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We Are...Marshall, October 22, 2014

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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

October 22, 2016

Marshall officials continuing infectious disease preparedness efforts

Infectious diseases have been in the news lately and although the risk of a case of the Ebola virus in the Marshall University campus community is remote, university leaders and health officials have been working to make sure the university is prepared to deal with that possibility, as well as the potential for outbreaks of influenza and Enterovirus D68.

Tracy Smith, director of the Department of Environmental Health and Safety, says representatives of his office, the Student Health Education Programs, Student Health Services, Department of Housing and Residence Life, and the INTO program for international students have been coordinating infectious disease preparedness efforts for weeks, including reviewing the university's Communicable Diseases Response plan and discussing procedures and immunization requirements for students.

Director of Student Health Education Programs Amy Saunders said the university follows guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and coordinates with the Cabell-Huntington Health Department regarding plans to address potential outbreaks of all infectious diseases. She added, "We have a great partnership with our local health department and work closely with them on the prevention of infectious diseases. We have a well-developed emergency response plan, and we are currently reviewing our policies and procedures so we can make sure that we are doing everything we can to be prepared."

The CDC advises the following measures to help prevent the spread of germs:

- Get a flu vaccination.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick with flu-like illness, stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like the flu.
- If an outbreak of flu or another illness occurs, follow public health advice.

Specifically related to the Ebola virus, the planning group is taking the following measures:

- Monitoring Ebola advisories from the CDC;
- Coordinating with other campus groups and the Office of the President;
- Advising travelers traveling to and from areas of ongoing transmission;
- Developing plans to monitor and evaluate returning travelers who may be at risk;
- Assessing and reinforcing infection control measures and equipment; and
- Proactively planning with local and state public health officials and campus partners, who know how to manage a potential exposure or a suspected case of Ebola.

Smith said, “The safety of the Marshall University community is our top priority. We are monitoring the Ebola situation very closely and are taking precautionary measures as recommended by federal, state and local public health officials.

Medical personnel from Health and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine also have been coordinating with university and community colleagues to determine risk and ensure the safety of the community.

They recommend that anyone who has traveled outside of the U.S. within the last 21 days and has a fever of more than 100.4°F (38°C) *or* has headache, weakness, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or unexplained bleeding seek medical care immediately at the nearest hospital emergency department.

Dr. Joseph Werthammer, chief medical officer at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, said, “Marshall Health and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine are actively engaged in discussions regarding our protocols in the highly unlikely event a person with Ebola would present at one of our clinics or on our campus. We, like dozens of academic health centers and hospitals around the U.S., are following CDC guidelines and have in place procedures that protect our patients, students and staff.”

To learn more about infectious diseases, review the information on the CDC’s website at www.cdc.gov.

Students with questions about infectious diseases should contact Student Health Education Programs at ext.6-4800 or shep@marshall.edu or visit www.marshall.edu/shep.

The emergency management plan is available at <http://www.marshall.edu/emergency/>.

Apel named Employee of the Month



John Apel, Trades Specialist, Physical Plant, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for July, according to the Employee of the Month Committee.

Nominated by Eric Wallace, Apel has been employed at Marshall for nearly five years.

In his nomination, Wallace wrote, “John has proven time after time how valuable he is to the HVAC Shop and to Marshall University as a whole.” Since Apel’s father was employed at the Morrow Library during the late 1960s into the early 1970s, Wallace says, “John can still recall the difficult phone calls his father had the burden of making after the plane crash. He practically grew up on the Marshall campus and went on to attend the university and graduate proudly. For the last five years, John has made the entire HVAC Shop laugh. His wit is matched only by his intelligence and drive for a job well done. John is one of the finest employees.”

Apel was presented with a certificate and a check for \$100 by Chief of Staff and Senior Vice President for Operations Brandi Jacobs-Jones

Marshall to celebrate Food Day with the 100-Mile Meal Oct.23



Last year, over 300 universities across the U.S. organized events to celebrate Food Day and this year, Marshall University is joining the movement. Food Day, a nationwide celebration of healthy and affordable foods, advocates for better food policies on a local, state and federal level.

Christina Gayheart, president of Marshall’s Student Association of Nutrition and Dietetics, said the organization has partnered with Marshall’s Dining Services and Sustainability Department to host a “100-Mile Meal” Oct. 23 in Towers Marketplace from 4 to 7 p.m.

