We Are...Marshall, June 23, 2010

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The George Washington University study breaks new ground by providing what the journal's news release called "a real-time and real-place report" on doctors who graduated between 1999 and 2001: what their backgrounds are, where they work, and what kind of medicine they practice.

Read more.

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The formal ceremony is set for 3:50 p.m. Thursday, July 1, at the stadium, and admission is free. It will be preceded by several activities, including Team Fastrax skydivers delivering a 2,000 square-foot American flag to the stadium when they jump at 3:41 p.m.

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Bookwalter to serve as interim dean of College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Robert Bookwalter has been named interim dean of the Marshall University College of Education and Human Services, according to Dr. Gayle Ormiston, senior vice president of academic affairs and provost.

Bookwalter is a 23-year veteran faculty member of Marshall University currently serving as the chairman of the Department of Communication Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. He began his new duties as interim dean on June 16. A nationwide search to fill the permanent position will begin during the fall semester.

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The partnership has resulted in more than $8 million in sales commissions that have gone toward scholarships.

Read more.

College of Science faculty members to present ecological research

Three Marshall University researchers will be contributing oral papers at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America in Pittsburgh. The faculty members and their topics include "Soil microbial communities and nitrogen (N) dynamics along a weathering gradient in an N-saturated hardwood forest watershed," Dr. Frank S. Gilliam; "A mathematical model for antibiotic resistant bacteria in the Mud River, WV," Dr. Anna Mummert; "Changes over 10 years in soil nitrogen dynamics and stem growth of forest trees in response to long-term nitrogen fertilization in a mid-Appalachian forest," Dr. Jeffrey Nay.

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Profile: Cindy Warren - a series on Interesting Marshall University people

A chance remark by a relative changed Cindy Warren from a West Virginia University-bound scholarship student to a die-hard, bleed-green Marshall student, alumna and employee. And the comment changed the course of her life.

"I had just graduated from Logan High School and was only three weeks away from starting at WVU, where I had won a scholarship and gone through orientation," said Warren who is the assistant dean of Admissions of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "Then I happened to overhear an aunt complaining to my mother about the financial burden this would place on my family."

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Led by Dr. Fitzhugh Mullan, the researchers then calculated a "social mission score" for each medical school based on the percentage of graduates who practice primary care, who work in health professional shortage areas, or who are underrepresented minorities (since this group historically provides a disproportionate share of health care to the nation's minority and underserved populations).

Marshall's Dr. John Walden said the study offers a long-overdue look at how medical education performs in creating a physician workforce that effectively reaches the population to provide treatment and preventive care.

"It seems about time someone looked at these kinds of things," said Walden, an associate dean and chairman of the Department of Family and Community Health. "The study is a positive take on rethinking, in part, priorities in medical education, and recognizing that Improving the nation's health is not necessarily so much about developing a new drug as about actually getting treatment to people."

President Stephen J. Kopp said the Independent nature of the study is even stronger evidence that Marshall is a national leader in training physicians who meet the rural medicine mission of the university.

"This research independently confirms that Marshall's medical school is serving the people of rural and medically underserved areas of West Virginia and the region through the education and placement of skilled physicians in these areas. We truly are continuing to fulfill the mission set forth for Marshall's medical school when it was created," Kopp said.

The dean of Marshall's medical school, Dr. Charles H. McKown Jr., said the school's distinction is especially valued since it results from unsolicited analytical and objective analysis.

"Dr. Mullan is one of the nation's most experienced, insightful, authoritative physicians, and his expertise in this particular field is essentially unchallenged," he said, adding that the Annals of Internal Medicine ranks "at absolutely the top" of national and international medical journals.

