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Orientation love story, 40 years in the making
An orientation love story, 40 years in the making

By FRANKLIN NORTON
MANAGING EDITOR

They say that people fall in love in mysterious ways, and for one couple, it all started more than 40 years ago in a three-hour-long line at their Marshall University new student orientation.

In July of 1975, Rick and Ludean Parks began their Marshall journey at orientation, which looks quite different from today’s. At that time, orientation was a two-day process, which involved thick green folders, punch cards and a tuition payment costing less than $200. To schedule classes, students started in the basement of Old Main where they would then wait in two separate lines to meet with the bursar, a process that lasted up to three hours.

“He was in one line, and I was in line beside him. So, we ended up standing beside each other,” Ludean Parks said.

She, a tentatively engaged school library media major from St. Albans, W.Va., and he, a talkative broadcast journalism major from Moundsville, W.Va., struck up conversation during their time in line, but the two parted ways and did not see each other again until the first day of classes.

“The first semester, actually the first day, I had a speech class, and she walked in not knowing anybody,” Rick Parks said, “and she recognized me, so we sat together.”

“And I’d already figured out by that time that this man could talk to a rock and it would talk back to him,” said Ludean, which she knew would help her get through her dreaded speech class.

The two got to know each other in that first semester, and in the second semester became close friends, although she was still with, “whatshisname”, as Rick puts it.

Over the summer, the two worked in their hometowns, but stayed in touch, with Ludean calling him often on the toll-free line at the DMV she was working at.

“I was terrified his parents would answer the phone because—we’re talking the 70s—and you don’t talk to a boy,” Ludean said.

It was during this time that Ludean and whatshisname were having problems, and despite multiple attempts to win her back, ultimately, he had to give up the chase, opening the door for Ludean and Rick.

Their sophomore year, the two became a part of a dinner group of about nine friends who all lived on campus.

“Social media then: you had a whiteboard or a chalkboard on your dorm room door,” Ludean Parks said.

“Our freshman year every floor had one phone. We couldn’t go to dinner until all nine of us had gathered.”

Friends took notice of the close bond shared by the two, and kept prompting them to just pick a date, seeing that there was clearly something going more than friendship.

One day Rick and Ludean went on a picnic trip at Cabwaylingo State Forest with a couple from their group.

“They got lost in the woods. And we were sitting there, and what are we going to do? So we thought, ‘Alright let’s just make everybody happy and pick the date.’”

The couple has been together ever since. After their junior year, they worked at the new student orientation, and by this time, had already decided they would marry each other. As workers, they had to stuff folders with various items, including coupons to local businesses.

“They had a bunch of coupons that we stuffed,” Rick Parks said. “One of them was for Mack and Dave’s, and we had found a ring there. So I went down to Mack and Dave’s and got 10 percent of using the freshman coupon.”

On October 1 of 1978, the couple again went down to Cabwaylingo, where Rick proposed, and married on July 14, 1979, after the two had both graduated from Marshall. Rick started a career in insurance, which in 1986 required the couple to move to a place they did not know.

Ludean was working at a school in Kanawha county at the time when Rick called and asked the question, “want to go to Elizabeth City, N.C.? She had an hour to decide.

“The whole school shut down,” Ludean recalled. “There were kids on encyclopedias researching North Carolina.” The principal ok’d a long-distance phone call to Elizabeth City to contact the mayor’s office.

“That was terrifying, because we had no idea where we were going,” she said. “We’d never been there, knew not a single soul. He already knew there were going to be issues. I didn’t have a job.”

“It brought us closer together, too, because we only could rely on each other,” Rick Parks said.

“And it’s been like that since then,” Ludean added. “We’ve been through so much that I just don’t think there’s anything that could break us.”

Rick and Ludean certainly had their fair share of struggles in life, frequently moving for Rick’s job, struggling to have a child for 13 years, being separated for a time after their son was born to accommodate their jobs, sickness and death of parents and a breast cancer diagnosis for Ludean.

After years of being away, Rick took a job back in Huntington, where they ultimately stayed to raise their son. A large reason the couple continues to live here is in gratitude to the doctors at Cabell-Huntington Hospital who treated Ludean.

