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We Are...Marshall, August 5, 2015

Office of Marshall University Communications

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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University August 5, 2015

Marshall to partner on \$20 million scientific research grant; governor, congressional delegation announce National Science Foundation award

Marshall University researchers will be part of a \$20 million scientific research project funded by the National Science Foundation. The award was announced Monday by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, U.S. Senators Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito, along with Representatives David McKinley, Alex Mooney and Evan Jenkins.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded the highly-competitive grant to West Virginia's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) to boost academic scientific research and upgrade infrastructure at Marshall University, West Virginia University, West Virginia State University and other state institutions. EPSCoR is facilitated by the state Higher Education Policy Commission's Division of Science and Research.

"Our higher education community is to be commended for competing—and winning—time and again on the national stage to bring much-needed research funding and opportunities to West Virginia," said Tomblin. "This funding will help to strengthen our state's STEM workforce, which is critical to our ongoing efforts to grow our economy."

Through a match partnership with participating universities, the \$24 million project begins immediately and will continue for five years. The project is being led by Principal Investigator Dr. Jan Taylor, Director of the Division of Science and Research.

Marshall University Interim President Gary G. White said, "We are pleased to once again be part of this significant research funding from the National Science Foundation. Our scientists will be lending their expertise to this extremely important research, and we look forward to collaborating with the other universities. My hat is off to everyone who helped put together this successful proposal."

According to Dr. Paul Hill, chancellor of the Higher Education Policy Commission, with this new funding West Virginia has now received more than \$60 million from the NSF for the state's EPSCoR program over the past 14 years.

“West Virginia’s competitiveness has improved markedly over the years,” said Hill. “Today, we are recognized as a growing research state. That is indeed something to be proud of—especially as we work to build a new economy through scientific research.”

Dr. John M. Maher, Marshall’s vice president for research, said infrastructure grants like this one play a major role in helping Marshall build research capacity.

“Creating the capability for our researchers to tackle problems of regional and national significance paves the way for the scientific advances of the future,” he said. “The next big breakthrough in water research could happen right here, and this NSF award will have set the stage.”

Background on New Award

West Virginia’s winning proposal, titled Gravitational Wave Astronomy and the Appalachian Freshwater Initiative, will support basic and applied research in water resources and gravitational wave astrophysics.

The gravitational wave research will focus on early universe cosmology and galaxies, along with relativity, gravity and compact objects in the local universe. The tools and models developed through this project will provide valuable inputs towards solving astrophysics challenges related to low-frequency gravitational waves and electromagnetic models. The water resources research, coordinated through the Appalachian Freshwater Initiative, will investigate water quality in West Virginia as it relates to certain stressors.

The project also will bolster the STEM workforce in the state by providing specialized training in data mining, water quality monitoring, signal processing and electronics design techniques.

Background on EPSCoR

EPSCoR is a program designed to fulfill the NSF’s mandate to promote scientific progress nationwide. Twenty-four states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam are currently eligible to compete for EPSCoR funding. Through this program, NSF establishes regional partnerships with government, higher education and industry that effect lasting improvements in a state’s or territory’s research infrastructure and research and development capacity, and its academic competitiveness.

In 2010, West Virginia was awarded a \$20 million RII grant, the largest award in state history at the time. It was matched by an additional \$4 million from the state and has supported research at Marshall, West Virginia University, West Virginia State University and other institutions for the past five years.

Quotes from West Virginia’s Congressional Delegation

“When we support our universities and colleges with the tools and resources they need to provide quality and affordable education, we lead our students to successful careers and ensure our future will be bright,” said Senator Manchin. “Enhancing STEM programs and upgrading infrastructure at our colleges and universities will open doors for our students and is crucial for West Virginia to remain competitive in the global marketplace. I am happy this grant will enable our higher education institutions to better prepare students in STEM and improve our workforce, our economy and our great state.”

