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We Are...Marshall, September 14, 2016

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College signature events continue as president’s investiture nears

Signature college events are taking place this week and next part of the observances of President Gilbert’s investiture, which will take place Thursday, Sept. 22.

Click to visit the investiture website.
President Gilbert’s piece on Harper Lee appears in Chronicle of Higher Education

President Gilbert’s piece on the two novels of Harper Lee appeared in the Chronicle of Higher Education online Sept. 7 and in the Sept. 9 print edition. The article may be accessed on the Chronicle’s website.

“I am using these books to frame discussions about divisiveness in America with a reading group of our top scholarship students,” Gilbert says in the article, referring to the book discussions he is having with the Yeager Scholars.

In Memoriam: Gina Kates

Gina Kehali Kates, who was most recently the departmental secretary for the College of Liberal Arts, died Sept. 8. Her services took place Monday at Hall Funeral Home and Crematory, Proctorville, Ohio.

“She was a warm, sensitive, caring person to everyone she met,” said Dr. R. B. Bookwalter, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. “Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.”

Kates is survived by her husband, Terry Kates.

Donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society; Hospice of Huntington; Church of God Children’s Home in Sevierville, Tenn.; AdoptUSKids; Jefferson Avenue Church of God Music Ministry; or a charity of one’s choice.

Kates was the subject of a profile in this newsletter in 2011. To read the story, visit this link: http://www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/2016/09/profile-gina-kates/.

Photo: A memorial has been placed on the office door of the College of Liberal Arts.

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Marshall announces TTA partnership for new downtown loop

Representatives for Marshall University, Tri-State Transit Authority and the City of Huntington were on hand Friday, Sept. 9, during the university’s presentation of the newly branded bus, “The Green Machine.”

The system offers students swipe access to a new loop from various stops on the Huntington campus to the Visual Arts Center downtown and Kroger on Fifth Avenue.

Marshall President Jerome A. Gilbert said the project was special, in part because it has been student-led from the beginning.

“We are very fortunate that our students are active participants in change and improvement at the university, and this is a great example of those students taking charge,” Gilbert said. “This is truly a system by and for the sons and daughters of Marshall University.”

In spring 2015, then-Student Body Vice President Isabelle Rogner set the wheels in motion to arrange a new bus route to best accommodate students. The following March, the student body voted 86 percent in favor of the $16-per-student, per-semester fee for the system. Graphic design student Lindsey Cheek designed the wrap, and it was student Omar Salem who first came up with “The Green Machine,” which received the most votes on a Twitter poll to students and became the official name of the bus.

“There a few things that remain the same no matter what you study at Marshall: the importance of hard work, the value of helping others, and the idea that a goal or a dream can be achieved, no matter how big, even the size of a bus,” said Matt Jarvis, student body president.

Rogner, an alumna who now works for Intuit in Mountain View, California, visited the campus for the presentation. She noted that the new stops were advantageous to the university and Huntington communities alike, allowing students a way downtown and beyond, and allowing residents easier access to university events.
“Whether students realize it or not, through this bus, we have helped with the goal of making Marshall University and the City of Huntington one ecosystem,” Rogner said. “Our city and its people can now truly become one herd.”

“This is great for Marshall University,” said Steve Williams, mayor of Huntington. “This is incredible for the City of Huntington.”

TTA CEO Paul Davis said the newly created partnership with Marshall will mean more independence for students, not only for classes, but for access to health care, shopping and more. “Many students, like my sons who both attended Marshall, have part-time jobs,” Davis said. “This creates unbelievable opportunities for students to get part-time employment in the entire Tri-State area. They will be able to not only ride this bus, swipe their cards and essentially ride for free, but the entire system is available now to Marshall.”

The bus runs from 7:30 a.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 3 a.m. Friday into Saturday and noon to 3 a.m. Saturday into Sunday. Several major stops are on campus, with major off-campus sites including the Visual Arts Center, Pullman Square, and Kroger on Fifth Avenue. Swipe service to the regional TTA line, which locally includes Walmart and Cabell Huntington Hospital, where Marshall’s Student Health services are located, is available to all students with a valid Marshall ID.

