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The Parthenon, June 26, 2019

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Huntington celebrates PRIDE

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Huntington Pride offers ‘rainbow’ of community events

By SARAH INGRAM
CAMPUS EDITOR

Rainbows could be seen across town after community members showed their support of the LGBTQ community at the city of Huntington’s third annual Pride Picnic.

While events like the picnic, Herd Glow 5K and Drag Me to Brunch having already passed, the month will come to a close this week with Coming Out Monologues, Drag Me to Bingo, the Miss Huntington Pride Pageant and the Pride Festival.

Though it was the third time the Pride Picnic took place in Huntington, it is the inaugural year for the other events. Ally Layman, president of the board of Huntington Pride, said Pride Week and month is a time for the Huntington community to see the positive aspects of the LGBTQ community.

“The events can bring positivity, change,” Layman said. “There can be a new light shined on the LGBTQ community that hasn’t been before. We want to change minds toward the good instead of everything being focused on the negativity.”

Layman also said the events during the week are aimed toward attracting people with specific interests, but the Pride Festival at the end of the week is for everyone.

The picnic included a variety of vendors in support of the LGBTQ community. From local clay makers to religious organizations, attendees were able to see what the community has to offer as well as seeing just a few of the organizations in the city that are accepting of the Pride community.

Layman and Justin Murdock, vice president of the Huntington Pride board, said several businesses in the city have shown support by creating and selling custom Pride attire.

“Huntington has brought it,” Murdock said. “We’ve been amazed. We have so many vendors, so many sponsors, so many of our allies that are jumping in and saying ‘what can we do?’”

Layman said the support in the area has been amazing.

“We also have the support of the city and the support of the mayor,” Layman said. “Now is the time, the perfect opportunity to be visible.”

Individuals also showed their support at booths that provided ‘free mom hugs’ and conversations for those who may not have been accepted by their families, Layman said. She said the Pride Festival will include some of the same participants.

“We have over 70 moms and dads and family members to give hugs for members of the LGBTQ community whose families may not support them,” Layman said.

Murdock said Huntington Pride has been working to provide a variety of events in order to attract the varying personalities of the community.

“The big goal is to bring the community together,” Murdock said. “That’s why we have so many different events, so that as many different types of folks as there are in the LGBTQ community and our allies can all have something that they want to go to.”

Speakers at the event included Mayor Steve Williams and Marshall University President Jerry Gilbert.

“We are an ‘Open to All’ community,” Gilbert said. “We want people to feel welcome at Marshall and to bring whatever their experiences are to this campus and not feel like they have to cover up anything.”

Layman said out of all the events, she is most excited for the festival because it will be the time that everyone can come together while remembering where they have come from and where they hope to go.

“This is a day to look back at people who paved the way for us to do Pride. We want to honor our past and celebrate our future,” Layman said. “[The festival] is like the cherry on top of the sundae. Huntington has never seen anything like it, and it’s our allies and our communities coming together to celebrate that.”

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“We have over 70 moms and dads and family members to give hugs for members of the LGBTQ community whose families may not support them.”

Ally Layman
By SYDNEY SHELTON
CONTRIBUTOR
Marshall University’s accomplishments and a look at what lies ahead were highlighted at the State of the University address in Washington, D.C. last week to promote ‘Marshall on the Rise.’

The annual event aims to acknowledge what the faculty, staff and students have accomplished in the last year and what success they hope to see in the year to come.

Mike Hamrick, Marshall athletic director, served as master of ceremonies for the event, and was first to mention the accomplishments that Herd Zone had this season.

Hamrick said he was proud of the football team’s bowl game success, the men and women’s basketball team competing in post-season play, as well as the men winning the CIT.

Hamrick also discussed the acquisition of the Flint property in the Highlawn area of Huntington and the plans of the new university baseball stadium to be constructed there.

Senator Shelley Moore Capito also attended, congratulating those who helped Marshall reach R2 Research status.

“Those things build and build and build,” Capito said. “This is not something that just happens, it is not something that happens overnight either. It is something that you build on and you work toward. With good things you get good things, by upping your status as a research university you are going to see a lot more research dollars flowing toward Marshall.”

The R2 classification ranks Marshall in the top 6% of American universities, landing it among universities such as Baylor and Wake Forest.

President Jerry Gilbert’s State of the University speech emphasized the new theme that is ‘Marshall on the Rise.’

Gilbert said one of his early goals when becoming Marshall University president was to take the research expenditures to 50 million dollars a year.

“We are now at 32 million dollars,” Gilbert said, “A strong indicator that Marshall is on the rise.”

Other successes and improvements that Gilbert discussed were the donation of $25,000 from Brad and Elise Smith, which is the one of the three largest private donations in Marshall history, the completion of the Marshall School of Pharmacy, the new residential hall and other changes coming for students in the fall. The university is also renovating parts of Old Main, the Memorial Student Center and the bookstore.