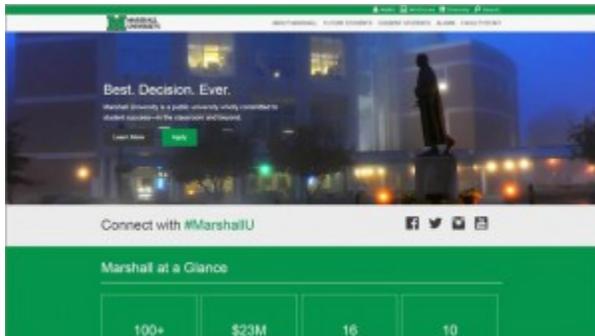
“As a huge proponent of both EPSCoR funding and attracting more West Virginia students to STEM fields, I am so pleased that the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission is receiving this highly competitive grant. West Virginia’s higher education institutions continue to make our state proud, and I cannot wait to see the work they accomplish with the help of this funding,” said Senator Capito.

“Congratulations to our state’s research institutions for earning this grant. Cutting-edge research and innovation are the future of West Virginia’s universities and this award will help draw the best and brightest to the area. We need to transition our economy into new industries, and building our STEM workforce is an important step along that path,” said Rep. McKinley.

Rep. Mooney said, “This award is the well-deserved recognition of the hard work that is happening in the colleges and universities in our state. The research produced through the program will help prepare the next generation of workers to better leverage technology and enhance our nation’s science and engineering research.”

Rep. Jenkins said, “I served on the board of EPSCoR in West Virginia and saw firsthand the difference these programs make in our schools. EPSCoR brings together partners like Marshall University and West Virginia University, harnessing their collective resources to promote research and innovation. I fought successfully to preserve funding for EPSCoR as a member of the House Appropriations Committee, helping to defeat an attempt to completely eliminate this important program. This grant is critical to preserving EPSCoR in West Virginia and maximizing its impact in our universities. By working together, we can make a difference

Offices of University Communications, Information Technology ready new look for Marshall website



There's a new look coming for the Marshall University website, and it is scheduled to roll out Thursday afternoon, Aug. 6.

Members of the University Communications website work group and Web Designer Justin Howell have been working for several months to get the new look online.

"We are so pleased to have this fresh, new design for the website," said Ginny Painter, senior vice president for communications and marketing. "It is targeted to students and prospective students, and will have an increased emphasis on mobile applications and a clean look that we think people will find attractive and easy to use."

On Thursday, the Marshall community will be able to see the new homepage and top-tier landing pages, some of which are new. The new design is compatible with the current WordPress theme used by departments across the university, so the transition should be smooth. A WordPress theme to coordinate with the new homepage design is being developed and will be rolled out to university website administrators in the next several weeks.

Engineering complex opening celebration slated for next Thursday, Aug. 13; Campus community asked to plan ahead for expected parking and traffic changes



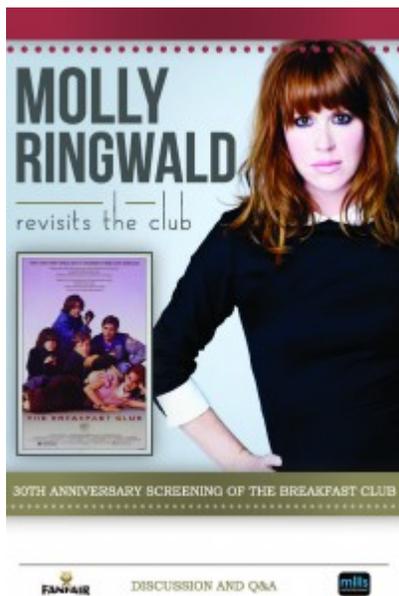
The grand opening of the Arthur Weisberg Family Applied Engineering Complex will be celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 13, on the Morrow Library Lawn (Third Avenue side). The ceremony will be followed by a reception and tours of the new building.

Interim President Gary G. White, Provost Gayle Ormiston, the Weisberg family, members of the

state's congressional delegation, and faculty and students will be participating in the event. The university community is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Please note that parking on campus will be difficult that day due to the number of guests expected. No parking will be permitted at the meters on Third Avenue between 17th Street and Hal Greer Boulevard, and the university parking lot at the corner of Third Avenue and Hal Greer Boulevard will be reserved for ceremony guests. In addition, portions of Third Avenue between 20th Street and Hal Greer Boulevard will be closed to traffic from 2:30-4 p.m. for the ceremony.

Marshall Artists Series announces upcoming season



As the Marshall Artists Series prepares to open its 79th season, there's a lavish banquet of arts and entertainment in store—everything from rock, country, and pop performances, to big showy Broadway musicals, a symphony orchestra concert, a legendary ballet, film festivals and more.

