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## The Parthenon, February 10, 2015

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# THE PARTHENON

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015 | VOL. 118 NO. 85 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

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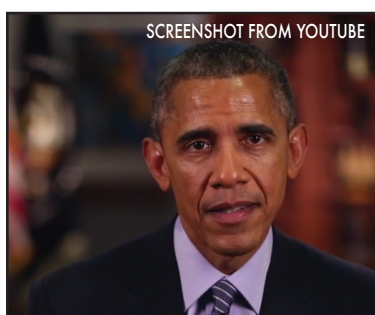
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EMILY RICE | THE PARTHENON

## TODAY'S WEATHER:

PROVIDED BY MARSHALL UNIVERSITY METEOROLOGY STUDENTS

Tuesday's Weather	
<b>Morning</b> Cloudy and Cold	31
<b>Afternoon</b> Mostly Cloudy and Cool	42
<b>Night</b> Clearing and Cold	28

Forecast provided by Student Meteorologist Bradley Wells & Joseph Flatwater

## City Council praises YMCA program, police officer

By LEXI BROWNING  
THE PARTHENON

Huntington's City Council passed a resolution honoring a Huntington YMCA fitness program and announced the Huntington Police Department's Officer of the Year Monday during its bimonthly meeting at City Hall.

The program, Kids in Motion, began as a pilot six-week program in November 2013 with 25 participants. By the start of 2015, the 10-week program had 90 participants and now includes family-oriented workouts.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported a change in childhood obesity during the past 30 years, declaring one-third of children as overweight.

Sarah Specht, participant and mother of two children in the Kids in Motion program, said the YMCA was responsible for her family's decision to exercise and lead healthier lifestyles.

"We learned in the first week that three out of the four of us were obese," Specht said. "We were eating horrible food: all processed, all frozen, what was easy for me to cook, and I know the two of us could barely run the mile. It was embarrassing."

Specht said the family made an immediate decision to start preparing healthy meals, and in the spring, took advantage of Huntington's exercise opportunities.

"We've walked the PATH... played disc golf at Rotary Park, we go hiking at Beech Fork [State Park]," Specht said. "Huntington has a lot to offer if people just know about it."

Specht said the family has shed 100 pounds altogether.

The council also praised Lieutenant Officer John Williams, who has served the HPD for 25 years. Williams was awarded the honor for his series of achievements



LEXI BROWNING/THE PARTHENON

Lieutenant Officer John Williams receives the honor of Huntington Police Department's Officer of the Year Monday at City Council.

See CITY COUNCIL page 5



## Game show to determine sexuality wizards

*"The event gives students access to experts on these topics for the questions that they want to ask."*

- Shawn Schulenberg, director of graduate studies

By HANNAH HARMAN  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University sexuality studies will present Wizard of Sexuality Studies at 8 p.m. Monday in Smith Hall Room 154.

Wizard of Sexuality Studies is a game show allowing students to ask the questions, decide the winners and watch their favorite teachers fight for victory.

Director of Classics David Chrol said he really enjoys the event.

"Wizard of Sexuality Studies is hilarious and edifying," Chrol said. "It is just so much fun, and it's so smart."

Shawn Schulenberg, director of graduate studies, said the questions range from highly intellectual to those that would make a seventh grader blush during his or her sex education course.

"The event gives students access to experts on these topics for the questions that they want to ask," Schulenberg said. "Moreover, as opposed to just getting a biologist's or a political scientist's answer to a question, you can get a wide range of perspectives that reflect each panelist's academic background and expertise."

The first 100 audience members will receive clickers to cast their vote. Additional votes are earned for every dollar donated to CONTACT Rape Crisis Center. Chrol said Sexuality Studies raised more than \$530 from votes during last year's show.

English professor Hilary Brewster will join the panel after nearly winning in 2014.

"Last year, going into the final round I was in first place based on audience voting," Brewster said. "The ultimate winner, Dr. Jeffrey Powell, had a donation of \$100 dollars. It was great for the event and CONTACT, but it meant none of us stood a chance after that. I like to joke that I won the popular vote and Jeff won the Citizens United vote."

See WIZARD page 5

## 'LADY VALOR' DEFIES SOCIETAL RULES

Retired Navy SEAL to tell story of coming out transgender

*"Part of what makes her story so interesting is that people often will say that the warrior spirit is just masculine."* - ERIC DEL CHROL

By HANNAH HARMAN  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University will present U.S. Navy SEAL, Kristin Beck, and the screening of "Lady Valor: The Kristin Beck Story" at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the John Deaver Drinko Library Room 402.

