation, Franke became even more passionate about her cause.

"I was like 'No! I have to go!" Alex said. "I just really felt it and everything just started happening."

Franke said it's very humbling to meet people in such great need and be able to assist them.

"Some people show up

being pushed in wheel barrows just to get their chairs because they don't have limbs," Franke said. "There are children with mental disabilities that come in. It's hard for their parents to take care of them, so the wheelchairs really help their family

Franke said assembling the wheelchairs is simple, and she thinks she gets

# POLICE BLOTTER

THE PARTHENON

The following information was provided by the Marshall University Police Department.

#### AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A KEY THANG

On March 16, a victim reported to campus police her vehicle had been damaged while in a student parking lot. She stated an unknown person scratched the paint off her vehicle between March 7 and March 9. The suspect scratched the hood, roof, passenger side, and trunk. There are no suspects at this time.

#### STONED STUDYING

On March 19, an odor of marijuana was noticed coming from a dorm room on campus. During a routine room check in South Residence Hall, the compliant discovered a plastic container of marijuana in an opened desk drawer. The drug was then seized and placed into evidence.

#### FROM THE WINDOOOW...

On March 23 at 5:52 p.m., a campus service worker discovered room 122 in Gullickson Hall door had been vandalized. The complaint noticed the small window on the door was broken out. There are no suspects at

Allyson Warner can be contacted at warner65@

more than she gives out of

"It takes about two minutes to assemble a chair. They're kind of like our plastic lawn chairs without the legs. We attach them to a metal frame and put a couple of mountain bike tires on them and give them out at distribution centers with the help of the trained to be evangelical

Red Cross," Franke said. Franke said the memories and blessings the communities bring her far outweigh the work she puts in to the assembling.

Franke said she is most grateful for an experience she had on her first trip to Vietnam.

"There's a Bible school there (that we work with) where students are being

See VIETNAM | Page 5

### Pancake breakfast set for Saturday

THE PARTHENON

Students from Marshall's Relations Campaign Club are hosting a pancake breakfast from 9 a.m. through noon Friday at Huntington's Kitchen. The breakfast is taking placeto raise money for River Valley Child Development Services.

"Besides doing the trivia night, we wanted to include a family style fundraiser," said Libby Clark, senior public relations major from Martinsburg W.Va. "We hope to reach our ultimate goal of about \$8000 for this campaign."

The cost is \$5 a person. Proceeds from the event will go directly toward funding a benefit for River Valley Child Development Services.

The benefit will fund is called Questions and will be

See PANCAKE I Page 5

# Students try hand at trivia with 'JEOPARTY'

BY MARISSA DEMARIA THE PARTHENON

Marshall University students gathered in the Ed Gross Room Thursday for an evening of trivia with guest Sandy Sowell.

The game consisted of four rounds with 12 questions in each round. Sowell posed the questions, and participants were eligible for cash prizes at the conclusion of each

Guests were given a digital voting device to record their answers, and once those answers were recorded, they appeared onscreen for the audience to see. Each possible answer was followed by the percentage of audience members who guessed that particular answer.

Sowell plays host to a series of individualized events geared toward the interconnectedness of audiences through what she calls, "audience interactive games and shows."

She coordinates events for local corporations and institutions year-round, while keeping each game or show unique to the audience she serves.

Sowell, from Hurricane, W.Va., brought some Marshall pride to participants by coordinating select prizes in green and white - in an attempt to connect with her audience.

While many of the participants might have been lured in by the notion of winning a cash prize, one guest followed the crowd for a different reason.

Jacob Terry, senior music education major, attended the event along with his friends for one simple reason.

"I really enjoy the competition involved in games like this," Terry said. "My friends were going so I figured, I may as well go too."

While the event is modeled after the television show "JEOPARTY!", Sowell said the one quirk separating the two is that her version is very much like a party, hence the tokened phrase "JEOPARTY."