“We are on the Rise,” Gilbert said “We want you to rise with us. Go Herd.”

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Dementia Friendly Huntington makes connections between dementia, businesses

By HANNA PENNINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
A grant-funded coalition in Huntington is working to make connections between businesses and those with dementia through training and community activities.

“The disease is no prevention no cure,” David Nisbet, founder of Dementia Friendly Huntington, said. “So we need to figure out how, as a community, to help this segment.”

Founded in 2018, Dementia Friendly Huntington aims to raise awareness of the disease in the area, not only to help the those directly impacted, but their caregivers and loved ones, as well.

Nisbet’s father suffered from Lewy body dementia, which he said led him to want to bring further awareness to the disease.

“I wanted to do something,” Nisbet said.

As the owner of Valvoline Express Care, Nisbet said he began by distributing the 10 warning signs of dementia and help line for caregivers in his stores across the Tri-State.

In 2017, Nisbet became heavily involved with the Alzheimer’s Association of Charleston.

“The Alzheimer’s Association called me and said, ‘there’s a federal grant available, we think you should go for it,’” Nisbet said. “I added my own twist: dementia friendly is business friendly.”

Dementia Friendly Huntington’s main goal, Nisbet said, is to prove that having a better understanding of dementia is good for the community.

“It is truly like trying to bust through the glass ceiling,” Nisbet said. “It takes more time than anyone could imagine.”

Since the coalition’s start in 2018, Nisbet said he has hosted a lunch and learn, spoke in front of city council and the mayor to discuss the organization’s efforts, joined the force of being dementia friendly.

“We just need some time and effort from these businesses that want to join the force of being dementia friendly.”

David Nisbet

Open to All campaign, which Nisbet said expands the way he can communicate, and began free training sessions.

Nisbet also said the first ‘Dementia Friendly Restaurant Night’ has been confirmed for August 7 at Jim’s Steak and Spaghetti House.

“We are going to launch there because it meets all the criteria,” Nisbet said. “It’s a nice, quiet place to eat, it’s on the first floor; parking is pretty good, so everything fits. We met with one of the owners and they said they were 100% on board.”

Nisbet said training will take place beforehand, and if all goes to plan, ‘Dementia Friendly Restaurant Night’ will reoccur the first Wednesday of each month.

“Our efforts and through an action of change, through introducing a ‘Dementia Friendly Restaurant Night,’ my goal is that others will see and think, ‘wow, they’re packed. They’re full. We want that rush, how do we do it?’ And of course the way to do that is through the training,” Nisbet said.

“Be willing to go through training. It doesn’t cost anything, we don’t charge anything for the materials, we just need some time and effort from these businesses that want to join the force of being dementia friendly.”

Nisbet said it is important to begin making these connections to give those affected a safe space outside of their homes.

“There’s always a second victim with dementia, the one with the disease, and the primary caregiver, because they’re giving up everything. They have to transition from spouse to caretaker, and it’s definitely a different role. We need to help them understand that the community can help them,” Nisbet said. “They don’t know where it’s a safe zone, they don’t have any safe zones but their house, so they stay home and are scared to go out because of what their loved ones might say or do. We need to let them know that there are safe places in the community where they can go and be welcomed.”

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Bus system improves student independence, safety

Marshall’s Green Machine is often utilized by students on late nights and weekends.

By SARAH INGRAM
CAMPUS EDITOR

Since its initial run in 2016, a Marshall bus has provided more than 55 thousand rides for members of the herd. The Green Machine, along with the other busses that run with the Tristate Transit Authority (TTA), has been helping students gain independence and stay safe all while doing so for practically nothing according to the Paul Davis, CEO of the TTA.

“The TTA is essentially free, and you can go basically anywhere,” Davis said. “Some students really need a way to get around if they are maybe freshmen that don’t have a vehicle, or anyone that doesn’t have a vehicle, or international students, too. It’s an added value to Marshall.

After former Student Body Vice President Izzy Rogner pushed for students to have access to the busses, Davis worked with Rogner and Marshall University to establish what exactly the students wanted the Green Machine to do for them.

Some of the research showed that students wanted later hours and direct routes to places that Marshall students often go to, such as the Visual Arts Center in Pullman Plaza, Kroger on 5th Avenue and more.

Students can use the Green Machine and any of the other TTA busses by just swiping their Marshall student IDs when they get on the bus. While they do pay a $16 fee in tuition to cover the TTA, there is no limit to how many times a student can ride the busses.

According to some students, including Patricia Thornton, a recent Marshall education graduate, the free access to the bus has been a positive impact on her life.

