Marshall prepares to WOW new students starting Aug. 21

The best way to make incoming freshmen comfortable when fall classes begin is to treat them to some fun, informative, relaxing activities during the annual Week of Welcome (WOW), MU officials believe.

“It’s all about making the transition to university life smoother for first-year students,” said Dr. Gayle Ormiston, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. “Week of Welcome is just that – a welcome to all freshmen. It is important that they feel comfortable with the university before classes begin. And it is equally important for first-year students to be introduced to the expectations faculty will have of them when they begin classes on Monday, August 26th.”

From Wednesday, Aug. 21, through Saturday, Aug. 24, about 1,700 freshmen will take part in numerous fun activities, such as watching an outdoor movie on campus, scaling the climbing wall in the Marshall Recreation Center, posing for a group picture, enjoying an ice cream social, tossing Frisbees, attending a comic show or building a Marco-themed bear.

The freshmen will actually begin their first class at Marshall during Week of Welcome. UNI 100, Freshman First Class is an introduction to academic structures and expectations of college life. Those who successfully complete the course earn one hour of elective credit.

“Week of Welcome and UNI 100 provide an opportunity for students to arrive early to campus, meet new classmates, and make new friends,” said Sherri Stepp, director of University College. “They will meet President (Stephen) Kopp at Convocation, meet their academic dean at their college session, and begin learning the things they need to know to help them be successful students both academically and socially.”

Back-to-back events in the afternoon and early evening Wednesday highlight the first day of Week of Welcome. The President’s Convocation, in recent years conducted in the morning, has been moved to a 5 p.m. start in the Henderson Center arena. This year, for the first time, MU officials decided to invite parents to the convocation as well.

The convocation will be followed immediately by the family picnic, which is open to all freshmen and their families and will take place on the student center plaza from 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Commuter students and students living on campus will need to check in for WOW on Wednesday, Aug. 21, in the recreation center. For any commuter students who cannot check in on Wednesday, there will be a short registration time on Thursday morning before the Freshman First Class session in the Henderson Center arena.

The complete WOW schedule is available at www.marshall.edu/wow. A new Student Success app will be introduced to students as well. The app is designed to work on iOS and Android-based devices. It provides students with online access to the WOW schedule, individual student class schedules, and an interactive GPS-based map of the Huntington campus. More information about the app can be found at www.marshall.edu/success.

For more information about WOW, contact the Student Resource Center on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center by calling ext. 6-5810.

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Artists Series announces 2013-14 season

As the Marshall Artists Series prepares to celebrate its 77th season, theatergoers can expect to be taken on an eclectic musical journey that runs from centuries-old music to current Broadway hits—a real trailblazing season, promises Penny Watkins, Executive Director for the series.

“We’ve got a wide variety of genres to explore. Don’t miss a minute of our exciting 77th season!” she says.

All performances will take place at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center with the exception of an appearance by Roslyn Kind March 11, which will take place at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

The opening event, billed as a special event, features comedy star and actor Bill Burr Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 7:30 p.m. A regular on late-night shows, he can be seen in the recent film, “The Heat,” alongside stars Sandra Bullock and Melissa McCarthy and he has a recurring role on the critically acclaimed hit TV hit show, “Breaking Bad.”

Nine-time Grammy Award winner, Natalie Cole, daughter of the legendary Nat “King” Cole, will appear Thursday, Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m. She rocketed to stardom in 1975 with her debut album, “Inseparable” and her number-one single “This Will Be (An Everlasting Love),” which earned two Grammy Awards. She had a string of single hits throughout the 90s, culminating with
an album which featured “Unforgettable,” her duet with her late father which spent five weeks at number one and earned 6 Grammy Awards.

Singer-Songwriter Jason Mraz brings his soul sounds to Huntington Friday, Oct. 18, at 7:30 p.m. Winner of two Grammy Awards, Mraz scored one of the biggest hits of the decade with “I’m Yours,” which made history as the longest running song on Billboard’s Hot 100, charting for an unprecedented 76 weeks. He has gone on to amass an impressive collection of hits.