"Providing well-trained and highly skilled primary care physicians to practice in West Virginia remains the solid foundation of our mission," he said. "We are very proud of our results, and also pleased with our contribution - with the state's other two medical schools - toward making primary care accessible to people across West Virginia."
Skydivers, Olympic-style parade onto field among highlights of soccer tournament's opening ceremony

A spirited leap into Joan C. Edwards Stadium by a professional skydiving team, an Olympic-style parade onto the stadium turf by some 5,000 athletes and a flag roll-out during the National Anthem are among the highlights of the U.S. Youth Soccer Region 1 (East) Championships opening ceremony next week on Marshall University's Huntington campus.

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The soccer championships, scheduled Friday, July 2 through Tuesday, July 6, take place at the Barboursville Soccer Complex, the Huntington YMCA Kennedy Center and the Scott Orthopedics Soccer Complex.

The opening ceremony will be conducted at Marshall's Joan C. Edwards Stadium for the second consecutive year.

"The opening ceremony last year got rave reviews," said Moppie Lavery, co-chairman - along with Diane Shattil - of the ceremony, which attracted about 20,000 people. "Many said it was the best one they have been to. We would like to see a lot of people from the community come out to the opening ceremony and to some of the games. These teams are outstanding."

Len Rogers, West Virginia Soccer president and local organizing committee chair of the 2009 and 2010 U.S. Youth Soccer Region 1 Championships, agreed with Lavery that those who attended last year's ceremony were "thrilled" with everything from the activities to the facilities. The same is expected this year, he said.

"Everybody loved the opening ceremony," Rogers said. "They enjoyed the game between the mascots, the crossbar competition, the sky divers and just the quality of the stadium."

After the skydivers jump, the ceremony will officially begin with opening greetings from W.Va. Sen. Bob Plymale, Rogers and Region 1 Director Bob Palmeiro. The flag roll-out follows as the 249th Army Band of the West Virginia National Guard plays and Marybeth Withers sings the National Anthem. Greetings from Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp follow, and a special invitation to speak also has been extended to West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin.

The parade of players and referees onto the field will start at 4:14 p.m. and take about an hour.

Other pre-opening ceremony events include crossbar competition at 3 p.m. and a five-on-five soccer game between mascots at 3:25 p.m.

West Virginia and the West Virginia Soccer Association hosted the tournament last year and are hosting it again this year as part of the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championship Series.
The championships will feature 256 boys' and girls' teams, with players ages 11-19 from Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont and West Virginia.

The economic impact of last year's tournament was confirmed at slightly more than $12.1 million, according to Rogers.

The opening ceremony is expected to last about an hour and a half, or until about 5:15 p.m. Free parking will be available on all Marshall University surface lots and concessions will be open at the stadium. No outside food or drink will be allowed into the stadium.

Rogers said visitors have booked about 11,000 room nights at area hotels from Grayson, Ky., to east of Charleston. Even some rooms have been booked in Gallipolis, Ohio, he said.

"Having the Region I Championships in the Huntington area is a tremendous opportunity for us to showcase Marshall University and the surrounding Cabell County area," said Marshall University men's soccer head coach Bob Gray. "Over ten thousand soccer fans are coming in from all over the northeast and we look forward to showcasing the university and the men's soccer program to those families, as well as to show the passion for soccer and love of the game the soccer community has here in Herd territory."

Marshall's Huntington campus will be used to house an estimated 1,400 people, including players, their families and referees. The Marshall Recreation Center, the Marshall Bookstore, the Harless Dining Hall and the Memorial Student Center will be open at various times throughout the tournament. Visit www.marshall.edu/soccer for more information.

Photo: A skydiver participates in the 2009 opening ceremony of U.S. Youth Soccer Region I (East) Championships.
Bookwalter to serve as interim dean of College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Robert Bookwalter has been named Interim dean of the Marshall University College of Education and Human Services, according to Dr. Gayle Ormiston, senior vice president of academic affairs and provost.

Bookwalter is a 23-year veteran faculty member of Marshall University currently serving as the chairman of the Department of Communication Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. He began his new duties as interim dean on June 16. A nationwide search to fill the permanent position will begin during the fall semester.

