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We Are ... Marshall: the Newsletter for Marshall University 1999-Current

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7-21-2021

### We Are...Marshall, July 21, 2021

Office of Marshall University Communications

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# WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

July 21, 2021

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## From the Board of Governors chair: Week One Listening Sessions Update

JULY 21, 2021



On behalf of the Marshall University Board of Governors and the Presidential Search Committee, I want to thank those who attended one of our listening sessions last week. Finding and hiring our next president is a critically important task, and your participation in the process was extremely helpful.

We asked for your thoughts about Marshall's priorities and the qualities we should look for when selecting our next president and you delivered. Over the course of two days and ten meetings, you and approximately 180 other people helped craft the narrative we'll use when creating the presidential profile, provided our search consultants with a crash course in who we are as a university community, and added to the search committee's perspective regarding what our community expects from our next leader.

Please continue to engage with us throughout this process. Our Presidential Search website has ways for you to nominate a candidate and provide feedback. It will also be regularly updated with the latest news about the search including the details of the finalists' on-campus interviews that we expect will occur in October.

Thank you again for volunteering your time to be part of the process. It is people like you that put the "we" in "We are Marshall."

Go Herd,

Patrick Farrell  
Chairman  
Marshall Board of Governors

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# Minority Health Institute awards grants to community-based organizations

JULY 21, 2021

The Marshall University Minority Health Institute, located in the Marshall Department of Public Health, has awarded mini-grants to several community-based organizations throughout the region. The hope is to help organizations who are working to promote health equity and that predominantly serve racial or ethnic minorities in West Virginia.

The goal of the mini-grant program is to fund projects that reduce the burden of health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities throughout the state. Those programs meet the goal through health promotion, while addressing the social determinants of health. The Marshall University Minority Health Institute awarded 12 organizations as much as \$5,000 including:

- Ebenezer Medical Outreach  
*Empowering Outreach Program*
- Economic Development Greater East (EDGE)  
*A Community Grocery in Every Community: Food Desert Solutions in McDowell County*
- Reset incorporated  
*STIs – Knowledge is Key*
- Dunbar School Foundation  
*(S.T.O.P.) Program*
- Connection to the Connection Inc.  
*Reduce health disparities for minorities and vulnerable populations in West Virginia*
- Sheba International, Inc.  
*Building Capacity of Minority-Owned Community-Based Organizations to Address the Social Determinants of Health and Health Disparities*
- South Central Educational Development, Inc. (SCED)  
*Project CORDS – Community Outreach to Reduce Health Disparities and Stigma – Diversity, Vision and Capacity Grant Writing Workshop*
- Positive People Association, Inc.  
*Rise and Shine Program*
- African American Community Association of Jefferson County  
*We Are Going to be Alright Program*
- The Healing House, Inc.  
*Minority Impact Initiative*
- Aspire Achievement Project  
*Road to 30*
- A More Excellent Way of Life Center Church  
*Healthy Communities*

The Minority Health Institute received over 25 applications for the grant program from different organizations and agencies around the state. Funding was provided by the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors and the Sisters of St. Joseph Health and Wellness Foundation. The West Virginia State Office of Rural Health matched the funds.

For more information, contact LaDawna Walker at [walker70@marshall.edu](mailto:walker70@marshall.edu).

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## In Memoriam: Jeri Clagg

JULY 21, 2021



Longtime Marshall employee Geraldine M. (Jeri) Clagg passed away Monday, July 19. She was an academic advisor for the R.B.A. program and was married to legendary Marshall geography professor Sam Clagg. Visitation and services are scheduled for Friday, July 23.

A full obituary may be read online at <https://www.ehallfuneralhome.com/obituary/geraldine-clagg>.

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# West Virginia reaches full participation in Imagination Library program

JULY 21, 2021



West Virginia is the latest state to boast full participation in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, the West Virginia Department of Education announced last week at the monthly Board of Education meeting. All 55 counties are now fully active to serve the state's youngest learners. Established in 1995, this international program provides books to children, ages birth to five, throughout the country with a book each month to encourage reading from an early age. In West Virginia, more than 3 million books have been delivered to children since 2007.

With this benchmark of full-county participation, West Virginia joins only 11 states and the District of Columbia to earn this distinction.

The state's Imagination Library program, conducted in partnership with the June Harless Center at Marshall, is a cornerstone of the state's early literacy efforts. By receiving high-quality books starting at birth, all children have access to developmentally appropriate reading materials at no cost to the family and regardless of the family's income. Built on decades of research, Imagination Library is rooted in the belief that having books at home helps children develop literacy skills early in life.

"The Imagination Library is special to us. We love books as a family, but we love getting books in the mail each month," said Kati Holland, a parent whose child receives Imagination Library books. "I love that the books are age-appropriate and each month the book is a surprise for us."

To hear a special message from Dolly Parton about West Virginia's participation, visit <https://youtu.be/51y2clqQ008>.

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# Sunrise Yoga Series

Join us for this FREE 3 session series as we reap the benefits of Yoga and of nature led by the certified instructors of The Rec!