Meghann Ferguson, resident director for both the Willis and Gibson residence



"JEOPARTY!" participants celebrate as the results of the first round are given.

halls said the students who participated at "JEOPARTY" had were provided with an excellent platform to engage themselves in the Marshall community.

"I think it is important for

See TRIVIA I Page 5

245619 SUNTIME TANNING **APRIL SPECIALS** 2 x 2.0

page designed and edited by KATIE QUINONEZ | quinonez@marshall.edu

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2012

THE PARTHENON

MARSHALLPARTHENO)

Herd prepares tor Libert

BY CAITIE SMITH THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University baseball team will be traveling to Beckley this weekend for a "home" series against Liberty University Flames. This matchup will be the final non-conference weekend for the Herd.

The Herd enters the series on a three-game losing streak - having lost six of the last nine games.

"This weekend our team just needs to play to our ability and do the things we've been working on and practicing." head coach Jeff

Waggoner said.

While the Flames are coming off a two game losing streak, they post an overall record of 23-5 and are 5-1 in Big South conference play.

"They're a good team and they have a great record," Waggoner said. "We've got our hands full."

Marshall is 2-12 against Liberty all-time and last faced the Flames in 2007 when they were swept in a three game series.

The Herd hopes smart moves on the base path and aggressiveness at the plate will play into their performance this weekend. First

baseman Nathan Gomez enters the series leading the team in batting average (.322) and run production (27

Alfredo Brito comes into the weekend with a 12 game hitting streak.

Juniors Isaac Ballou and Gray Stafford will be looking to increase their stolen base numbers. Ballou enters the game with 10 (second in C-USA) and Stafford with seven (tied for fifth in C-USA).

"We're not so much concerned about our opponent," Waggoner said. "We just want to play good baseball." Probable starters for this weekend are likely to be It's important sophomore Aaron Blair on Friday, veteran Mike Mason on Saturday and junior Wayland Moore to cap off the series on Sunday.

Blair has an ERA of 3.89 in 34 and 2/3 innings of work, while Mason's ERA is 3.41 in 37 innings pitched.

The two pitchers likely to go against Blair and Mason, John Niggil and Patrick Eckelbarger, each have two complete games under their belts, and Liberty is 12-0 in their starts.

"We need to get this team rolling and do the things that will help us win games.

that we have a strong week leading into Memphis," Waggoner said.

The Herd will resume conference play next weekend when thev host a home series Memphis.

Caitie Smith can be contacted at smith1650@ marshall.edu.



# Small senior class leads Herd through spring

BY JAKE SNYDER SPORTS EDITOR

To say the Marshall University football team is lacking seniors would perhaps be a gross understatement.

The Herd boasts just four seniors on the spring roster practices beginning this week. But for head coach Doc Holliday, young does not necessarily mean green.

"You've got a bunch of other young guys who have played a lot of football," Holliday said. "You look around is a young corner, but he's started for two years now. You have a lot of guys in that same boat. Youth doesn't bother me."

Holliday continued, pointing out several of the juniors who have stepped into leadership roles.

"I've been telling these guys all along, 'you don't have to be a senior to lead,"" Holliday said. "(Junior) Marques Aiken is a guy I have talked about. (Junior) Billy Mitchell has done a nice job. (Junior) Jeremiah Taylor

got a lot of young kids that have assumed that role."

For the four seniors Aaron Dobson, Antavious Wilson, Devin Arrington and Martin Ward — the responsibility lies upon them to be leaders.

"I was always a voice on the team since I've been starting," Arrington said. "I was always in the huddle motivating guys or on the sideline motivating guys so I just have to pick it up extra - a little bit more."

Dobson said he learned

and (junior) Darryl Roberts has done a great job. We've how to be a leader based on an old friend now bound for the National Football League

- Vinny Curry. "It's a different role," Dobson said. "You have to be a different personality to be that. I was watching Vinny last year, and I'm just kind of following in his footsteps."

Holliday said Dobson's leadership position began immediately following the Herd's victory in the Beef 'O'Brady's Bowl, St. Petersburg.