“The events showcased on the 2015-2016 season offer a fresh perspective in the ever-evolving world of arts and entertainment,” said Penny Watkins, executive director of the Artists Series. “For our 79th season, we are presenting a lineup that is exciting and diverse. We have music greats this year including rock pioneer Boz Scaggs, country/pop phenom Kacey Musgraves, and the pop music story of the year, ‘Walk The Moon.’ We have the best of Broadway, including *Mamma Mia!*, *Annie*, and the musical that swept the Tony Awards, *Once*. The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra makes a stop on their U.S. tour, as does The State Ballet Theater of Russia as

they bring the breathtaking ballet, *Swan Lake*, to the Keith-Albee for the very first time. Additionally, we have a historic collaboration with The Huntington Symphony Orchestra for a multimedia holiday event – Tim Burton’s *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, plus we screen the beloved film *The Breakfast Club*, featuring a post-film Q & A with the film’s star, Molly Ringwald. There is definitely something for everyone to enjoy.”

All presentations will take place at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center.

Here’s a closer look at the upcoming schedule:

Anthony Jeselnik will open the series with an evening of comedy on Thursday, Oct. 1, at 7:30 p.m. Recently added as the host of NBC’s *Last Comic Standing*, he created and starred in the TV

show, *The Jeselnik Offensive*. An Emmy nominee, he has appeared on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, *Conan*, *The Tonight Show* and *Jimmy Kimmel Live*.

The following evening, two-time Grammy Award winner and Country Music Association Best New Artist of the Year, singer-songwriter Kacey Musgraves, brings her tunes to the stage on Friday, Oct. 2, at 7:30 p.m. In 2014 she took home the CMA Award for Song of the Year.



Tuesday, Oct. 27, Grammy Award-winning rock pioneer Boz Skaggs will open his show at 7:30 p.m. As a singer, songwriter and guitarist, Skaggs is known for his explorations into blues, rock, R&B and jazz. His latest album, *A Fool to Care*, was released this spring and features duets with Bonnie Raitt and Lucinda Williams.

A mother, a daughter, and three dads are at the center of Broadway's *Mama Mia!* at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4. The daughter's wish to discover the identity of her father, on the eve of her wedding on a Greek Island, brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they visited 20 years ago. The play later became a successful movie as well.

The popular Fall International Film Festival takes place Nov, 6-12. Films to be featured are *Landfillharmonic* (Paraguay/USA); *Wild Tales* (Argentina), *Citizenfour* (USA), *Tangerines* (Estonia), *Phoenix* (Germany) and *Two Days, One Night* (Belgium/France);

Cincinnati's *Walk The Moon* has the song of the summer this year in their hit, "Shut Up and Dance," and they'll be in Huntington Thursday, Nov. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Formed while the members were students at Kenyon College, the group has appeared on Letterman, Fallon, Conan and Carson Daly.



On Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7:30, p.m. a multi-media holiday event features Tim Burton's full-length feature film, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, paired with a score performed live by the Huntington Symphony Orchestra and special guests.

Featuring a company of 50 dancers, the State Ballet Theater of Russia will bring the classic *Swan Lake* to town Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. Set to the music of Tchaikovsky and based on Russian folklore and German legend, the ballet spins the tale of a young prince who works to free a beautiful swan maiden from an evil spell.

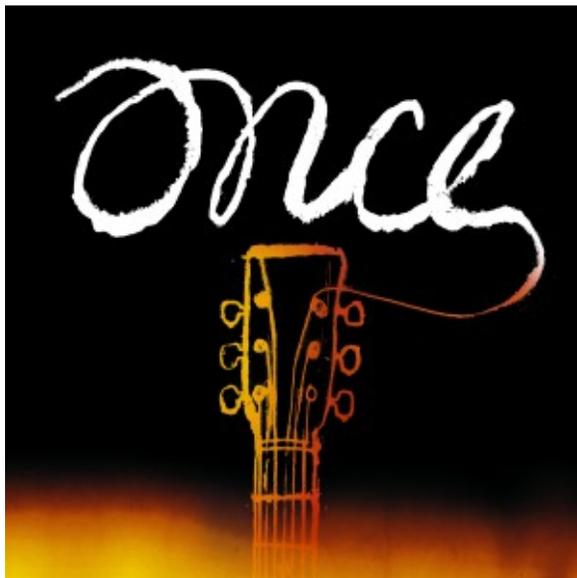
The iconic film *The Breakfast Club* is celebrating its 30th anniversary by offering a special treat—after the screening of the film there will be a discussion and Q & A session featuring one

of its stars, Molly Ringwald. Fans who attend the show on Sunday, Feb. 21, at 3 p.m. will be able to get the inside scoop of one of their favorite films.