Ormiston said he is very pleased Bookwalter agreed to accept this leadership role for the university as the college works to prepare for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education accreditation process.

"Dr. Bookwalter is committed to supporting the mission of the college in preparing tomorrow's educators and education professionals," Ormiston said. "He will work to ensure that the programs in the college have the resources and support to accomplish their goals effectively and efficiently. I look forward to his insights and leadership in the coming months."

Bookwalter joined the Department of Speech (now Communication Studies) in 1987. His teaching and research interests are in the areas of peace and conflict studies, interpersonal communication, group dynamics, leadership and language. While at Marshall he has served as chair of the College of Liberal Arts Academic Planning Committee and Curriculum Committee and served on the college's Promotion and Tenure Committee. For 15 years he served as director of the Oral Communication component of the General Education program. In 2009, he led the university's General Education Council that is overseeing the transition to the new Core Curriculum scheduled to begin this fall. He also has served as Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA since 2002.

"I am honored to be asked to guide the college through this transition," Bookwalter said. "This is a critical time, with the college's accreditation process under way, budgetary challenges facing the university, and the search for a new dean upcoming. I look forward to working closely with faculty, students and staff of the college to successfully address these challenges."

A native of San Jose, Calif., Bookwalter received his B.A. in Speech Communication from Fresno State University in 1979, his M.A. in Interpersonal Communication from the University of Montana in 1982 and his Ph.D. in Communication Studies from the University of Kansas in 1989.

http://www.marshall.edu/ucomm/Newsletters/2010/062310/nl_062310_2.html
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The Newsletter for Marshall University

June 23, 2010

Bookstore Partnership to Mark Milestone

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The partnership has resulted in more than $8 million in sales commissions that have gone toward scholarships.

Dr. Karen Kirtley, assistant vice president of administration at Marshall, said the university has had an extremely successful partnership with Follett for its contracted bookstore operations.

"We appreciate Follett's commitment to creating a bookstore that is a campus destination for our students, faculty, staff and the many visitors that come to our campus," Kirtley said. "We are excited about continuing the partnership, which has been a seamless, win-win for the university community, for many years."

In addition to sales generated commissions, Follett will also contribute more than $100,000 in textbook scholarships during the current contract period.

"The bookstore has certainly changed in the past decade-and-a-half with Follett's continued commitment to bring in new products, enhanced services and the latest technologies," Kirtley said. "It provides a better bookstore experience for all students and visitors to campus."

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Watercolor society exhibit continues through July 30

Gallery 842, located at 842 4th Ave, in downtown Huntington, is hosting the 2010 West Virginia Watercolor Society juried exhibition Festival of Colors through July 30.

WVWS President Jeannine Romano was pleased for the organization to be exhibited at Gallery 842.

"During the past two years as president of the West Virginia Watercolor Society, I have been continually amazed and inspired by the caliber of talented artists we have in our state," Romano said. "The motto 'to promote and ensure a high standard of watercolor painting' is demonstrated by many of our members, who mentor and teach watercolor painting throughout the region. It is exciting for us to bring our creative flair to the Huntington area."

The exhibit was juried by John Farley, gallery director and adjunct art faculty member at Marshall University. A graduate of MU's Department of Art and Design, Farley's work has been chosen for display in the Huntington Museum of Art and the West Virginia Culture Center, among others.

Farley encouraged the public to view this exhibit, noting the diversity and talent represented in the show.

"There are a wide variety of examples of various watercolor techniques - despite the fact that they are all under the umbrella of watercolor paintings," Farley said. "Viewers will find everything from highly representational portraiture to gestural abstract paintings."

Gallery 842 is both a community- and Marshall University-held space to promote local talent and initiative. The gallery is a free cultural experience for any artist or art enthusiast. Summer hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

For more information or questions about Gallery 842, or any College of Fine Arts events, contact Jaye Ike by phone at 304-696-3296 or by e-mail at jaye.ike@marshall.edu.