“Now we’re kind of tied here because Cabell-Huntington has been so good to us,” Ludean Parks said. “We feel like I’m alive 13 years later because of the doctors here.”

The couple just recently celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary, and when it comes to what makes a marriage work, respect, loyalty and love have sustained them.

“You always respect your mate,” Ludean Parks said. “You have their back no matter what.”

“Love each other, obviously, but it has to go a lot farther than that,” Rick Parks added.

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Community Picnic kicks off revitalization efforts in Central City

By SADIE HELMICK  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

On Tuesday, July 31 the ON TRAC program launched in Central City in West Huntington. The program, created by Main Street West Virginia, focuses on the revitalization of West Huntington and 14th Street West through education, evaluation and advanced technical assistance. West Huntington was one of two communities in West Virginia designated for the ON TRAC status.

“Today is a fitting day to launch the ON TRAC program in West Huntington as it is the 125th anniversary of Old Central City’s corporation,” Mayor Steve Williams said. “We are looking forward to several years that we have in front of us. Two years to plan and then the decades to continue, but this whole area will transform. It’s going to set an example that the rest of the nation will be able to follow.”

The ON TRAC Community liaison Lauren Kemp sees the uniqueness of Central City and hopes to preserve the history of the community while also providing opportunities for the community to thrive.

“There’s a lot of history of craft and making on this street. They used to make barrels, they used to process meat here and ship it off to Chicago. There are just a lot of cool, maker-based things that happened here and that’s the true history of this street,” Kemp said. “For me, with The Wild Ramp, having local food, the only kind of food that’s local here. Its unique to this area because it’s grown here. The antiques are one of a kind items. I just want to create an environment where everything unique can thrive in West Huntington.”

A lot of volunteer efforts are happening in West Huntington and Kemp said she hopes to connect all the efforts with a formal revitalization program.

“We have had a lot strong volunteer efforts, for example, the West Huntington organization has these red trash cans around the neighborhood. They, as volunteers, go and pick up the trash and manage the bus stop,” Kemp said. “There is just this incredible volunteer effort, but there isn’t a formal revitalization program, so I hope to kind of bring ON TRAC and Main Street and the formalization and professionalization to expand what we can achieve as far as resources and interaction with businesses. There has been a lot of struggle, but we also see that there’s a lot of opportunity.”

With the ON TRAC program West Huntington will go through a two-year period in which participants will receive an assessment of strengths and weaknesses, access to an online library of databases and resources, training workshops and technical design visits.

Breanna Shell, the planning director for the City of Huntington, is happy to join the program knowing the assistance will help West Huntington gain more trajectory.

“We are so happy to be part of this year’s class of people being added to the ON TRAC program. This program is going to be able to help West Huntington and 14th Street West Main street get some outside assistance, how to organize ourselves better, how to promote ourselves better, how to think about filling in those little things that are missing and continue on the trajectory we are on, but be able to add to it in a very strategic way,” Shell said.

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Marshall University to offer oceanography class and welcome new professor

By AMANDA LARCH
NEWS EDITOR

Marshall University’s College of Science is offering an Introduction to Oceanography course this fall. Designed for non-science majors, the course was previously offered each fall semester over a decade ago, but as student enrollment continued to drop, it was discontinued.

Professor Ronald Martino, chair of the geology department, said the COS recently hired a new professor, Andrew Horst, to teach and revive the class.

“Dr. Horst’s research expertise has to do with the sea floor in its spreading as illustrated on the island of Iceland,” Martino said. “Because Iceland is one of those rare places where the mid-oceanic ridge has had so much volcanism, it’s built the level of the sea floor up above sea level, and that’s part of his research. When we interviewed him, we let him teach a couple of sample lectures, and he’s very energetic, very passionate about students and about geology in general, but I’m sure, and I know I’m this way too, when I start talking about something that I do research in, it just comes naturally that you’re pretty excited about it. That energizes the students and makes the class a lot more enjoyable.”

Horst said this will be his first time teaching an oceanography class, and some topics he will discuss in the course include a history of the oceans and how they formed, environmental policy, how the oceans and the atmosphere interact and more common subjects such as waves and tides.

