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Hundreds of new students flock to Marshall for first week of orientation

By FRANKLIN NORTON
MANAGING EDITOR

For incoming students at Marshall University, new student orientation is an important step in the college process. It is here where they will get their first class schedule, their campus ID cards and a heavy load of information and advice.

Marshall hosted the first of three new student orientations last week, welcoming 800 new students from all of the United States, anywhere from Florida to Maryland to California. Marshall’s student body president, Hunter Barclay, a Maryland native himself, expressed his own desire to influence incoming freshmen in the same way he was influenced.

“I was very nervous my first day, like orientation, just trying to figure it all out,” Barclay said. “I remember Duncan Waugaman getting up, giving the speech, and I was like, ‘oh my gosh, it’s the student body president.’ I talked to him just very briefly, but that small conversation, I remember it a lot, too. So, I try to remember that any small interaction I have with students could really influence them and be something that they’ll remember.”

At orientation, students can expect to learn about graduation requirements, how to navigate student resources and support services, and also how better to get involved on campus. For Kadi Conn, a bio premed major and orientation leader, getting involved is crucial.

“I want to make them feel comfortable, make sure they get involved on campus, because I didn’t for the first two years of college,” Conn said.

Orientation leaders play a large role in the orientation process, as they are each assigned groups of students to guide throughout the day. While the start of college can be nerve-wracking for new students, Huntington native Mitchell Hall is more excited than nervous, saying he looks forward to the freedom university life offers, and, “just the environment of Marshall in general and being able to be a part of, like, football games and everything. I’m just really excited.”

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Sustainability department pushes for more ‘green’ options on campus

By HANNA PENNINGTON
LIFE EDITOR

Marshall University green will become more than just a color this coming fall as the Sustainability Department makes a push toward sustainable living on campus.

Glass recycling will be introduced throughout Marshall as well as additional recycling centers and compost stations.

Amy Parsons-White, sustainability coordinator, said while there are some recycling centers on campus currently, the department plans to better separate them from regular trash cans in the fall.

“We are implementing glass recycling which I’m really excited about, and we’re also going to provide more recycling locations,” Parsons-White said. “Right now, if you look around, there aren’t very many recycling places, so I’m trying to fix that and make the recycling centers stand out, because right now they just look like trash cans, and we get a lot of trash in them. So we’re going to provide a greater amount of large recycling containers.”

Parsons-White said creating compost stations available to students and staff will also reduce waste on campus.

“We’re trying to implement composting, both pre- and post-consumer composting, so everything from the kitchens will go out for compost,” Parsons-White said. “I also plan to put composting stations out on campus, so if you’re eating an apple or you bring your own lunch, you can just toss it in the compost.”

The Sustainability Department is also working on implementing a new eco-bike loan program.

Parsons-White said if the project is accepted, the campus community will have 30 bikes available for rent at the start of next semester.

“This isn’t set in stone yet, this is what we’re working on, but if it gets approved it will be here in the fall,” Parsons-White said. “We’ll have 30 bikes on campus, and they’ll just be sitting out. You can log in with your 901 number, the bike will automatically unlock, and you can ride it all day then bring it back and log out, and it locks back.”

Parsons-White said there will be three designated pick-up and drop-off locations for the bikes, which will be equipped with solar panels and a GPS.

“You can either log in from your phone or log in on the key pad on the back of the bike, and it’s all solar powered and GPS equipped, so we know where the bike is at all times,” Parsons-White said. “If you take it downtown and it would get stolen we can go get it, so it gets rid of a lot of the issues that people have had with having bikes on campus, because theft has been a big problem.”

Parsons-White said the bikes will provide students with a way to get around Huntington without driving a car.

“It’ll be really cool to provide bikes for people who want to ride downtown or around campus so you don’t have to drive your car,” Parsons-White said. “Parking is an issue, and it can reduce those issues; it’s a really nice program.”

Parsons-White said everyone on campus and in Huntington should practice green living in order to keep the planet healthy.

“Sustainable living just means keeping the planet in such a shape that it continues to provide life; that’s really the bare minimum of what we need to be doing, it’s important, we all live here,” Parsons-White said. “We only have one Earth.”

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**Substainability Department Grows:**
weekly farmer’s market and addition of Meditation Garden

By SADIE HELMICK
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

With the inclusion of campus wide recycling, conservation of energy and water strategies and the introduction of green technologies and materials, the Marshall University Sustainability Department has shown its desire to grow. After the first seed was planted in the Marshall University Student Garden in 2011, sustainability gardens became a creative resource for students and the community. Lead gardener Angela Kargul, with the assistance from volunteers, holds a farmer’s market every Wednesday of harvest season from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Marshall University Memorial Student Center.

“It is important for us to provide the students with fresh, healthy produce,” Sustainability Coordinator Amy Parsons-White said. “It’s so expensive and a lot of students live off campus, without meal plans, so this is a way we can give them something for free.”