\*no pre-registration required.

@Ritter Park by shelter #2

- 7/17, 7/24, 7/31 @6:30 - 7:30 AM
- FREE to all; bring your own yoga mat.
- Check website for event information/ schedule changes due to inclement weather.



[www.marshall.edu/campusrec](http://www.marshall.edu/campusrec)

402 Thundering Herd Drive, Huntington, WV 25755

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## Project AWARE collaboration to host training in Harrison County

JULY 21, 2021

The Marshall University Center of Excellence for Recovery, along with many partners through West Virginia, is set to host the next in a set of behavioral health trainings in the state, this one in Harrison County.

The collaboration brings the Center of Excellence for Recovery together with the West Virginia Department of Education, the West Virginia Bureau of Behavioral Health, the West Virginia Behavior/Mental Health Technical Assistance Center and the West Virginia Recovery/Life Coach Academy. They're providing training to educators throughout the state on how to support the behavioral health needs they may encounter. Funding for the training program is provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education) Grant.

This collaborative partnership will be working with local education agencies in Harrison, Clay and Cabell counties to provide guidance and technical assistance in providing a multi-tiered system of support for students and communities of the designated schools. These supports include establishing school-based mental health services with a designated licensed provider for each participating school, training in specific tools and evidence-based practices such as Expanded School Mental Health (ESMH), Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and establishing relationships and workforce development.

The goals of these supports are to improve student success and mental health, positively affect school culture and strengthen sustainability of community connections and resources. Harrison County is launching their efforts by hosting a professional development conference for leadership teams from their participating AWARE schools.

Participants will meet July 28-30 to learn about the growing need for social emotional education and making connections with students. Educators and mental health professionals will work together to review curriculum, interventions and prevention strategies to create customized Project AWARE plans for their schools.

“I am very excited about the work being done in the AWARE counties,” said Amy Knicely, SEA Project AWARE coordinator. “All of the participants are eager to become more informed and empowered to support the well-being of the students and their communities. The funds provided by the AWARE grant from SAMHSA will help them to do that, but the hard work and dedication of the staff is what will make the biggest impact.”

For more information contact Knicely at [knicely7@marshall.edu](mailto:knicely7@marshall.edu).

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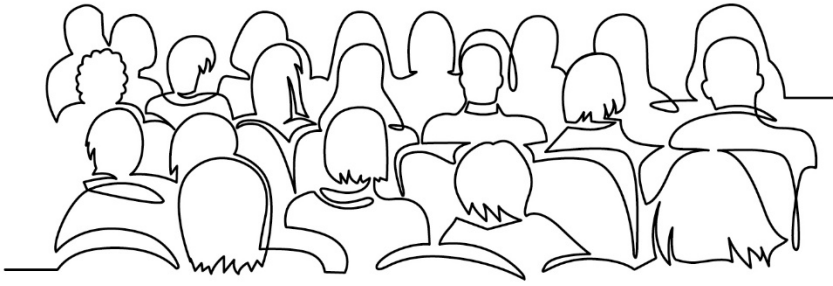
*\*Must refer to Erin Bateman, PA-C.  
Available for a limited time.  
Call 304-691-8910 for an appointment.*



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# TRACE

TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



*Tuesday*

**August 17, 2021  
8:15am - 4:00pm  
Weisberg Applied  
Engineering Building**

**Tuesday is a day of  
presentations and  
workshops devoted to  
teaching, research, and  
community engagement.**

*For schedule information and registration, visit  
[www.marshall.edu/trace-teaching-research-and-community-engagement-tuesday](http://www.marshall.edu/trace-teaching-research-and-community-engagement-tuesday).*

**Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning  
All Marshall University faculty are invited to attend.**



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# Navy awards two research awards to MURC

JULY 21, 2021

The Marshall University Research Corporation was recently named the awardee on two grants from the U.S. Navy. The first is a \$104,992 federal contract for a Herpetofaunal and Small Mammal Survey. The second is a \$89,817 contract for a vegetation survey and assessment of vegetation vulnerability to sea-level rise.

## **Herpetofaunal and Small Mammal Survey**

The award totaling more than \$100,000 will continue research started in 2008, in which Marshall University researchers have monitored the eastern diamondback (EDB) rattlesnake population near the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Paris Island, South Carolina.

The 13 years of research have provided data on EDB population dynamics that is needed to balance the species conservation with public perception and acceptance of the venomous species. The research was initiated in 2008 as a way to use a top predator to examine coastal effects of climate change, including sea-level rise and increased tropical storm frequency and severity.

The research was recently expanded to include small mammal monitoring as a measure of ecological integrity. The overall objectives of the research are to, 1) assess changes to the herpetofaunal community resulting from tropical storm damage and habitat modifications; 2) quantify small mammal occupancy and abundance; and 3) examine the effects of mammal occupancy on eastern diamondback rattlesnake abundance, distribution and habitat use. This research project will provide insight into acute and cumulative effects of tropical storms on sea island communities, assisting the U.S. Marine Corps with meeting their conservation goals.

