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President and Mrs. Gilley provide funds

Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley, right, and his wife, Nanna, present a check to Dr. Edward G. "Ned" Boehm Jr., Marshall vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of The Marshall University Foundation Inc. The Gilleys' gift to the foundation is earmarked for the Employee of the Month and Employee of the Year program for non-faculty employees.

Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley and his wife, Nanna, provided funds through a grant to establish the Employee of the Month and Employee of the Year program. The program has been designed to recognize outstanding performance by classified and non-classified staff at the university. Awards will be made to MU employees who have exhibited exceptional levels of work performance and displayed high regard and loyalty toward the university and their job responsibilities. A committee appointed by the president selects an Employee of the Month each month. That person then becomes eligible for the Employee of the Year Award.

Employees of the Month are presented a plaque and a cash award of $100. The Employee of the Year is presented a plaque and a cash award of $300.

Any classified or non-classified staff member may submit an application or nomination for the award to the university's Department of Human Resources by the fifth day of each month.

During June of each year, the Employee of the Month Committee will evaluate the 12 employees selected during July through June of the previous year and vote by secret ballot to determine the Employee of the Year.

Opal Byrd is shown receiving the Employee of the Month Award last November from Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley. She has been selected as Marshall's Employee of the Year, the third person to receive the honor under the employee awards program established three years ago by the president and his wife, Nanna. Byrd was recognized as Employee of the Year during a luncheon July 19 at the president's house.

Opal Byrd of Huntington, a building service worker in the Residence Services Department, has been selected as the recipient of Marshall University's third Employee of the Year Award, according to Bill Burdette, chairman of the selection committee.

Byrd, named Employee of the Month last November, has worked for the university for 23 years.

She was nominated for the Employee of the Month Award by Merri Warden-Ours, desk coordinator in Buskirk Hall, and several other members of the Residence Services Department connected with Buskirk Hall.

In nominating Byrd for the monthly award, Warden-Ours said, "I work with Opal handling the work orders and other maintenance problems. Opal is very good to report any problems she may see. She constantly shows a sincere smile that warms all our hearts. She works hard and it shows with the clean halls and bathrooms. My spirits lift every time I see her."

Scott King, resident director of Buskirk and Laidley halls, said, "Opal has exhibited excellent work, as well as kindness and compassion. She goes far beyond the call of duty to ensure that everyone is satisfied. The quality of Opal's work never goes without mention. However, her character stands alone and makes her one of the most enjoyable people to work with."

Good work, ethics, dedication, compassion, consistency and perseverance are just some of the qualities that make an employee of the month," King said. "These are the type of qualities that define a wonderful person such as Opal."

Byrd received a plaque and a check for $300 for being named Employee of the Year. The presentation was made July 19 at a luncheon at University Place, the Marshall president's house.
Marshall University's Employee of the Month Award winners for 1994-95

**Donald Adkins**
Landscape Gardener
Physical Plant
July 1994

**Lola Stratton**
Business Manager
Residence Services
October 1994

**Russell "Rusty" Dorton**
Roads & Grounds Worker Lead
Physical Plant
January 1995

**Sherri Noble**
Academic Budget Officer
Academic Affairs
August 1994

**Opal Byrd**
Building Service Worker
Residence Services
November 1994

**Marie Brown**
Program Assistant
Student Activities
February 1995

**Dorothy "Kitty" Carver**
Senior Administrative Secretary
Community and Technical College
September 1994

**Willa Mae Turner**
Building Service Worker
Physical Plant
December 1994

**Adrian Lawson**
General Manager
Instructional Television Services
March 1995

**Stephanie Gray**
Senior Administrative Secretary
Affirmative Action
April 1995

**Gael Setliff**
Office Administrator
College of Business
May 1995

**Jill Chapman**
Admissions Counselor
Admissions Office
June 1995