“The bus system is truly a blessing,” Thornton said. “I can go to the store, downtown and wherever I want whenever I want to. And just by swiping my ID”

Thornton also stated the bus was not free when she had started at Marshall, and she said she believes it is something that students should take advantage of.

“When I started going to school, this was not available,” Thornton said. “The busses are extremely helpful, exceptionally helpful. When I found out about the Marshall route, I was like ‘sign me up, this is great.’

Davis also stated students having access to essentially free and reliable transportation gives them many opportunities in the city, so he was happy to partner with Marshall University.

“We knew Marshall University having this partnership with the TTA would always be a good thing,” Davis said. “It gives students independence, opportunities to go to the grocery store, employment. We just knew it would be an added value to coming to Marshall University.”

Unprecedented 9/11, terrorism course challenges popular narratives

By DOUGLAS HARDING
NEWS EDITOR

This summer, Marshall University history professor Chris White began teaching his unprecedented (at the university) class on the causes and implications of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States and related terrorism.


“The citizens of this country have a responsibility to think critically more so than any others in history,” White said, “because our government is the most powerful in world history, and it has the ability to marshal unparalleled quantities of resources to achieve its goals.”

American citizens must be capable of accurately understanding world events, White said, because the U.S.’s overall impact on the world, whether destructive or prosperous, depends on their doing so.

“When it comes to the War on Terrorism,” he said, “if Americans don’t know what has caused terrorist attacks against us over time, we are by definition doomed to foment more terrorism.”

White said he believes many Americans have a wide array of misconceptions regarding the causes of the September 11 attacks, including that they were “an inside job perpetrated by the U.S. government itself.”

Such a conspiracy theory ignores the realistic routes and history of anti-U.S. terrorism, White said, “and that is what the course examines.”

Any student who cares about the security of the U.S. and its role in the world should learn about the issues explored in the class, especially anyone who is not familiar with scholarly accounts of the U.S.’s role in the Middle East, White said.

“The course looks at scholarship rather than opinions,” he said.

White, who also teaches classes at Marshall on drug wars, the Vietnam War and world history, said “a common theme of [his] classes is to cultivate the value of evidence-driven analysis.”

Garry Roland, who is enrolled in Marshall’s ROTC program, decided to take White’s 9/11 and terrorism course over summer after taking his Vietnam War class during a previous semester.

“I really enjoyed class with Dr. White. I took his Vietnam War class last semester at Marshall, and it really got me interested in history,” Roland said. “Now I’m going to get a minor in history just because I took that one class.”

Roland, who was deployed to Afghanistan twice, said he was eager to take the class because of his interest in the history of terrorism in the Middle East.

“For me, Dr. White’s class actually connected so many dots and answered so many questions I had when I was deployed about how everything unfolded and ‘how did we get here?’” he said. “He’s really a phenomenal instructor.”

White’s classes have provided him with a significantly deeper understanding of several different aspects of history, Roland said.

“You really want to educate yourself on these truths, even if just to have a better idea about how people make decisions and how politicians make decisions during times of war,” he said. “Wars shape history. Almost all big decisions throughout history have been made during or because of wars, including a lot of bad decisions by the U.S. government.”

Roland said White’s thorough analyses of information and different perspectives presented throughout his classes are evidence of his knowledge and teaching abilities.

“He really brings a special touch to his classes,” Roland said. “As a veteran who’s been deployed to the Middle East two times, the class just answered so many questions for me.”

White’s 9/11 and terrorism course will also be available during the upcoming fall semester.

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Local creators pushing cinematic boundaries

By DOUGLAS HARDING
NEWS EDITOR

In April of last year, one Marshall University student, Jason Morgan, then-sophomore commercial music major, had the idea to tell a coming-of-age story of Appalachian artistry, culture and inspiration in West Virginia.

Today, more than a year in-the-works, West Virginia’s first ever musical feature film, “Wake Up Dorothy,” produced by and starring only Appalachian creators, including over 25 Marshall students, faculty and alumni, has entered post-production processes, Morgan, who is a producer, director, screenwriter and composer for the film, said.

“Wake Up Dorothy” stars several current Marshall students, including Kristin Johnson as Dorothy, Isaiah Johnson as Johnny Wolfe, Megan Bailey as Raven, Cayce Murphey as Gracie, Cameran Macklin as Stone and Paige Looney as The Twister Photographer, Andre Williams as Ari and Daniel Parlock as The Market Director.

The film, inspired by a song of the same title he wrote in July 2016, is filmed almost entirely in West Virginia and follows the stories of several aspiring artists and their struggles for achievement, self-expression and finding their places in the culture they are a part of, Morgan said.

All the songs showcased in the film were written originally for the production by West Virginian songwriters and performed entirely by Appalachian musicians, Morgan said.

“The goal was simple:” he said, “Create an opportunity for West Virginia and Appalachian creators to collaborate on a cinematic project that would challenge and change the atmosphere of creativity in the state and region.”