“It’s actually something that is very near and dear to my heart, as far as teaching, I’ve never had a chance to teach and more common subjects such as waves and tides. Environmental policy and El Nino cycles, and how those affect places around the world on the opposite side of places that are nowhere near the ocean but are incredibly impacted by these things that are happening in the ocean. Marine pollution, ocean acidification, larger topics that can have local and global effects.”

Horst will also be instructing the lab section of the class, and he said that is where students will have more hands on learning experiences and opportunities.

“The lab section will allow us to delve into these topics a little bit more with some hands on things,” Horst said. “Of course, we’re not exactly near the ocean, but I’ve been toying with the idea of going to an aquarium. It seems more tangible than going to the coast, as much as I would love to. We’ll be doing some things with computers and there’s lots of interesting set ups with fiberoptic cables that go offshore of Washington state out to the Pacific Northwest and are feeding in real time data for these ocean bottom observatories. It’s kind of made a new perspective on studying the oceans, one place getting all sorts of data in real time and just streaming it onto the web.”

Martino said it is important to study the oceans, and the class will be relevant to today’s environmental and social issues.

“It is a good course, and so many things now, in the last 10 or 15 years, have become critical social issues that relate to the oceans,” Martino said. “The oceans aren’t important just because of the science that’s there, it’s because the oceans affect a lot of things that we depend on. We affect, we can affect and are affecting the oceans. For people to have a scientific literacy adequate to understand some of the things that are being talked about today, I think that even to a non-science major it really helps to have some understanding of what goes on in the oceans. I mean they cover 71 percent of the earth’s surface; most people don’t really know what goes on below the surface, and it’s a whole other world. Why wouldn’t somebody want to know more about it if they care about the planet?”

If the oceanography class is successful this fall, Martino said his department will continue to offer it, and in the future, it may be available to students online as well.

“We would like to offer it every fall,” Martino said. “The success would really be measured by the student feedback. We want to make sure it’s a course that’s not too rigorous but it has enough content in it to be informative, and it is designed for non-science majors, so whatever science they need to understand it, it’ll be an introduction to the basics of that so that they can appreciate whether we’re talking about the gulf stream or tides or something like that, they’ll have enough of a basic understanding of the science behind it to know how it works. I’ve had several students inquire whether it would be available online, and right now since we’re offering it just for the first time this fall it’s not online this time around, but I think that’s certainly a possibility where we might have a section that could be designed for online students, but again, there would have to be enough demand to make it worth having to do that.”

Martino said while it is designed for non-science majors and fulfills the Core II natural science requirements, he would like to see geology and other science majors take the class.

“The majority of students in the past who took it were just students who were trying to meet a natural science requirement, and this does that and meets the Core II requirement, and it fulfills the Core II natural science requirements.
The Settlement band to release new music, return to Huntington to perform

By AMANDA LARCH
NEWS EDITOR

The Settlement may have over four years’ experience, but like a musical chameleon, the band’s style is only continuing to grow and change. Colton Settle, The Settlement’s lead guitarist, singer and founder, said he has been writing and playing music for years, and The Settlement was the result when two of his previous bands blended together.

“I had a band in high school called the Colt Settle Band that I formed when I was a junior, and I had people from back home that I went to school with and then people that I met here at Marshall University that play with me,” Settle, a Marshall graduate, said. “Then The Settlement formed out of the best members of those projects, like my Huntington band, my Williamstown band and those people who really wanted to do it formed together to form The Settlement. That’s kind of the point of the name, too, like not only is it my last name but it’s also an agreement, we’re all kind of compromising and sacrificing, that kind of thing. We all believe in the same common goal.”

The band is working to release two new singles. Settle said one of the singles is influenced by pop rock while the other has a more country music style. The Settlement previously released a self-titled album in September of 2016, with all original songs, and they recently recorded the two singles. The band’s music can be found on many music platforms including Apple Music, Amazon, Spotify and YouTube.

“Releasing our album was a big thing for us because we had about four or five sessions in recording it and then another several months of listening and mixing, just doing that back and forth,” Settle said. “So when we finally put it out, it was like a sigh of relief. That felt really good, like we did this, we worked on this together, we put it out and that was just kind of like a cornerstone, monumental thing that we did.”