Photo:
President Gilbert, TTA CEO Paul Davis, Huntington Mayor Steve Williams and Izzy Rogner join Marshall students to present The Green Machine. The bus wrap was designed by Marshall graphic design student Lindsey Cheek.

College of Science hosting 4th annual Water Festival for local students today

Over 260 children from schools across the region are attending Marshall’s 4th annual Water Festival today. The event will take place from until 2 p.m., on Buskirk Field.

Educating students about the importance of clean water and its impact on our environment has always been the goal of the Water Festival, according to Dr. Chuck Somerville, dean of the university’s College of Science.

“Most people don’t have any idea where their water goes when they turn on the tap or flush the toilet,” Somerville said. “It’s the most important resource on Earth so we want to be good stewards and lifelong learners about the importance of water.”
Avis Huisman, organizer for the event, said there will be 11 different stations for the 269 students in attendance. She said the more children learn about water – where it comes from, how to keep it pollution free, why we need it – the more steps they will take to protect it and keep it safe for future generations to enjoy.

“We will have a Water Olympics station run by Marshall professor Mindy Armstead and her group of Creek Geeks, an air pollution station run by the West Virginia Department of Air Quality, and a snake station run by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources,” Huisman said.

Travis Bailey, an environmental specialist in Marshall’s Office of Environmental Health and Safety, said the festival gives local youth the opportunity to discuss the topic of water conservation and protection.

“I hope the students learn that their actions have a major impact on water quality, drinking water and environmentally,” Bailey said. “I hope they learn when they don’t dispose of trash properly that is doesn’t just disappear, but it can get swept up in stormwater runoff and can end up in the river, which is where we get our drinking water.”

Huisman said this event would not be possible without the partnership between the college and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. To learn more about the 2016 Water Festival, contact Huisman at huisman@marshall.edu or visit marshall.edu/cos.

Photo: Students at the 2015 Water Festival learned about water pollution and what steps they can take to prevent it.

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**Oboist Burgess and harpsichordist Schelhase visit Marshall; performance is this evening**

The Marshall University School of Music proposes an evening of Bach with visiting Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professors in the Arts Dr. Geoffrey Burgess, oboist, and Leon Schelhase, harpsichordist, at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, in Smith Recital Hall on the Huntington campus.

Featured on the program will be the recently discovered version for oboe of Johann Sebastian Bach’s 2nd Orchestral Suite and his Harpsichord Concerto in E Major. The accompanying ensemble for these works will be led by Marshall music faculty member Dr. Elizabeth Reed Smith, who is a violinist.
Burgess has played Baroque oboe around the globe for close to 30 years. After initial studies in his hometown of Sydney, Australia, a Dutch Government Scholarship allowed him to study in The Hague with Ku Ebbinge. His book, “The Oboe,” written in collaboration with Bruce Haynes, won the 2007 Bessaraboff Prize from the American Musical Instrument Society. Burgess currently lives in Philadelphia and is the Baroque oboe instructor at the Eastman School of Music.

Schelhase is a native of Cape Town, South Africa. He is a recipient of the American Bach Soloists’ prestigious Goldberg Prize. He currently resides in Philadelphia where he regularly performs with his chamber ensemble, Old City Music. He has also worked with the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Bach Festival Orchestra, the New York State Baroque, Pegasus Early Music (Rochester), and as a continuo accompanist fellow at the Baroque Performance Institute in Oberlin.

Burgess and Schelhase will also appear on the MUSIC ALIVE series along with Smith, Dr. Solen Dikener, cello; Dr. Stephen Lawson, horn; and Dr. Kay Lawson, bassoon, at noon Friday, Sept. 16, at Fifth Avenue Baptist Church.

Both events are free and open to the public.

The Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professors in the Arts Endowment program brings world renowned artists, actors, musicians and teachers to the Huntington campus to collaborate with students and professors. In 1992, Joan C. Edwards established the endowment to enable the then-College of Fine Arts to bring to campus preeminent arts educators in an effort to enhance learning opportunities for students, staff, faculty and the community.

Contact the Marshall University School of Music at 304-696-3117 or visit www.marshall.edu/music for more information on this and other School of Music events.

