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We Are ... Marshall, November 2, 2001

Office of Marshall University Communications

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We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • NOVEMBER 2, 2001

Marshall Addresses Parking Issues; Groundbreaking Nov. 8

Marshall University's plan to improve parking near the Huntington campus continues beginning Nov. 5 when the area G employee lot on 3rd Avenue across from the Cam Henderson Center closes to accommodate construction of a 1,000-space parking garage.

Construction, to be done by BBLCarlton of Charleston, is expected to continue on the lot between 18th and 19th streets through the fall of 2002. Cost of the project is approximately \$8.8 million.

Governor Bob Wise signed legislation last May, authorizing MU to use fees collected from parking permits and fines to help pay for the garage. Marshall sold bonds to finance the project, and will pay them back in a number of ways, including using those collected fees.

Dr. Ed Grose, senior vice president for operations, said parking during construction of the garage will probably be even more difficult than usual for Marshall students and employees. Even though 190 new spaces will be available by late November or early December on the 6th Avenue lot formerly occupied by the Doctors Memorial Hospital, soon-to-begin construction of a student housing/parking project and a Biomedical and Science Center will temporarily eliminate even more spots currently being used.

Grose said the 10-month period from February 2002 until the end of the year will be the most challenging. The university is looking at leasing more parking spaces east of the campus, he said.

Marshall's early plan to offset potential problems includes:

- Employees with area G parking permits will be asked to relocate their vehicles to available spots in any of the area F parking lots or to the west lot at Marshall Stadium, once G lot closes. The employee parking lots are located along 3rd Avenue between Hal Greer Boulevard and 17th

Street and across from Corbly Hall on 5th Avenue.

- An additional 192 parking spaces have been leased by the university to accommodate any overflow that may result. The overflow parking spaces are located at 2222 3rd Ave. and are available for use by university parking permit holders from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday only. Vehicles not removed from the overflow parking lot by 6 a.m. on home football game days will be towed at the owner's expense.

And on the South Charleston campus, construction is nearing completion on turning a stretch of a one-way road

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Marilyn Fox Named Employee of the Month

Marilyn Fox, program coordinator in the College of Nursing and Health Professions, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for July, according to Jim Stephens, chair of the Employee of the Month Selection Committee. She has been employed at the university for 20 years.

She was nominated by Dr. Lynne B. Welch, Dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions, and CONHP faculty and staff members Gina Broce, Barbara A. Davis, Madonna C. Combs, Sharon Doersam, Jane George, and Allison Morrison.

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United Way Campaign Kicks Off

The Marshall University United Way campaign kicked off Nov. 1 with the slogan *The American Way—Give to United Way*, according to Dr. Barbara Tarter, chair of this year's campaign. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$75,000 for a variety of service agencies.

Agencies include such groups as Big Brothers & Big Sisters, the Tri-State Literacy Council, the YMCA, Ebenezer Medical Outreach, Cammack Children's Center, Cabell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless, Branches Domestic Violence Center, City Welfare Mission and the Boy Scouts. For a complete list of the affiliated agencies and a description of each, check out the Marshall World Wide Web site.



President Dan Angel presents Marilyn Fox with the oversize check, symbolic of her being named Employee of the Month for July.

SCORES Recognizes Employee Assistance

Five employees were honored last week for their long and distinguished service to Marshall at the annual recognition brunch of SCORES, the Search Committee On Recognizing Excellent Students.

The honorees are Dr. Daniel Babb, chairman of the chemistry department; Dr. James Harless, director of admissions; James Morris-Smith, production manager for university theater and coordinator for campus events; Dr. Keith Spears, vice president for communications and assistant to the president; and Dr. David Woodward, professor of history.

SCORES began 24 years ago at Marshall with a simple, organized letter writing effort to contact secondary school students who reported high ACT scores, according to Sherry Brooks, SCORES coordinator. At that time, SCORES was under the direction of Dr. Alan Gould and Dr. Craig Monroe.

Each year SCORES sponsors an Academic Festival on the Huntington campus, which has grown to include thousands of high school students, who gather to participate in contests, workshops and seminars. February 16 will be Art Portfolio Day in which students' portfolios are critiqued, and the annual festival will be March 8-9.