Dr. Shane Welch, assistant professor of biological sciences at Marshall, is the principal investigator on the small mammal/herpetofaunal monitoring project research.

“Because small mammals are an important link between primary production and higher trophic levels, this research will benefit coastal conservation throughout the east,” Welch said.

## **Vegetation Survey and Assessment of Vegetation Vulnerability to Sea-Level Rise**

Anticipated to take two years to complete, the more-than-\$89,000 grant will go toward collecting baseline vegetation data throughout the habitats on the Marine Corps Depot for future assessment of climate change, including sea-level rise and storms. With recent hurricanes and tropical storms events in the region, sea-level rise and hurricane-related timber management activities have changed, causing small mammal populations to decrease.

Permanent plots will be selected randomly to represent existing vegetation types on the Parris Island Marine Corps Depot to identify those that are most vulnerable to storm surge and sea-level rise. A portion of the plots will coincide with the ongoing herpetofaunal and small mammal studies. An additional goal of the project is to use remotely sensed data to assess how sea-level rise and increases in storm surge have influenced the vegetation over the last 40 years.

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# FAWN

## FACULTY ACADEMIC WRITING NETWORK

Faculty-guided writing group designed to provide the opportunity for focused, structured, supervised writing and collaboration time with like-minded peers. FAWN allows participants to make progress towards the completion of articles, book chapters, and grant applications.

For more information and to register, visit [www.marshall.edu/ctl/academic-writing-network](http://www.marshall.edu/ctl/academic-writing-network)  
Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning



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# Help Future Students

## LEARN MORE ABOUT MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

The Office of Admissions is now accepting applications for Fall 2021 Student Callers.

Positions are paid and require evening availability Monday - Thursday.



SCAN QR CODE TO APPLY or visit, [marshall.edu/recruitment/become-a-student-caller](http://marshall.edu/recruitment/become-a-student-caller)



For more information contact [hoard1@marshall.edu](mailto:hoard1@marshall.edu)  
[www.marshall.edu](http://www.marshall.edu)



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# Campus bone marrow drive saves lives

JULY 21, 2021

A bone marrow drive on Marshall University's Huntington campus made all the difference in the life of a young girl and changed the life of a Marshall University student.

Cody Fuller was an exercise science student at the time, on a casual stroll through the Memorial Student Center in the Spring of 2019, when he saw friends at the DKMS Bone Marrow Donor Drive table and decided to participate.

Deutsche Knochen Mark Spenderdatei, or DKMS, is an international, nonprofit bone marrow donor center based in Germany.

Little did Fuller know that he would be a match for a one-year-old girl named Ella Siders. She had acute myeloid leukemia and Fuller was a bone marrow match. Fuller underwent a procedure on Feb. 17, 2020, just 3 days before his 21st birthday, to provide the bone marrow. And a day later, on February 18, Siders received his donation and her life was saved.

Fuller said to be able to help this young girl and this family meant the world to him.

"The donation experience has been the most special thing I have ever been a part of," Fuller said. "The feeling to help Ella was unlike no other. I was so glad to help a little girl in her fight against cancer."

Commenting in a video done by DKMS, Christina Siders, Ella Sider's mom, says Cody has meant the world to their family.

"This process has been hard and it's nice to have a reason for celebration," Siders said. "Cody has always been positive and a symbol of optimism and cure."

The bone marrow drive at Marshall was organized by nursing graduate Adam Guthrie, who now works as a registered nurse for the Charleston Area Medical Center and Cabell Huntington Hospital. He's currently working on his master's in nursing to work as a family nurse practitioner. Guthrie has coordinated approximately 20 drives at Marshall registering over 1,500 students, including the drive where Fuller donated.

"I am very surprised at how many students have matched because you have a less than 1% chance of matching," Guthrie said. "I truly never thought our involvement with DKMS would be where it is today."

Guthrie says a donation has less than a 1% chance of matching and yet there have been seven matches at Marshall. Fuller plans to start this fall at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.

For more on Cody and Ella's story visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ngv87W3VRUo>.

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## Coronavirus Statistics:

New Cases Since July 7, 2021

Students: 2

Faculty: 0

Staff\*: 0

*\* Includes auxiliary employees (Sodexo, Aetna, Rec Center, etc.)*

All testing is being done in partnership with Marshall Health, Cabell Huntington Hospital, Pleasant Valley Hospital, Q Labs Inc. and MedExpress Urgent Care.

The most recent information is always available at [www.marshall.edu/coronavirus/dashboard](http://www.marshall.edu/coronavirus/dashboard).



**Stay  
Informed...**

For COVID-19 and  
Marshall University updates, visit:  
[www.marshall.edu/coronavirus](http://www.marshall.edu/coronavirus)

For additional information, visit:  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)



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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed July 28, 2021. Please send items for consideration to [WAMnewsletter@marshall.edu](mailto:WAMnewsletter@marshall.edu) by 5 p.m. Monday, July 26, 2021.

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To read the content of this newsletter online, please click on the following link:  
[www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/July-21-2021](http://www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/July-21-2021).