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Accomplished pianist Michael Noble to perform free concert at Marshall tomorrow night

Marshall’s School of Music will present Michael Noble, an American pianist currently living in Brussels, Belgium, in a recital at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15.

The solo piano recital in Smith Recital Hall on Marshall’s Huntington campus will feature music by Mozart, Debussy, Ravel, Rzewski and Scriabin. The concert is free and open to the public.

In addition to the concert, Noble will also teach a master class for School of Music students before his next stop in Connecticut.

Since his first recital at the age of six, the now 20-something Noble has gone on to perform at Carnegie Hall and in concerts across Europe, Asia and North America. He studied at Yale, the Eastman School of Music and the Paris Conservatoire.

For more information, contact Dr. Henning Vauth, associate professor of piano and coordinator of the keyboard area in the School of Music at vauth@marshall.edu.

Marshall’s SUPER Day to promote reading to area students

The College of Education and Professional Development at Marshall University will host SUPER Day from 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 16, in the Marshall Recreation Center on the Huntington campus. The theme for the event, which is part of the Investiture activities for Marshall President Jerome A. Gilbert, is Students Using their Powers to Engage in Reading.

Through the Marshall Professional Development Schools partnership in Cabell and Wayne counties, about 200 elementary, middle and high school students will be bused to campus for a reading challenge. Gilbert will kick off the morning by reading to the students. Middle school students will then be broken into teams at the Rec Center to read to elementary students, while high school students will visit Marshall’s Child Development Academy to read to smaller children.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to encourage reading through our partnerships with Cabell and Wayne counties, as well as PBS and the West Virginia Department of Education,” said Dr.
Mindy Backus, associate professor of education and event coordinator. “The collaborative support and participation has been tremendous.”

Vendors and supporters will provide students with additional reading resources and activities. West Virginia Public Broadcasting will film the project and support the reading initiative.

Special guest appearances at Marshall’s Rec Center will include Marco, The Cat in the Hat and Super Why characters. Free books and hands-on activities will be provided during the event by the West Virginia Leaders of Literacy’s campaign for grade-level reading and Marshall’s June Harless Center literacy specialists.

“Strong readers are strong learners. Reading is the foundation for a good education at any age,” said Dr. Teresa Eagle, dean of the College of Education and Professional Development. “We at the College of Education and Professional Development are excited to be hosting an opportunity to involve lots of university faculty and students as well as our community in an activity that celebrates reading.”

In the afternoon, faculty and students from the college will read to nearly 700 students at local elementary schools, including Guyandotte Elementary, Kellogg Elementary, Kenova Elementary and Spring Hill Elementary. In addition, more than 15 local schools within Marshall’s Professional Development Schools partnership will encourage families to read with their children and enter a drawing for a door prize. The winner will be announced on Sept. 22, the day of Gilbert’s investiture ceremony.

For more information visit www.marshall.edu/coepd and www.marshall.edu/pds.

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Click above to view in larger size.

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Ten tons of potatoes to be dropped on Buskirk as part of Thundering Serve

Ten tons of potatoes will be dropped on Marshall University’s Buskirk Field Friday, Sept. 16, following the 4 p.m. launch of Thundering Serve, the university student body initiative to make an impact on campus and the community.

The potatoes, which are being donated by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, will be bagged by 500 students over a four-hour period and then taken to Facing Hunger Foodbank’s warehouse. In the coming weeks, they will be distributed across the food bank’s 220 partner agencies in the Tri-State region. In addition to the potato drop, dozens of other philanthropic projects at community locations, including Habitat for Humanity, the Huntington Museum of Art, Huntington Parks and Recreation District, will be taken on by Marshall students.

“We feel our role as sons and daughters of Marshall is to contribute to something greater than ourselves,” said Matt Jarvis, student body president. “Not only will the identified projects benefit many, some of the tasks simply could not be completed by one person alone.”

The service efforts are registered with Day to Serve, a collaboration that began in 2012 among West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, the governors of Maryland and Virginia, and the mayor of Washington, D.C., to set aside political differences and work together to feed the hungry and improve their communities.

