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Coal magnate, businessman Jim Justice sworn in as W.Va. governor

Jim Justice took the oath of office Monday, becoming the 36th governor of West Virginia. See page 2 for the full story about the inauguration and to learn more about Justice.

MARSHALL COMMUNITY HONORS MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

A march and a chamber choir performance took place Monday in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. For coverage of events honoring King and his legacy, see page 6 or visit marshallparthenon.com.

“I have a dream today!” - MLK Jr.

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” - MLK Jr.

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” - MLK Jr.

“I look to a day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the contents of their character.” - MLK Jr.
Justice inaugurated as 36th governor of West Virginia

By JARED CASTO

Jim Justice took the oath of office Monday at the West Virginia State Capitol, becoming the 35th governor of West Virginia and ending a 15-month race that brought the state to the brink of political upheaval.

Promising a speech that would "be a little bit differ- ent," The Governor invited resort owner and business man to his audience with down home sincerity, voicing the typi- cal limitations of politics within the state. Throughout his inaugural speech, Justice touched upon the Mountain State's many problems, such as the shrinking work force, declining education and raging drug epidemic.

Teachers, Justice said, are underpaid in the state, making it difficult to fill classrooms with qualified educators. The problem with the education system, Justice sug- gested, is that there are too many bureaucrats in the school system. Though Justice was not explicit on his goals for education, the new governor said that he has an education reform package plans to submit following his inauguration, which will eliminate "ex- cess, unnecessary agencies" and the "fragmented, forest way.

In addition, Justice shared his hope that the state will welcome more competitive fields of work, so that young people who wish to stay in West Virginia won't have to move elsewhere because of a lack of opportunities. "We need to provide a place for our young people who want to stay to have the opportunity to stay," Justice stressed.

Justice stressed the need for jobs and revenue in the state, with natural resources, crops and tour- ism as the forefront of his plan to revitalize the state financially as well as with personal safety. "I've had pepper spray attached to my keys for the last two years," said Julie Riker, sophomore ed- ucation major. "I think it's your right to arm yourself because the police can't do everything and be everywhere.

Personal safety devices are growing in popularity, es- pecially on college campuses. The market comprises a variety of companies, offering everything from clapping pepper spray, safety detectors, and alarm systems.

SafeTrek is one personal safety device that allows users to place their thumb on a button and "hold until safe. When released, the app will contact the police with the lo- cation unless a 'safe' digit is entered.

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MEN’S BASKETBALL
Cam Henderson Center is home, sweet home for Marshall
By JOSIE ABBOTT

Home court advantage is perhaps the biggest edge in a sportswriter’s arsenal. The Marshall Thundering Herd men’s basketball team is living up to that reputation.

“You could hear the chant ‘Bring on the herd, bring on the herd’ even before the heat of a 1-point victory over Old Dominion. It’s a war chant to Datome at his initial press conference in 2014. That chant is now a 10-point victory. That game brought in the biggest crowd yet,” senior forward Joe Ashley said.

While there is no doubt that the Thundering Herd have a big home court advantage, one of the most remarkable improvements has been some home attendance increase prior to his arrival. Average home attendance was 4,713. In the two full years Datome has been at the helm, average attendance is above 5,000 per game. According to Datome, this is the biggest improvement the team has seen so far.

“I think a lot of that is because the coaches really worked on that,” Ashley said. “They really wanted the fans in the building and we try to do our best to make sure that the fans are ready by game time.”

The idea of the home court advantage isn’t anything new, but it is something Datome wants to see even more this year.

“I think there needs to be more of a home court advantage because we have to have more fans out in the arena. It’s a big part of the game that we’ve been lacking,” Ashley said.

Another big reason that Ashely refers to is the lack of fans in the stadium. It’s the first year in 21 seasons that the Herd have played in front of an empty stadium.

“I think it’s a huge moment for us. We really need our fans to show up and support us,” Ashley said.

The team has always been known for their support of their team, but this season is just a little different.

“The games are going to be so much more competitive, especially with the way we’ve been playing,” Ashley said.

Marshall has several games throughout the month of December that will be very important for their season. It’s a chance for the team to prove their worth and show the country how good they really are.

“This season is going to be big for us,” Ashley said. “It’s a chance for us to prove what we’re capable of.”

The Thundering Herd will face Texas Tech on Sunday, so the fans need to show up and support their team.