“Food for this dinner will be sourced within 100 miles of Marshall University, helping to support our area farmers and to create a more stable, sustainable economy,” Gayheart said. “This is an opportunity to educate the public about locally produced, healthy foods and push for a change in the American food system.”

The meal will be free for students who have a meal plan and cost \$10.49 for the rest of the Marshall community.

“This will be a meal prepared using local resources including chicken, dumplings and smoked ham from Kentucky Proud in Walton, Kentucky; mashed potatoes from Mrs. Dennis’s Farms in Wauseon, Ohio; mixed fall vegetables from Holthouse Farms in Willard, Ohio; brown-and-serve rolls from Heiner’s Bakery in Huntington; and ice cream topped with baked West Virginia-grown apple slices from Broughton’s Milk and Ice Cream,” Gayheart said.

Lauren Kemp, Local Food Business Programs Director at Unlimited Future Inc. and a sponsor for Marshall’s 100-Mile Meal, said she oversees the 30-Mile Meal Huntington program, which is a regional flavor and food development initiative working in the tri-state area. Kemp said the 100-Mile Meal will begin to show students the wealth of food that can be grown in this region.

“It is so great to see Marshall’s student leaders asking for local foods in the university dining halls,” Kemp said. “Student leadership from the Student Association of Nutrition and Dietetics shows that students are starting to care about where their food comes from and this could lead to great opportunities to connect the campus with our community.”

Marshall band faculty to present first performance together

The School of Music and Theatre will present the Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, in Smith Recital Hall.

The concert, which will include nearly 200 performers, will be the first to include both new band directors at Marshall as conductors.

Director of Bands Steven Trinkle, who will be conducting the Wind Symphony, said this matchup with the Symphonic Band, conducted by Director of Athletic Bands Dr. Adam Dalton, will bring a new musical approach to the city.

“This is a big change for this school,” Trinkle said. “The setup, the size—it’s just radically different from what’s happened here before.”

Dr. Richard Kravchack, director of the School of Music and Theatre, said he’s excited to present the first performance by the new band faculty members.

“Our program has been incredibly enriched by their artistry, pedagogical skill and commitment to student achievement,” Kravchak said.

Reminder: Flu vaccines available on the Huntington campus Thursday, Oct. 23

A reminder—the Cabell Huntington Health Department will be on the Huntington campus Thursday, October 23rd, from 12:30 – 2 p.m. in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center to give free flu vaccinations. The vaccine is available for everyone. If you would like to expedite the vaccination process, print and complete the form provided from the following link and bring it with you. If you have any questions, contact Student Health Education Programs at ext.6-4103.

Flu Vaccination Form: <http://www.cabellhealth.org/docs/Flu%20Form%202014%20-%202015%20Online%20Version.pdf>

Edmonds retirement reception is today, Oct. 22

A retirement reception for Dana Edmonds, Manager, Physical Plant, Housing & Residence Life, who is retiring after 26 years of service to Marshall, will take place today, Oct. 22, from 2:30 – 4 p.m. in the Ed Grose Room of the Harless Dining Hall. It's a "come and go" event and everyone is invited to stop by, thank him for his service to Marshall, and wish him well on his retirement.

Marshall nursing faculty to conduct research on student retention to meet demand for nurses; participants for study needed



A nursing faculty member is seeking persons who started, but did not complete, Bachelor of Nursing degrees in the last ten years to participate in a study. Participants will be compensated for their time.

Dr. Nancy Elkins of the College of Health Professions will begin her qualitative research soon with students who did not complete their four-year baccalaureate nursing programs in West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky and Virginia. Elkins said the results from this research study would help to improve retention rates at Marshall University and surrounding universities.

Volunteers who are interested in participating in the study can contact Elkins by e-mail at elkinsn@marshall.edu or by calling ext. 6-2617. Participants in the study will receive \$50 for a one-hour interview.

Elkins said research such as this is necessary when one considers the number of nurses who will be needed over the next several years.

“The nursing shortage is expected to grow and it is projected that the United States will need an additional 340,000 nurses by the year 2020, according to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing,” Elkins said.