The student garden and greenhouse grows an assortment of vegetables including kale, chard, squash, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, eggplants and even purple potatoes and green beans.

“Everything started with the vegetable garden and the greenhouse. Over the years we have expanded,” Kargul said.

After the introduction of the vegetable garden and the greenhouse, the Sustainability Department has since added Monarch Waystation Garden, the Butterfly Oasis, two rooftop gardens and a Meditation Garden.

The Very Important Pollinator (VIP) Garden and the Butterfly Oasis were installed in the Spring of 2014, creating a symbiotic relationship with bees and the produce. These gardens feature flowers native to West Virginia that not only attract bees, but also butterflies, birds, flies, moths and beetles.

“We attract them in and then the bees pollinate our vegetables. We end up with beautiful, healthy vegetables because we have an influx of bees,” Parsons-White said.

More recently, the Sustainability Department has joined forces with Gro Huntington, a non-profit organization dedicated to revive Huntington by working with land to learn important coping, life and job skills.

“We teamed with Gro Huntington to build a Meditation Garden,” Parsons-White said. “It looks kind of like a teepee. It’s covered in morning glories, cucumbers and squash and they are in the process now of vining up, but by fall it will be completely vine-covered. Students can go in and meditate, lounge, relax and destress while spending a little time surrounded by nature.”

Upon success, Parsons-White looks to expand Meditation Gardens across campus.

“Students, especially, need to destress,” Parsons-White said. “If it goes over well, we will be able to add more across campus and we will be able to offer a little oasis of relaxation to our students and staff.”

The Sustainability Department works to show students and the community the importance of sustainability in everyday life, while also instilling an appreciation of where produce comes from.

“You learn a lot working in the gardens,” said Kargul. “You get a new appreciation for farmers.”

Volunteer days for the gardens occur at the student gardens every Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. Produce from the farmer’s market is free for students, but any money donated goes to the upkeep of the sustainability gardens and greenhouses.

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“Students, especially, need to destress. If it goes over well, we will be able to add more across campus and we will be able to offer a little oasis of relaxation to our students and staff.”

-Amy Parsons-White, Sustainability Coordinator
Marshall University community working to fight Huntington’s opioid epidemic

By AMANDA LARCH
NEWS EDITOR

Members of the Marshall University community are working to do their part to fight the opioid epidemic. From training recovery coaches to conducting research on the effects substance use disorder has on children, students, faculty and staff are involved with many projects to assist Huntington.

Amy Saunders, director of the MU Wellness Center, collaborates with and helped to start several of these projects, beginning in 2016 when Marshall’s President Gilbert brought together a group of faculty and staff to focus their efforts on the opioid epidemic. She also helps to secure grant funding for research through state and federal opportunities.

“We came together and developed a strategic plan to focus in all of our efforts and work with multiple agencies, like the city of Huntington,” Saunders said. “We’re working with the health department, Prestera, Recovery Point, lots of different groups. We’re focusing in on education needs around the issue, prevention and early intervention services, treatment services and recovery and reentry, like jobs, and we’re also doing research as well.”

Doctor Marianna Linz of Marshall’s psychology department is working toward receiving grants for her own research on children affected by substance use.

“My interest right now is trying to understand the impact with substance use disorder at a variety of levels on the development of children who are in families where substance use is part of the picture,” Linz said. “So, we’re working on putting together a longitudinal study to look at kids who are exposed in utero and sort of how different risk and protective factors come together to affect development following birth. Hopefully we can underscore the benefits of treatment but also highlight how different risk factors like traumatic histories and intergenerational trauma can kind of create different pictures of risk for different kids.”

Linz and one of her colleagues recently submitted a grant and proposal to the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute for a study to train recovery coaches, women going through recovery who support other women new to the rehabilitation process.

“We want to train women to be recovery coaches who are also moms, and what would come with that is helping outreach workers learn the skills, so they can also work with these moms on parenting and managing parenting stress in addition to a relapse prevention component,” Linz said. “We want to look at whether that might be a model that we could put into use in areas that don’t have quite as many formerly trained mental health professionals, to use people that are more well prepared health professionals and sort of cross train them in surmising that world, provide them support for their families that are dealing with substance use disorder.”

Saunders, who cochairs Marshall’s Substance Use Recovery Coalition, said it takes multiple groups working together to achieve their goals. On Marshall’s campus alone, the psychology, social work, counseling, education and English departments are helping in some way, as well as the medical, pharmacy and physical therapy schools.

“What we’re doing on campus with our coalition is we’re looking at this really holistically and we’re working in multiple systems,” Saunders said. “And it’s not just us, it’s not just one entity, it’s multiple groups coming together and collaborating. That’s the only way that we’re going to solve this and help fix this problem.”

Faculty and staff members are not the only ones working on the issues, as students of all years and majors are creating change, too, for example, by researching the needs and trauma of children affected by opioid issues and studying the prescription drug monitoring data base.