In Appalachia, too many people believe home-grown creativity is dead or dying, Morgan said, when in reality, creativity is alive and well, but artists simply lack networking opportunities and resources readily available in other places.

“I know of dozens of creators—across photography, visual art, film, music, performance and more—in the metro area who do amazing work but feel that there’s not a place for the arts here,” he said. “But if we band together, we could change that; make opportunities. You have to be a groundbreaker; a pioneer; a mountain climber. True.”

“Wake Up Dorothy” is a film telling a story not often told in popular narratives about West Virginia and will be rooted in the ideas of positivity, courage, art, creativity, dreams and inspiration, Morgan said.

“It’s a unique way of storytelling that has its own flare and heartbeat that is often missing in both independent and Appalachian cinema,” he said, “a certain magical, whimsical, bohemian artistry that is truly vibrant.”

Morgan said he and the film’s other creators have been adamant about featuring as many Appalachian locals as possible in the film from the very beginning.

“In doing this, it shows that we, as Appalachians, are telling our story here,” he said.

Kadin Tooley, a junior video production major at Marshall and an assistant director and director of photography for the film, said “Wake Up Dorothy” could be uniquely inspirational for youth in Appalachia.

“To see a story so genuine and pure be told on film in this area is a rare commodity,” Tooley said. “This can be something that children see and know that there are good stories being told here in West Virginia.”

The story presented in the film, he said, is about being a creator in a community of other creators while learning about oneself and one’s art.

“It is about family in its broadest sense,” Tooley said.

Tooley said his experiences working on the film have also proved to be a valuable learning and growing process for himself as a creative.

“This film has provided me with more contacts and experiences than I could have ever asked for,” he said.

Morgan said he hopes “Wake Up Dorothy” will be premiered in Huntington, across the state and at festivals throughout the United States early next year.

The film is being produced in association with Huntington broadcasting and media production company Studio 291.

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International program encourages campus involvement

By SARAH INGRAM
CAMPUS EDITOR

47 countries. One campus.

Marshall University’s INTO Center has been home to international students from throughout the world since its establishment in 2013. Though many assume the title is an acronym, the director of student experience, Jim Clagg, laughed as he explained its meaning and what the INTO Center does for students.

“It is not an acronym for anything. INTO doesn’t stand for anything, it is more of a mindset of INTO getting into the university,” Clagg said. “We help students internationally who want to come here and study. We provide a conduit to help the students learn and to provide extra support to the students who come here.”

With multiple pathways for the students to choose from in order to find what route fits them best, INTO offers its international students an opportunity to improve their English and learn about American culture while also focusing on their studies.

The program encourages international students to explore a new way of life by getting involved on campus, going out on excursions to different places in the city and by hosting their own events for domestic students to come interact with them.

Clagg highlighted how he wants international students to understand that Marshall welcomes them and hope they feel like they are part of the herd, but INTO is also to help domestic students become more culturally aware of other countries in the world.

“The core of it is we want to help our student body base from America become more culturally competent, and giving them the opportunity to do that through working with a new international student is amazing,” Clagg said.

see INTO on pg. 10
Women’s soccer looks to start season competitively with all healthy players

By SYDNEY SHELTON
CONTRIBUTOR

Marshall University’s women’s soccer season kicks off Aug. 10 at Virginia Tech, and Head Coach Kevin Long said he expects a healthy and competitive season from the Herd.

“For the first time in several years, we start the season healthy,” Long said. “With that, we expect to be competitive throughout the season and we are setting our sights on the conference championship.”

Last year, the team went 5-9-3, but this season the team is looking for an improvement.

“We have enough talent,” Long said. “The team has really come together over the last year, so we are looking for a break-through year. Much of our spring and summer has been spent relearning a winning culture and on the steps behind the scenes that help build success.”

From Hurricane, West Virginia to Norway, the Herd’s incoming class is diverse and from different areas of the world. The Herd is set to have 11 newcomers. Of these players, several have competed for National Championships or gone against tough competition while playing with their club teams.

Long also announced that senior defender Metzli Gonzalez and senior midfielder/forward Gabby Powers would be the 2019 captains.

“I haven’t been a part of a process where two players had such overwhelming support to be named captains from everyone in the program,” Long said.

Gonzalez started every match last season and in 16 of the 17 she played every minute. Powers also started all 17 games last season.

The Herd will start its season with four straight road games facing Virginia Tech, Morehead State, Michigan and Michigan State. They will then return home on Aug. 30 to face Youngstown in the opening home game.

The team will face Ohio at home on Sept. 1. Road games versus Lipscomb and Vanderbilt will be played in Nashville, Tennessee Sept. 6 and 8. High Point will head to Huntington on Sept. 15 for the Herd’s last non-conference match of the season.