"Lady Valor" tells the story of Beck, a former U.S. Navy SEAL, and her journey to living as a transgender woman. Beck will speak after the film about her experience.

She served for more than 20 years as a member of the elite special operations forces of Navy SEALs on SEAL Team one and SEAL Team six. She came out in 2013 after retiring in 2011.

Eric Del Chrol, director of

classics, said Beck felt disconnected between her external gender and her internal gender.

Chrol said Beck always knew she was a woman.

The film features interviews from

Beck's family and friends about their reaction to her coming out and footage of Beck as a Navy SEAL.

"Part of what makes her story so interesting is that people often will say that the warrior spirit is just masculine," Chrol said. "I think that this complicates that perspective because, if my understanding of her book is correct, she has always felt that she was a woman."

Beck's book, "Warrior Princess: A U.S. Navy SEAL's Journey to Coming Out Transgender," co-written with Anne Speckhard, gives readers insight into her story. "Warrior Princess" chronicles Beck's journey to self-actualization, her fear of rejection and her strength to overcome society's rules.

"I do not believe a soul has a gender, but my new path is making my soul complete and happy," Beck said. "I hope my journey sheds some light on the human experience and most importantly helps heal the socio-religious dogma of a purely binary gender."

*"I hope my journey sheds some light on the human experience and most importantly helps heal the socio-religious dogma of a purely binary gender."*

- KRISTIN BECK

See LADY VALOR page 5



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# NEWS

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## MU kicks off reading program for 2015

By **MATTHEW EPLION**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University libraries MU Reads 2015 program with events planned throughout the year.

The program encourages reading by children and adults of all ages. Participants read books individually or join reading teams.

The books can be any type and any genre such as fantasy, horror, biographies and even graphic novels or manga.

Teams write down and submit reports on the number of books read throughout the year. There is no limit to the number of members allowed per team.

When registering a team, participants must choose a name for their team, select a leader who will keep track of the books read by team members and register their team at the John Deaver Drinko Library.

Participants are eligible to win a variety of prizes in a drawing at

the end of the semester. Participants are also invited to attend a party in December.

The opening party for the program occurred Jan. 27, but there is no deadline for registration. Those interested in forming teams must complete a registration form found either at the Circulation Desk at Drinko Library or online.

The first major event of the year is Valentine's Day Storytime for children. The event will take

place at 11 a.m. Saturday in the juvenile area of the library.

Parents with children ages 2-8 can bring them to the fun event.

The schedule includes multiple book readings pertaining to Valentine's Day. In addition, the children will also take part in a crafting activity and a snack will also be provided.

Preregistration is required for attendance.

**Matthew Eplion can be contacted at [eplion11@marshall.edu](mailto:eplion11@marshall.edu).**

## Alpha Kappa Psi presents raffle for Valentine's Day

By **ERIKA JOHNS**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Alpha Kappa Psi is having a Valentine's Day raffle basket that includes \$90 of merchandise.

The basket consists of two movie tickets, dinner for two at Rooster's, ice cream for two at Cold Stone Creamery, a 40-inch plush teddy bear and Russell Stover chocolates.

There will be a display table set up at the entrance of the Memorial Student Center where tickets can be purchased.

One raffle ticket is \$2 and five tickets are \$8. Tickets can be purchased until Thursday.

Alpha Kappa Psi is the largest and oldest business fraternity in the world and is recognized as a premiere developer of principled business leaders.

Mackenzie Lloyd, Alpha Kappa Psi president, said the fraternity is having this raffle to make the cost less expensive for students who want to attend the Principle Business Leadership Institute.

"It is an opportunity for the members to go and learn about professional refinement and network with other chapters," Lloyd said. "It's a special opportunity to raise money

for us to go. Last year we doubled in size and we want to make this opportunity available for as many as possible."

Alpha Kappa Psi is open to all majors at Marshall.

The fraternity recruits twice a year, once in the fall semester and once in the spring semester.

Lloyd said at the beginning of each semester it has recruitment events where people can decide if they would like to join.

"Our goal as an organization is to help members develop personal and professional refinement that will assist them throughout their careers," Lloyd said.