“A lot of students are involved,” Saunders said. “We have a lot of students who are doing research on projects. We have a project that we’re working with the state bureau for behavioral health and health facilities on, and they’re doing a lot of provider education. We have graduate students who are helping us collect data on that information and helping us to do focus groups.”

Although the opioid epidemic is surrounding Huntington, Saunders said it first became a problem in rural parts of West Virginia, and she thinks research and education around the issue is key to recovery and prevention.

“In our state, the drug epidemic really hit rural, southern coal fields first,” Saunders said. “I think people hear a lot about our area, but you don’t hear as much about what’s happening in some of these more rural, secluded areas. If you really look at the data, it hit those areas first, in the early 2000s, and so many of us have been working on this issue from campus with partners in the community and partners at the state level for many, many years. I think what we’re trying to do is bring some of the research and education, things that we need to do on campus to help work with all other agencies. Nobody’s got a magic silver bullet to fix this issue, it’s going to be multiple groups focusing on multiple issues. It’s not an easy fix, it’s a nationwide problem, and unfortunately, it hit West Virginia because it hit rural areas first.”

Linz said Marshall students are not immune from problems caused by substance use disorder, but there are resources available to get help.

“I think we’re seeing students coming to campus whose families are impacted,” Linz said. “Various family members are experiencing difficulties with opioid addiction, and it seems to be cutting across a lot of different groups because people become addicted in a lot of different ways, including having it prescribed to them to manage pain. West Virginia is a state that has had somewhat of a high substance use disorder rate for quite a while. So, we do have some students that come to campus with substance use disorder, and that needs to be addressed. We should also know that there’s help available, and there are good options for students who may be struggling, either with an addiction themselves or with family members who are experiencing addiction.”

Some of the most important aspects of fighting the opioid epidemic are proper training, strong support systems and education, Linz said.

“The most important thing right now is training people in a variety of professions, particularly different health care professions, with how to recognize substance use disorder and how to provide support and grief intervention to people who are experiencing difficulty,” Linz said. “I think the more we can grow our...
**W.Va. Opioid Reduction Act implemented at Cabell Huntington Hospital**

By HANNA PENNINGTON  
LIFE EDITOR

As the state continues to battle the opioid crisis directly from the source, Cabell Huntington Hospital has begun implementing the West Virginia Opioid Reduction Act which was introduced by Gov. Jim Justice in March and works to limit the amount of opioids prescribed as well as to educate the public of the risks and benefits of medication.

According to Dr. Hoyt Burdick, senior vice president and chief medical officer at Cabell Huntington Hospital, the act, which became effective June 7, is an addition to other pre-existing state laws regulating pain clinics and prescription drugs.

“The impact of the Opioid Reduction Act on the community will be to add certain limitations and restrictions on quantities and duration of controlled substances prescribed before acute pain,” Burdick said. “For patients with chronic problems requiring extended use of controlled substances there are new requirements for periodic re-evaluation of the impact of the medications and of the patient’s underlying condition.”

While the new law does not directly affect the use of controlled substances in the hospital inpatient setting, Burdick said it does have a significant impact on patients released from the emergency room or discharged from the hospital following surgery or other conditions.

The Opioid Reduction Act urges medical professionals to turn to alternative measures of treatment before prescribing opioids and limits the first prescription of an opioid to the lowest working dose, as well as a one-week supply.

“CABELL Huntington Hospital was already working with its medical staff and clinical pharmacists to optimize non-opioid alternatives and to assure responsible prescribing of controlled substances,” Burdick said. “Now we are working with patients to improve awareness and education about the risks and benefits of controlled substances. We are also working with physicians to facilitate their workflow for meeting the documentation and prescribing requirements of the new law.”

The new law also affects patients with chronic conditions who receive ongoing prescriptions of opioids by implementing pain management contracts, which state each patient must use a single pharmacy and prescriber to obtain their medication.

“Patients who require extended opioids are now subject to the terms of a new model pain management contract that meets certain provisions of the law,” Burdick said. “Patients who have required ongoing treatment with opioids prior to January 1, 2018 and have a valid pain management contract are exempt from this new law.”

Burdick said both Kentucky and Ohio legislatures have passed laws similar to the West Virginia Opioid Reduction Act and have both experienced reductions in total prescriptions for controlled substances and quantities dispensed.

Although these laws continue to receive adjustments and amendments to address unexpected consequences, Burdick said it is not unlikely to expect similar drops in prescribed medication in West Virginia.

“Based on the experience in adjacent states, it is reasonable to expect similar reductions in Huntington and across the state,” Burdick said.

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**Marshall University to collaborate with Yeager Airport on aviation program**

By HANNA PENNINGTON  
LIFE EDITOR

New opportunities in the aerospace industry are on the horizon for West Virginians with an aviation and maintenance program in the works at Marshall University.