The opening games of conference play with take place in Florida versus Florida Atlantic and Florida Gulf Coast. They will return home to face UTEP on Sept. 26 before heading back to Florida to play Florida International on the Sept. 29.

Games against Old Dominion, Charlotte and UTSA will be played at home and games against Rice, North Texas and Louisiana Tech will be played away.

“I look for some breakthrough performances,” Long said. “We have a challenging schedule against some very talented teams so that when we begin conference play, we hope to be ready to fight our way to that championship.”

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Men’s soccer adds 14 newcomers to program ahead of 2019 season

By SYDNEY SHELTON
CONTRIBUTOR

The Marshall University men’s soccer team added 14 newcomers to the roster for the upcoming 2019 season. Head Coach Chris Grassie said he has great expectations for the season ahead.

“We have a great group of players returning,” Grassie said. “We’ve added some real quality. My expectations are that we play great, entertaining soccer, and we are able to dominate most of the matches we play in.”

The 14 newcomers come from all over the world, but two are coming from close to home. Kyle Winquist and Dan Edwards are transferring back to play with the Herd.

“It just goes to show what a special place Marshall is,” Grassie said.

Max Schneider is coming from Bayer Leverkusen in Germany, and Demarre Mon-toute will be joining the team from Canada.

Four Brazilians will be added to the team; these include winger Joan Pedro Souza, center forward Bleno Cruz, forward Victor Orsi and goal keeper Gabe Sitler, who currently resides in South Carolina.

There are three players coming from Vardar Academy in Michigan; these include midfielder Ali Nader, winger Sanad Yahya and left-back Ryan Gray.

Midfielder Jacob Adams, defenders Adam Lubell and Hunter Shanks will also be contributing factors to the team.

The Herd’s season will open with an exhibition game versus West Virginia Tech at Hoops Family Field on Aug. 18. The team will face Purdue Fort Wayne, UNC Asheville and Northern Kentucky before heading home to face Butler in the opening regular season game on Sept. 6.

ETSU, South Carolina, Texas Rio Grande Valley and Akron are four straight home games for the Herd. They will start conference play on the road versus Old Dominion on Sept. 27.

The Herd will face Dayton on Oct. 1 and UAB on Oct. 5 at Hoops Family Field. They will hit the road for Charlotte, Loyola Marymount, San Diego State, Wright State, FAU and Oakland.

The team will return home for one last home game versus Kentucky on Nov. 3. They will end the regular season on the road against FIU.

“We all have equal shares in this season,” Grassie said. “We like to spread the power to succeed around the group. A soccer match is a puzzle to be solved. The more voices and viewpoints we have looking at the problem, the more likely we are to find a solution.”

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Open letter to Marshall University

We are disappointed in you, Marshall University. Joseph Chase Hardin should have never been allowed to remain a student on campus after he raped another student in 2016. After sexually assaulting two more students in fall 2018, Hardin was finally expelled from the university this month. We cannot help but wonder why you let him stay. We also wonder that if he had been expelled in 2016, would those other two rapes have occurred?

You should feel guilty, Marshall University. As students at Marshall, we certainly feel ashamed. Hardin’s vicious story has made national and even international news. That is not the kind of press we like to see, and again, we may not have seen Marshall make any negative headlines if Hardin had only been expelled sooner.

Your female students deserve protection, Marshall University. They should not have to leave campus against their wishes because their rapists are allowed to remain. You want sons and daughters of Marshall, yet you do not keep your daughters safe. But you guarded Hardin and kept him safe. Safe enough to where he was able to rape again. If this doesn’t keep potential sons and daughters from attending our university, we do not know what will.

Yes, it has been two weeks since your decision to expel Hardin, and you may want to move on, but we have not forgotten, nor have we forgiven. Hardin may be expelled, but how many more like him may feel like their actions have no consequences? Look at the message this has created: rape one student, and it’s okay. She’ll move away and you can continue your behavior but try not to get caught. Then we will have to expel you. It brings to mind the expression of ‘fool me once, shame on you, fool me twice, shame on me.’

Does this letter sound harsh, Marshall University? It is the truth, and as journalists, we know that the truth can hurt. But we cannot imagine the pain of Hardin’s victims; that pain is greater than the shame of letting a rapist be allowed to remain a student. That pain is greater than ourselves and our personal feelings. If we do not learn from our mistakes, and trust us, you have made a mistake, then we can never improve. Let’s all strive to do better.

But if it up to us to protect our students, especially our female students, then we will gladly offer our help. After all, we are a family, and families should look out for one another.

We will not allow the Chase Hardin situation to repeat itself.