"I told Aaron right after the bowl game that night," Holliday said. "I said it's his turn now. He's has to step up. He has to be a vocal guy. He's got to do for our football team this year what Vinny did a year ago. Vinny made the same decision he made, and Aaron needs to come back and have the same goals set for himself, which he does — as Vinny did."

For Arrington, leadership comes through action.

"I'm trying to come out here and practice hard every day so young guys can see me," Arrington said. "I try to be a voice on the sideline

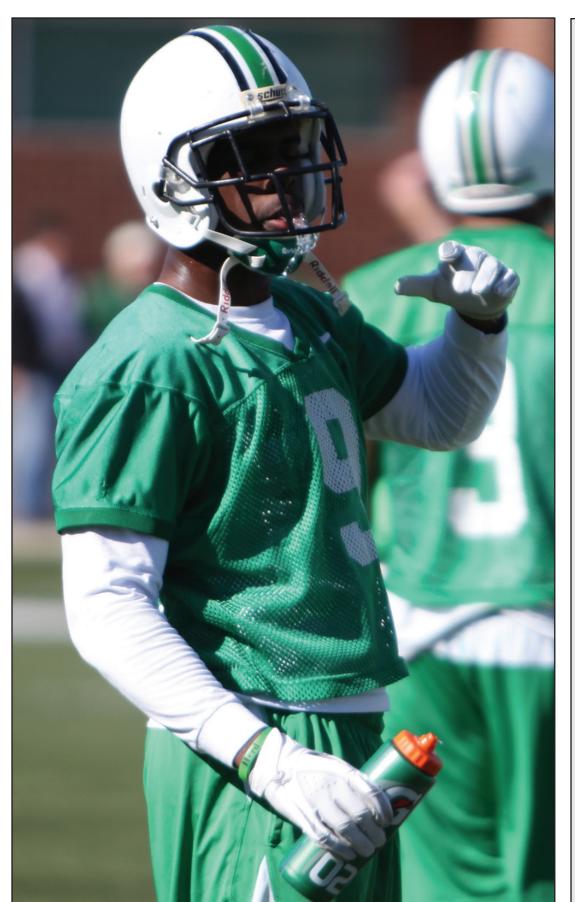
helping them out."

With three of the four assuming skill positions on the offensive side of the ball, it seems Dobson kept it simple as to what the group had to

"We definitely have to come out and lead our offense," Dobson said.

The third spring begins at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, with 12 practices left in the session leading up to the April 28 Spring Game.

Jake Snyder can be contacted at snyder100@ marshall.edu.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Senior wide receiver Antavious Wilson takes a break during Thursday's spring practice. Wilson makes up one quarter of the Marshall senior class.

245353 THE VILLAGE ON SIXTH PARTHENON - 1/4 PAGE 3 x 10.5

page designed and edited by JAKE SNYDER | snyder100@marshall.ed

THE PARTHENON MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2012

### THE PARTHENON

#### **ABOUT US**

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### THE FIRST | The Constitution of the

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress

#### **COLUMN**

# Money shouldn't determine what major people choose



BY SYDNEY RANSON THE PARTHENON

Money or happiness? Doctor or a not-so-established career? Comfortable living or scraping for change to afford this month's rent? These are questions with which I was constantly faced when I was declaring my major and concentration at the beginning of

When I was a senior in high school, I thought I had my perfect future all figured out. I was going to go to West Virginia University and major in biology with a concentration in medicine. After that, I would pursue medical school and eventually become a cardiologist. I can't say how proud this made my parents, and how happy it made me to see them so proud. My dad would tell all of his buddies at work, "My daughter is studying biology in Morgantown. She's going to be a doctor."

I did attend West Virginia University and study what I had planned, but after only one semester there, I just didn't feel quite like I belonged. That's when I decided something had to change. I transferred to Marshall University for the second semester of my freshman year, and continued to pursue my degree in biology, still with hopes to go to medical school.