With the release of the singles will come other new plans for the band including re-vamping their website and creating music videos for the singles as well as a short documentary promotional video, Settle said.

“We’re working on this mini doc promotional video, and working to supplement the singles and the website,” Settle said. “It’s kind of like getting all the plans in motion so we can plan even bigger and better next year. So, we can get a nice Electronic Press Kit and a nice website to reach out to more people.”

The Settlement’s sound is a mixture of all genres that influence its members, Settle said.

“We’re classified as a jam band, but we’re not just like making it up,” Settle said. “We do have some structures, we like to improvise, and we like to have fun creatively within other genres. So, sometimes it’s funk, sometimes its reggae. We’re definitely a mixture, but one thing we try to do is we try to approach, no matter what genre we play, or what song we’re playing, we try to approach it with the same kind of intent. Like let’s see how far we can stretch it, push it, speed it up, slow it down.”

Settle said some aspects of The Settlement that make the band stand out from other local bands include their set time, variety of songs and their use of different instruments.

“I would venture to say we probably have the longest songs in town,” Settle said. “We usually average about five or six songs an hour. Another thing is, a lot of bands, and there are a lot of great bands around here, spend most of their time trying to make it the same every time. They basically play it the way that it’s recorded on their album, and maybe they’ll have like a list of songs that they’re doing that they just released, so that’s what you’re going to hear when you go see them. I think something that’s different about us is some of these songs are 10 years old, so we’ve played them maybe hundreds of different ways. We also might throw in a song that we worked up two weeks ago that you’ve never heard before, we might play an old cover from the 40s, we might play a really old song that I wrote years ago. It’s going to be a mixed bag, it’s not going to be just one era. It’s going to be a time machine kind of thing. We’re also, I think, the only band in Huntington that has a trombone, a full-time trombonist, Alex Cardwell.”

Settle offered some advice for anyone interested in starting a band.

“Number one, I would say, is just be focused on whatever it is you want to do,” Settle said. “Don’t think about where you are now, think about where you want to be, set realistic goals for yourself to get to that point and hold yourself accountable to those goals. But be patient because you’re going to be let down and have a lot of doors slammed in your face. I can’t tell you how many times I call a venue or we send an email out to a festival and we don’t even hear anything back or we just hear an immediate ‘No.’ You have to be persistent. Another thing is, nobody gets too old to practice. Just because you’re already all right doesn’t mean you should stop working on your craft and pushing your fellow band mates to be better and if they can’t handle that criticism and they don’t want to be better, then you should find new band mates. Try to find people that want to better themselves and want to see you get even better.”

The Settlement performing at a recent concert, with Colten Settle (left) playing lead guitar and singing. They recently recorded two new singles to be released soon and will return to Huntington August 11 to play a show at the V Club.
MARSHALL THUNDERING HERD
MEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 7
EKU

Nov. 11
Home

Nov. 14
Home

Nov. 19
Home

Nov. 23
Maryland

Nov. 28
Home

Dec. 1
Ohio

Dec. 5
Duquesne

Dec. 8
Home

Dec. 10
Home

Dec. 15
Akron

Dec. 22
Texas A&M

Dec. 31
Virginia

Jan. 3
Old Dominion

Jan. 5
Charlotte

Jan. 12
Home

Jan. 17
Home

Jan. 19
Home

Jan. 21
WKU

Jan. 24
Louisiana Tech

Jan. 26
USM

Feb. 2
Home

Feb. 7
North Texas

Feb. 9
Rice

Feb. 14
Home

Feb. 16
Home

PHOTO BY UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS
RANDY MOSS INDUCTED INTO NFL HALL OF FAME IN OHIO

STAFF REPORT

Former NFL wide receiver and Marshall University Alumus Randy Moss was inducted into the National Football League Hall of Fame Aug. 4 along with seven other NFL players. Moss played for the Marshall Thundering Herd in 1996 and 1997 before being drafted by the Minnesota Vikings in 1998.

