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We Are...Marshall, February 19, 2014

Office of Marshall University Communications

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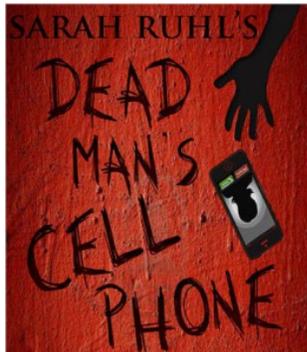
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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

February 19, 2014

'Dead Man's Cell Phone' debuts tonight at Experimental Theatre



Marshall University's School of Music and Theatre will present "Dead Man's Cell Phone," a play by Sarah Ruhl, at 7:30 p.m. nightly Wednesdays through Saturdays, Feb. 19-22 and Feb. 27-March 1 in Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre on the Huntington campus.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for Marshall faculty and staff. Marshall students are admitted with a valid ID.

[Click to view event flyer.](#)

Grand opening of Marshall food pantry is today in student center



Marshall's new food pantry will be unveiled with a grand opening at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19. The event will take place in room BW 14, on the lower level of the Memorial Student Center.

The pantry is open to all students. It mainly consists of non-perishable items, such as canned goods. The pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday, beginning Friday, Feb. 21.

Much of the food was donated by campus organizations that conducted food drives. The Alumni Association is currently having a food drive that will run through Feb. 28. It is accepting canned goods and non-perishable items, and donations can be made during regular business hours at the Erickson Alumni Center, in the MU Foundation Hall.

"The MU food pantry is designed to serve the needs of members of our Marshall family that find themselves in a situation of need," said Matt Hayes, executive director of alumni relations. "It's

just another way we can provide for the needs of the Marshall community and show the surrounding community how much we care about each other.”

The Office of Community Engagement is opening the food pantry and conducting the grand opening, which will include a brief presentation with a ribbon cutting, followed by an open house with light refreshments.

Elizabeth Sheets, coordinator of the Office of Community Engagement, said the idea of putting a food pantry at Marshall first surfaced about two years ago.

“Steve Hensley (dean of student affairs) and Ray Harrell (former student body president) started talking about it and I got involved and the three of us decided we’d start one,” Sheets said. “We had to wait for our space, which we got once the faculty senate left.”

Next came requests for food and money. The athletic department had a food drive in the fall, and eventually donated 10 barrels of food. Sodexo collected money for the drive and the Honors College raised money as well. All donations are tax deductible, Sheets said.

“Our pantry is filling up, but we have a long way to go,” she said. “We are probably about 70 percent full. We have no budget. We will absolutely be totally dependent on donations. We have enough food to open, but a lot of our shelves are still empty.”

The College of Business plans to have a food drive next month. “I hope that each month of the year someone will have a food drive for us,” Sheets said.

Monetary donations are welcome, she said. Checks can be made payable to the Marshall University Foundation Inc., with “Marshall food pantry” on the memo line.

Sheets said she doesn’t know how much the pantry is needed or will be used by students.

“We do know it’s become a trend among college campuses and we know how hard it can be for some students to make ends meet,” she said. “We just want to have the food here in case someone *does* need it.”

Ceramics Open Studio is this Saturday; bowls will be made to help the hungry



Marshall's ceramics studio will open its doors to faculty, staff and students from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, so they can help make bowls for the annual Empty Bowls event to support the Huntington Area Food Bank.

"We will have food on hand for lunch, so bring a friend and come on down to throw bowls for Empty Bowls," said Frederick Bartolovic, assistant professor of art and ceramics area coordinator. No experience is necessary; bowls also can be hand-built instead of thrown on a wheel, he said.

The ceramics studio is located in the art warehouse at 201 21st

Street in Huntington.

Bowls produced during the event will be donated to the Empty Bowls event, which will take place April 11 this year.

[Click to view event flyer.](#)

Marshall Dining Services conducting customer survey through March 5

Marshall Dining Services is conducting one of its regular customer surveys now and until Wednesday, March 5. Customers are asked to visit this site and take a few minutes to fill out the survey:

<http://vcil.cc/gtjompw>

Dr. Stephen M. Petrany tapped to lead department of family and community health



Stephen M. Petrany, M.D., has been appointed chairman of the department of family and community health at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, according to Dean Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D. He succeeds John Walden, M.D., who served as chairman for five years and now transitions to a new role with the school.

“Steve Petrany is a perfect fit to lead the department of family medicine,” Shapiro said. “He is an excellent clinician, dedicated teacher and astute business leader. I couldn’t be more pleased that he has accepted the position. He understands the mission of our medical school and I expect the department to grow and flourish under his leadership.”

A professor in the department and full-time faculty member since 1989, Petrany was selected for the position after serving as interim chair for several months.

“I am very excited by the opportunity to continue the important work of the department of family and community health in my new role,” Petrany said. “Under my predecessors, Marshall Family Medicine has earned a well-deserved national reputation for excellence in education and clinical service. With the help of our outstanding faculty and staff, and with the ongoing support of Dean Shapiro, I am confident the department will continue to build upon its special mission to the people of our region and the state.”