Morgan Henderson, director of fundraising for Alpha Kappa Psi said this basket would make a great Valentine's Day present.

"This year we did the shopping for you by supplying \$90 worth of entertainment for your Valentine's Day adventures," Henderson said.

The basket winner will be announced on the Marshall AKPsi Facebook page Thursday.

**Erika Johns can be contacted at [johnk@marshall.edu](mailto:johnk@marshall.edu).**

## CAB to give away free movie tickets Tuesday

Channing Tatum as Caine Wise, in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Village Roadshow Pictures' "Jupiter Ascending."



AP PHOTO | WARNER BROS. PICTURES | MURRAY CLOSE

By **RONNIE THOMPSON**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Campus Activities Board is giving away free Marquee Cinemas movie tickets to "Jupiter Ascending," to the first 100 students to pick them up.

Tickets are available at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Office of Student Activities located on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center.

The giveaway is a part of the Marshall at the Movies event CAB presents every other Tuesday for the Marshall community.

CAB Advisor Lee Tabor said this is one of many free events it offers.

"This is just one of the great free events we like to offer our students to help break up the monotony of class and give students a break," Tabor

Marshall freshman Sheyna Black said she finds going to the movies a great way to relax.

"It's an awesome opportunity to go out with friends and enjoy something I love," Black said.

"Jupiter Ascending," stars Channing Tatum and Mila Kunis, is about a young, destitute caretaker who gets targeted by the ruthless son of a powerful family who lives on a planet in need of a new heir.

**Ronnie Thompson can be contacted at [thompson435@marshall.edu](mailto:thompson435@marshall.edu).**



Mila Kunis, left, as Jupiter Jones, and Douglas Booth as Titus Abrasax, in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Village Roadshow Pictures' "Jupiter Ascending."

AP PHOTO | WARNER BROS. PICTURES | MURRAY CLOSE

Mackenzie Lloyd, president of Alpha Kappa Psi at Marshall University, poses with the \$90 raffle basket at the Memorial Student Center.

ERIKA JOHNS | THE PARTHENON



## POLICE BLOTTER

All information provided by the Marshall University Police Department.

By **TYLER FERRIS**  
THE PARTHENON



ANDREA STEELE | THE PARTHENON

### Fleeing From Police

An MUPD officer on patrol witnessed a male driver strike a female passenger at 6:32 p.m. Jan. 28 on the corner of 16th Street and Charleston Avenue. The driver of the Ford Crown Victoria pulled into the Cabell Huntington Hospital parking lot and reportedly proceeded to hit the female several more times. The officer turned on his lights and the suspect began to flee, clipping the police cruiser. The vehicle fled west and struck a tree and metal post at the corner of Washington Boulevard and 12th Street. The driver and a male passenger fled west on foot while the female ran east. Huntington police assisted and a warrant was obtained for the suspected driver.

### Larceny

A male resident of Twin Towers West reported his iPhone 6 was stolen Jan. 29. The resident left the phone in his room and believes it was stolen between 5:15 p.m. and 9 p.m. MUPD has no suspects.

### Larceny

A woman reported her purse was removed from a room in Myers Hall Jan. 30. The incident is believed to have occurred between 12:40 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. The purse was in an unlocked desk in an unlocked room. MUPD has no suspects.

### Larceny

A female student reported her diamond earrings were taken between 1:45 p.m. and 2 p.m. Jan. 30 from a Smith Hall restroom. The student said the earrings were irritating her ears, so she removed them while in the restroom. According to the report, she forgot the earrings on the sink and left the restroom. She returned to the restroom upon realizing she had left them there, and the earrings were gone. The earrings are said to be valued at \$499. MUPD has no suspects.

**Tyler Ferris can be contacted at [ferris26@marshall.edu](mailto:ferris26@marshall.edu).**

# SPORTS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Player of the week



JP Kambola protects the ball against Concord University Nov. 9, 2014, in the Cam Henderson Center

LEXI BROWNING | THE PARTHENON



JP Kambola shoots the ball against UTEP Jan. 14 at the Cam Henderson Center.

RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

## JP Kambola

Position: Center  
Class: Senior  
Hometown: Toronto, Canada

By **BRADLEY HELTZEL**  
THE PARTHENON

JP Kambola recorded his first career double-double with 14 points on 5-8 field goals and 12 rebounds in Saturday's victory over University North Texas. Kambola also reached double-digit scoring in Thursday's win over Rice when he scored 10 points on 4-7 FG, which included two, three-pointers. For the season, Kambola is averaging 5.5 points per game on 51.7 percent shooting and 3.9 rebounds per game but since being reinserted into the starting lineup against the University of Texas at El Paso Jan. 24, Kambola has averaged an impressive 10 PPG and 6.8 RPG the last five games. It is no coincidence Kambola's improved play has coincided with more team success as the Herd has won four of its past five games.

Kambola is a big man at 6-foot-9 and 244 pounds, and his impact is starting to match his size this season. After playing 13 minutes total as a freshman,

averaging a meager 3.5 minutes per game as a sophomore and missing all of last season due to an NCAA eligibility issue, Kambola has emerged as a reliable and productive big man as of late. His effort on the offensive glass has led to second-chance opportunities for the Herd, while his size, solid build and technique make him a very effective screener. However, unlike many players his size, Kambola has shown he can knock down threes when defenses lag off of him.

Head coach Dan D'Antoni said Kambola is resilient.

"He is a great young man who has run up against the wall as a senior," D'Antoni said. "He's had all of those previous experiences, and it's started to dwindle down. A lot of guys with a lot less character would have quit, but you know that he's come back and picks all of it up, shows who he is."

**Bradley Heltzel can be contacted at [heltzel@marshall.edu](mailto:heltzel@marshall.edu)**

## Lacrosse prepares for a new season

"We've just truly become family, and these girls are some of the best friends I've ever had."

**-Sarah Conners**



Herd lacrosse poses for a picture after its match against Xavier University last season in Cincinnati, OH.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

By **JILL SHEMANSKI**  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University lacrosse team is preparing for a new season despite the challenges the team has faced.

Coach Sarah Conners started the team in 2012.

The team is self-governed and responsible for paying fees out-of-pocket, relying heavily on fundraising. Costs include hotels, referees, traveling and uniforms.

The team will host its first home tournament, courtesy of its new home field located on 29th Street. The tournament will be April 4 against Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

"The team and I are very thankful for this field because now we can host tournaments instead of paying for gas and hotels when we travel," Conners said.

Recruitment Chair Alexa Shay said there are new members on the team this season.

"We are all excited for the new members that are playing this year and can't wait to start the season," Shay said. "They are all very dedicated already and are excited to play. We also have a lot of new girls that have never played before, and everyone is catching on to everything really quick."

Junior team captain Sophie Cooper said the addition of 14 new players to the returning five will bring a diverse skill set to the team and provide them with a promising season.

"It will be exciting to see how we match up in the new conference," Cooper said. "We have a lot of talent and pure heart and the willingness to play and represent Marshall, which will go a long way. I am most excited for our home game on April 4. We are expecting a good turnout with fans, friends and family. I am excited to see how we do."

Conners, a senior, says her favorite part about the team is the friendships she has made throughout her years at Marshall.

"It has really made me feel like I'm part of a community within my school," Conners said. "We've just truly become family, and these girls are some of the best friends I've ever had."

Kaitlin Slayton, president of the team, said she expects to have a good season.

"I expect great things to come out of our upcoming season," Slayton said. "We have established 19 players total on our roster for 2015. Being able to say I've helped this team become a family as president is something I cherish. Not only do we get to play lacrosse as college students, but we also make memories during some of the best years of our lives."

The team will play its first game of the season 2 p.m. Feb. 21 in Cincinnati, Ohio, against Xavier University.

**Jill Shemanski can be contacted at [shemanski@marshall.edu](mailto:shemanski@marshall.edu)**

# OPINION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## THE PARTHENON

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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### THE FIRST AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the United States of America

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 of grievances.

### BE HERD: GUIDELINES FOR SENDING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please keep letters to the editor at 300 words or fewer. They must be saved in Microsoft Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest column status will not be given at the author's request. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors. Compelling

letters that are posted on The Parthenon website, www.marshallparthenon.com, can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

**The opinions expressed in the columns and letters do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon staff.**

Please send news releases to the editors at parthenon@marshall.edu. Please keep in mind, letters are printed based on timeliness, newsworthiness and space.

## EDITORIAL

# Obama confronts sexual violence at Grammys, and we couldn't be happier that he did so

President Obama is continuing his fight against sexual violence, this time reaching out to the stars of the Grammys.