During Moss’ time at Marshall he scored 54 receiving touchdowns and held records for most games with a touchdown reception in a season, most consecutive games with a touchdown reception in a season, most receiving yards gained by a freshman in a season and most touchdown receptions caught by a freshman in a season.

Following seven years playing for the Vikings, Moss played for four other NFL teams including the Oakland Raiders, New England Patriots and the Tennessee Titans before finishing his career in 2012 at the San Francisco 49ers.

Moss broke 22 records while playing for the NFL including most receptions in a season, most touchdown receptions by a rookie in a season, most games in a season with at least two touchdown receptions, most receiving yards for a player before their 30th birthday and most touchdown receptions for a player before their 30th birthday.

Lewis urges togetherness and love in Hall of Fame speech

By BARRY WILNER
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — One of the great leaders football has seen, Ray Lewis used his Pro Football Hall of Fame induction speech to call for more enlightened leadership in the United States.

The last of the seven members of the class of 2018 on hand to be enshrined, Lewis eschewed notes and the lectern, instead strolling along the stage and passionately urging his listeners to come together.

"Are you living every day to make this world better?" Lewis asked Saturday night at the end of his 33-minute oratory, often invoking the teachings of Martin Luther King. "Think what we can do if we work together as a country ... teaching our nation to love each other again.

"It's how we react to the challenges in our life that shows our greatness. How do we execute that dream? Who will answer that knock on the door in the middle of the night? And it has to start right now. We need people willing to fight for what is good and what is right."

Turning to the 140 Hall of Famers on the stage, he told them: "We can go from being legends to building a legacy bigger than football, bigger than sports. Look at what unites us ... the answer is simple, love. Hope, faith and love, and the greatest is love."

Lewis was joined by Randy Moss, Brian Dawkins, Brian Urlacher, Jerry Kramer, Robert Brazile and Bobby Beathard as inductees at the hall ceremony.

One of the best linebackers in NFL history, Lewis won two Super Bowls with the Ravens; he often chanted "BALTIMORE!" during his speech.

"Tell me something can’t be done is like pouring lighter fluid on an open flame," said Lewis, a two-time Defensive Player of the Year who won a second Super Bowl for the 2012 season — coming back from a torn triceps — then retired. He was the MVP of the 2001 title game.

"I came back, and boy did I come back," Lewis said. "When you walk off the last time with that thing, that Lombardi, it’s a confirmation I am living proof of the impossible."

A first-year nominee, Lewis was selected 26th overall in the 1996 draft — what were other teams thinking? He wasn’t even Baltimore’s first choice; Jonathan Ogden was, and the big tackle made the Hall of Fame in 2013.

His impact was immediate, both on the field, in the locker room, and even in pregame introductions, when his “squirrel dance” fired up fans and teammates alike. He and Ogden even did a short version on the stage.

Lewis was the first player with 40 sacks and 30 interceptions in a career. An eight-time All-Pro and inside linebacker on the 2000s NFL All-Decade Team, he had a franchise-record 2,643 career tackles.
EDITORIAL: Preparing for the Fall semester

In just a couple of weeks, campus will be buzzing. Parking will be scarce, the student center packed, and student groups on the move in a mad dash to recruit. The energy of a new semester is always exciting—new classes, new professors, fresh optimism. It’s certainly a stark contrast from finals week when everyone is just tired.

In preparing for the new semester, it can be overwhelming also. There are goals made, expectations delivered, and the constant pressure that faces our age group to have our lives completely figured out.

There are steps, though, that can ease the process, that can help us be successful and achieve, and be better for it:

Wake up early. The college student’s worst nightmare, but truly, to have time in the morning, un rushed and quiet can greatly impact the day ahead. Meditate. Pray. Read. Drink coffee. Start the day by doing things you love.

Exercise. We all know that exercise is important, but the benefits truly are astounding. Not only does it make us physically healthier, but mentally and emotionally as well. Also, having fitness goals helps to achieve other goals.

Keep your space tidy. Make your bed. A phenomenon in life is that when our homes and rooms are clean and tidy, there is something that just switch es in us, making us more productive. Not to mention, after a stressful day where life feels out of control, it just feels so good to have a controlled space that is comfortable.

There are so many different ways to make life easier, but really it’s all about time management.