Petrany graduated from Georgetown University School of Medicine and completed a family medicine residency with the Medical College of Virginia. He has been recognized with nearly a dozen teaching awards including receiving the inaugural Dean’s Award for Excellence in Medical Education in 2013. Heavily involved with Ebenezer Medical Outreach, Petrany currently serves as its medical director and on its board of directors. He is also the co-director and co-developer of the Paul Wesley Ambrose Health Policy Residency Track, the nation’s first health policy track within a family medicine residency program.

Walden will continue teaching at the school of medicine and assist the dean’s office with special projects. Walden was appointed chairman in 2008 and has worked for decades in the fields of rural medicine and international health.

Birke Fine Arts Festival continues next week with guest artist Dan Senn, Festival of New Music



Dan Senn, an internationally recognized artist-composer who creates sound art, music, video, and kinetic sound sculpture, will take part in several events as the visiting artist in the Birke Fine Arts Festival.

Senn will present an exhibition of sound and video installations titled “Not Random, Just Complex” at Gallery 842, 842 4th Ave. in Huntington, beginning Tuesday, Feb. 25, and continuing through Saturday, March 1. The exhibit features an installation of sculptural musical instruments called “Cycling China” and a multimedia exhibit, “A Chattering Field.” An opening reception for the exhibition will take from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25. Admission to the gallery is free and gallery hours are from noon to 7 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

Senn’s work also will be represented at the 5th annual Festival of New Music on the Huntington campus. Festival programs, which will take place beginning Wednesday, Feb. 26, will include premieres of new works by Marshall students, current and former faculty, and others from the U.S. and abroad, said Dr. Mark Zanter, professor of music at Marshall. “The program for this year’s festival is quite varied and features the works of 20+ composers,” Zanter said. “In addition to Dan’s Gallery 842 exhibit, the Marshall University Chamber Choir will present selections from His ‘Mass for Heavy Rail’ during our Soundwalk event on Feb. 28.” Performers in the festival include visiting artists Lindsey Goodman and Pamela Murchison of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Trifecta!, Triptych, Marshall faculty and students, and the Marshall Contemporary Music Ensemble. The festival will include five concerts, guest artist lectures and the Soundwalk event. All events are free and open to the public. Evening concerts will begin at 8 p.m. each day from Wednesday, Feb. 26, through Saturday, March 1. Locations and further information can be found on the Marshall University College of Arts and Media website at www.marshall.edu/cam and on the Birke Fine Arts Festival Facebook page, or by calling the School of Music and Theatre Office at 304-696-3117. Goodman will give a solo recital titled “Made in the U.S.A.” at noon Friday, Feb. 28, at the First Presbyterian Church, 1015 5th Avenue in Huntington. Goodman, who is the principal flutist in the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, will present new works she has commissioned from U.S. composers and regional premieres of works by Roger Dannenburg, Rob Deemer, Jeffrey Nytech, Judith Shatin, and WVSO Music Director Grant Cooper.

Support for the Festival of New Music was provided by Marshall University School of Music and Theatre, the College of Arts and Media, MUsic Alive and the Birke Fine Arts Symposium Endowment.

[Click to view poster for Festival of New Music.](#)

South Charleston campus to hear Amerikaner Feb. 27



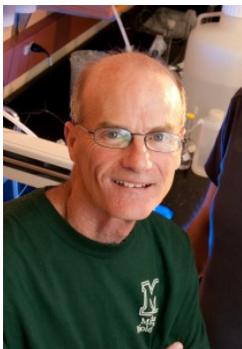
Dr. Marty Amerikaner, faculty representative on the Marshall University Board of Governors, will be the featured speaker for the next brown bag luncheon on the South Charleston campus, which will take place at noon Thursday, Feb. 27, in room 319 of the administration building.

Lunch will be provided by the College of Education and Professional Development, which sponsors the luncheon series.

A faculty member in the psychology department since 1988, which he served as chair from 1991-2007, Amerikaner will speak about how the Board of Governors has evolved over his two-and-a-half years of service on the board.

For more information, contact Dr. Luke Eric Lassiter at lassiter@marshall.edu.

Plant ecologist publishes third book



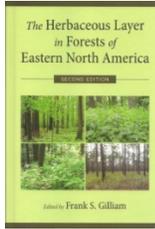
Biology professor Dr. Frank S. Gilliam has published his third book, “The Herbaceous Layer in Forests of Eastern North America, Second Edition.” Oxford University Press released the volume this week.

A recognized expert in plant ecology, Gilliam studies the movement and cycling of plant nutrients within land-based, or terrestrial, ecosystems.

He describes the herbaceous layer as the lowest layer of plants in the forest.