Since beginning college, I had mainly taken science and math courses for three semesters in a row. Although they used to be my favorite areas of study, I was more than burned out on equations and numbers. I had been taking my first English course here at Marshall, and that's when it hit me: I had found what I loved to do, and that is to write.

I told myself over and over, "Sydney, you can't switch majors. You've come too far already to give this up. Your

I felt like my parents had placed me on a pedestal for having dreams of becoming a cardiologist, and thinking about letting them down or failing them in any way broke my heart. I knew I couldn't just make this huge change in my life without so much as consulting them, so after I had a much needed meeting with a professor of mine, I made the dreaded phone call

My parents were shocked at first, because I had always wanted to have a career in the medical field. After crying into the receiver about my fear of them being disappointed in me, they told me they were supportive and only want me to be happy in whatever I decide to do in

After hanging up, I went to Old Main and filled out paperwork to transfer to the college of liberal arts. Now I am finishing up my first semester as an English major, and I couldn't be any happier with my decision. I love every minute of every class that I am taking, and I can't wait to see what the future has in store for me.

Isn't that what college is all about? Not getting a degree to make money, but getting a degree that will help you do what you love. I've always said, "I'd rather be poor and happy, than rich and miserable." I still have people ask me what my major is, and when I tell them I'm studying English, they ask what I plan on doing. The truth is: I'm not sure. But I think I like not having it all figured out, because it didn't work so well the first time around.

Sydney Ranson can be contacted at ranson17@ marshall.edu.

#### **ONLINE POLL**

Visit us at

marshallparthenon.com to let us know what you think.

#### Who will win the NCAA basketball championship ? Results

- University of Kentucky Wildcats: 45 percent
- The Ohio State University Buckeyes: 25 percent
- Kansas University Jayhawks: 20 percent
- University of Louisville Cardinals: 10 percent

#### **EDITORIAL**

## MU should strive to raise its retention rate or lower its admissions rate

As Marshall University continues to have record high freshman enrollment numbers, there is much to be taken into consideration when evaluating this mainly the university's high admission rate. Marshall, according to college-board.org, is a 'less selective' school, with an acceptance rate of 81 percent. This is compared to other schools which average around 70 percent admissions for incoming freshmen classes. So, yes, it is good that Marshall is increasing its enrollment and getting more people into college. However, there is the question of quantity over quality. Often times it seems that many people are admitted but some tend drop out after the first semester, or full year. According to college-insight.org, Marshall has a 70 percent retention rate after the first year. What about the other 30

Last year, Marshall's enrollment went up by three percent. It was the largest freshman class the university had ever encountered. But, if the numbers are correct, 30 percent of those admitted will drop out of school. Thus, the high admission rate paid off little

when looking at enrollment in the long run. More efforts should be made if Marshall is going to continue to have a high admission rate. If no efforts are going to be made to do such, the admissions rate should be

It also might raise the standards of the institution that has great potential to be a national competitor in regards to academic research. This is not to say that Marshall is not a good institution, we all know it is. What it is meant to say is that if Marshall is going to continue to recruit and admit heavily, all efforts should be made to keep those admitted until they graduate.

Marshall's average graduation rate (around 45 percent, according to college-insight.org) is nearly the same as schools like West Virginia University and the University of Louisville. But the admissions rate to Marshall is nearly 10 to 20 percent higher than the previously mentioned institutions. If Marshall chooses to continue with a high admission rate, record size classes will continue to come in. And if this is the case Marshall should strive to retain as many freshmen as

#### GREEK WEEK CHOST STORIES



#### **COLUMN**

# Put a face on welfare before judgment is passed



BY BISHOP NASH THE PARTHENON

There is nothing more blasphemous — in my eyes-- than a human forgetting their humanity. To the religious minded, we are the greatest, most intricate of God's creations. To those of a more skeptical nature, we're blessed to have formed into beings capable of this much feeling and reason. Whether the latter, the former or otherwise, you can't look at this with clear eyes and not see the beauty of who you are.

