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Marshall University Honors College

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Honors Oracle

Marshall University's Honors College newsletter • Dec. 2018

Annual Fountain Ceremony honors 75 lives lost on 48th anniversary of Marshall plane crash

BY ABI DROPIK

The biggest reoccurring event at Marshall University happens every Nov. 14 to remember the 75 lives lost in the devastating plane crash of 1970. Southern Airways Flight 932 crashed in Huntington, West Virginia, carrying the Marshall University football team and coaches, avid supporters and the flight crew.

In remembrance of these lives lost, a fountain was placed in the middle of the university's campus to remind students of what it means

to be a part of Marshall University.

This past month marked the 48th year that has passed since the crash. To recognize those whose lives were cut short, the Fountain Ceremony commenced at the fountain outside the Memorial Student Center at 12 p.m.

During the ceremony, there were many speakers who reflected on their time with those who were lost in the crash along with how this event has impacted their lives. This ceremony was attended by Marshall students, Marshall sports teams and

staff, members of the community and family and friends of those lost. The crowd filled the plaza and a solemn and respectful tone encompassed the event.

During the ceremony, every person who was on the plane had his or her name recited, and a white rose was placed on the fountain in their memory by a current Marshall football player or a family or friend of the deceased. In addition, the fountain was turned off and will be turned on again at another event in the spring.

Justin Rohrwasser, the current kicker for Mar-

shall University's football team, said being a part of Marshall football means, "being a part of something bigger than just a football team itself. It is a university and a community that was brought together through tragedy. Being a part of this team allows me to represent this community every Saturday."

In addition to the attendance and involvement in the ceremony, the team does many things throughout the year to continually remember the lives lost during the tragedy. They make an effort to get to know those who passed during the crash and add a personality to a name they have heard recited upon occasion. In addition to this, they listen to speakers who are connected to the crash in some way, wear one of the victim's names on their helmets one game a year and run to the cemetery where a memorial stands in their honor.

Melinda Booton, a local who has received a bachelor's degree in health science, a master's in health informatics, an associate degree in allied health and is currently working on receiving her Ph.D. in education administration from the university, said she experienced the crash firsthand at the age of eight. She said she remembers the night of the crash vividly.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE PARTHENON

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Booton was leaving her church at the time of the crash and saw the entire hillside aflame. The smell of the fluid lingered in the air and within her church, where they helped those in need during the crash for a long time after the crash had occurred. With a family history of attending Marshall, Booton said the sense of community and feeling of home is what brought her to the decision to attend Marshall herself. After the crash, the entire community pulled themselves together and got through the tragic loss together.

The Fountain Ceremony is another way for those in the community to come together and celebrate the lives of those lost during the crash and to continue to remember them each year on the same day.

The 2018 Fountain Ceremony brought the community together to remember yet again those fallen during the tragic crash. The memory of those lost will forever be encompassed in the spirit of the community.

The ceremony will repeat each year and give the community a time to come together and remember the fallen lives of that fateful day in Marshall University history.

Honors College December graduate reflects on undergrad years at Marshall

BY HEATHER BARKER

As the semester comes to a close, so does some Honors College students' undergraduate careers. Twenty students will graduate with honors Dec. 15 at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena in Huntington.

Franklin Norton, a public relations major, is one of the 20 Honors College students crossing the stage this month and said he will be graduating with fond memories of Marshall University and the Honors College.

"I will cherish all of the opportunities I have been given at Marshall that have introduced me to a network of passionate and caring people," Norton said.

"The Honors College has given me the opportunity to expand my perspective by partaking in diverse seminars in which I explored new ideas and listened to the perspectives of my peers, all with different backgrounds and goals."

Norton is a Huntington native and said his time

working for The Parthenon, Marshall's student newspaper, has allowed him to explore his home city while also being exposed to a variety of people and events.

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Franklin Norton

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"Some of my favorite memories of Marshall all involve working as a reporter and editor for The Parthenon," Norton said. "I interviewed United States senators, Hollywood movie stars, people recovering from drug addiction and even got to cover a visit from the president of the United States."

After graduating Dec. 15, Norton said he plans to pursue a master's degree in public administration at Marshall. Until then, he said he will be working at the Marshall Artists Series as a full-time graduate assistant in their marketing department and teaching secondary language arts and Latin at Covenant School.

"I am prepared for anything, because I have learned how to listen and value the ideas of others," Norton said. "This is a crucial part of leadership, and along with the practical skills I have learned in my program, I have simply become a more well-rounded person."

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Scholarship opportunities available for Honors students

BY MIRANDA SMITH

Though the end of the semester usually signals the end of a student's workload, there are four scholarship opportunities for students due at the start of next semester which may inspire them to work during their break.

One of these is the Goldwater Scholarship, a national scholarship rewarded annually to students who are pursuing a research-based career in the natural sciences, mathematics or engineering. Applicants must also have at least a 3.0 GPA and be nominated by a faculty member. The application for this scholarship is due Jan. 11, 2019. Additional information can be found on the scholarship's website.

The deadline for the Boren Awards is also rapidly approaching. These scholarships award students who study at U.S. schools and who are planning on studying overseas in areas outside of Western Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

According to their website, the goal of the awards is to inspire students to study languages and cultures which are often overlooked. The Boren Awards consists of both fellowships and scholarships.

The Boren Awards provide funding opportunities to students who want to learn less commonly studied languages and who plan on working in national security. After receiving one of the awards, winners must commit to work in the federal government for at

Scholarship	Requirements	Due Date
Goldwater Scholarship	3.0 Minimum GPA, can be nominated by faculty member	January 11, 2019
Boren Awards	Plan to study overseas, must work 1 year in federal govt. upon graduation	January 30. & February 7, 2019
Truman Scholarship	Must have junior level status, dedication to change	January 18, 2019
Fulbright UK Summer Institute Awards	3.7 GPA, 18+ years old, must have at least 2 yrs. remaining in school	Deadlines vary

More information can be found on the scholarship websites.

least one year after they graduate. The application for fellowships is due Jan. 30, 2019, and the application for scholarships is due Feb. 7, 2019. More information can be found on the organization's website.

The deadline for the Truman Scholarship will also fall at the beginning of next semester. This scholarship is awarded to students who are in at least their junior year of college, and who are dedicated to being an agent of change, be it through work in the government, social work or education. The deadline for this application is Jan. 18, 2019. More information can be found on the scholarship's website.

Finally, the deadline for the Fulbright UK Summer Institute Awards is coming up. These awards grant scholarships to U.S. students to study in the United Kingdom for three to four weeks. Applicants must have at least a 3.7 GPA, be at least 18 years old and have at least two years of study remaining after the end of their time at the institute. More information can be found on the scholarship's website.

"All of these are fairly sizeable applications and require a campus process," said Mallory Carpenter, the program manager at Marshall University's Office of National Scholarships.

Because of this, students can contact Carpenter as soon as possible if they are interested in applying for any of these scholarships, so that they are able to complete them in time.

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