“This layer is generally less than one meter in height and includes a mixture of herbaceous species such as lilies and grasses, along with seedlings of shrubs and trees,” he said. “Despite a growing awareness that the herbaceous layer serves a special role in maintaining the structure and function of forests, this stratum remains an underappreciated aspect of forest ecosystems. In fact, studies show the herb layer has a significance that belies its diminutive stature.”

The first edition of the book, co-edited by Gilliam and Mark R. Roberts, was published in 2003. That edition was praised for containing the most extensive listing of herb-layer literature in existence.



Gilliam said this second edition brings the material up to date with current research, data and concepts. Also featured are eight entirely new chapters, with six of these focused on the response of the herbaceous layer to a wide variety of natural and human-caused disturbances.

He added that the book brings together research of top ecologists from a number of institutions, including Duke University, Harvard University, Wake Forest University, University of North Carolina, University of Georgia, University of Pittsburgh and Smith College, and that it should be a valuable resource not only for plant ecologists but also for forest ecologists, conservationists and forest managers.

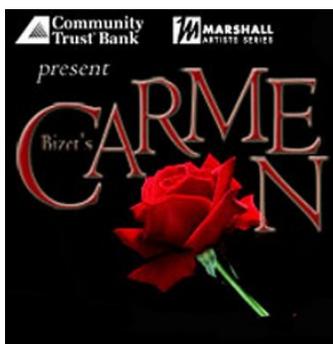
“Over the last decade, the field of plant ecology has rapidly and substantially developed and expanded, especially in research concerning the herbaceous layer and ground vegetation of forests,” he said. “This second edition of the book summarizes and synthesizes that growth, presenting research that approaches the ecology of the herb layer of forests from a variety of disciplines, perspectives and levels of ecological organization.”

In addition to his role as editor for the entire volume, Gilliam is the author or co-author of six of the book’s 22 chapters.

He said the cover of the book depicts the herbaceous layer in four forests of eastern North America and includes one photo of the Nature Trail woods behind the Huntington Museum of Art.

Gilliam has been on the Marshall faculty since 1990 and teaches courses in introductory biology, ecology and plant ecology. In addition to the first two editions of this book, Gilliam is co-author of a textbook, “Terrestrial Plant Ecology, Third Edition,” which he uses in his plant ecology course at Marshall. He also has published nearly 30 book chapters and nearly 60 articles in the peer-reviewed ecological literature.

Reminder: ‘Carmen’ comes to the Keith-Albee Feb. 20



The operatic tour-de-force, Bizet’s *Carmen*, will be on stage at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20. A pre-show opera chat featuring music professor Dr. Larry Stickler and Teatro Lirico D’Europa’s Artistic Director, Giorgio Lalov will begin at 6 p.m.

The opera, performed with a full orchestra, unfolds the story of *Carmen*, the heroine of Bizet’s opera, who is a gypsy woman and an unpredictable *femme fatale* who draws two disparate men, Escamillo and Don José, to her flame.

Bizet's *Carmen* is sponsored by Community Trust Bank, KEE 100, WVHU, WSAZ, The Herald-Dispatch, Marshall University and the Marshall Artists Series. For additional information or for tickets, contact the Artists Series box office at ext. 6-6656, or visit their box office located in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse. Box office hours are Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m.

SURE program for STEM undergraduates accepting applications

Marshall University is accepting applications for the 2014 Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Fellowship. This program has been conducted at Marshall since 2005, and is funded through the West Virginia Research Challenge Fund, administered by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Division of Science and Research.

The SURE program is designed specifically to enable West Virginia undergraduate students with a history of research to work at Marshall. Each student will receive a stipend of \$4,000, plus support for travel.

SURE supports undergraduate researchers over a 10-week period; this year's program runs from May 19 through Aug. 1. The SURE program is now accepting applications through 5 pm. Feb. 21. Application forms are available at the SURE website: www.marshall.edu/SURE.

"Anyone who is an undergraduate in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields at Marshall University is eligible to perform research at Marshall through the SURE program," said Dr. Michael Norton, professor of chemistry and director of the SURE program at MU. Last summer, several Marshall students received grants for research in the STEM fields.

For more information, contact Norton at ext.6-6627 or by e-mail at Norton@Marshall.edu. Joshua Botkin (SURE administrative assistant) may also be contacted via e-mail at Botkin@marshall.edu. More detailed summaries of past SURE students' projects are available on the SURE website.

Marshall to host Appalachian Studies conference next month



Marshall is hosting the Appalachian Studies Association annual conference on the Huntington campus March 28 through 30.

One of the program organizers, Dr. Linda Spatig of the College of Education and Professional Development, said approximately 800-1000 people are expected to attend. Anyone can register and attend.

“We have a terrific program lined up and lots of scholarships available for people who need them, including students,” Spatig said. In addition, Marshall students who are not presenters (those

who ARE presenters can get scholarships) can attend any conference event free of charge just by using their Marshall IDs.

For further information, visit the conference website at www.appalachianstudies.org/annualconference.

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed Feb. 26, 2014. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24.