Photo: "MU Window Reflections" is the title of this work by Debbie Kalt Sisson, a bachelor's and master's alumnus of Marshall University. The painting is included in the 2010 West Virginia Watercolor Society juried exhibition beginning Friday, June 11 at Gallery 842 in Huntington.
Environmental Partnership Award goes to Brownfields Assistance Centers

The Brownfields Assistance Centers at Marshall University and West Virginia University (WVU) have been awarded the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) Environmental Partnership Award for 2010.

The award recognizes the collaborative approach the centers use to help communities across the state identify, clean up and redevelop brownfields sites, and the centers' positive working relationships with state and federal agencies.

The award was presented by West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin and WVDEP Cabinet Secretary Randy Huffman at the department's 10th Environmental Awards Ceremony last month in Charleston.

The Brownfields Assistance Centers help empower communities to plan and implement redevelopment projects in "brownfields," or abandoned and underutilized contaminated lands. The Southern Brownfields Assistance Center is housed in Marshall University's Center for Environmental, Geotechnical and Applied Sciences (CEGAS), while the Northern Brownfields Assistance Center is located within the West Virginia Water Research Institute at WVU's National Research Center for Coal and Energy.

Dr. Tony Szwflski, CEGAS director, said, "We're extremely pleased the Brownfields Assistance Centers have been recognized for their collaborative and proactive approach to brownfields and economic development in West Virginia. George Carico, who coordinates the center at Marshall, deserves a great deal of credit for his hard work and contributions to the brownfields program."

In 2005, the West Virginia Legislature recognized the lost economic and social value in the state's brownfields. As a result, the Brownfields Assistance Centers at Marshall and WVU were created to support community efforts and work with the WVDEP and the West Virginia Development Office to turn these brownfields into productive land again.

In addition to securing and administering federal brownfields funding and assistance programs, the centers provide training and technical assistance, grant writing, site assessment and remediation services.
Greenbrier Classic badges still available

Marshall University fans and supporters still have the opportunity to purchase special weekly admission badges to the inaugural Greenbrier Classic and benefit the Marshall University Foundation and the Marshall University Alumni Association under the Greenbrier Classic’s Badges for Charity program.

The Greenbrier Classic is an official PGA Tour event which takes place July 26-Aug. 1 at the Old White Course in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. Special admission badges are available through July 14.

The Marshall University Foundation and the Marshall University Alumni Association will receive 30 percent of the proceeds of all badges purchased on their behalf. All badge levels are available for this program.

With the purchase of weekly badges from $147 to $5,000 each, persons are granted access to two exclusive concerts featuring award-winning artists Reba McEntire and Rascal Flatts performing Thursday, July 29, and Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood performing Saturday, July 31.

Weekly grounds Badges for Charity priced at $69 include one ticket to the Thursday concert, while weekly grounds badges for charity costing $79 include one ticket to the Saturday concert.

To purchase badges, visit www.greenbrierclassic.com or The Greenbrier Classic Official Tournament Shop at the resort.

The other available badge levels, including the Alumni badge, are described below:

- The Grounds badge provides tournament admittance for the entire week for $147.
- The $275 Benefactor badge includes entry to select air-conditioned hospitality tents, as well as premium food and beverage options.
- The Alumni badge is available for $495. Guests of this special alumni hospitality area will enjoy unlimited tailgate-style food and non-alcoholic beverages as well as guest appearances from celebrity alumni.
- The Clubhouse badge at $5,000 provides a limited number of people with exclusive access to the event, including prime viewing areas on Old White #1 and #18, unlimited food and beverage at Sam Snead’s at the Golf Club and access to all hospitality tents. In addition, Clubhouse badge holders also will receive one complimentary two-night stay at the Greenbrier, including one round of golf on the Old White Course for two and $1,000 in special amenity vouchers. For information on this VIP opportunity, persons should contact Rob Booth at 304-536-7758.