You've got some of the most complex tools on the planet at your disposal right now. I've got 10 fingers to bang this out on simulated glowing paper and eyes to watch the letters grow line by line down my laptop screen. I've got a mind that can translate my brain's dialogue into written words, so that you can take this and read it in your own voice or mine if you've heard it. Doesn't matter to you or me really, we've got the power to do both if we like.

Do you really understand how lucky you are to be alive and human? You're the most dominant of mammals and the only creature capable of processing these very

Who are we as individuals to not preserve and take care of such equally marvelous creations: Our fellow man?

You've probably got food in your belly, or are not far from it. This is the first civilization in history where starvation isn't even a minor issue. Whether you like it or not, your taxes are going to feed your fellow man through our welfare programs. Forced charity is heartless, but food gets put on the table all the same.

I truly believe most of the poor aren't lazy. My parents were on welfare when my little sister was born in 1993, when dad was working doubles left-and-right waiting tables and mom was busy handling baby Bishop in a house with no heating, page designed and edited by WILLIAM LINEBERRY [lineberry2@marshall.edu

cooling or city water. Eighteen years later, two kids were wellfed, taken on vacation yearly, given braces and Christmas presents, put into college and handed cars to get them there. My 10-year old brother will get the same, if not better.

Don't tell me welfare is for

the lazy. Yeah, I've seen the lazy. I've also seen the tired, the despairing, the wanton whores and those just happy to have a fake prescription for something nice and numbing. I may have grown up and lived in Cabell County, but not in Huntington. I'm from "the bad parts." The backwoods. The meth labs and the stray dogs. Where deer are kings of the road. Derelict trailers sit next to the nicely kept houses of shut-in geriatrics. The new blood rots while the old withers. I've seen the drug addicts sitting in thresholds with no doors, cigarette in hand, watching their shirtless, shoeless toddlers run in the yard in the middle of October. I've seen men with teeth that looked worse than mine when the Tooth Fairy was slipping

me money at night. I've seen

women standing behind gas station counters with voices smoked to sound like Tom Waits and faces as leathery as my beloved baseball

I'm surrounded by those who need help.

Either way you look at it, humanity could be God's greatest creation or the most spectacular cosmic accident ever. The fact that you're reading this is a miracle. If you could look past the politics of the welfare question while tossing out the predisposed notion of your tax dollars going to crack heads, you might catch your heart breaking a bit. It's not an issue of numbers or spreadsheets, it's about people and the faces you meet everyday, especially in West Virginia. The bitter idea of the welfare system handing money to the lazy and drug-addicted has to go. Our lives are worth too damn much to let others live in misery while those who can afford it sit with poison in their hearts.

If you're going to be a human, be a good one.

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# Panel discussion focuses on ethics of capitalism

BY HENRY CULVYHOUSE

THE PARTHENON

More than 30 students and faculty attended a panel discussion about the ethical implications of capitalism Thursday night at the Shawkey Room of the Memorial Student Center.

Students For Appalachian Socialism, a campus socialist group, sponsored the panel discussion.

The discussion featured Marshall University philosophy professor Jeremy Barris, political science professor Marybeth Beller and sociology professor Richard Garnett.

The discussion did not start without an interruption. A student protested in the panel and said communism was

"Counterculture red rehashes!" the student said. how Barris described

capitalism influences human

Barris said one of the effects of capitalism is that it leads people to think it can never be changed.

"Under capitalism, we have the idea that our reality is by nature and it cannot become different," Barris said. "If you're trying to engage in revolutionary change, then this is a tremendously potent obstacle."

Beller discussed how capitalism, particularly how campaigns are financed, influences American politics. Beller said capitalism and democracy do not necessar-

ily go together. "When I think of democracy, I think of inclusivity of participation," Beller said. "In looking at capitalism in how it effects campaigns and elections, capitalism threatens the very existence

Garnett said capitalism is engrained in the majority of

"We are so deeply socialized by institutions throughout our society, we are forced to believe capitalism is the only way," Garnett said. "This leads to a rooting of exploitation and other excess."