Kevin Pollak, comedian, impressionist, writer, director, talk-show host and dramatic actor, will present “An Evening of Comedy” Monday, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m. Pollack first began performing at age 10 and was a touring professional stand-up comic by age 20. He has starred in three cable TV stand-up comedy specials and has also had roles in over 60 films including A Few Good Men, The Usual Suspects, and Grumpy Old Men.

Blue Man Group, known for their inventive concerts that combine comedy, heart-thumping music and technology, will be making their debut appearance in Huntington Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m. With no spoken language, the group has appeal for all ages, languages and cultures. E! Entertainment News said, “Blue Man Group is what every live performance aspires to be.”

The popular Fall International Film Festival returns from Nov. 15 to 21 with six films screened on a rotating basis at varying times. Featured films include The Untouchables (France); Reality (Italy); The Silence (Germany); The Angel’s Share (UK/Scotland/Belgium/Italy); Love is All You Need (Denmark); and No (Chile).

Blood, Sweat and Tears, the iconic jazz-rock band that has endured through the decades, will help usher in the holiday season with a performance Tuesday, Dec.3, at 7:30 p.m. They’ll share unforgettable hits and holiday favorites backed by a 40-piece orchestra, including “You’ve Made Me So Very Happy,” “Spinning Wheel,” “And When I Die,” “God Bless the Child,” and “Got To Get You Into My Life.”

Direct from Broadway, the hit musical Million Dollar Quartet, based on the true story or a legendary recording session, will be presented Sunday, Jan. 26, at 7:30 p.m. That famed session brought together musical legends Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for one of the greatest jam sessions of all time. The show will feature such hits as “Blue Suede Shoes,” “Ring of Fire,” “Great Balls of Fire,” “I Walk the Line,” “Whole Lot of Shakin’ Going On,” “Hound Dog,” and many more.

For a change in pace and just in time to lighten winter doldrums, the 32-piece Vienna Concert-Verein Orchestra, conducted by Phillipe Entremont and featuring piano soloist Sebastian Knauer, will perform a repertoire of Austria’s best—Mozart, Beethoven, Lehár and Strauss—Thursday, Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

The Spring International Film Festival runs Feb. 7-13 with the following films from around the world: A Royal Affair (Denmark); The Flat (Israel); Like Someone in Love (Japan); War Witch (Canada); Una Noche (Cuba); and The Sessions (USA).
For the first time in more 48 years, Bizet’s Carmen will be staged at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. It will be presented by Teatro Lirico D’Europa with a full orchestra. Considered Bizet’s greatest work, his portrait of the willful gypsy is an operatic tour-de-force, painting an indelible portrait of Carmen and her lover, Don Jose, through an unforgettable and forceful score.

Rosalyn Kind, the sister of the legendary Barbra Streisand and just back from the European leg of Streisand’s World Tour where she was a special guest artist, will entertain audiences with “An Evening of Cabaret with Roslyn Kind” Tuesday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. She’ll perform in an evening of music, cabaret and family storytelling.

Closing out the 2013-14 season, American Idiot, a Broadway musical based on Green Day’s Grammy Award winning multi-platinum album, will be performed Thursday, April 24, at 8 p.m. The musical tells the story of three lifelong friends who are forced to choose between their dreams and the safety of suburbia, and their quest for true meaning in a post-9/11 world.

New season subscription orders and season ticket renewals for current patrons are on sale now. Deadline for season ticket renewal is Monday, Aug. 19. After that date, all orders will be processed in order of date and time received. Individual tickets go on sale, Monday, Sept. 9 at noon. For more information and pricing information, contact the Marshall Artists Series Box office at ext. 6-3326

The Artists Series is once again offering a two-payment plan to offer patrons greater flexibility. Information can be obtained about the plan by calling ext. 6-3313.

Photo: The Blue Man Group is among the acts who will highlight the Marshall Artists Series this year. Click on the photo to view the complete series newsletter.