The Greenbrier Classic’s Badges for Charity program recognizes the PGA Tour’s commitment to charities by giving charitable organizations 30 percent of the proceeds of each weekly badge sold for their benefit. This year more than 100 organizations are participating in the program.

An open reception for Marshall alumni and fans will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 28 at the Quality Inn, 540 N. Jefferson St., in Lewisburg, W.Va. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP to the Marshall University Alumni Association office at 304-696-2901. Admission is free and a cash bar will be available.

For more information on the tournament and the Badges for Charity program, call 866-534-4456.

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Profile: Cindy Warren

A chance remark by a relative changed Cindy Warren from a West Virginia University-bound scholarship student to a die-hard, bleed-green Marshall student, alumna and employee. And the comment changed the course of her life.

"I had just graduated from Logan High School and was only three weeks away from starting at WVU, where I had won a scholarship and gone through orientation," said Warren who is the assistant dean of Admissions of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "Then I happened to overhear an aunt complaining to my mother about the financial burden this would place on my family." Warren had no idea family finances were so perilous. She knew the family was trying to rebuild from a devastating flood that had swept away everything they owned three years before.

"We lost everything we had, we got out with only the clothes on our back," she says pensively. But nothing had ever been said about money concerns. In fact, her parents were supportive of her going to college and proud of her accomplishments.

"I knew at that moment I wasn't going to WVU, so I called them and cancelled everything. At that time Marshall had a branch in Logan which later became Southern West Virginia Community Technical College, and I decided to take classes there. Jim Hareless, who later became the director of Admissions on the Huntington campus, was the branch director. Tuition was $117 a semester but I didn't even have that, so he arranged scholarship money for me. I took my first year at Marshall at the branch and never looked back. I never said a word about the reason I didn't go to WVU; I just told my parents I didn't want to leave home yet."

She also changed her major. Intending to enroll in biology at WVU, she discovered that Marshall, unlike WVU, required two years of foreign languages for most of their programs. "I'm not good at foreign languages," she says candidly. "So I went through the catalog looking for a major that didn't have a language requirement. One was home economics so that's how I ended up in that program although I had never had a home ec class in my life. But I liked my classes, particularly the ones that dealt with child and family services so it turned out to be a good choice for me."

So in the course of a year she changed schools, changed majors, changed almost everything, but, she says, "That's how I found Marshall and the career I have today."

By 1969, when the Twin Towers opened, she had a job as assistant director of the hall. Later that year she and a friend were made co-directors after a housemother quit in protest over the newly instituted rule that allowed men to visit in the women's rooms during some hours. "We were 21-year old seniors, full-time students doing our student teaching and now we were in charge of 500 women. That was a real learning curve," she says with wry understatement.

After graduation her newly minted home economics degree helped land her a job as a business promotion representative and home economist for Columbia Gas in the Beckley area. That was a fun time. She traveled all over the area giving cooking demonstrations and encouraging the use of gas appliances such as ranges, dryers and the just introduced gas barbeque. But after a year, a looming natural gas shortage was leading to imminent layoffs, and once again she found herself unexpectedly back at Marshall. Three weeks before fall classes were to begin she received a call that Prichard Hall was looking for a director. Once again she packed her bags and headed for Huntington, where she oversaw Prichard Hall for one year and then Laidley Hall for two years. She also put this time to good use earning a master's degree in counseling.

Her degree led to a job as a drug and alcohol counselor at what is now the Prestera Center. Then, following a stint at a law firm, in 1977 the Med School job opened. up. Now she and the fledgling school were about to embark on a long and fruitful relationship.
"Through the years I have all sorts of different titles. The first one was Assistant Director of Admissions, even though there was no Director of Admissions at the time, but then I've always been a one-person admissions office. From the start I generally worked 60 or more hours per week. "Her work ethic is legendary, leading to an extraordinary emergency arrangement which she recalls now with amusement. "When I broke a hip in 1991 they simply moved my office to my home, including a computer, file cabinets, and a mail run. I had a cordless phone hooked on the front of my walker!"