Jeremy Blaine of Students for Appalachian Socialism said the he was satisfied with the events' turnout. Blaine said the recession has generated interest in the group.

"I think with the economic crisis people are seeing what's going on and people are reaching conclusions and ideas that they haven't every thought before," Blaine said.

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# New claims for jobless benefits drop; GDP grows at solid pace

BY DON LEE

TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU (MCT)

WASHINGTON - Fresh evidence indicates that the labor market is continuing to heal and that there's stronger economic growth supporting new hiring than the most obvious numbers might suggest.

The Labor Department said Thursday that new claims for unemployment benefits dipped last week to 359,000, the lowest level since April 2008. Jobless claims have been moving steadily lower in recent weeks amid other signs that the job market is gaining strength.

Separately, the Commerce Department said Thursday its latest tally of the nation's gross domestic product showed a solid 3 percent annualized increase in the fourth

quarter last year. its previous estimate, but the new report showed gross domestic income jumped at a much higher annualized rate of 4.4 percent in that quarter.

Theoretically, the two measures should be the same; GDP looks at the spending side, and GDI the income end. And historically, the two numbers track closely. But GDI's much-bigger gain indicates that "recent GDP readings are too low and will be revised upward," said Ryan Sweet,

an analyst at Moody's Analytics.

The difference is more than academic, as it may help explain the disconnect between the relatively That's unchanged from modest economic growth recently and the sharp decline in the jobless rate to 8.3 percent in the first two months this year from 9.1 percent in August.

In fact, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke said this week that "the better jobs numbers seem somewhat out of sync with the overall pace of economic expansion."

That's one reason the Fed chief remains cautious about the economy despite the recent positive signs.

The GDP-GDI discrepancy corresponds to a gap in another pair of widely cited in reports, important economic data

measuring the job market. According to the Labor Department's previously reported monthly jobs reports, the economy added an average 244,000 jobs a month from December through February. That figure is based on a survey of employers. But for those same three months, the agency's survey of households showed employment gains of about 480,000 a month on

average. It's the household data determines change in the jobless rate. But most experts consider the employers' survey more reliable, and those numbers are just as GDP figures are used rather than GDI. But the household survey includes the self-employed and better tracks hiring at newer and smaller firms.

All of which raises the question: "Will the real economy please stand up?" asks Lynn Reaser, chief economist at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego.

"The truth is probably somewhere in between," she said, adding that over time, the GDP and numbers should converge, as will the employment numbers derived from the survey of employers and the one of households.

Usually, there has been a close connection between changes in GDP and the unemployment rate, but not recently.

In the second half of last year, GDP expanded at an annual rate of 2.4 percent, a pace probably not strong enough to bring down the jobless rate. But the GDI growth rate for that same period came in at a much stronger 3.5 percent.

Bernanke, delivering the last of four lectures at George Washington University on Thursday, said he expected the economy to return to a normal growth rate of about 3 percent a year, though he didn't specify when that might happen.

#### **BOWLS Continued from Page 1**

invited to keep the bowl as a reminder of hunger in

the world.

"It's rare for somebody to come once and not comeback. We'll have this huge amount of people who come every single

year and those people will often bring new people," Ike said. "I like to call it a 'Huntington to do,' people don't miss it."

Spencer said fighting family members didn't

hunger has always been have what they needed free to take their food an important cause for

"I think of how I would feel if my son or any of my

and it makes me want the help even more," Spencer

Patrons are encouraged cauley12@marshall. to stay and eat but are

Kevaira McCauley can be contacted at mc-

#### **PANCAKES Continued from Page 2**

and will be coordinated and run by the club as part of their capstone experience.

"Questions" will be a trivia night for the Huntington Community to raise money and awareness for River Val-Child Development

All the proceeds from Questions will be given to River Valley to help sustain TIPS

their scholarship program. Inquiries about the events can be sent to rvcds@marshall.edu.