The feasibility of the program will be studied over the course of the year by both Marshall University researchers and Yeager Airport in Charleston.

Charlotte Weber, Director of the Robert C. Byrd Institute, said partnerships with Yeager Airport as well as other facilities are what make the proposal possible.

“We’re not only looking at the affability just with Yeager but we’re looking at Tri-State, we’re partnering with Pierpont,” Weber said.

Ralph Workman, Jr. director of RCBI Aero, said the school would help bring jobs back to the state as well as set Marshall apart from other universities in the region.

“The coal industry is slowing down, you have this large labor pool here, and how do you get those people jobs and training? It’s all about workforce development and getting folks trained to go into the industry,” Workman said. “With that being said, aviation is a growing industry, but there is a shortage of pilots in the nation and there’s a shortage of people to work on the aircraft.”

The aviation school would potentially offer not only pilot training and a variety of degrees but a Federal Aviation Administration, or FAA, certified maintenance school.

“Right now the state of West Virginia only has one FAA certified maintenance school in Bridgeport, so it would bring that here to the Tri-State region, and it’s open to kids that have graduated high school all the way up through adults,” Workman said. “In this region, the next closest would be Ohio State or way out at Purdue University in Indiana, so we would have the market here, there’s nothing in this region for maintenance training or pilot training.”

Workman said if the proposed program is deemed feasible at the end of the study, the school would offer three different forms of education: a maintenance repair and operations certificate, associate degree and bachelor’s degree.

“The shortest amount of time would be 14 months straight,” Workman said. “There’s a curriculum that’s specific, it’s based by the FAA that we have to conduct all the skill sets needed to work on an airplane. So they could go 14 months and get their certificate, and they would be eligible to take the FAA test online to get their certification and then go out into the workforce.”

An associate degree at the aviation school would take nearly 20 months to complete, with more general education classes required.

Workman said bachelor’s degrees in subjects such as aviation management and piloting will also be available to students who wish to further their education.

“You have to have certain classes and a set number of hours, we have to meet certain things just as you would if you were getting a biology degree,” Workman said. “The details are still being hashed out, but we would offer classes here at RCBI, Marshall would offer the general education classes, and of course the lab part of it has to be done in an airport.”

Workman said while the FAA has a very strict certification process, research shows that the region is capable of supporting and expanding the aerospace industry.

“We’re already a couple months into the process, and it takes them about a year normally to get the school certified,” Workman said. “It could be up to two years, but we’re
MARSHALL THUNDERING HERD
VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Dayton Tournament
Aug. 24
Dayton @Home
Aug. 25
Ball State
Aug. 25
South Ala. @Home

Loyola Tournament
Aug. 31
Ga. Sate Loyola
Sept. 1
Loyola
Sept. 1
Furman

Alabama Tournament
Sept. 5
Ohio @Home
Sept. 7
Alabama
Sept. 7
Northern ILL
Sept. 8
Ga. Tech

Bowling Green Tournament
Sept. 13
Bowling Green
Sept. 14
Nicholls State
Sept. 15
IUPUI

FIU Tournament
Sept. 21
MT @Home
Sept. 23
FIU
Sept. 28
UAB @FIU
Sept. 30
La. Tech @La. Tech

Texas Tournament
Oct. 4
FAU
Oct. 5
FIU @Home
Oct. 7
UTEP @Home
Oct. 12
Rice @Rice

Louisiana Tournament
Oct. 14
@Home
Oct. 21
@Home
Oct. 26
@Southern Miss.
Oct. 28
@North Texas
Nov. 2
@Home
Nov. 4
@Home
Nov. 7
@WVU
Nov. 10
@Charlotte

PHOTO BY UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS
Marshall chosen to host C-USA Volleyball Championship

STAFF REPORT

For the first time since 2007, Marshall University will host the Conference USA Volleyball Championship inside the Cam Henderson Center. The single-elimination tournament brings a lot of attention to the Huntington community.

“We are excited to be hosting the Conference USA volleyball tournament,” Director of Athletics Mike Hamrick said in a press release. “This is another opportunity for us to showcase Marshall University, the city of Huntington and the great people in our community. We, along with the Cabell-Huntington CVB, look forward to putting on a first class event for the student-athletes, our league and the passionate volleyball fans who will spend a few days with us in November.”

President of the Cabell-Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau Tyson Compton sees potential economic development with the bringing of the championship.

“Our job at the CVB is to work outside the area to bring people inside into our community. It has economic development because they are spending money when they are here,” Compton said. “Sporting events are one of the segments that we give a high ranking to. They are popular, they bring in a lot of people, and to be able to partner with Marshall has been successful for both of us.”

Huntington Mayor Steve Williams also expressed his excitement for the tournament.

“We are thrilled that Conference USA is bringing the women’s volleyball tournament to Huntington this fall,” Williams said in a press release. “I congratulate Marshall Athletics for yet again doing its part to bring visitors from across the country to our community. Players, coaches and fans will experience some wonderful hospitality, a world-class university and a vibrant city.”