Everyone's favorite optimist brings her dog, Sandy, and her orphan chums, who sing and dance their way through *Annie* Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 7:30 p.m. The show was called by *The New York Post* "big, warm-hearted, funny and overflowing!"

Films from six countries can be seen in the Spring International Film Festival, which runs Feb. 26-March 3. Featured films include *On the Other Side* (France), *Timbuktu* (Mauritania), *The Farewell Party* (Israel), *Labyrinth of Lies* (Germany), *Marshland* (Spain) and *A Hard Day* (South Korea).

The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra makes a stop on its 80th anniversary tour on Wednesday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. Conductor Laureate Dimitry Yablonsky and 13-year-old cello virtuoso Danielle Akta will present a program featuring Tchaikovsky, Saint Saens and Rachmaninov.



The series will close with *Once*, winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Tuesday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. The musical unfolds the story of a Dublin street musician who meets the girl of his dreams and the subsequent deep connections they forge.

New season subscription orders and season package renewals for current patrons are on sale now. Deadline for season ticket renewal is Wednesday, Aug. 12. All orders will be processed in order of date and time received. Tickets to individual events go on sale, Monday, Aug. 31.

The Artists Series is again offering a two-payment plan that will offer patrons greater flexibility. For those interested in this plan, call

ext.6-3313. Season packages may be ordered by calling ext. 6-3326, faxing to 304-696-6658 or emailing to artistsseries@marshall.edu. The Marshall Artists Series office is located in the Jomie Jazz Center. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Special Collections, Government Documents to close Aug. 10-14

The Special Collections Department and the Government Documents Department (Federal Depository Library Collection) in the James E. Morrow Library will be closed from Monday, Aug. 10, through Friday, Aug. 14.

These departments will be closed for staff development training, cleanup and maintenance of the University Archives and Manuscript Collections, and database maintenance.

During this period, the Morrow Stacks will remain open during their regular hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All materials in the Morrow Stacks will be available for patron use and checkout.

Lisa Hughes named Employee of the Month



Lisa Hughes, Business Manager I, Technical Services in the Drinko Library, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for May, according to the Employee of the Month Committee.

Employed for more than 19 years, she was nominated by Patsy Stephenson and Teresa Bolt.

In her nomination Stephenson wrote that when Hughes began working for her as a freshman in 1991 she was so impressed by her work that when a job opened up in her department in 1996

“I hunted her down to apply.”

Hughes is very organized, according to Stephenson, and successfully manages myriad duties. “She is the business manager for acquisitions and she works with the Library administration ... Lisa is in charge of our student assistance, making sure our departments are covered, doing the paperwork and keeping us on a time line. She handles a budget of 1.5 million dollars and has the numbers in order for inspection at any time. For the administrative office, she takes care of the requisitions and balancing of the library operating and materials lines. No matter what she is doing, she cheerfully accommodates last minute administrative requests and/or needs. She crunches the numbers and pays the bills for our materials in all formats. She is

required to attend many meetings and workshops to keep her updated in policies and procedures.”

And, Stephenson continues, “Because Lisa has experience in so many areas of the library she is one of the few in the organization who can see the ‘whole picture’ and knows how decisions made in one area will impact activities in another area. More than once her probing questions have encouraged people to reexamine decisions” In addition to the budget and business matters, she’s a real ‘go to’ person because “she know how to ‘fix’ copiers [and] hook up our printers and flatscreens.”

Hughes’ dedication to her work and her diligence in seeing that it is done efficiently along with her willingness to do whatever needs to be done to get it completed, has drawn high praise from Bolt, who wrote: “Lisa works in conjunction with me on the IT Division Budget. She is always on top of the Library acquisitions and operating budget. With her skill set and work ethic, she has stepped up and assisted me with the budget paperwork for the remaining IT Budgets. The FY16 Budget process required us to provide additional detailed data in a short time frame. Lisa worked diligently on assisting us with the compilation. She was scheduled to be out of the office on Friday, June 5th to get ready for her vacation. Because we were on a tight deadline and needed her assistance, she did not get done all that she wanted before her vacation. She came in and worked the morning of her first anticipated vacation day.”