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Herd fans make it clear they want ‘Old Marco’; winner resembles previous Marco, collects 76 percent of the vote

Thundering Herd fans have made clear their choice on a new mascot costume: They want the new Marco to look a lot like, well, an old one.

Up to Aug. 10, fans and friends of the university have been voting on Facebook social media to determine whether Marco will keep his current design or be given a new or updated look. His current costume, after five years of extensive wear, travel, cleaning and repair, is worn out and needs to be replaced.

Marshall decided to let the fans determine which of three options they preferred. They overwhelmingly selected option No. 3, or the more complete makeover with a friendlier face and fur-covered legs. It is also referred to as the classic Marco because of its similarity to the previous Marco from the late 1980s and 1990s.

“It’s obvious from the number of votes and the interest in this contest that Marco means a lot to our fans,” said Matt Turner, chief of staff. “We want to thank the more than 3,000 people who voted online, as well as those who called us and emailed and shared the contest through social media. They’re saying loud and clear that ‘we want our old Marco back.’”

The winning Marco costume received 76 percent of the votes with 2,424 of the 3,187 votes cast. A partial makeover of the current Marco was second with 448 votes (14 percent) and the current Marco was third with 315 votes (10 percent).

The new Marco is expected to make his first public appearance Saturday, Oct. 5, during Marshall’s homecoming football game with UTSA. Game time at Joan C. Edwards Stadium is 2 p.m.
Reminder: Tickets still on sale for ‘Paint the Capital City Green’ Aug. 22

Tickets are currently on sale for the 16th annual Paint the Capital City Green celebration coming to Charleston Embassy Suites Thursday, Aug. 22.

Thundering Herd fans will hear from head football coach Doc Holliday, athletic director Mike Hamrick and President Stephen J. Kopp, as well as key members of this year’s team as they talk about the future of MU football. In addition, Miss West Virginia, Miranda Harrison, will be greeting fans. She is a Marshall journalism student.

Fans will also enjoy a pep rally atmosphere that includes a tailgate spread, entertainment by Marco, the cheerleading squad, dance team and members of the MU Marching Thunder.

Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. with the formal program beginning at 7:30 p.m. Advance only tickets are $50 and must be purchased by close of business on Friday, Aug. 16, to be entered into a drawing for the opportunity to win admission and hotel accommodations for two to Marshall’s game at Florida Atlantic University Oct. 12 in Boca Raton.

For ticket information, call the Big Green Scholarship Foundation at ext.6-7138 or e-mail paintthecapital@marshall.edu.

For more information, contact Lalena Price at ext.6-1989 or pricel@marshall.edu.

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Hillary Brown named Employee of the Month

Hillary Brown, Student Support Specialist in the Autism Training Center’s College Program for Students with Asperger’s Syndrome, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for April, according to Michelle Brown-Douglas, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

Employed at Marshall for almost two years, she was nominated by Jackie Clark, Rebecca Hansen, Kerrie Harris, and Bianca Hynes.
Clark wrote in her nomination that since her employment Brown has done an outstanding job in her role of Student Support Specialist. “Hillary always goes the ‘extra mile’ and has an extreme work ethic. She has built amazing relationships with students involved in the college program and the staff of the Autism Training Center.”

Hanson noted that “Hillary defines ‘above and beyond.’ She is an employee who cares so much for her students. She is a natural counselor [who] provides academic, social and emotional support to 12 individuals with autism spectrum disorder.”

Harris said, “Hillary is dependable, has a strong work ethic and often is the last one to leave the office. She does a great job managing stress in a highly stressful job and cares so much for the students. Her caring attitude makes her very helpful in assisting us.”

Hynes also has high praise for Brown’s work ethic and her dedication to her job. “In my short time here, Hillary has acted as a mentor to me in my similar role of Student Support Specialist. She goes above and beyond to help co-workers and students….her personality brings positivity to the workplace!”