The postseason annual three-day tournament will be held Nov. 16 through Nov. 18 and will feature the top eight teams following the regular season.

Messi birthday overshadowed by Argentina’s World Cup crisis

The mayor of Bronnitsy helps a boy cut a cake to mark Lionel Messi’s birthday near Argentina training camp base at the 2018 World Cup in Bronnitsy, Russia, Sunday, June 24, 2018. With a cake sculpture and a music festival the town of Bronnitsy celebrated the striker’s 31st birthday. (AP Photo/Ricardo Mazalan)

By DEBORA REY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRONNITSY, Russia (AP) — In any other context, the gesture would have gone unnoticed: Lionel Messi received birthday greetings from Argentina coach Jorge Sampaoli.

The best wishes, however, came amid turmoil embroiling Sampaoli and the squad, which is on the brink of elimination from the World Cup in Russia.

The captain, who turned 31 on Sunday, arrived to the training field where Sampaoli was waiting to start the session. The coach went up to Messi, giving him a kiss on the cheek and a pat on the back. But then there was no further contact between the two.

Argentina’s football association was quick to deny media reports about the future of Sampaoli, who was strongly criticized for his tactical approach and the formation he put out in Argentina’s humiliating 3-0 loss to Croatia on Thursday.

The reports said that Sampaoli would be dismissed and wouldn’t take charge against Nigeria on Tuesday in St. Petersburg for the team’s last Group D match.

Despite palpable tension between the players and the coach, Argentina’s football association president Claudio Tapia indicated Sunday that Sampaoli isn’t going anywhere yet. But he didn’t clarify what would happen afterward since Sampaoli has a contract that runs through the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

“Have you seen the coach and the team training,” Tapia told reporters. “It’s clear that what you are saying is a lie.”

After the defeat to Croatia, forward Sergio Aguero responded to a reporter’s question asking him about Sampaoli’s post-match comments that the players hadn’t adapted to his methods. Aguero, who is Messi’s roommate at the training base, responded: “Sampaoli can say what he wants.”

So far, this tournament has been a huge disappointment for Messi and Argentina, which finished as runner-up at the 2014 World Cup. The five-time world player of the year missed a penalty against Iceland in the first group game and played one of his worst matches against Croatia.

If there isn’t a party going on at the moment within Argentina’s training base in Bronnitsy, a town outside Moscow, there was certainly one happening outside.

Bronnitsy’s mayor invited hundreds of people from the area to a symbolic birthday celebration for Messi. There was a huge life-size cake of the star, replete with detail including his tattoos, and typical Russian dance and folk songs. The party-goers devoured the chocolate and strawberry cake, hardly leaving a crumb.

The merriment took place on a riverbank that separates the town from Argentina’s training camp. Messi wasn’t there. Instead, representatives from Argentina’s delegation were in attendance.

Perhaps news of the gala in Messi’s honor will lift his spirits for what really counts: beating Nigeria.
EDITORIAL: Trump presidency is a national disgrace

The ridiculousness just never seems to end. Call him what you want, from clown to crazy to corrupt, but Trump is certainly not fit to be commander-in-chief. He tweets absurdities, ignites hatred, bullies and lies. He fights for cruel policies. He coos over and admires foreign dictators. He seems any negative as fake. He is a danger to American constitutional democracy. There is no more defense for him. He showed us who he was in his campaign, and if there was any hope he may shape up after being elected to the highest office in the land, it is clear that ship has sailed.

Across 37 countries surveyed by PEW Research Center in the spring of 2017, “a median of just 22 percent said they have confidence in Trump to do the right thing in world affairs. In contrast, 64 percent expressed confidence in President Barack Obama in these same 37 nations during the final years of his presidency.”

A January 2018 Gallup poll revealed an all-time-low of U.S. leadership approval around the world.

The man has made America a laughing stock. And if not a laughing stock, a risk to successful foreign partnerships. Donald Trump is simply not fit for this job. He is bad at being the president, and all factual evidence proves this. It’s time to wake up and see through his lies.

LET ME BE FRANK: On Fear

By FRANKLIN NORTON
MANAGING EDITOR

Recently I was given the opportunity to do something kind of outrageous: rappel 17 stories down Huntington’s West Virginia Building. It was the second year the United Way of the River Cities sponsored this unique fundraiser, and they asked if I would be willing to go over the edge.

I said yes immediately, but then felt significantly anxious about the whole ordeal for the next couple of days. I laid in bed the night before, trying to figure out an excuse to get out of it. I couldn’t seem to find one that worked for me. I showed up, regardless, still figuring my way out, but then somehow, I ended up in an elevator going up and up and up, and later found myself in a harness and a helmet. I was going to do it. I walked up to the rooftop and stepped up to the edge, hands trembling and legs quaking. I was terrified, and I was never not terrified. There was never a moment where I felt good about doing it. But I did it.