Along with Jarvis, Marshall President Jerome A. Gilbert, Huntington Mayor Steve Williams and West Virginia Department of Agriculture Commissioner Walt Helmick will be on hand east of the Memorial Student Center plaza to officially announce the two days of community service. Helmick described the students’ effort to help feed the region as “noble,” and in alignment with the WVDA’s mission.

“As we here at the West Virginia Department of Agriculture continue to assist our state farmers in the production of fresh crops for commercial sale and personal consumption, we also focus strongly on making sure that any surplus food gets distributed to those in need in West Virginia,” said Helmick.

“Our six hours of service will impact people beyond the borders of our campus,” Jarvis said. “Our student body should feel accomplished by their work during the two days of Thundering Serve, and I hope it serves to inspire them to continue to give back.”

For more information about Thundering Serve, visit www.marshall.edu/studentaffairs.

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MUsic Mondays series to return to the Cellar Door

The Marshall University School of Music will open the second annual MUsic Mondays Lecture Series at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, at the Cellar Door, 905 3rd Ave., Huntington.

The fall series, titled “Music and Ways of Telling,” investigates how the composer conveys meaning to the listener.

The first lecture, “Portraying the Hero: Beethoven’s ‘Eroica’ Symphony,” will explore Beethoven’s musical portrayal of the hero and heroic characteristics. Lead presenter Dr. Vicki Stroeher, professor of music history at Marshall, said that Beethoven’s 1804 work uses the “heroic style” to communicate its ideas and can be heard as following the narrative patterns of the hero’s journey.

“Beethoven had dedicated the work to Napoleon, but after the Peace of Amiens broke down and Napoleon declared himself the Emperor of France, he scratched out the dedication so violently that it wore a hole in the manuscript,” Stroeher said. “But the work does not need a dedication to Napoleon to convey the concept of the heroic or to ‘narrate’ the heroic journey: Beethoven does all of that through the use of musical characteristics that audiences of the time would have recognized as evoking the hero.”

The MUsic Mondays fall series will continue through December, with the following lecture topics:

Oct. 17: “The Language of Class and Seduction: Mozart’s Don Giovanni”

Seating is limited. Each lecture costs $10, payable at the door. Checks should be made payable to Marshall University. All proceeds will go to support the School of Music.

For more information about MUsic Mondays, call the School of Music at 304-696-3117.

Photo: Dr. Vicki Stroeher will give the first in a fall series of lectures on “Music and Ways of Telling” Monday, Sept. 19.
Fet’s ‘Alice and the Time Machine’ to be introduced Sept. 21

Dr. Victor Fet, professor of biological sciences, has published Alice’s Time Machine, which he describes as a tale inspired by Lewis Carroll’s Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and H.G. Wells’ The Time Machine.

He will give a presentation on the science fantasy book at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, in the 4th floor atrium of the Drinko Library. Refreshments will be served.

The book is dedicated to the 150th anniversary of Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and the 150th anniversary of the birth of Wells, which occurs on the date of the presentation, Sept. 21. It is published in two parallel versions, one in English and one in Russian.

The book was illustrated by Byron W. Sewell and published this year by Evertype, an Irish publisher.

The English edition is available on Amazon.com.

Marshall University Theatre announces season lineup

Marshall University’s School of Theatre has announced the lineup for the 2016/2017 season,
which is scheduled to kick off Wednesday, Sept. 28. The season will feature four plays as well as a special event presented by Huntington Dance Theatre.

The four regular-season plays are “Picnic” by William Inge, “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens and adapted by Romulus Linney, “Circle Mirror Transformation” by Annie Baker, and “Guys and Dolls,” which features music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and is derived from the book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows. Again this year, the Huntington Dance Theatre will bring “The Huntington Nutcracker,” with story by E.T.A. Hoffman and Alexandre Dumas and music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, to the main stage of the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center’s Playhouse this winter.

Season tickets are available for purchase and include the four regular-season productions and the Huntington Dance Theatre’s production of “The Huntington Nutcracker,” plus complimentary parking in Marshall’s parking facility adjacent to the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. If purchased before Sept. 30, the main stage season ticket boasts a price of $70 for the public and $50 for seniors and Marshall faculty and staff. After Sept. 30, season tickets are $80 for the public and $60 for seniors and Marshall faculty and staff. Individual tickets, sold before each production, total $100 for the public and $75 for seniors and Marshall faculty and staff. Single tickets to the four regular-season shows are free for students with valid Marshall IDs.