Keep your space tidy. Make your bed. A phenomenon in life is that when our homes and rooms are clean and tidy, there is something that just switch es in us, making us more productive. Not to mention, after a stressful day where life feels out of control, it just feels so good to have a controlled space that is comfortable.

There are so many different ways to make life easier, but really it’s all about time management.

The second we lose control of our time, other grievances.

LET ME BE FRANK: On Modern Romance

By FRANKLIN NORTON
MANAGING EDITOR

The other day I had the opportunity to sit down and have coffee with a couple married nearly 40 years.

I was interested in their story for the fact that it was a story of two strangers who met face-to-face, who initiated conversation while standing in line or sitting next to each other in class.

Go to any classroom on campus today, about 10 minutes before class starts, and you will find students buried deep in their phones, isolated as they wait for the professor to arrive.

I asked this couple if they felt their story still would have happened in today’s circumstances, to which I received a disturbing answer: “I don’t think so. I don’t think people make those connections anymore.”

In a world of Tinder, Snapchat, texting and The Bachelor, a show I admittedly love to watch, it is clear that the culture of romance and love has changed rapidly over the past several decades, a change I don’t think our human condition knows how to handle.

Aziz Ansari writes in his book, Modern Romance, “our romantic options are unprecedented and our tools to sort and communicate with them are staggering. And that raises the question: Why are so many people frustrated?”

Is it possible that we are losing the ability to connect with people in real time? Our text messages and social media profiles are so carefully crafted that we are losing that charming, authentic, raw and even awkward human interaction that is the beginning of so many love stories.

We project our ideal selves and search desperately for our ideal companion and get frustrated when we realize the person is a person. There is a problem with a culture that dates the same way they buy shoes. People are not products. There are no warranties and refunds.

I’m no dating expert or love guru, not by a long shot, but I do know that I see a culture confused and confounded, anxious and lonely. We could learn a thing or two from older couples.

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Full Circle Ceramics brings community, unique designs to Huntington

By HANNA PENNINGTON
LIFE EDITOR

For Noelle Horsfield, owner and designer at Full Circle Ceramics in Heritage Station, community is everything. Horsfield grew up across the river from Huntington in rural Southern Ohio and said while her home was physically nearly an hour away, she always felt a sense of home in West Virginia.

“When we came to town, we came to Huntington, so it feels like a hometown to me,” Horsfield said. “I went to Marshall, although I didn’t graduate, I was a painting major in fine arts.”

After marrying her husband, Scott Horsfield, the couple relocated to Lexington and began their nearly 10-year long journey traveling and working all over the east coast. While living in Maine and creating with many different mediums of art, Noelle found her calling working with clay.

“Ceramics never lets me get bored because it changes so much and there’s so many different challenges and things you can do,” Noelle said. In 2011, Noelle and Scott returned to Appalachia and Noelle began pursuing ceramics as a job as opposed to just learning about it as she had done in the past.

Noelle worked from her home in Huntington and sold her pieces to shops in larger cities like Brooklyn, New York, but it was her longing for a sense of community that drew her to open Full Circle Ceramics in June 2016. “It felt like I was trapped in a home studio all day and saw no one ever,” Noelle said. “I didn’t really get to interact or see people interact with the work or be a part of the community at all.”

Noelle said her and Scott took a gamble and opened up in a small space next door to their current location. “When we found that space we were like, ‘okay, let’s see if this works,’ because you just, I don’t know any other ceramic artist that has done this exact business model in terms of having a place to work and make things in the same space that you sell them, and you’re the person actually selling them rather than another shop or gallery,” Noelle said. “And it did work. People were really supportive of it.”

Scott Horsfield said while the couple has been all over the country, the setup of the business cannot be found elsewhere. “Maybe I’m biased, but I’ve not seen any work like this, ever,” Scott said. “Where it’s available so you can come in and just shop and feel comfortable and be right there with the artist, that’s pretty cool.”

Noelle said she has worked hard to incorporate more low-price items in addition to her handmade ceramic pieces since the opening of the shop. “We started adding the t-shirts and the stickers and I got a decal printer and that let me do some lower price things,” Noelle said. “So if people couldn’t afford a fully handmade piece they still got a part of it.”