“We’re building for the Texas Tech game. We need to get ready for that game,” Ashley said. “It’s going to be a big game for us.”

Marshall has a big opportunity to make a statement this season, and the team is ready to prove what they’re capable of.

“Everyone is going to be watching us,” Ashley said. “We’re ready to show the country what we’re capable of.”

The team is working hard to prepare for the upcoming games, and fans can’t wait to see what they come up with.

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Learning from the past for the uncertain future

By KARIMA ROGERMOUCHE

Social Media Manager

This past MLK Day, few of us took the time to read over his words — the words he wrote in a letter to Dr. Martin Luther Jr. that he penned 50 years ago. His words are still as relevant today as they were then.

But why would we? We’ve heard them before. We’ve heard about the Civil Rights Movement, our country’s struggle to freely and peacefully assemble, and the right to pursue the American dream. But we’ve probably never really thought about the things he wrote in his letter.

Today, I want to take a moment and ask you: What if we took the time to read over Dr. King’s words nowadays? How would it make a difference? Would you be more apt to stand up for your rights? Would you be more likely to stand up for your beliefs?

I think that’s why this past MLK Day, I decided to read over his words. I decided to take a moment to think about the things he wrote and the things he taught. I decided to think about the things he wanted us to do.

And I came to a conclusion: We need to take the time to read over his words. We need to take the time to think about the things he taught us.

Because, you see, Dr. King wasn’t just a man. He was a prophet. He was a man who saw the world for what it was, and he wanted us to see it for what it was.

He wanted us to see that the world was not perfect. He wanted us to see that there were people who were suffering and that there were people who were being mistreated. He wanted us to see that there was a struggle between good and evil.

And he wanted us to see that we had a responsibility to stand up for what was right.

So, let’s take the time to read over Dr. King’s words today. Let’s take the time to think about what he taught us.

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Students weigh textbook purchasing options

By LILLIE BODIE
THE PARTHENON

Chegg may be more affordable than the bookstore for some students and pays shipping as well. Also, when students use the rental service, Chegg sends extra gifts such as detergent pods, Red Bull and Netflix access. But the textbook-rental previded as the bookstores can be a factor in why students may choose Chegg over the bookstore. The bookstore also holds apparel, technology and test prep for the ACT and SAT.

Lillie Bodie can be contacted at sbodie@marshall.edu.

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Man on mission to return Huntington native’s Purple Heart

By LAKE PRESTON
THE HEADS-BURGHIAN VIA THE APC

A Mission has turned a man’s pursuit in the search for the Purple Heart in the relative of a local Purple Heart recipient.

After sharing his story in The Huntington News, 70-year-old Crigger, 74, of St. Joseph, Minn., said he received over 14 phone calls from local residents as well as representatives of a national organization that helps people connect missing medals or any other military items to their owners.

In these calls, Crigger, said a previous lead that could have established a connection with the relative of the late astronaut, Nanna Taff, Crigger, 74, of St. Joseph, Minn., said he received over 14 phone calls from local residents as well as representatives of a national organization that helps people connect missing medals or any other military items to their owners.

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MLK Jr. Observance Day brings community members together

By CHRISTIAN DAVIS
THE PARTHENON
Marshall University’s Intercultural Affairs Office, the NAACP Huntington-Cabell Branch and the surrounding Huntington community gathered at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse for the annual MLK Jr. Observance Day program Monday.

Students, family and friends marched from 16 Street Baptist Church to Marshall’s campus carrying signs symbolizing hope and freedom.

Maurice Cooley, associate vice president of Marshall’s Intercultural Affairs Office, opened up the program with a welcome to the congregation.

Renay Preckleton, sophomore at Marshall University studying sports management and accounting, said she feels great knowing that so many adults in this community care enough about the young African American to put together this program.

“Today is the day we commemorate a great African American man in history,” Preckleton said. “I love how the Huntington community really stands behind their young men and women before them. There was a hip-hop dance performed by Jehovah’s Warriors of Full Gospel Assembly as well as the American Dream Movement, with the closing finale all done with the help from the older members of the community. It was beautiful to watch everyone become so involved to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.”

The program included many notable figures in the community, such as Sylvia Ridgeway, president of the Huntington-Cabell Branch of the NAACP, who shared a greeting and regards to those attending.

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To learn more about Dr. King’s personal philosophies and how to enact non-violent social change, visit thekingcenter.org.