What to do if you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted:
• Do not blame yourself.
• Contact MUPD.
• Go to the hospital.
• Do not blame yourself.
• Speak up.
• Find your support system.
• Do not blame yourself.
Movie review: ‘Child’s Play (2019)’

By DILLON MCCARTY
CONTRIBUTOR

Chucky is back! Before creator Don Mancini releases a Chucky television show…there is a fresh reboot that wants our undivided attention. This remake, directed by Lars Klevberg, a Norwegian filmmaker, follows a mother (Karen) and son (Andy). Early on, the mother buys her son a Buddi doll, a popular form of artificial intelligence, mostly used within household structures. At first, the Buddi doll (AKA Chucky) is sweet and charming, even though his defective background creates minor glitches/ inconsistencies. But as the human-toy bond grows, the development process takes a turn for the worse.

Like the original “Child’s Play,” this story is unbelievably lean. Unlike other films, it doesn’t commit to an overlong running time. It simply tries to tell a slasher story connected to human emotions. Of course, there are minor missteps. There is a massively unnecessary subplot that stalls the narrative’s descent into chaos. And also, the narrative includes a group of irritating, stereotypical teenagers. In retrospect, the inclusion of a teenage crew feels like an attempt to replicate the magic of “It: Chapter One” and “Stranger Things.” Unfortunately, the teenage group lacks the depth and versatility of those popular crews.

In many ways, “Child’s Play” feels inspired by Steven Spielberg’s “ET,” a picture that developed a meaningful partnership between a young boy, dealing with youthful adversity, and an alien lifeform, unaccustomed to life on Earth. Here, Chucky is extremely unfamiliar with human logic. When kids watch “Texas Chainsaw Massacre II” and laugh at its over the top gore, Chucky assumes that cutting someone with a knife will generate a positive response. When Andy says that he wants someone gone, Chucky intervenes, and takes matters into his own bloody hands.

In the 1988 film, Chucky was a slimy character, overflowing with callousness and vulgarity. Clearly, that film established Chucky as a horror icon. But from an emotional standpoint, the character doesn’t change. In this film, Chucky’s emotional development is embraced. Chucky’s actions, while legitimately horrific, are somewhat understandable.

Klevberg successfully establishes Chucky’s
devolution from a toy turned killer to a killer turned toy. The end result is a film that pays homage to its predecessor while also exploring new territory. And most importantly, it doesn’t rely on cheap scares or easy answers. “Child’s Play” is a horror film that knows how to keep us on our toes and make us think. So, let’s get started. The first book I completed this summer, while recovering from wisdom teeth surgery, is an award-winning novel called “The Song of Achilles,” and it’s by Madeline Miller. It’s actually Miller’s first novel. Based on the Iliad, this is a retelling of the story of Achilles and the Trojan War. I’ve never read the Iliad, but I have seen the movie “Troy” and previously knew some of the myths about Achilles. (Most of us had a Greek mythology phase when we were younger—right? Thanks Percy Jackson.) But just because this book is about Achilles doesn’t mean it’s from his point of view. Rather, it’s narrated by Patroclus, Achilles’ best friend.

Patroclus is an exiled prince, sent to live in Achilles’ father’s kingdom. At first, he is nothing but an outcast, unwanted and unloved, until he and Achilles become fast friends. The pair study and train together, though Patroclus is no match for the greatest warrior the Greeks have ever seen. Achilles’ mother Thetis is a minor deity, a cruel goddess of the sea. She disapproves of Achilles and Patroclus’ friendship and wants to protect her son at all costs, constantly begging him to live in the sea with her.

But let me back up. Before Patroclus is exiled from his father’s kingdom, he travels to the kingdom of Tyndareus, father of the famed Helen of Troy, though this is before she became known as that. At this point, Helen’s father invites potential suitors for his daughter from throughout Greece, Patroclus among them, though he is still very young. During the suitors’ time in this kingdom, they make an oath to protect Helen, no matter who she chooses for her husband.

read the full story online at marshallparthenon.com.
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“And we want to provide an opportunity for our international students to practice their English and learn about true American culture because as much as we can teach language and different things in the classroom you don’t learn it until you’re with someone in the real world,” Clagg said.

Tessy Arinze, a graduate accounting student, came to Marshall through the INTO Center from Nigeria in January 2018. She recalls hearing about the program and believing that it may be too good to be true.

“I was looking for a school that was affordable but I thought that would be worthwhile for me. I wanted something where I can benefit from everything, learn English get my graduate degree, and get a good job,” Arinze said.

“So someone was talking to me about INTO and I was just like ‘what is that?’ and they described the program to me and I said ‘that’s okay but what’s the catch?’ I didn’t think it could sound so good and there be no catch.”

Arinze plans on graduating and eventually going back to Nigeria to start her own accounting firm. She says that she just needs experience in order to achieve her dream and that the INTO Center has provided her with a lot of help.