Sherri Noble Elected Classified Staff Representative to Board of Governors



Sherri Noble

Sherri Noble has been elected to fill the vacancy representing the classified staff on the Institutional Board of Governors. Noble, who is an academic budget officer, has been an active member of the Classified Staff Council, serving at various times as parliamentarian, vice-president and president. She has also served on the Advisory Council of Classified Employees.

We Are...Marshall!

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of November 16, 2001. Deadline is November 9. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.



Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. James Sottile and **Dr. Bill Carter** presented two sessions at the West Virginia Science Teachers Association's Annual Conference on September 20-21 at Pipestem. The sessions were titled "FAN-tastic Star Bubbles" and demonstrated lessons in astronomy for the elementary/middle school child.

James Burton, assistant professor of special education, presented two sessions at the International Conference on Children and Youth With Behavioral Disorders in Atlanta, Ga., on October 5-6. The titles of the sessions were "Innovative Inclusive Training for Rural, General Educators," and "Project TASK: Transition of Pre-Adolescence for Success and Knowledge."

Dr. Pamela Mulder, associate professor of psychology, has been named to the steering committee of a new women's health initiative with the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. She will serve on the non-federal, multi-disciplinary steering committee of women's health and policy experts for the Bright Futures for Healthy Women Initiative and will be a key contributor on mental and rural health issues.

Dr. Robert Bickel, Ms. Cynthia Smith, and Dr. Teresa Eagle of the College of Education and Human Services are co-authors of a paper titled "Poor, Rural Neighborhoods and Early School Achievement." The paper has been accepted for publication by the *Journal of Poverty*.

Cosby Arrives Nov. 16

He's considered one of the most influential stars in the country today, an instantly recognized entertainment icon who, with wit and humor, provides probing insight into people's roles as parents, children, family members and men and women.

Bill Cosby, who through concert appearances, recordings, television, films, commercials, and education endeavors has proved his ability to touch people's lives, will be appearing as part of the Marshall Artists Series on November 16. There will be two shows, at 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. at the Huntington Civic Arena.

Tickets are on sale now to the public and students. Faculty and staff can purchase two half-price tickets, which go on sale November 2, when they present ID. Those purchasing these tickets must come to the box office in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center which is open daily from noon to 4 p.m. Regular prices are \$36, \$38, and \$40, plus tax. For additional information, call ext. 6656.

Card of Thanks

I would like to thank the Marshall University family for making a contribution in memory of my father, Herbert Seay, to his local church. Also for the many cards and visits from his friends to my office. Your kindness will never be forgotten. Thank you all.

Carol Skaggs

Profile: Barbara Lanham

A series on interesting Marshall University people.

Like Jack's magic beans, the watermelon seeds just grew. And grew. And grew. And finally there was a flourishing watermelon patch in a most unexpected place.

Barbara Lanham really didn't plan to start a melon patch. It was just that one late spring day after having watermelon for lunch at one of the outdoor picnic tables that dot the rim of the tree-shaded South Charleston campus, she gave in to an impish impulse.

In her usual tidy way she was about to dispose of the seeds in a trash receptacle when inspiration struck.

Near a back entrance of the administration building, completely surrounded by concrete and an asphalt parking lot, sits a tiny island of earth, home to a small decorative tree, but no other vegetation.

"I had a few seeds I was going to throw away but I decided on the spur of the moment to poke a few holes in the ground and drop the seeds in. It was just in fun. I never expected anything to grow," she says with a laugh. End of lunch. End of story. Or so she thought. It turns out Lanham could give Jack a run for his money in the vine-growing department.

Staff, students and visitors to the MUGC campus watched with increasing wonder as the few seeds grew first into small sprouts, then into leafy vines and finally into four supermarket-sized melons.

Within days, the first slender green tendrils were poking their heads up and without anyone really noticing they began to snake around the tree, surrounding it with thick leafy vegetation. To non-agrarian types, who admittedly wouldn't know a watermelon vine from a radish patch, the greenery appeared to be yet another variety of one of the many decorative ground covers that abound on the South Charleston campus. No one mulched, weeded, watered, fertilized or hoed. But benign neglect didn't bother this melon patch. Through the early summer months, the vines, undaunted, grew in an ever-widening green circle. Yellow blossoms came and went and sure enough, in time, tiny melons, no bigger than marbles, were spotted and gardeners and non-gardeners alike began to take an almost parental interest as they watched and waited.