Brown was presented with a plaque and a check for $100 by President Stephen J. Kopp.

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*Photo: Hillary Brown (left) receives her Employee of the Month plaque from President Kopp.*

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**Carol Smith elected president of state counselor organization**

Dr. Carol M. Smith, associate professor of counseling and a nationally certified Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC, NCC), has been elected president of the West Virginia Counseling Association (WVCA), a state chapter of the American Counseling Association (ACA). Her term as president began in July 2013 and will continue to June 2015.

“It is a privilege to serve the professional counselors of our state, and to have the trust of my colleagues in the field.” Smith said. “Both the WVCA and ACA have offered amazing opportunities to grow and learn from leaders in the field of professional counseling. I hope I will serve the organization with excellence as we press into the future together.”

WVCA is a non-profit association of all counselors in West Virginia that exists to advocate for the profession of counseling. It promotes lifelong education and development of all professional counselors, clinical excellence and high ethical standards in practice, and emotional well-being throughout West Virginia. Members are professional counselors who work in a variety of
settings, including clinical agencies, public schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, addictions, private practices, career planning, corrections facilities and nonprofit agencies.

As president, Smith will be responsible for coordinating the work of the association by presiding over the executive committee, establishing board policies and objectives and promoting the association’s mission and goals, primarily through education and professional advocacy.

Smith received both her master’s degree in clinical mental health counseling (1998), and her doctorate in counselor education and supervision (2002) from Kent State University. She joined the full-time faculty of Marshall University’s counseling department in 2008.

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**MIIR scientist awarded $293,000 NIH grant**

Dr. Jingwei Xie, a senior scientist at the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (MIIR), has been awarded a $293,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to lead a project to develop a technique that may improve surgical repair of rotator cuff injuries.

The project will combine the expertise of two research groups at Marshall University. Xie, who is an expert in bone growth and development, and his team at MIIR will be working with Dr. Franklin D. Shuler, associate professor and vice chair of research in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

According to Xie, rotator cuff injuries are among the most common conditions affecting the shoulder and can occur from falls or repetitive motions like throwing a baseball. Rotator cuff repair is also one of the most common orthopedic surgeries, with approximately 300,000 procedures performed annually in the United States alone.

He explains that rotator cuff surgery done with current methods has a failure rate that ranges from 20-90 percent, due in large part to the manner in which the tendons are reattached to the bone. For this project, his team will combine principles of engineering and biomedicine to construct a new type of biological device that will better mimic an uninjured tendon-to-bone attachment, and ultimately result in improved healing.

“We are pleased to be able to take advantage of this opportunity to combine expertise from two research groups at Marshall,” Xie adds. “My background in tissue engineering and Dr. Shuler’s extensive experience in clinical treatment of rotator cuff injury will allow us to do work that may
very well improve the health and quality of life for individuals afflicted with these injuries. This research could also have a significant impact on the treatment of other, similar injuries of soft tissue-to-bone interfaces.”

The grant is from NIH’s National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases.

Dr. John M. Maher, vice president for research and the interim director of MIIR, extended his congratulations to Xie, saying, “This grant is quite an accomplishment for Dr. Xie and MIIR. His research in this area is showing great promise to improve human health and to produce patentable technologies. A collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to translational research is the foundation of the success of this program and the participation of MIIR, the Center for Diagnostic Nanosystems at the School of Pharmacy, and the School of Medicine was key to securing this funding.”

Xie has more than 10 years’ research experience in regenerative medicine, tissue engineering, biomaterials, nanotechnology and micro-/nanofabrication, and has developed a number of projects related to biomedical applications, including neural tissue engineering, tendon-to-bone insertion site repair and drug delivery. He joined MIIR in January 2011. He and the other scientists at the institute are developing a focused program of biotechnology research dedicated to producing patentable scientific breakthroughs and creating new businesses based on those discoveries. In keeping with the institute’s goal to be self-sustaining, Xie is funded entirely through external sources. He is the co-inventor on five patents and has co-authored more than 40 peer-reviewed journal articles.