“I’ve learned so much since coming here to be honest. Most especially my English has been great, my writing skills have improved, everything has improved,” Arinze said. “The help that we get is my favorite. With INTO, they guide you and at the end of the day you can always come back to the learning center and they help you and guide you.”

The INTO Center also has become a place frequented by Marshall University President Gilbert, as the president will go and personally greet and take pictures with the students when they come to Marshall. Gilbert said that he wants the students to feel welcome when they come to Marshall because for many of them, it is the first time they have left their country.

“I want [the international students] to feel welcome to the campus,” Gilbert said. “Some of them it’s the first time in our country, some of them it’s not. I tell them that many of our students may not ever have a chance to go to their country so they have a chance to introduce your culture and your country to our students by being here.”

Gilbert also spoke of how it is important for international students and domestic students to interact because he said he believes that these students have more in common than they may realize.

“I think it’s important for us to see that we may have differences but there are also commonalities, and that’s the great thing about having diversity,” Gilbert said.

Clagg said that one of his favorite parts of the program is seeing the progress that is made so quickly from some of the students that know only a little English when they first arrive on Marshall’s campus.

“We do get students that come with an incredibly low level of English. They will come here and they are shy and standoffish and unable to hold a conversation and unable to ask for what they need,” Clagg said. “And through working with them three, four, five, six semesters, they are holding a conversation with you and you notice that two years ago they could speak hardly any English.”

The INTO Center also provides different programs to help students learn English and learn about the culture such as conversation partners. This is a system where domestic students who want to learn about a country or a country’s language are paired with international students so they can both learn something and build relationships while doing so. The center also organizes different events on campus in order to help domestic students see that they are welcome in the INTO Center and they are encouraged to get to know the international students.

Arinze agreed that the INTO Center is welcoming, and hopes that students know the INTO Center is a safe place.

“I would say this is a safe place for international students,” Arinze said. “I say this because there are certain benefits you get with INTO that you don’t get through Marshall. INTO gives you, it’s just a fantastic and awesome place to be.”

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her husband. Patroclus makes the oath as well as every man present. That’s important.

Flash forward to when Helen is kidnapped and taken to Troy. That old oath has not been forgotten, and Patroclus realizes he must help, though he is more of a healer than a warrior. Thetis, Achilles’ mother, refuses to let her son fight and to prove himself. He goes to war with Patroclus at his side.

And those are all the plot details I’m going to give you! You’ll have to find out what happens once you read it. All I’ll say for now is his heel does not have anything to do with his death (I was surprised).

This book really has mythological charm with prophecies, gods and goddesses, romance and heroes. Dreamy settings, well developed characters and a stream of consciousness narration made this a quick read for me. However, the second half of the book tends to be slow going and unnecessarily drawn out. I didn’t realize the Trojan War lasted so long, and the book tends to get clunky toward the end. Also, since this is a retelling of one of the most famous works of all time, I understand that Miller had to make it her own, and she certainly did. There are twists and turns that make this enjoyable. Plus, Chiron and Odysseus, two famous mythological characters, have high importance in this book.

So, as someone who had never read the Iliad, I appreciate this book for what it is. It’s full of pleasant aesthetics, and the prose-like writing is some of the best I’ve ever read. Though some parts are slow, it’s overall a delightful story that could fit into the Greek myths of old. I think the author has a sequel to this book, so excuse me while I go read it.

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BUS cont. from 4

The Green Machine is also available during unconventional hours compared to other routes with the TTA. During the school year, the Marshall bus runs from midnight to 3 a.m. so that students are staying safe if they are out late, according to Davis.

“The idea is safety, it’s all about safety,” Davis said. “We don’t care what the students are doing downtown after midnight. Our primary concern is that we get you back home or back to campus safety. We don’t ask questions.”

The late night shift route follows 4th and 5th avenues and allows drivers to use their personal discretion, according to Davis, who says that even though 6th Avenue is not on the designated route, drivers can choose to drop students off at their apartments to ensure they get home.

Randy Waller, a bus driver with the TTA for the last ten years, started driving the Green Machine consistently last year and has seen students using the bus to their full advantage ever since. Waller has taken the time to get to know many of his regular riders, a noticeable trait when he paused multiple times during questioning to greet riders by their first names. Waller said he enjoys driving the Green Machine, and he said that he enjoys how the students often spark conversations with him.

“They’re very sociable group of people, never have any problems at all out of them,” Waller said. “They’re just a good group of people. And they can get almost anywhere with the busses.”

Waller also stated that he was surprised more students did not know that they have access to the TTA basically for free, and he encouraged people to use it while they can.

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Farmers market deploys food truck, brings fresh produce to city

By MICHAELA CRITTENDEN
LIFE! EDITOR

Striving to connect local farmers and locally grown produce with the Huntington community, The Wild Ramp began Mobile Market, a food truck expansion to the store that brings produce to the community.