The little, formerly barren, patch of land was certainly doing something right. Almost overnight it seemed, the

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Barbara Lanham (left) and co-workers from the South Charleston Campus pose with the watermelons that grew in the graduate college patch.

Marilyn Fox

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In her nomination Welch wrote, "Marilyn Fox is a woman of many talents. She oversees faculty and staff computer needs including teaching new programs and troubleshooting. Marilyn assists the College of Nursing and Health Professions with its fundraising—including publishing newsletters and organizing events. As contact person for distance learners, her presence is felt across the state and beyond. Marilyn works closely with over 100 RN Option students. She is always ready to help out or take on a new project."

Broce, who is an administrative associate in CONHP, said that in the 10 years she has known Fox, "I have called upon Marilyn for assistance many times as she has a vast knowledge of information in many different areas...Marilyn is our 'computer troubleshooter.' Anytime I, or anyone else, have a computer problem, 99 percent of the time she has the answer."

CONHP Professor Combs wrote, "She is extremely helpful, courteous and professional in her interactions with staff, students and faculty. She is a wonderful source of information and a person who knows the history of the nursing program and the rules and regulations of the University. She is definitely our all around office staff."

Davis, professor of CONHP, in her letter of nomination said, "Marilyn serves as a foundation for the Nursing and Health Professions program. She is very versatile and able to function in many different roles. She serves as a contact person for the Registered Nurse students returning to school to complete their bachelor's degrees. She also handles many of the alumni responsibilities from the newsletter to sending out and collating graduate surveys."

In a closing accolade, Davis said, "I truly do not know what we would do without her."

Doersam, who is the records officer for CONHP, wrote that when she returned to work after a death occurred in her family last February, she found that "Marilyn had kept up with a big part of my job, which is the processing of applications for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program. Marilyn is an important part of CONHP. Her knowledge of the Marshall University policies and procedures never ceases to amaze me."

George, assistant professor of CONHP, remembers Fox's helpfulness when she was a student in the nursing program. "...Marilyn...has always been very helpful, friendly and knowledgeable. She assisted me often when I was a student here, in fact, I always went to her for my schedule advising before seeing my advisor. She has gone out of her way to help me as a faculty member....Marilyn is an asset to our college...."

Morrison, assistant professor of nursing, also cites Fox's helpfulness and pleasant personality as assets that have helped her do her job well. "Marilyn," she wrote, "has always been helpful to me. She has provided me with proper guidance especially when I first started my job at this institution. She is always friendly and courteous to co-workers as well as students....Marilyn goes over and beyond her call of duty to make our jobs a little easier."

Fox was presented with a plaque, balloon bouquet and a check for \$100. She will be eligible for the Employee of the Year Award.

Card of Thanks

I want to thank all the classified staff who supported me in my nomination for the Institutional Board of Governors. Although not elected, I look forward to providing service to you by continuing as chair of the Classified Staff Council Service Committee.

Bernice Bullock

Barbara Lanham

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melons ballooned, doubling and tripling their size regularly just as though they were nipping on a potent Miracle Gro cocktail. September came and the growing season slowed —except for the melon patch which just kept on growing....and growing. "How big will they get?" became the question of the day, followed by "When can we eat them?"

Some gardeners, who looked with envy at the robust patch, say they have found watermelons a somewhat fickle crop, difficult to grow. Just don't tell that to Lanham, who had spectacular success in her rookie year.

And she's modest to a fault about her gardening prowess. "I never dreamed anything would come up other than a sprout or two." But there is a move to have that plot named the Marshall University Agriculture Patch, she says, tongue in cheek.

Around campus, though, it's always been "Barbara's patch" and after the largest melon was surreptitiously plucked over a weekend and with another weekend approaching, Lanham was urged to harvest the others before they met their fate on a stranger's table. Reluctant, but realistic about their chances of survival, she finally harvested her impromptu crop.

And they turned out to be Marshall melons through and through. Green on the outside and unfortunately, green on the inside as well.