Tracy Smith named Director of Environmental Health and Safety

Tracy Smith, a health and safety specialist at Marshall for the past six years, has been named Director of Environmental Health and Safety, according to Dr. Karen Kirtley, senior vice president for administration. Smith assumed his position this summer.

“Tracy has done an excellent job as a health and safety specialist,” Kirtley said. “He has extensive training in that field. We are very pleased that a person with Tracy’s talents was already on board at Marshall, which made the decision to move him into the director’s position an easy one.”

Smith has worked on Marshall’s Huntington campus since 2007. He spent the previous 13 years at the medical school as a safety officer.
“It’s a great opportunity, I’m very excited to be in this position,” Smith said. “We have made a lot of progress over the past few years in environmental health and safety here on campus. I’m looking forward to continuing that success.”

Smith has a B.A. in management and accounting and an M.S. in safety and health from Marshall. He began his career as extra help at the medical school and later interned there as part of his master’s degree requirements.

Smith’s mother, Judy Olson, is a longtime employee in the Center for Business and Economic Research at Marshall, and his stepfather, Dr. Lee Olson, has taught in Adult and Technical Education at MU since 1971.

Marshall University School of Pharmacy announces creation of new academic scholarship honoring Charleston pharmacist

Dr. Kevin W. Yingling, dean of the Marshall University School of Pharmacy, has announced the creation of a new endowed scholarship fund, the Paula Campbell Butterfield Scholarship for the School of Pharmacy.

The scholarship honors Butterfield, a pharmacist and longtime owner of Trivillian’s Pharmacy, an independently owned pharmacy in Charleston. Butterfield, who completed her pharmacy degree at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, has owned and operated Trivillian’s for more than 30 years.

In announcing the scholarship, Yingling praised Butterfield for her years of mentoring young women and men in the field of pharmacy.

“Ms. Butterfield’s generosity is obvious, not only in her willingness to create a scholarship for our students, but in her everyday commitment to mentoring young pharmacists in the field,” Yingling said. “Additionally, she is the epitome of what a community pharmacist should be – a valued member of the health care team dedicated to educating her patients about their medications and how to use them safely.”

The scholarship will be awarded to a recipient who is a full-time student at the school and a resident of West Virginia. First preference will be for a female student who lives in Kanawha County or an adjacent county (Jackson, Roane, Clay, Nicholas, Fayette, Raleigh, Boone, Lincoln or Putnam). The recipient must have and maintain a 3.0 GPA.
The award is renewable.

For specific information on the scholarship, contact the Office of Financial Aid at ext.6-3162.

Photo: Dr. Kevin Yingling, left, has announced creation of a new endowed scholarship fund that honors Paula Campbell Butterfield, right, a pharmacist and longtime owner of Trivillian’s Pharmacy in Charleston.

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Marshall to participate in initiative marking history of civil rights in U.S.

Marshall University has been selected to participate in *Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle*, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities, according to Dr. Majed Khader, director of the Morrow Library.

The initiative includes a series of four documentary films, including new footage illustrating the history of civil rights in the U.S., as well as programmatic and support materials developed by NEH in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

The films include *The Abolitionists, Slavery by Another Name, Freedom Riders, and The Loving Story* and include dramatic scenes of events in the 150-year effort to achieve equal rights for all. *Freedom Riders* received an Emmy in 2012, and *The Loving Story* and *The Abolitionists* have been nominated for Emmys in 2013.

Marshall is one of 473 institutions across the country that has been awarded a set of the films. Khader said. A schedule of showings will be announced in the near future.

“These films chronicle the long and sometimes violent effort to achieve the rights enumerated in the Declaration of Independence—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—for all Americans,” Khader said. “We are pleased to receive a grant from NEH to provide programming around these films. This is especially meaningful to the community of Huntington as the hometown of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who devoted his career to African American history.”