“The Mobile Market extends The Wild Ramp into the community, making it easier to have access to local, healthy food,” Devyn Messinger, an employee and regular consumer at The Wild Ramp, said. “This year we’ve added more locations where the Mobile Market will be.”

The store began as a capstone project for a few Marshall University students, but as it has done seven years of business, The Wild Ramp is running its second year of the Mobile Market.

“We are a year-round, non-profit farmers market that partners with over 100 local farmers and producers,” Messinger said. “We give back 80% of the profits to the farmers.”

In addition to the Mobile Market, there are other programs initiated to educate and give access to fresh, locally produced foods. A program called SNAP Stretch involves the whole family in the process of buying produce and makes it more available to people in the community. “Basically, we match every dollar spent using SNAP benefits,” Messinger said. “We also give the kids tokens they can use to buy fresh fruits and vegetables.”

The Mobile Market extends the Wild Ramp into the community, making it easier to have access to local, healthy food.”

Devyn Messinger

Messinger said they do this to encourage kids to shop local and eat healthy.

“When they feel like they are a part of the food buying process it makes them more excited to eat it,” Messinger said.

The Wild Ramp offers a variety of locally produced food, such as vegetables, fruit, honey, jams and meats. “All of our products come from within 215 miles; 75% of it comes from within 50 miles of the store,” Messinger said. “It’s a good way for farmers to sell their products year-round.”

The Wild Ramp also offers a variety of classes to educate those in the community. From tractor safety classes to cooking classes, where they only use produce that can be found in their store, The Wild Ramp wants to help people discover a healthy, fresh, local grocery option, Messinger said.

“We want to build a relationship with people in the community; our classes allow us to do that in addition to running the other programs,” Messinger said. “We want to be the bridge between producers and consumers, and I think we do that.”

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Josie Kroeger, a biology student at Marshall University, said she used to think she could talk to animals.

“I whole heartedly believed it,” Kroeger said.

Kroeger, 21, now plans to attend veterinarian school after she graduates in the spring.

However, Kroeger said her dreams are far bigger than working with just cats and dogs, figuratively and literally.

“The bigger the animal the more it piques my interest,” Kroeger said. “I’m really interested in the way they interact with each other, the way they interact with the environment, how they interact with us and the way it all comes together.”

Over the past two years, Kroeger visited South Africa twice, in and around the areas of Johannesburg, to work with both cheetahs and other African animals like elephants and lions.

“I have always loved animals since I was little,” Kroeger said. “My dad’s mom was always an animal person, and she showed me a different appreciation for them, but both of my parents are animal people, too. We’ve always had pets; we have 12 cats and seven dogs right now.”

Kroeger has been shadowing her grandmother’s best friend, a veterinarian, since she was seven years old, which she said contributed greatly to the path she ultimately chose.

Kroeger attended the University of Kentucky until transferring to Marshall during the spring 2019 semester to complete her undergraduate degree.

“They had a lot of animals there [UK]; they had a reptile rescue, a primate rescue, they had all kinds of things,” Kroeger said. “I just wanted to get out of my comfort zone, and just seeing African wild animals, it just sparked my interest.”

Kroeger took her first trip to Africa in summer 2018 after finding a college-based program called Loop Abroad online.

“I found the Loop Abroad program with cheetahs, and big cats are my favorite,” Kroeger said. “I’m a dog person, but I love big cats; they’re just so majestic. I got bit by the African bug and just had to go back.”

Kroeger returned from her second trip to Africa in June and said this recent experience moved her emotionally more than she ever expected.

“This summer, it was a little different because it was less college related, it was geared more toward animal husbandry rather than veterinary,” Kroeger said. “This time, we worked with elephants, and watching them interact was life-changing. I can’t stress that enough. You can see them in the zoo and on TV, but actually witnessing them interact with each other, the way they treated their babies and respected their elders, it was groundbreaking. It moved me more than it should have. I was in tears.”

Kroeger said while she plans to return to Africa next summer she wants to keep her options open to other places and wildlife, as well.

“I’m also really interested in bears, so I’ve been looking into trips to Canada to work with them,” Kroeger said.

Kroeger’s applications to veterinarian schools are also in the works, she said, and her top choices include Ohio State, Virginia Tech, Mississippi and Florida.

“I would love to go to Florida because the only thing I haven’t worked with yet is marine life, so that’s something that really interests me,” Kroeger said. “I want to be able to work with everything.”

Kroeger said in the future, upon graduating veterinarian school, she hopes to take her boards exam not only to become certified in the United States, but also to obtain a license to work in Africa.

“I actually want to work in Africa. I love it so much,” Kroeger said. “It’s just really part of me now, and I really find myself there.”

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