After receiving such amazing support from the community, the shop expanded and moved to its current location, which offers more of Noelle’s work as well as pieces from other small businesses all over the country. “We learned so much next door,” Noelle said. “We were able to set ourselves up for the next steps of continuing to offer more cool, interesting things made by small makers both from West Virginia and other areas, but they’re all sustainable small businesses where I get things that I don’t make myself.”

While the couple takes pride in the success of Full Circle Ceramics, they said the most rewarding part of the job is helping in the revitalization of downtown Huntington. “The people of Huntington are pretty awesome,” Scott said. “Huntington gets a lot of bad press, and we’ve got issues, sure, but I don’t know what city doesn’t. I think there’s this sense of responsibility and urge to be something more within the community.”

Scott said the most important thing he and Noelle can do is reciprocate the support they receive from other locally owned businesses in the area. “We’re not going to be able to eliminate the drug problem completely, we’re not going to be able to increase everybody’s income level, we’re not going to be able to make a large company come in here and set footprint for lots of jobs,” Scott said. “But what we can do is support each other and really rally together to make a difference.”

Noelle and Scott said when they first left the Huntington area in 2003, Pullman Square was nothing but a parking lot, but when they moved back the area had been developed and people were beginning to get excited about the community. “We wanted to be a part of it and push things forward and it’s so great to be able to do this in Huntington and be a part of small businesses coming back to downtown and supporting each other,” Noelle said. “People are coming out of their way to come here, this isn’t on the way to something else. So they’re intentionally coming here to shop and support a local business, and we want to do that back.”

For Noelle, it’s important to offer items that cannot be found elsewhere, and she believes this is what keeps customers coming in again and again. “It’s important to give people something new when they come in, because they like that, they tell us, ‘we can’t believe there’s different stuff every time we come in here, it’s like a treasure hunt,’” Noelle said. “I think that’s the real key to revitalizing a downtown like this; you have to give them something they can’t get at the mall or the chain stores or online.”

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requirements,” Martino said. “We have different science courses, and some of them meet those Core II requirements for natural science and some don’t. In addition to getting a background, they’ll get credit for the Core II natural science. I would like our majors to take it even though it’s not a required course because it really does tie a lot of things together that really none of our other courses really do in a very direct way, so I’ve encouraged our majors to take it.”

GLY 150: Introduction to Oceanography will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 to 12:15 p.m. and the accompanying lab will be Wednesdays from 1 until 2:50 p.m. The lecture meets in room 276 in the Science Building, while the lab room is 167 of the Science Building. Students interested in taking the course may contact Martino at martinor@marshall.edu.

“It’s a really good course for any science major and for people who really aren’t interested in science, but they’re interested in the environment, they’re interested in marine life, things like that. I think it would be a natural draw for them,” Martino said. “I’m very pleased that we have somebody who’s a really good student oriented teacher coming onboard to do it, and I think it’ll make a world of difference. The person who taught the course in the past almost put you to sleep. He’s brilliant person, very smart, but if I put him in a room and if I put this new fellow in a room, it would be like looking at two different species. But that’s true of all professors, we’re all different. I’m just really encouraged by the new person; I think he will make a significant difference in the appeal of the course. The other thing that I think will make it pretty popular is the fact that it is so relevant. It gets into many things that are important to many people today.”

“If you present it in such an interesting enough way, I think, and within the context of the whole course of understanding the planet, I think it can be really helpful and insightful that even if you don’t care about geology, maybe someday you’ll go to the ocean and you’ll see these waves and see these other things and you’ll remember back to something and feel a little more confident in your understanding,” Horst said. “Just getting students to think a little bit more in depth about it and have enough interest to dig a little bit deeper into it but have enough solid foundation that they feel confident and know where to go find reliable information. Those are my main hope.”

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better. Take yourself out of your comfort zone and play with people that are better than you and you’ll learn something.”

This summer, The Settlement has been touring each weekend, playing a different show almost every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Settle said starting in the fall, he would like to perform more shows in Huntington. Some of the venues The Settlement frequents include the V Club and Black Sheep Burritos while they play outdoor concerts at the Ritter Park amphitheater Heritage Station.