To purchase season tickets, contact Marshall’s Box Office on the Huntington campus Monday through Friday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. or by calling 304-696-ARTS (2787).

About PICNIC by William Inge
Sept. 28 – Oct. 1 and 6-8 at 7:30 p.m.
At the Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center

A Labor Day weekend in a small Kansas town is the backdrop for William Inge’s most beloved and produced play about dreams and disillusionment. The late-season picnic promises to be the perfect sendoff of a long hot summer, but the small community is turned upside down when a charismatic drifter catches the eye of Madge Owens— the prettiest girl in town. Winner of the 1953 Pulitzer Prize and the Critics Circle Award, PICNIC is one the great plays of the American theatre.
RCBI to host West Virginia Makes Festival Oct. 7

Calling all makers: Mark Oct. 7 on your calendar and prepare to join in as the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) presents the West Virginia Makes Festival on the Huntington campus of Marshall University.

This year’s third-annual festival features a Design Challenge that awards a series of cash prizes – including a $1,000 “Best of Show” grand prize. The Design Challenge provides makers, artists, engineers and students of all ages the opportunity to demonstrate their ideas and skills, and earn rewards for their creativity – as well as bragging rights. Registration for the challenge is free at www.rcbi.org/online/challenge and must be completed by Sept. 30.

In addition to the challenge, activities include 3D printing and other innovative technologies, local artisans, special exhibits and performance art. Running from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the festival is free and open to everyone.

“Our festival celebrates makers,” said Charlotte Weber, RCBI director and CEO. “It taps into the inventive community of entrepreneurs and innovators so they can interact with like-minded makers.”

By staging the 2016 festival on National Manufacturing Day, RCBI is reinforcing its commitment to manufacturing and making, Weber said. For the latest information, go to www.rcbi.org/online/wvmakes.

B.S.W. director serves as member of Research Leadership Team of pediatric substance abuse group

The Pediatric Research Subgroup of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Region III Opioid Overdose Prevention Collaborative has been approved for a $15,000 award by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to support a project on “Engaging Community Partners to Decrease Addiction.”

Jo Dee Gottlieb, director of the undergraduate social work program at Marshall, serves as a member of the Research Leadership Team, which is composed of a diverse group of
interdisciplinary members. She said they will use the funds provided through PCORI’s Pipeline to Proposal Awards program to build a partnership of individuals and groups who share the leadership team’s desire to advance patient-centered outcomes research.

“We are pleased to be a part of this project,” Gottlieb said. “There are so many people in West Virginia and in our local community who have joined together to identify strategies to address the opiate problem. The PCORI award is another opportunity to engage our community and identify approaches to educate young people, families and service providers.”

West Virginia joins Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and the District of Columbia as participants in the project in the SAMHSA Region III.

“The overprescribing of opioids to pediatric patients is an epidemic,” Gottlieb said. “This project will engage and empower stakeholders with a novel approach in building new partnerships to explore challenges related to pain management in youth and among those at risk of addiction.”

Partners will be organized to enhance understanding of youth pain management challenges including accessing treatment, coordinating care, preventing medication misuse and navigating privacy regulations. The project’s first task will be to cultivate a core team of stakeholders, including individuals in recovery from substance use disorders, family members, policy makers, researchers, clinicians and administrators, according to Gottlieb.

PCORI is an independent, nonprofit organization authorized by Congress in 2010 to fund comparative effectiveness research that will provide patients, their caregivers, and clinicians with the evidence needed to make better-informed health and healthcare decisions. PCORI is committed to seeking input from a broad range of stakeholders to guide its work.

If you are interested in partnering with the Region III Leadership Team, please contact Gottlieb at gottlieb@marshall.edu or Jean.Bennett@samhsa.hhs.gov. To learn more about Marshall’s Department of Social Work, visit www.marshall.edu/social-work.

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The next regular issue of We Are...Marshall will be distributed Sept. 21, 2016. Please send items for consideration to WAMnewsletter@marshall.edu by 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19.

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