"If we could have had just another week or two, they would have been ripe," she says wistfully. But she's philosophical. The winner, hands down, of the MUGC Green Thumb Award, Lanham's been getting all kinds of suggestions for next year's crop. Beans, cucumbers, peppers, squash, and tomatoes rank among the favorites. No one doubts for a minute her ability to produce another bumper crop. Look at what she did in a parking lot, after all.

Actually, Lanham, who has been with the graduate college for 14 years and is currently an administrative secretary senior in the College of Information and Technology, has always been known around MUGC as someone who knows how to get things done. Known for her warm regard for others, if she sees a need she takes action with little fuss. After the devastating floods hit southern West Virginia last summer, she organized a drive to collect supplies. With the help of co-workers, she collected enough supplies in just days to fill nearly two rooms and netted approximately \$800 in cash from generous employees of the graduate college.

Then one dark and dreary February day, she and faculty member Barbara Nicholson decided the winter doldrums needed a boot, so on the spur of the moment they organized a cookie exchange, appropriately enough on Valentine's Day. It turned out to be wildly successful. Held during the lunch hour, a large crowd of cookie makers turned out to share such a wide variety of cookies that even Martha Stewart would have been proud. Everyone feasted on delectable morsels, floated back to work on a sugar high, and had lots of leftover goodies to take home along with recipes for the special favorites.

Now everyone expects it to be an annual event, with the two Barbaras in charge, of course. "We feel like we really have created a 'cookie monster,'" Lanham says good naturedly.

Actually the fun with the unexpected garden came as a welcome relief to what has been a worrisome summer for the Lanham family. Her younger daughter Cindy has been in Malaysia with her husband, Tony, since last fall. Cindy is currently expecting the Lanhams' first grandchild, so world events and their aftermath made for some tense moments until Cindy arrived home to be followed weeks later by her husband. Lanham and her husband, Gary, are also proud of their daughter, Jennifer, a music teacher at Piedmont and Glenwood Elementary Schools who graduated in May from MUGC with a degree in reading, and who lives nearby with her husband, Josh.

So, will there be another crop next year and if so, what will it be? "Well," Lanham says with her usual lively sense of humor, "I guess that will kind of depend on what I have for lunch!"

McCray Joins Development Staff

Richard E. McCray has joined the staff of Marshall's Office of Development as the annual fund director.

A Huntington native, McCray brings with him extensive experience in data collection and management as well as 30 years' experience in the field of higher education.

Before coming to Marshall, McCray served for six years as registrar at Fairmont State College. Prior to that he was registrar at St. Thomas University in Miami, Fla., and at the University of the Virgin Islands. He also served as director of Student Services and Institutional Research at Blue Ridge Community College in Weyers Cave, Virginia.

McCray has a bachelor of arts degree from Dickinson College, a master of education degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and a master of education from West Texas State University in Canyon, Texas.

He will be responsible for Marshall's Annual Fund program which will include direct mail, automated telephone system, volunteer participation and matching gift program.

"We are very pleased to have someone with Richard's qualifications on our staff," said Carolyn B. Hunter, vice president for development. "His experience in higher education, management skills and enthusiasm will energize our annual fund program."

Excused Absences

Absences have been excused for these students on the date noted:

October 26 - Travis W. Tallman; Stephen S. Fox; Susan M. Hunninghake; James C. Teters; Peter J. Hayes; Timothy M. Jenkins; Glen J. Blackwell; Melville H. Cummings; Paul D. Santana; Tyler S. Ellis; Matthew L. Houdersheldt.

Parking

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into two lanes which is expected to greatly alleviate traffic problems for west-bound commuters. Currently, instead of getting off at the Kanawha Turnpike exit, which is near the graduate college, drivers have to go an extra two miles down the interstate to the Montrose Drive exit and circle around because the stretch of Kanawha Turnpike which leads to the graduate college is a one-way, eastbound road. The ensuing congestion is a source of daily concern for students and staff at the South Charleston facility.

The state Division of Highways agreed this year to go ahead with the \$194,000 paving project, an action which has been praised by officials of the city of South Charleston and the graduate college. The westbound lane will be added to the half-mile stretch of highway that leads to the campus.

The project is basically complete, according to Kemp Winfree, vice president for Regional Operations, and the additional lane is expected to open as soon as new signs are erected, probably in about two weeks.

"The increased access to our property is a welcome change," Winfree said.