“Our next Huntington show is going to be August 11 at the V Club in Huntington,” Settle said. “And then our next Huntington show after that will be will be August 24 at Black Sheep. We’ll be playing September 29 at Funkdafest which is a $10 all day festival, and if you go you get into the after party for free. We’ve got another 8 or 9 shows for the summer and then we’ll be doing a fall tour, announcing a fall tour in probably late August.”

Settle shared some of his favorite memories so far with The Settlement, including performing with blind local legend and musician Randy Gilkey and playing his guitar when Settle broke a string on his instrument.

“One of my favorite moments was back in April, The Settlement played a show with The M.F.B., and their guitar player was sick at the time, and they needed a guitar player, so I ended up being their sub guitar player for the night. The Settlement played a set, MFB played a set, the Settlement played a set, MFB played a set, and I just stayed on stage the whole night. Because I was playing so much, I broke a string during the second Settlement set, and without missing a beat, I put my guitar down and grabbed Randy’s guitar because he wasn’t up there at the time and started playing it, and then finished my set out. Well, when Randy got back on stage, I go to give him his guitar back and go to change my string, and I asked if he cared if I played his guitar for another song. He said, ‘Oh no man, that sounds killer.’ And so, hearing Randy Gilkey give me the seal of approval, ‘You sound great man, you can use my guitar.’ He actually sat in and played two songs with my band that night, so that was really awesome.”

Settle said he wanted to thank his fans for all their support over the years.

“I love you guys so much, you’re awesome,” Settle said. “Thank you for believing in us and keep coming out, invite your friends. If everybody invited one person, we’d double our numbers, you know? So, tell your friends, and we’re going to be putting out a lot of content for them.”

Amanda Larch can be contacted at larch15@marshall.edu.
Michelle Obama announces week of action to sign up voters

By ASHLEY THOMAS
ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON (AP) — Michelle Obama is marking the 53rd anniversary of the Voting Rights Act by urging Americans to participate in a week of action to get people signed up to vote.

The former first lady, a co-chairwoman of a nonpartisan organization to encourage voting, announced Monday that the When We All Vote Week of Action will be held Sept. 22-29.

She said members of When We All Vote will be traveling the country to register voters and get them excited about the November midterm elections, when Democrats hope to capitalize on a wave of anger against President Donald Trump and take back control of Congress from the Republicans.

"With so much at stake in our country, sitting on the sidelines isn’t an option," Mrs. Obama said in an email to supporters.

Flagship events will be held in at least 12 cities, including Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Chicago and New York. The group wants volunteers to host events in other communities that week as well.

Other co-chairs of the group include actor Tom Hanks; "Hamilton" creator Lin-Manuel Miranda; singers Janelle Monae, Faith Hill and Tim McGraw; and NBA point guard Chris Paul of the Houston Rockets.

The organization said they anticipate that Mrs. Obama and other co-chairs will attend some of the events.

The Voting Rights Act, signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on Aug. 6, 1965, prohibits racial discrimination in voting. Mrs. Obama said it’s important to recognize the organizers, marchers and other volunteers who helped get the law passed.

"We want to honor their legacy and continue their work to ensure that every eligible American cast their vote, work that is far from finished," the former first lady said in a video.
Marshall Artists Series announces its 82nd season lineup

**OCTOBER**
11 - The Barenaked Ladies, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center
26 - Pulitzer Prize-winner Doris Kearns Goodwin will be discussing her book, “Leadership in Turbulent Times,” Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center

**NOVEMBER**
1-4 - Fall International Film Festival, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center
6 - Brian Wilson and The Beach Boys, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center
27 - Jersey Boys, Joan C. Edwards Playhouse

**DECEMBER**
4 - Gregory Porter, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center

**JANUARY**
28 - Evita, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center

**FEBRUARY**
7-10 - Spring International Film Festival, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center
16 - Breakfast at Tiffany’s in Concert, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center

**MARCH**
5 - Cinderella, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center
9 - Steve Martin and Martin Short, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center

**APRIL**
2 - The Banff Mountain Film Festival, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center
9 - Rock of Ages, Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center