Stephenson went on to say that with her warm personality, Hughes has a great concern for others. She goes out of her way to arrange special celebrations for her coworkers, sends cards to people who are ill, arranges for food for families who are having difficulties, organizes receptions for donors and is always happy to assist in other events throughout the library. She is, her nomination concludes, “a dynamo of a woman, wife, mother, friend and co-worker.”

Hughes was presented with a certificate and a check for \$100 by Interim President Gary White.

Photo: Lisa Hughes (right) receives her employee of the month award from President White.

Professor receives \$350,000 National Science Foundation research grant



Dr. Elmer Price, professor of biological sciences, has been awarded a three-year, \$350,000 research grant from the National Science Foundation.

The grant will fund his research, which Price said “aims to provide new information regarding the mechanisms responsible for the important and complex process of adult neurogenesis—the process by which the brain constantly generates new cells that migrate into regions of the brain involved in memory, learning and the sense of smell.”

“My goal is to develop bioengineered matrices which, when implanted into the brain, will redirect these new cells into areas that are damaged by injury or disease, potentially leading to new therapies for neurological disorders such as Parkinson’s disease or traumatic brain injury,” he said.

The grant also will support the undergraduate student researchers working on the project.

West Virginia ranks low nationally in terms of education, income and health, and Price said it is clear that part of the solution is to increase the number of the state’s citizens trained for a high-tech workforce.

“This program is designed to introduce and immerse undergraduates in this cutting-edge biological research, with the goal of increasing the number of Marshall students who go on to nationally recognized graduate programs,” he said.

The program (named FIRE, or Full-Immersion Research Experience) will recruit students early in their undergraduate education and incorporate them into Price’s laboratory.

Students will be paid a salary to allow them to devote a significant amount of time to working in the lab. They will participate in all aspects of the lab’s work, including conducting individual research projects, presenting at weekly lab meetings, co-authoring scientific papers and abstracts, preparing grant proposals, and attending regional and national meetings.

Price said this deep and professional involvement in a research lab will help prepare the students for success in graduate school and a career in science, thereby increasing the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) workforce in West Virginia.

Photo: Dr. Elmer Price, seen here in his lab with student researchers, from left, Lydia Hager, Arrin Carter and Amanda Clark, received a \$350,000 research grant from the National Science Foundation.

Two local physicians join Marshall Medical Alumni Association

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Alumni Association recently elected two local physicians to its board of directors.



Adam M. Franks, M.D., is a professor in the department of family and community health at the School of Medicine. After earning his medical degree from Marshall in 1999, Franks completed his residency at Marshall and a fellowship in surgical obstetrics at Advanced Maternal Care in Memphis, Tenn. He practices family medicine at Marshall University Medical Center and at Marshall Family Medicine in Lavalette.



Adrienne M. Mays, M.D., is an assistant professor in the department of family & community health at the School of Medicine. Mays earned her medical degree in 2009 and completed her residency, both at Marshall. She practices family medicine at Marshall University Medical Center. Mays serves as the medical director of the clinical skills lab and is the course director for Introduction to Clinical Skills and Advanced Clinical at the School of Medicine.

“We are thrilled to welcome the enthusiasm that Drs. Franks and Mays bring to our medical alumni board,” said Linda S. Holmes, executive director of the School of Medicine Alumni Association. “In 2015-2016, we’re focusing on engagement and scholarships, so we’re looking forward to the new ideas they will bring to the table.”

The School of Medicine Alumni Association helps connect and engage medical alumni from across the country with events and activities. The association is not a dues-based organization, but rather encourages alumni to direct those resources toward medical student scholarships. Franks and Mays were each elected to serve a four-year term with the board of directors, effective July 1.

Forensic Science group to sponsor pancake breakfast Aug. 22

The Marshall University Forensic Science Delta Delta Epsilon National Honor Society is sponsoring a pancake breakfast fundraiser beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, August 22 at Max & Erma's in Pullman Square.

Students will serve the all-you-can-eat breakfast featuring pancakes, a choice of bacon or sausage and beverages.

Tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased by contacting Dr. Pam Staton, program coordinator of the Forensic Science Graduate Program and the honor society's faculty advisor, at 304-691-8962 or by e-mailing staton1@marshall.edu. The fundraiser will support scholarly activities of students who demonstrate a high level of academic achievement.