Sunday's Grammy awards included a video of the president talking about the importance of sexual violence awareness.

The video was an advertisement for Obama's "It's On Us" campaign against campus sexual violence, launched in September 2014.

In his message, Obama stressed to artists the power of their influence over their fans.

"Artists have the unique power to change minds and

attitudes, and get us thinking and talking about what matters," Obama said. "And all of us, in our own lives, have the power to set an example."

Obama has done an excellent job addressing this very relevant and very important issue to the American people, especially amongst a Congress full of old white men who honestly think women can be "asking for it" when they wear certain clothes, or that rape can be "a blessing" if a child results from the incident.

Directly following Obama's message, Brooke Axtell, a survivor of sexual violence spoke about her experience.

Axtell is the director of communications for Allies Against Slavery. She briefly recalled her account of abuse in her speech, offering advice to those who feel helpless.

"Authentic love does not devalue another human being," Axtell said. "Authentic love does not silence, shame or abuse. If you are in a relationship with someone who does not honor or respect you, I want you to know that you are worthy of love. Please reach out for help. Your voice will save you. Let it extend into the night. Let it part the darkness. Let it set you free to know who you truly are. Valuable. Beautiful. Loved."

Katy Perry performed her song "By the Grace of God" to complete the Grammy Awards' small act of advocacy.

However small the segment was, sexual violence of any kind is a pertinent issue that needs to be prioritized and kept at the surface until it is stopped. Public figures should take it upon themselves to advocate against sexual violence until women feel safe walking down the streets, until people can drink without worrying about date rape drugs and until girls all over the world are safe from human trafficking.

In the words of the president himself, "It's not okay, and it has to stop."



Obama brings his message against sexual violence to the stars Sunday at the Grammys and encourages them to join in his campaign to end it. "It's not okay. It has to stop," he said. SCREENSHOT | YOUTUBE

## COLUMN

# Workout and relax at the same time

Yoga is an after-class powerhouse activity, combining down time and exercise for students

By **AMANDA GIBSON**  
COLUMNIST

Have you ever gotten back from a long day of class and just needed to take a moment for yourself? You may binge-watch your favorite television show, take a nap or sip on your favorite coffee. Although my guilty pleasure is watching cat videos on the Internet, my favorite way to spend a little me-time is to grab my yoga mat.

Yoga has been my way to relax and take away the stress of school for years. It is a perk that yoga is also a great workout. Yoga is not only about stretching and meditating, yoga increases flexibility and balance, which decreases risk of injury. It is also a great exercise for strengthening your arms, legs and core.

Yoga makes working out fun for me, and it is a major plus that my preferred downtime also burns calories. Becoming a yogi may not be your thing, but finding a workout

that gets you excited to hit the gym can be a great lifestyle change. Spending your downtime doing a workout you love can make you feel better about yourself, and it can make you feel more motivated and less stressed. If you hate running around the track, but love extreme cardio, try a Zumba class. If you think lifting weights is boring, but love your biceps, try rock climbing.

Finding a workout regimen can be a fun experience. When I first started working out, I thought it was all about running and lifting weights twice my size. It took me a while to realize I needed to work with my body and have fun exercising. I started using the elliptical at the gym, and I started lifting weights that were right for me. I found yoga and pilates videos, and I had a blast doing them. Now I know my workout is tailored to me, and I am always excited when I go to the gym.

If you are still struggling to find a workout

that agrees with your body, get adventurous. If you have given up on the gym, get back up and move. It is important to take a moment for yourself every once in a while, and if your workout is something that makes you relaxed, happy and excited, then you might find, your me-time will also start benefiting your physical health.

The best part of spending your downtime working out is, eventually, you will see a change in yourself. You will realize you are happier, you eat healthier, you are less tired and more motivated. With all these benefits to exercising, it is hard to go back to napping or watching cats on the Internet. So, next time you find yourself without homework, try hitting the gym, a free class at the Rec or just taking a run or walk around campus. You may end up having a blast, but, whatever you decide to do with your workout...Namaste.

**Amanda Gibson can be contacted at gibson269@marshall.edu.**



Maria Menounos attends SELF: Get #UPnOUT at Palihouse Jan. 28, in West Hollywood, Calif. Yoga has become a popular trend for many people in recent years.