Huntington's Kitchen is located at 911 Third Ave, near Pullman Square.

#### TRIVIA **Continued from Page 2**

students to take advantage had this evening," Ferguson said. "The community at Marshall is really great, and it is events such as this one that really pay homage to that."

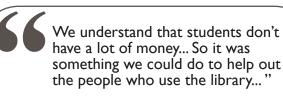
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#### DRINKO **Continued from Page 1**

and they request no ra-

Greer also said it was decided to have the Fine Free Days for an entire week to given students sufficient time to return the books and donate

their canned goods. More information about



> KELLI JOHNSON

the event can be found on the Marshall University Lilibrary's Facebook page, braries, Johnson said.

#### VIETNAM Continued from Page 2

pastors, and they can translate (between) English and Vietnamese. And last year on the last day, they asked me to lead worship at our dinner," Franke said. "I sang 'How He Loves' by the David Crowder Band. A lot of the students then didn't speak English so the translator was interpreting the words of the

"As it gets to the end, it just keeps repeating 'He loves us, oh how He loves us,' and they children started singing with me. They didn't know what

they were saying, but they just knew that they were worshipping their Creator, and that's all that they wanted."

Franke said that emotions poured out of her after that and she began to view everyone in a completely different light.

"Just to feel that they had this genuine love and they just wanted to worship no matter how they did it, that was the coolest," Franke said.

She said that there haven't been a lot of moments in her life that she felt that God was proud of what she's done, but in that moment, she knew

she was where she was supposed to be.

"The entire trip, I'd been asking God to be with me, and was a little upset because I couldn't feel Him," Franke said. "But I finally felt like God was just like, 'You asked me to be there, but you don't realize that you've been following Me."

Franke said if anyone is interested in joining the next mission trip, they could contact Vineyard Community Church of Etna, Ohio at www. vineyard05.com. If one is not interested in going through the church, he or she can visit freewheelchairmission.com

more information.

"They go to Vietnam and India, tons of places," Franke said.

The site offers several types of wheelchair assembly along with several different disbursement locations.

Franke said after graduating from Marshall University, she would like to be a wedding planner, but is also very passionate about starting a family.

"We'll just see what God has planned," Alex said. Franke is expected to

graduate in May 2014. Kayla Marcum can be contacted at marcum139@

marshall.edu. Once this urban art facil-

#### ART Continued from Page 6

an active and exciting place day-or night," Clercx said.

With the building being in the heart of downtown business and historic districts, it's a great opportunity to

mix both the campus and local community together so people can see the vast amount of work the students are doing.

Having the Visual Arts Center built, Clercx said he believes it will help attract more students to the

program.

"This will be a state-ofthe-art facility, and it will serve as a showcase for visual arts education." Van Horn said. "As a result of having this new home, it will be good for our students, faculty, staff and more."

ity is open and classes are underway, the department looks forward to hosting events open to the campus and local community.

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#### COMEDY **Continued from Page 6**

"We are trying so hard to get involved with the community," Lambert said. "This show is at a great location, easily accessible to anybody and it's free. A lot of people don't think of stand up comedy as a high art form, but just as much work goes into this as professional music or anything like that.

ems by themselves and get strangers to find out what

better at being a poet and a musician can practice for hours a day and become a better musician," Lambert said. "The only way for a stand up comedian to get better is to "A poet could write po- tell their jokes in front of

jokes get better."

The next Comedy Night at Black Sheep is April 11th. Before the show there will be a workshop at 8 p.m. for aspiring comedians.

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page designed and edited by KATIE QUINONEZ | quinonez@marshall.edu



FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2012

| THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

# Proposed Visual Arts Center hopes to expand college of fine arts

BY ALLYSON WARNER

THE PARTHENON

With its new building in the making, the department of art and design hopes to make Marshall University, the college of fine arts and the city of Huntington proud.