Delta Delta Epsilon is a national honor society dedicated to recognizing and encouraging excellence in scholarship in the forensic sciences. The group's purpose is to advance academic achievement, advance the fields of forensic science and foster community understanding of forensic science.

Marshall, New River CTC sign agreements

Marshall University and New River Community and Technical College have entered into two agreements that will allow students of New River CTC to apply up to 72 of their credits earned to bachelor's degrees at Marshall.

One agreement is for students who wish to complete a traditional bachelor's degree at Marshall and the second is for students who intend to pursue the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree at Marshall. Provided a student is in good standing with New River CTC and meets the admission requirements for Marshall, that student is eligible to begin coursework at Marshall.

"Marshall University is committed to finding better and more efficient ways to help students earn a college degree," said Dr. David Pittenger, Interim Associate Vice President for Outreach and Continuing Studies. "Many students elect to begin their education at a community college before transferring to a four-year program such as Marshall University. Our experience tells us that these students have received a high quality education and have the resolve to complete their education. As such, we want to ensure that the transfer process supports their goals."

The two institutions will provide specialized advising and tracking services for the students. Included will be a Plan of Study covering the coursework at both institutions that will lead to the completion of the baccalaureate degree.

“We encourage New River CTC students to continue their education and earn a four-year degree. These agreements are in our students’ best interest and will provide a more seamless transfer for those who wish to further their studies,” said New River CTC President L. Marshall Washington.

For students pursuing the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree, which includes credit for prior learning and career experience, a plan is being developed for New River CTC to review the students’ relevant military, work, and other professional experiences which may be translated to the equivalence of college-level credit hours. As necessary, students participating in this program may be required to complete a portfolio development course to develop materials necessary for the assessment of prior learning. The credits awarded will be applied toward the student’s Regents Bachelor of Arts degree.

Marshall Speech and Hearing Center holds ‘Tiny Talkers’ program graduation ceremony



Marshall’s Speech and Hearing Center has created programs to facilitate speech therapy through the use of books and other activities. One of them, the Tiny Talkers Book Club, was established in 2013 and focuses on developing literacy for 4-5 year olds.

A new class was established this summer at St. John’s House through a literacy grant from Phi Kappa Phi to focus on the needs of children who come from low-socioeconomic backgrounds. Jen

Baker, speech language pathologist in the MUSHC, said programs like these provide a solid foundation for youth with regard to language and literacy.

“Children with speech and language disorders are at risk for having difficulty learning to read. Our goal is to help strengthen their language foundation and provide exposure to emergent literacy activities,” Baker said. “When we begin teaching pre-literacy skills early in a child’s life, we are able to minimize the risk of future reading challenges. We want these kids to have the best possible start when they go to kindergarten.”



Baker said the program holds parent seminars once a month to provide strategies for families to continue teaching their children at home.

“We want to build a solid foundation for our clients,” Baker said. “While working with these children, we are also able to provide great training opportunities for our graduate students within Marshall’s College of Health Professions.”

Photos: (Above) Marshall graduate students Malarie Chartier, Erin Frye and Lindsey Miller are shown reading to children during the Tiny Talkers Book Club, which encourages communication through activities like art, reading, singing and eating snacks. (Below) Gavien

Gavien Webb, left, was born with a condition that prevented him from learning the rules for how sounds fit together to make words, which is called phonological processing disorder. Since beginning Tiny Talkers, Gavien has been able to practice his reading comprehension and make new friends with fellow Tiny Talker, Hunter Cremeans, at the Marshall Speech and Hearing Center.

Fresh Market Days taking place today, each Wednesday during growing season

The Sustainability Department is hosting its weekly Fresh Market Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Wednesday throughout the growing season in the Memorial Student Center on the Huntington campus.

Produce is harvested from the Sustainability Gardens and seedlings grown in Marshall’s Greenhouse are shared with the campus community. The goal is to help nourish and educate.

Although it is free to receive the produce and plants, donations are greatly appreciated. MU’s weekly Market Day serves university students, faculty and staff, as well as area residents. All are welcome to attend.

Today, Wednesday, Aug. 5, is a Market Day.