Each of the films was produced with NEH support, and each tells stories of individuals who challenged the social and legal status quo of deeply rooted institutions, from slavery to segregation.
The *Created Equal* film set is made possible through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, as part of its *Bridging Cultures* initiative, in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

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**Painter, Hapney recognized by West Virginia public relations group**

Ginny Painter, Communications Director for the Marshall University Research Corporation, and Dr. Terry Hapney, faculty member in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, were honored recently at the annual awards dinner of the Public Relations Society of America, West Virginia Chapter. Painter was recognized with a TriCrystal Award, an award presented to the nine members in the chapter’s 33-year history who have received both the groups’ highest honor, the Practitioner of the Year Award, and its Chapter Service Award, and who have served as chapter president.

Hapney, the adviser to the Public Relations Student Society of America chapter at Marshall, was named Educator of the Year. Hapney’s students have won a number of Crystal Awards as well as the East Central District Diamond Award. He was cited for his student-centered teaching and for his efforts to place students into excellent jobs, due largely to the portfolios they created while students at Marshall. The awards were presented at the 2013 PRSA-West Virginia Chapter Crystal Awards Gala earlier this summer at Edgewood Country Club. The event honored outstanding public relations campaigns and projects undertaken in 2012.

*Photos:* Ginny Painter (above) and Dr. Terry Hapney have been recognized by the Public Relations Society of America, West Virginia Chapter.

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‘Legendary’ music educator recognized by scholarship at Marshall University

The Marshall University Foundation Inc. has announced a significant endowment to provide scholarships for music education students at Marshall University. The Janice Chandler Gold Scholarship was established through a gift from Dr. Stephen M. Wilks ('68) and Robin Chandler Wilks ('71), with additional contributions from friends and former students of Janice Chandler Gold. Gold is being recognized for her years of service to the musical life of the Huntington community, including her years of teaching music to students in Cabell County; training of teachers as mentors and student teaching supervisors; and as the director/conductor of numerous vocal ensembles and choral groups in the Huntington area. The annual award will be given to a full-time student majoring in music education who is in good academic standing.

“Our daughter Kelly (’01) had a five-year, three-quarter tuition scholarship for her cello performance degree from Marshall and it was most appreciated,” said Robin Wilks, who received a music education degree from Marshall. “We have always been grateful for and proud of the top-flight music education available at Marshall.”

Debby Stoler, a former student of Gold’s and assistant director of development and outreach in career services at Marshall, organized a reunion and concert by Gold’s former students earlier this month. “Janice Chandler Gold is an amazing lady and a bundle of energetic talent,” Stoler said. “She has brought music to our community and enriched our lives in numerous ways over the last 50-plus years. A scholarship assures that her legacy of devoted teaching of music continues long into the future.”

Melanie Griffis, senior director of development, and also a former student of Gold’s, said that the scholarship is important for many reasons. “For a student studying music education, this scholarship is important on several levels,” Griffis said. “It recognizes that student’s achievements as a musician and future teacher. I can’t think of a better example for an aspiring music teacher than Janice Chandler Gold. She is legendary in the Cabell County and surrounding school systems for the quality of her musicianship and teaching, but also for the teachers in our region whom she has trained. On a personal level, I was one of her students at Huntington East High School. I’ve experienced her in action and to have this scholarship to give to future teachers who will know her by example and can aspire to exemplify her career is a really exciting prospect for the future of music education at Marshall.”

Photo: Janice Chandler Gold, shown at left with her daughter, Robin Chandler Wilks, has been recognized for her work in the Huntington musical community with a scholarship for music education at Marshall

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Marshall community to honor Spindel

An open house honoring Dr. Donna Spindel, Professor of History and Dean of the Graduate College, will take place Thursday, Aug. 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Drinko Library Atrium. Everyone is cordially invited to come by and congratulate her on her retirement and her 37 years of service to Marshall University.

The next issue of We Are…Marshall will be distributed August 21, 2013. Please send any materials for consideration to Pat Dickson by noon, August 19.