I have never really been that cool, adventurous and courageous person, although I’ve always wanted to be. I’m the thinker, the processor, and, well, the worrier. But I can’t stand the idea of watching everybody else do cool things just because my head can come up with a million ways something can go wrong. I don’t ever want to miss out on something potentially great because of my own fear.

I’ve seen this quote floating around online, and the whole time I walked up to that edge, I recited it to myself: “Don’t wait until you’re not scared to do the thing you want to do. You do it scared.”

If we spend our whole lives waiting for courage, for affirmation, for assurance—we may just spend our whole lives waiting. I don’t want my fear and anxieties to keep me on the sidelines.

So, while it may be uncomfortable, while it may feel impossible and when it may be scary: I want to choose living fully every time. I want to choose wobbly knees and sweaty palms, because it’s in these moments where we learn more completely who we are. It’s ok to be scared, but it’s not ok to take a back seat in your own life. Do it scared.
Marshall University welcomes newest student organization

By AMANDA LARCH
NEWS EDITOR

Members of Marshall University’s newest student organization, Huntington Advocators, dedicate their time to honoring the city of Huntington. While Huntington Advocators are still growing, they wish to provide community service to different areas as well as highlighting lesser known parts of Huntington.

Bailey Sanders, president and founder of Huntington Advocators, said she was inspired to create the club to share her love of the city she has lived in her entire life. “At first, I wanted an organization that could bring people together,” Sanders, sophomore music education major, said. “I thought, ‘What’s something that I like to do that maybe I could express to everybody else?’ One thing I really like to do is to introduce new people to new things about Huntington that they just might not have known. I thought it would be interesting to do things around Huntington, but maybe I could do something a little further than that. Maybe instead of just doing fun things, we also try to promote Huntington because Huntington’s not really been such a positive topic in the news recently. I thought combining fun activities and community service would create a fun organization where students get together; make new friends and they can do new things while also promoting the community.”

The Huntington Advocators’ community service projects will include volunteering at Lily’s Place and feeding the homeless, Sanders said. “My aunt works at Lily’s Place,” Sanders said. “Lily’s Place is where they take babies who are addicted to drugs because of substance abuse from their mothers, and I’ve done community service over there before. Going over there is one thing on my agenda. I know there are other organizations who do it, but over at the [Harris Riverfront] park they feed the homeless every Saturday morning. I wanted to maybe combine with them and do something like that.”

While community service will be an important part of the club’s goals, Sanders said she wants to help Marshall students become more familiar with the Huntington area. “The ultimate goal is to positively promote the city, and the other goal is to also have incoming, new students get to know the area,” Sanders said. “At the end of the year, I just want everybody to appreciate Huntington for what it is. It’s hard to appreciate Huntington without leaving campus because there’s so many people who come here, especially freshmen, and they just don’t leave the area. I want everybody to appreciate Huntington because I grew up here. This is my home. I don’t plan on living here for the rest of my life, but this place is always going to be a part of me no matter what. I have family who lives here, I have friends who are probably going to live in this area for the rest of their life; I don’t want everything to go downhill for my family or other people who are potentially wanting to have a family here.”

As far as areas of the city she wants to spotlight, Sanders said she has the football memorial and Westmoreland Park in mind, where the club can have a group picnic, as well as the west end of Huntington. She said the Huntington Advocators could take a weekend to show curious students these areas and more of Huntington.

“No one is really down by the west end, and that’s the area of Huntington I grew up in,” Sanders said. “Now I live seven minutes away from campus, so I switch back and forth between this end and the other end of Huntington. Nobody really knows the way around the west end, and the Westmoreland park is down there. Westmoreland is just a really nice place in Huntington; I love it. I want to just take a weekend, just go around the town and I really want to explore Huntington. That’s something I really want to do before the year is over.”

Huntington Advocators have nine members so far, and Sanders said her goal is to have as many as 25 by the end of the upcoming semester. As part of Week of Welcome, the club will sponsor a Huntington themed trivia game night with prizes, beginning at 5 p.m. Friday, August 17, in Student Center room 2W16. They will also have a booth set up at Rec Fest.

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The Nation 2018 Student Journalism Conference: Don’t Just Be Objective

By HANNA PENNINGTON
LIFE EDITOR

As a young aspiring journalist, I’ve always heard that being objective is the most important thing to keep in mind when covering events and writing stories. Be objective. Don’t let your opinions show through in your writing. However, in the age of “fake news,” words become twisted, and with so much social angst occurring, it is sometimes hard to know how to fairly cover a topic. When I received an e-mail informing me that I had been accepted into The Nation 2018 Student Journalism Conference, which was primarily focused on how to better cover social movements and protests in the Trump era, I was ecstatic.