JOHN SHEARER | INVISION FOR SELF | AP IMAGES



# W.Va. craftsman says making brooms an art form

By **SAMUEL SPECIALE**  
CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL

Jim Shaffer has rough hands blackened by nearly seven decades of broom making, but they're as deft as the day he started.

Shaffer, 85, has cobbled together hundreds of thousands of brooms during his 68-year career. While each broom has been made to the same specifications, Shaffer said imperfections are what make his craft an art form.

"No one broom is the same," he said.

Shaffer is the owner of Charleston Broom Company, which maintains a small workshop near Kanawha State Forest. Having worked for the company since he was 17, Shaffer has seen it through good and bad times.

For decades, the 20-employee shop produced about 3,500 brooms every week in a factory located on the East End where Laidley Field now stands. After moving and years

of declining sales, the company was downsized to a one-man operation when Shaffer took over in the 1980s.

Shaffer is West Virginia's only remaining broom manufacturer.

Despite cramped quarters and no other help, Shaffer still manages to make several hundred brooms each week. He also maintains business with local hardware stores and organizations that have been loyal customers for years.

While his shop is cold in the winters and a little disorganized, Shaffer is right at home.

Each day, Shaffer makes brooms on the same equipment he has for the past 60 years. Shaffer said the machines should have broken down ages ago, but he has kept them in good working condition.

Shaffer starts the broom making process by feeding a pine handle into a tying machine he operates with a foot pedal. The machine threads wire from a spool around the handle's

base as Shaffer adds bundles of straw. While the machine spins the handle and tightens wire around the straw, Shaffer quickly shapes the broom into a recognizable shape.

Once the straw is secured, Shaffer affixes two more bundles of straw to form shoulders that give the broom more body.

Once the base has taken shape, Shaffer cleans it and trims stray bristles before he takes it to an industrial sewing machine that pushes red or blue thread through the straw to hold it together.

It's a simple process that only takes a few minutes, but Shaffer takes great pride in the work.

"They don't make them like this anymore," he said, inspecting one of his brooms.

There are days when Shaffer doesn't have many orders to fill, but he said he always finds something to do. When the shop is quiet, Shaffer keeps busy by chopping firewood, filing paperwork and finishing any other tasks.

One thing Shaffer doesn't do during idle moments is use his brooms to sweep the floor.

"I only do that when kids or reporters come by," he said.

While business isn't what it once was, Shaffer still believes there is a market for hand-crafted brooms.

The industry's decline is owed in part to international trade agreements that allowed many products, like brooms, to be cheaply produced in Mexico where labor costs are low and materials are inexpensively harvested.

Shaffer also blames the emergence of big chain retailers in the '80s and '90s.

"Wal-Mart and Kmart put us all out of business," he said.

Shaffer said chain retailers stock Mexican-made brooms because they are cheaper, an agreement he has nothing but contempt for.

"Those brooms are cheap for a reason," Shaffer said as he combed his fingers through the bristles of one of his brooms.

"They fall apart."

While big retailers have made business for Shaffer nearly unprofitable, he admits broom making has never been about the money.

"Roosevelt takes care of me," Shaffer said referring to President Franklin Roosevelt. "He sends me a check each month."

For years, Shaffer, who considers himself to be semi-retired, has lived off Social Security while supplementing that income with the money he makes from selling brooms.

"This is my spending money," he said.

While profits have dwindled, Shaffer has been able to make a few bucks over the years due to the frugality of his operations.

"I own the building, get my own firewood and catch rain for water," he said. Broom materials are his only expense.

If not for his stubborn personality, Shaffer said the company likely would have gone under years ago. Age also has caught up with him.

"I hate to admit it, but I'm slowing down some," Shaffer said.

Stubbornness persists though, because Shaffer has no intention of closing the shop any time soon.