The MU Sustainability Gardens and the weekly Market Days are just two of the many projects of the Sustainability Department. For more information, visit www.marshall.edu/sustainability and www.marshall.edu/musustainabilitygardens.

Forum on geohazards taking place this week

Consultants, contractors and representatives of state and federal agencies involved with planning, monitoring, design and construction of transportation systems are gathering in Huntington through tomorrow for the 15th annual technical forum, “Geohazards Impacting Transportation in Appalachia.”

The forum is hosted by the West Virginia Division of Highways and sponsored by the MU Center for Environmental, Geotechnical, and Applied Sciences (CEGAS). The forum provides an opportunity for geotechnical professionals to share information and best practices, and collaborate on transportation related projects. .

“Federal, state and private entities that deal with the prevention and remediation of common geologic problems, such as rock falls on highways in the Appalachian region, gain tremendous benefit by sharing best practices,” said Dr. Tony Szwilski, director of CEGAS and forum chairman.

Topics for the 2015 forum include dealing with emergency landslides; slope stability reinforcement, monitoring and repair; stream scour mitigation for bridges; and impacts of underground mining on transportation infrastructure.

New pediatric oncologist joins Marshall School of Medicine



Paul Finch, M.D., a board-certified and fellowship-trained pediatric oncologist/hematologist, has joined the department of pediatrics at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center as an assistant professor.

Prior to joining Marshall, Finch most recently served as a pediatric hematology/oncology fellow at the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh—University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC).

Finch earned his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine. He completed a residency in pediatrics at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center/Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Finch has also served as a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Pittsburgh since 2013. His current research focuses on the growth and characteristics of ovarian cancer cells.

Finch is accepting new pediatric patients and referrals at the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center, located at 1400 Hal Greer Blvd.

Marshall School of Medicine receives \$1.22 million to promote primary care

The department of family and community health at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine has received a five-year, \$1.22 million grant from the federal government to develop ways to educate and train new physicians in novel methods of primary care, specifically geared toward the patient-centered medical home and its team approach to health care.

In announcing the grant, Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine, praised Stephen M. Petrany, M.D., department chair, and his team in family medicine.

“Marshall has a long-standing track record of excellence in preparing family physicians,” Shapiro said. “Steve Petrany and many others in the department of family and community health have put together an outstanding program for us. The awarding of this grant allows our school to grow its efforts in developing new and innovative ways to train medical residents and others health care professionals.”

The competitive grant was awarded by the [Health Resources and Services Administration](#).

“With this grant, we will be able to train doctors to direct the care of patients in an increasingly complex and sometimes impersonal health care system, particularly in rural and small-town communities,” Petrany said. “We’ll also be able to grow our efforts to collaborate with other health care professionals, including psychologists, pharmacists, social workers, nurses, and others, to provide cutting-edge medical care to our patients in a supportive and caring environment that continues to focus on the central doctor-patient relationship.”

Petrany said the project will focus on family medicine residents in training, but will also include training of faculty and staff in support of those efforts, as well as continuing medical education for recent residency graduates and community primary care physicians.

Other members of the grant team are James B. Becker, M.D., senior associate dean for clinical affairs and associate professor in the department of family and community health, and Jennifer T. Plymale, associate dean for admissions and director of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health. Staff members on the team included Christy Adkins, Debbie Curry and Amber Vance, as well as research assistant Karl Shaver, who is an incoming member of the School of Medicine’s Class of 2019.

School of Medicine welcomes 21 students for Project P.R.E.M.E.D.

Twenty-one students from colleges and universities around the nation were on the Huntington campus last week for the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine’s Project P.R.E.M.E.D. (Providing Real World Experiences for future Marshall Educated Doctors).

The annual program allows undergraduate students of color to explore and experience the medical school during a five-day campus immersion visit that included mock medical school interview sessions, robotic surgery demonstrations, suturing instruction, and discussions with current medical students and residents about life as a physician.

“We are pleased to offer this program again at Marshall, Our diversity initiatives promote an inclusive environment by attracting, recruiting and retaining individuals who represent varying backgrounds. Programs like this one help support our mission.” said Dr. Shelvy L. Campbell, assistant dean of diversity at the School of Medicine

Campbell says students who attended were from Furman University, Florida State University, University of Louisville, University of Kentucky, University of Missouri, Howard University, among others including Concord University and Marshall

The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed August 12, 2015. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by 5 p.m. Monday, August 10.