After waiting for months, my mom and I drove to Columbus, Ohio, where we boarded a plane to New York City. I was extremely nervous; all I knew about the conference was a little about each speaker; the facility it was occurring in, The New School, and the fact that The Nation was the oldest published magazine in the United States.

The conference began at 8:30 a.m. the next day, and after picking up my name badge and eating a quick breakfast, the event began with a welcome from The Nation’s editor, Katrina vanden Heuvel. The day went on with conversations and panels from Melissa Harris-Perry and Dr. Sherri Williams, Sarah Jaffe, Collier Meyerson, Lizzy Ratner and Richard Kim.

Although the entire conference seemed like a whirlwind of knowledge that I tried so hard to consume, one of the conversations that truly stuck with me was during a panel with Kai Wright, a writer, editor and Nation contributor. Wright said that the work of a journalist is not to be simply “objective,” but it is to be fair, thorough, and transparent. He said that simply being objective, which is defined as not being influenced by personal feelings or opinions in considering and representing facts, makes for lazy journalism. This really hit me hard. Was he right? The more I thought about it, I started to agree with him. Of course, as a journalist, I don’t want to be influenced by opinions in my writing. But I think so often we believe that is our only duty. However, being thorough and noticing and reporting every detail is important. Being fair and appropriate and in accordance to ethical standards is important. And being transparent is important.

In neglecting the details and focusing solely on being objective, which is what we’re told time after time is the most important thing, our stories lack substance. They lack facts. In a world where journalists are mocked and tormented every day, it is true, we need to step up our game. The Nation 2018 Student Journalism Conference not only sent me home from New York with some great advice on how to cover movements and protests, but it left me with some hard facts and a new informed outlook on my future profession.

Hanna Pennington can be contacted at penningto131@marshall.edu.
Shelter chief fears migrant reunions could take months

By ROBIN MCDOWELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The chief executive of the nation’s largest shelters for migrant children said Tuesday he fears a lack of urgency by the U.S. government working together to improve patient care and address concerns related to the opioid epidemic,” Hoyt said.

Juan Sanchez of the nonprofit Southwest Key Programs said the government has no process in place to speed the return of more than 2,000 children separated from their parents as part of the Trump administration’s recent “zero-tolerance” crackdown on illegal immigration.

“It could take days,” Sanchez said Tuesday in an interview with The Associated Press. “Or it could take a month, two months, six or even nine.

I just don’t know.”

The communications staff at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services didn’t reply to a request for information about how long the process would take. During Congressional testimony on Tuesday, HHS Secretary Alex Azar declined to be pinned down on how long it would take to reunite separated families. “We have to expedite it mostly get children out of our care,” he said.

Sanchez said Southwest Key is “ready today” to do what it takes to reunite children with parents who have been arrested for trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border. But he said his group is limited in what it can do because many parents’ cases will likely have to make their way through the legal system before the federal Oﬃce of Refugee Resettlement can give the go-ahead to put families back together.

Newly planned family detention space could allow recently separated children to be housed with their parents, Sanchez said, adding that would not be optimal, but would be better than keeping them apart.

“It was me,” he said. “I’d say I want the child with me.”

Sanchez finds himself in the center of political controversy after agreeing to take in more than 600 children who were stripped from their parents as part of the Trump administration’s anti-immigration push.

Of those, 152 are younger than 5, including some babies and toddlers. The rest are between 6 and 11 years old.

Currently Southwest Key has nearly 5,100 children in 26 shelters in Texas, Arizona and California, accounting for nearly half the unaccompanied minors being held in facilities all over the country. Most of them are older children who weren’t taken from their parents but instead tried to cross the border on their own.

The nonprofit organization has a booked $458 million in federal contracts during the current budget year – half of what is being handed out by HHS for placing immigrant children who came to the U.S. unaccompanied or were separated from their families after arriving.

Sanchez said he opposed the family-separation policy, but for the sake of the children he felt his organization needed to take them in.

“Somebody has to take care of them,” he said.

INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE PARTHENON?

We are always looking for more people to contribute to The Parthenon. If you are interested in writing a column, drawing cartoons, taking photos or whatever you can come up with, email Franklin Norton at norton18@marshall.edu.
High court OKs Trump’s travel ban, rejects Muslim bias claim

By MARK SHERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — A sharply divided Supreme Court upheld President Donald Trump’s ban on travel from several mostly Muslim countries Tuesday, the conservative majority taking his side in a major ruling supporting his presidential power. A dissenting liberal justice said the court was making a historic mistake by refusing to recognize the ban discriminates against Muslims.

The 5-4 decision was a big victory for Trump in the court’s first substantive ruling on one of his administration’s policies. It also was the latest demonstration of a newly invigorated conservative majority and a bitter defeat for the court’s liberals.

The ruling came on an issue that has been central for Trump, from his campaign outbursts against “radical Islamic terrorism” through his presidency. He tweeted a quick reaction — “Wow!” — and then celebrated at greater length before TV cameras.

Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the majority opinion for the five conservative justices, including Trump nominee Neil Gorsuch, who got his seat only after Republicans blocked President Barack Obama’s nominee for the last 10 months of Obama’s term.

Roberts wrote that the travel ban was well within U.S. presidents’ considerable authority over immigration and responsibility for keeping the nation safe. He rejected the challengers’ claim of anti-Muslim bias that rested in large part on Trump’s own tweets and statements over the past three years.

But Roberts was careful not to endorse either Trump’s statements about immigration in general or Muslims in particular, including his campaign call for “a complete and total shutdown of Muslims entering the United States.”

“We express no view on the soundness of the policy,” Roberts wrote.

The travel ban has been fully in place since December, when the justices put the brakes on lower court rulings that had ruled the policy out of bounds and blocked part of it from being enforced. It applies even to people with close relatives in the United States and other strong connections to the country.

In a dissent she summarized aloud in court, Justice Sonia Sotomayor said, “History will not look kindly on the court’s misguided decision today, nor should it.” Justices Stephen Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Elena Kagan also dissented.

The Trump policy applies to travelers from five countries with overwhelmingly Muslim populations — Iran, Libya, Somalia, Syria and Yemen. It also affects two non-Muslim countries, blocking travelers from North Korea and some Venezuelan government officials and their families. A sixth majority Muslim country, Chad, was removed from the list in April after improving “its identity-management and information sharing practices,” Trump said in a proclamation.

The Trump policy, and a refugee ban that preceded it, have also been challenged in lower courts. Critics of Trump’s ban had urged the justices to affirm the decisions in lower courts that generally concluded that the changes made to the travel policy did not erase the ban’s legal problems. Trump had also imposed a temporary ban on refugees along with earlier versions of the travel ban, but he did not reimpose a refugee ban when the last one expired in the fall.

The current travel ban dates from last September and it followed what the administration has called a thorough review by several federal agencies, although no such review has been shared with courts or the public.

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The administration had pointed to the Chad decision to show that the restrictions were premised only on national security concerns. The challengers, though, argued that the court could not just ignore all that had happened, beginning with Trump’s campaign tweets to prevent the entry of Muslims into the United States.

Trump had proposed a broad, all-encompassing Muslim ban during the presidential campaign in 2015, drawing swift rebukes from Republicans as well as Democrats. And within a week of taking office, the first travel ban was announced with little notice, sparking chaos at airports and protests across the nation.

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The current travel ban dates from last September and it followed what the administration has called a thorough review by several federal agencies, although no such review has been shared with courts or the public.
Is there a better time to travel the world than during one’s college years? I don’t think so. After college people grow up and get married, get serious jobs, have children and have so many more excuses to put off exploring the world. I know I may not be able to do whatever I want whenever I want one day, so when I learned about studying in Spain for part of the summer, I knew I had to take the chance. Now, one week after leaving the only country I have ever known, I sit in a cafe in Madrid and wonder if I ever want to return to the United States.

Roughly eight months ago, a professor at Marshall University spoke to my Spanish class about an amazing opportunity to study in Spain at La Universidad de Nebrija. She told us all about how students plunge into the culture and language and many return with new outlooks on life. I immediately decided that I wanted to go because I may never have another opportunity to see Spain, at least not before I am the one that has to pay for it all.

Over the next seven months, I did everything I could to make sure we were prepared for the courses we would be enrolled in. The program accepts students just beginning their studies as well as students who are extremely advanced speakers. This past week, I have attended classes taught 70% of the time in Spanish. My professors are great for me because they challenge us but are not trying to make the course so difficult that we fail.

I live with a host family that consists of my lovely host parents, Juana and Monolo, as well as another student in the program from California, Aurora. Aurora speaks Italian, English, and is basically fluent in Spanish, so there are many times the three of them are talking and I’m just trying to keep up. Lucky for me, Aurora can translate when necessary, but I have learned so much in just one week that I am understanding more than what I did before I arrived.

After only one week, I have seen a lot of Madrid. The program I enrolled in allows for a significant amount of time to see the city while also having time to do my homework. Classes are offered at different times throughout the day, so depending on a person’s skill level, they may have the entire afternoon or time before and after class to explore the city.

Before and after classes I go exploring. I have found cute boutiques as well as wonderful cafes and restaurants. After a week, I have realized Madrid is both bigger and smaller than I thought it would be. By this, I mean in one week, I have walked through at least half of the city. I never had a set destination in mind, so I can spend the next three weeks thinking back and deciding what I want to see again, in addition to the other half of the city.

While I have not been in Spain for long, I already view it as an amazing experience that is completely worth looking into. There are similar programs all over the world that students can study their preferred interest if they are not majoring or minoring in Spanish. If any students would like more information on studying abroad, during the school year or next summer, a good place to start is the Office of Study Abroad.

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