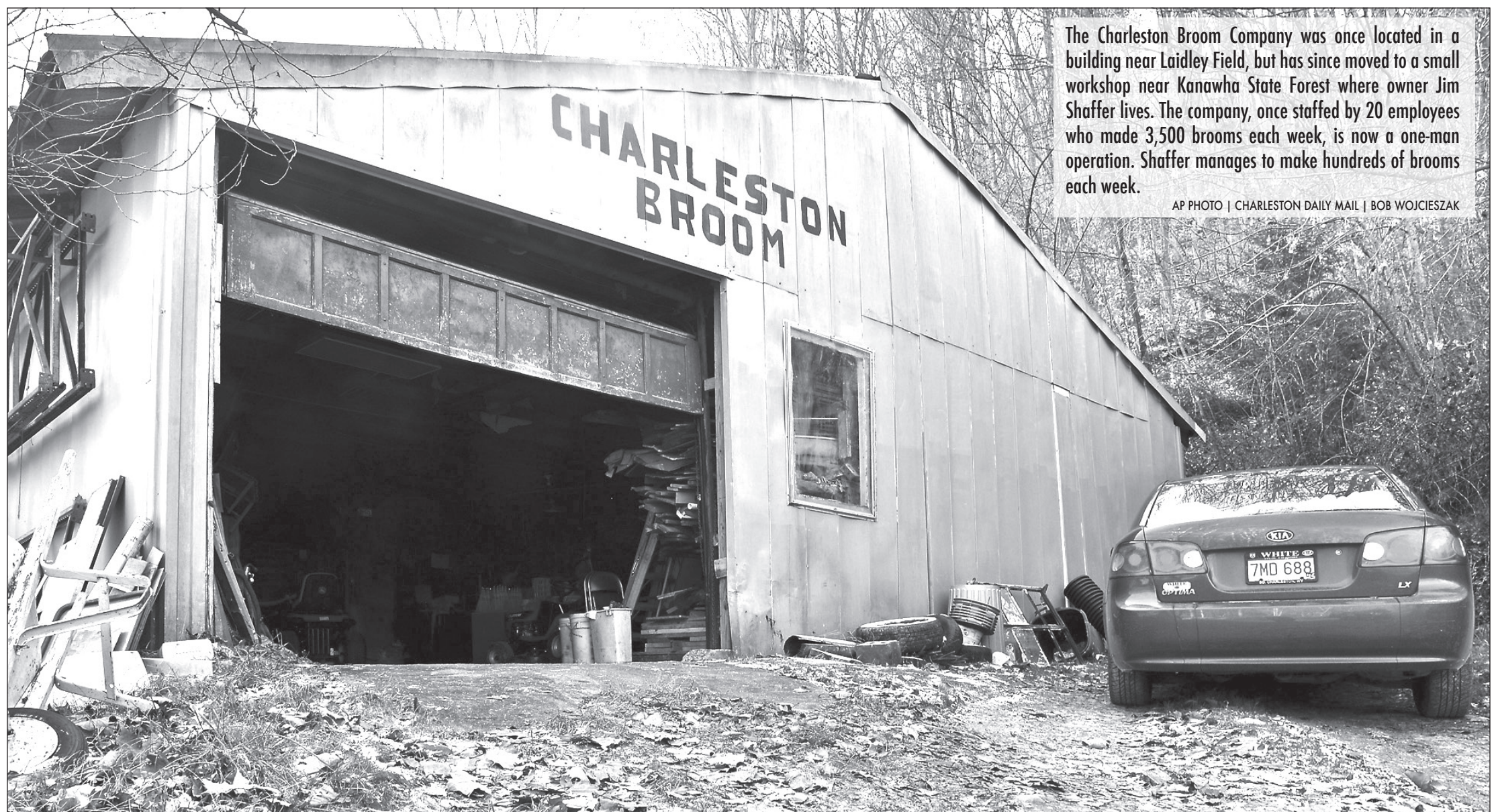
"I'll continue for as long as I have good health."

Shaffer's brooms can be purchased from the Lions Club, Pile Hardware in Charleston or directly from his Davis Creek workshop. Shaffer sells household brooms for \$8 and charges \$10 for a sturdier industrial broom. He also makes and sells mops.

When asked why he has devoted an entire lifetime to broom making, Shaffer admitted he didn't know the reason for doing so but said it has been a relaxing and rewarding trade.

These days, broom making has become cathartic for Shaffer.

"When I get nervous and flustered, I come out here and make a few brooms," he said. "Then, I'm in a whole new world."



The Charleston Broom Company was once located in a building near Laidley Field, but has since moved to a small workshop near Kanawha State Forest where owner Jim Shaffer lives. The company, once staffed by 20 employees who made 3,500 brooms each week, is now a one-man operation. Shaffer manages to make hundreds of brooms each week.

AP PHOTO | CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL | BOB WOJCIESZAK

## CITY COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

demonstration of investigative ability in high-profile cases.