A big part of her job is advising students on the entire admissions process which typically involves processing 2000 or more applications a year for the usual 75 or so annual slots. And she reads every single application. The competition to get into the medical school is intense, she says. A committee of 25, drawn from a broad cross-section of people, narrows the list down to a 250 or so hopefuls, who are then invited for personal interviews. It's a nerve-racking time for applicants and Warren does everything she can to make the process less stressful. "I sit with them between interviews, chatting with them, trying to put them at ease. I know that many other schools just send them to a room somewhere by themselves, but I don't want to do that."

Since she's usually an applicant's first contact with the medical school and sometimes the university, it's important to her that their first impression be positive, so she puts great effort and energy into encouraging that image through personal gestures.

And in fact when the happy day comes to notify the fortunate few who have gained admission, Warren personally calls each admitted student to deliver the good news ahead of the initial acceptance letter. Those calls have led to a hearing deficiency, she jokes. "They invariably scream in my ear when I call, so I've learned to hold the phone away from my head." She also learned not to make the calls on April 1. She did that one year not realizing the date and was puzzled by the doubtful and sometimes abrupt responses she kept getting, very unlike the usual shrieks of joy. She finally realized they thought they were being pranked.

Warren's caring concern for the medical students has earned her accolades and heartfelt expressions of gratitude from them. Her long tenure has allowed her to see a second generation of physicians flow through the school. Right now there are six students whose parents are graduates, with another two who will be entering in the fall. It's always a special time when she can personally notify a son or daughter that they've been admitted to a parent's alma mater.

For the past year and a half, any spare time she's had outside of work has gone to caring for her parents. She was the primary caregiver for her father, who died in mid-May, and now cares for her mother, Nora. She moved them near her so she could spend weekends and evenings looking after them.

Warren is also passionate about the pets she takes in and finds homes for. Over the years she has fostered numerous abandoned animals, mostly cats, although she would never turn a dog away. Strays somehow seem to find their way to her home and she gets calls frequently from people who have unwanted kittens or an animal they can no longer care for. "I think somewhere in Huntington there's a billboard with my address and a banner that says 'All homeless animals welcome to South Walnut Street,'" she says laughing. The arrivals get a trip to the vet for a health check, shots and spaying or neutering before they're sent to new homes. "It gets expensive but it's important to me that it's done before I find homes for them."

If she has another passion, it's auctions. She loves the thrill of the hunt, the lure of a treasure hunt. Her time has been extremely limited of late but her interest hasn't waned. Auctions are great places to fill out collections, she says. She once had more than 200 Koala bears. Not surprisingly, right now she's content with collecting cat-related items.

And although currently her chief concern is taking care of her mother, in the past she has made time to volunteer with several community agencies such as Habitat for Humanity and hopes to do so again at some point. "I enjoy giving to the community; I like to stay busy," she says, a vast understatement to those who know and admire her.

Even an auto accident can't slow her down. Just a week after the recent service awards luncheon, where she was honored for more that 35 years of service, she was involved in an accident which sent her to the emergency room of Cabell-Huntington Hospital, where she was diagnosed with two badly sprained wrists and where she was solicitously tended to by concerned former students. "I knew I was in very good hands," she says. And to absolutely no one's surprise, she was back on the job the next day with one arm in a splint and the other bandaged. "Well, it wasn't the first time I've worked with bandages and splints and with my luck it probably won't be my last!" she says with her irresistible good humor.

Now she can look back with gratitude to that long-ago summer day which changed the course of her life. "Marshall has been in my blood ever since I called WVU to tell them I couldn't come. The plane crash happened the year I graduated and I lost some good friends who were on the plane. That was the worst time but there have been so many wonderful times. Marshall is part of me."