Elkins said the registered nurse workforce is one of the top ten occupations in the United States with an expected job growth of 26%, which is an increase of 1.2 million nursing jobs through 2020, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“The results of this study may assist administrators of BSN programs with nursing student retention and program completion, which will help meet the challenge of the nation’s growing deficit of nurses,” Elkins said.

She will conduct her research alongside her co-investigator and fellow nursing colleague, Dr. Joy Cline. Cline said the results from this study could increase the number of nursing graduates and therefore improve health care throughout the U.S.

“Dr. Elkins has begun to implement strategies within our School of Nursing to help prepare students to successfully complete their BSNs through her proposed Introduction to Nursing course,” said Dr. Denise Landry, chair of the School of Nursing. “The School of Nursing is reviewing and revising the curriculum and it is a course that may exist in upcoming semesters.”

For more information on research initiatives in the School of Nursing, visit www.marshall.edu/cohp online.

Photo: Dr. Nancy Elkins is researching student retention in the School of Nursing.

Important information for same-sex couples

Marshall University employees are now eligible to cover same-sex spouses on their WV PEIA health insurance plan. This benefit change is the result of a recent decision by the U. S. Supreme Court declining to review a case concerning same-sex marriage, along with West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey's statement that his office will no longer defend a same-sex marriage ban in West Virginia.

Benefit-eligible employees who were previously married to their same-sex spouse in another state have through Dec. 31, 2014, to add their spouse to coverage. Newly married participants have the month in which the marriage transpires, plus the two following months, to add their spouse to coverage. Approved benefit changes will take effect the 1st of the month following the date the request was submitted. Employees wishing to cover their spouse effective Nov. 1, 2014, MUST submit their eligible change-in-status request no later than Oct. 31, 2014.

How to add a spouse to your insurance:

An employee may add a spouse to their health and life insurance in one of two ways—on-line or paper forms.

- To complete on-line, visit www.wvpeia.com. Click on the “Manage My Benefits” link at the top right to log into your account.
- To complete the paper form, print the [Change in Status Form](#) and return it to Lisa Henry in the Marshall University Human Resource Services office.

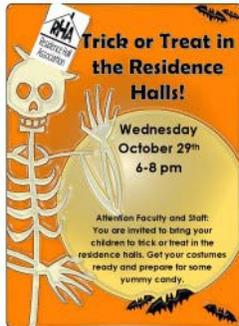
A copy of the legal marriage certificate must accompany the change-in-status.

Additional Benefits Enrollment:

You may also add your spouse to your Mountaineer Flexible Benefits by completing his or her [enrollment form](#) and submitting a copy of the legal marriage certificate.

Contact Lisa Henry at 304-696-6240 or henry29@marshall.edu for more information.

Trick-or-Treat in the residence halls is next Wednesday, Oct. 29



Ghosts and ghouls, along with princesses and pirates, will be invading the residence halls on Wednesday, Oct. 29, from 6-8 p.m., when the Department of Housing and Residence Life sponsors its annual Trick or Treat night at all residence halls. Faculty and staff are invited to bring children dressed as their favorite characters to canvass the halls for tasty treats.

Reminder: Marshall alumnus to return as visiting scholar Oct. 28



Dr. Todd Snyder, who received both B.A. and M.A. degrees in English from Marshall, will return to the Huntington campus Tuesday, Oct. 28 as a visiting scholar. He will speak from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room in the Memorial Student Center.

Snyder, now an assistant professor of English at Siena College in Loudonville, New York, is returning to Marshall to celebrate the publication of his first book, *The Rhetoric of Appalachian Identity*, which, according to the promotional material from the publisher, “blends critical theory, ethnographic research, and personal narrative to demonstrate how family work histories and community expectations both shape and limit the academic goals of potential Appalachian college students.”

“Todd’s thinking about these issues of identity, social class and language first began during his studies at Marshall,” said Dr. Kelli Prejean, associate professor of English at Marshall, “and he is thrilled to return to Huntington to discuss his research and teaching.”

In addition to the event at the Memorial Student Center, Snyder will be appearing at Empire Books and News in Huntington from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26, to sign copies of the book.

More information on the author may be viewed online at www.hillbillyspeaks.com/. The events of Oct. 26 and 28 also are on Facebook: book signing at Empire Books (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1478500725733328/>) and Oct. 28 speaking event (<https://www.facebook.com/events/635142343273345/>).

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed Oct. 29, 2014. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 27.