The department is hard at work in the design phase to obtain the best possible outcome of its soon-to-be new

"We are in the design phase right now, and how long that takes depends on a number of factors," said Byron Clercx, chairperson of the department of art and design. "We have already identified a lot of our programming space, and we're waiting for the architect's viewpoint now."

The university has explored options for having a fine arts complex in the past, except this was to be placed on campus, but the idea didn't turn out. The university continued looking for a location and eventually found a building in the downtown area.

Clercx said by positioning the Visual Arts Center in a highly-visible downtown location, the influx of people and money will build on the investments that have reinvigorated the downtown core. With the help of this new building, it will help the

economic and cultural revival of the area.

The new building will be located in the old Stone and Thomas Department Store located on Third Avenue across from Pullman Square.

"After exploring options on campus, the downtown area had a prominent but vacant storefront," Clercx said.

The department is hoping the building will be move-inready by August, however a realistic time frame for the building to be up and fully functional is currently aimed at January 2014. The ending project will have seven different floors and each floor at almost 10,000 square feet.

One reason for the new Visual Arts Center is for the program to grow into something bigger in the coming

"With the new Visual Arts Center, curriculum can be expanded and they will have the room to accommodate more students," said Donald Van Horn, college of fine arts dean.

The Visual Arts Center will house most of the departmental coursework the program offers to students. These programs include graphic design, an art gallery, art history, painting and

"It will surely be an active

See ART I Page 5



### Local comedic talent showcased at Black Sheep

THE PARTHENON

Local comedians showcased their talents at the Black Sheep Burrito and Brews Comedy Night.

Comedy Night is at 9:30 p.m. every other Wednesday. Comedian Ian Nolte has been performing stand up comedy since last summer.

"This place is the best place I've ever done comedy," Nolte said. "I've mainly done comedy in bars."

Eric Crusan has been a stand up comedian for a year.

"I first started at the Funny Bone," Crusan said. "My first time performing, the judges asked me if I was sure I had never done comedy before. That was my first time on stage so I guess I did pretty good."

Crusan said the second time he participated in open mic night he won and was the host of his third mic night.

"Since the Funny Bone closed, I started doing stand up in burrito places and coffee shops in Logan," Crusan said. "I'm moving in a week and a half to Florida, and I already have shows lined up in actual comedy clubs when I get there."

Nolte said he enjoys watching Crusan tell jokes because he is telling stories.

"Crusan tells stories, which is what people like to hear," Nolte said. "I also like watching him do it because every time he does it, it's like watching him figure it out for the first time — which I think is exciting."

Crusan said he cannot write jokes. Instead, he goes on stage and tries to tell stories and hopes they work.

"For the most part, my brain just grabs stuff and

goes with it," Crusan said. "I pretty much just wing it. If I can just drag the same story out for 10 minutes and be hilarious the whole time, I feel like I am everywhere."

While Crusan does not plan his own jokes, Nolte said he spends time writing out bits.

"Basically what I do is spend one evening writing all the possible things I might say up there," Nolte said. "Then I try to go up there and try to say the ones that feel the funniest right then."

Nolte said a huge part of comedy is making sure comedians connect with the audience, and that is not always an easy thing to do.

"Everybody gets 30 seconds," Nolte said. "If you don't make the audience pay attention to you in 30 seconds, everyone goes back to their conversations."

Comedian Cody Lambert is one of the hosts of Comedy Night and has been performing stand up comedy for a year and a half. He has performed at "Go Bananas" in Cincinnati, Ohio, Comedy off Broadway in Lexington, Ky., and various shows in southern West Virginia.

"Whether or not people want to believe it, there are some really funny people in this town," Lambert said. "Comedy in this town can really go someplace, just like anything in this town. People have got to get behind it."

Lambert said he has opened for big-name comedians such as April Macie from "I Am Comic," Ryan Singer who was on the "Tonight Show" and Chad Daniels who had his own Comedy Central special.

See COMEDY | Page 5

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