"[Williams'] expertise and, more importantly, his leadership have proven him invaluable and have helped the police department to achieve new levels of success in its investigative function," said Huntington Police Chief Joe Ciccarelli.

Williams said he came to the area to be with family after serving in the Coast Guard for four years in the early 1980s.

"I can't really consider being anywhere else now," Williams said. "This is home."

Williams said he spent the first 15 years on patrol and the remaining 10 years on investigations.

"In the service I had some similar related experience in law enforcement in the Bahamas doing drug and addiction patrols," Williams said. "So I

thought this would be a perfect fit. I started it, and I've loved it ever since."

Williams said he will retire from the HPD in approximately a month and a half.

The council also passed two ordinances concerning the effluent and force main pipelines at the Huntington Wastewater Treatment Plant. The pipes, labeled as in extreme disrepair, will be replaced within 270 days after starting construction.

Huntington Mayor Steve Williams announced the date of the annual State of the City address at 3 p.m. Feb. 17 at City Hall.

Williams said the address will be broadcasted on Comcast channel 25 and on SuperTalk 94.1 FM and AM930, and for the first time, streamed on the City of Huntington website.

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AP PHOTO | CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL | BOB WOJCIESZAK

## LADY VALOR

Continued from page 1

Marshall sexuality studies, women's studies, religious studies and the West Virginia Humanities Council are sponsoring the event.

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## WIZARD

Continued from page 1

Students can submit questions leading up to and during the event by tweeting @musexualitystu or using #wizard2015.

Members of the audience will receive a free raffle ticket for a chance to win sexuality studies-themed books.

Brewster said last year,

contestants took questions from the audience and Twitter.

Faculty on the panel includes Jeff Ruff, religious studies, Paige Muellerleile, psychology, Robin Conley, sociology and anthropology, Hillary Brewster, English and Shawn Schulenburg, political science.

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Charleston Broom Company owner Jim Shaffer fashions a bundle of corn straw into a broom at his workshop near Kanawha State Forest. Shaffer, 85, has worked for the company for 68 years and became owner in the 1980s. He is one of the only remaining broommakers in West Virginia.

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Seen in downtown Huntington.

## EDUCATION EXPERIENCE ADVENTURE

### Student plans solo trip to India

By **KARIMA NEGHMOUCHE**  
THE PARTHENON

People travel for experience, some travel to further their education, some travel for adventure and some travel for a mix of all three.

Marshall University student Stacy Hacker is going for all three.

Hacker is following one of her dreams in June and travelling to India alone.

Hacker, an early childhood education major, said she wants to get out of the country for the learning experience.

Hacker said she also wants to help others and learn how the education system works in other countries. She wants to implement her knowledge from this trip for her future career.

Hacker said it is important to live life with a "just do it" attitude.

"I think if you're young and want to travel you should look into volunteering," Hacker said. "It's a great learning experience and you're helping others. Just do it. I was so scared for so long that I was never going to be able to travel or leave the country. Then one day I just decided to go, and now I feel unstoppable."

Her inspiration for traveling came from one of her friends who posted her involvement with Invisible Children on different platforms of social media. Once Hacker saw her friend's posts, she immediately got involved.

"I texted her asking how to get started then she sent me Greenheart Travel's website, so I applied and immediately got accepted," Hacker said.

Traveling abroad can be more than a learning experience for students.

Dean of Student Affairs Stephen Hensley has travelled out of the country more than 10 times, and comes home with more knowledge every time.

"I always learn things about both the country I'm visiting and myself when I travel," Hensley said. "Little crises, mix-ups, awkward situations and uncertainty are the norm. You simply learn how to deal with those one at a time."

Hacker said she is anticipating the small mix-ups, but the excitement she has to learn about others and herself, triumphs her fear.

"I'm excited to see how my survival skills kick in when I'm in a foreign country all by myself," Hacker said. "I'm also excited to see how I handle communicating with strangers and how quickly I can build relationships."

Hacker said her biggest fears are funding, transportation issues and getting sick while out of the country.

"I have about half of the funding complete thanks to donations, and I just need to make sure I get the rest by April," Hacker said. "Surprisingly, a lot of people have helped me, some I barely even know. I just hope I get the support to carry on."

Hensley said funding is not a barrier that is going to stop her from doing what she's dreamt of doing for so long.

"Traveling is a life changing experience and a wonderful opportunity," Hensley said.

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**STACY HACKER**