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## The Parthenon, October 30, 2019

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# THE PARTHENON

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019 | VOL. 123 NO. 9 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com | SINGLE COPY FREE

## Pumpkin House a West Virginia staple

*Each year, 3,000 carved and lit pumpkins welcome visitors from all over to Kenova's Griffith Pumpkin House during the month of October. The Pumpkin House began in 1978 with only five pumpkins and has since developed into an attraction that brings over 30,000 attendees each year with the help of volunteers and organizations.*

**2** **Haunted Huntington:** William L. Grimes, D.D.S.

**3** **Women's and Gender Center** moves to Old Main

**5** **PeaceTree LGBTQ+ Support Group**

**6** **Herd Football** defeats WKU at Homecoming

**8** **EDITORIAL:** Halloween traditions

SYDNEY SHELTON | SPORTS EDITOR

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY HANNA PENNINGTON | PENNINGTO131@MARSHALL.EDU

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# Haunted Huntington: William L. Grimes, D.D.S.

By **HANNA PENNINGTON**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

"I knew I had a ghost," Dr. William L. Grimes, a dentist located in Huntington, said. "I knew there was something going on, but I didn't ever expect to see anything."

Grimes has been practicing general dentistry in his 20th Street office since 1974, purchasing the duplex-style early 20th century home to set up shop in 1973.

The building was built in 1909 and was used as rental property. While Grimes said he's unsure about most of the families who came and went through the home over the years, there's one he knows all too well.

Grimes first began seeing the ghost of a young girl while renovating the building in preparation to open his dental practice.

"I was on a scaffold, and I felt an electric

charge on my back and the stairwell got dark," Grimes said. "I felt a tingle on my back and I turned around, and there she was just staring at me."

While Grimes was startled at first, falling off the scaffold, down the stairwell he had been working in and running outside the building, he said the fear subsided when he came to terms that the ghost he'd seen was just a young girl.

"I saw her again and again, and finally I tried to communicate with her," Grimes said.

Because Grimes was unsure of how to verbally communicate with the ghost, he painted a picture depicting what he'd seen.

Eventually, he was ready to put the pieces together.

"There is a group called Huntington Paranormal Investigations, and they did

a ton of research," Grimes said. "They were the ones who uncovered the history of the building."

With the help of Huntington Paranormal Investigations and more than 30 other investigators and mediums, the story of the girl haunting the halls of the office began to form a clearer picture.

"A mother and two daughters moved in here in the 1920s," Grimes said. "They lived formerly in Ohio and were living in Huntington in hiding from the father, who was abusive."

Grimes said the father found his family on Oct. 17, 1929, when he broke into the home and attacked the mother and youngest daughter, Lavina. She died ten days later on Oct. 29, 1929.

Although Lavina was 21 when she died, Grimes said he has seen her at all stages of life throughout the near 40 years of paranormal activity he has experienced.

"She chose when she wanted to present herself at what age; she'd present herself as a little girl sometimes, and a teenager at other times, but she was a very small girl to begin with," Grimes said.

Upon further investigation, Grimes said, it was discovered that Lavina, who went by the nickname "Livy," wasn't the only ghost roaming the halls of the building.

Grimes said one investigation group found evidence of 15 individual ghosts, one of which was Lavina's abusive father.

"The father, we could hear him stomping on the stairwell and on the landing, like he was reliving it time after time," Grimes said. "It was like he was intimidating the mother and daughters. He was never found guilty and died without anyone knowing what he did."

In 2012, the Travel Channel's "The Dead Files" visited Grimes's office to film the 23rd episode of their first season.

The paranormal medium with the show advised Grimes to rid the building of the father's spirit, whom she said was ultimately



causing the tension among the ghosts.

Grimes said he cleansed the entire building. "They said it would feel different when he was gone," Grimes said. "And it did."

Afterward, the ghostly encounters began to decline, eventually stopping completely.

In 2016, Grimes published a book, "Journey on a Stairwell," detailing the encounters he'd had throughout the span of the paranormal activity as well as Lavina's story.

The first sentence of the book is straight-forward and to the point: "They're gone now."

Grimes said people often ask how his ghosts are doing.

"I say, 'read the first page of my book, and you'll know,'" he said.

The book will be reprinted by Amazon in 2020, and Lavina's story will continue to live on.

Grimes said he felt he owed it to the girl and her family to go public with their story, despite not having all the answers.

"Pieces of the story started to come together, but we still didn't have it all and we still may not have it all," Grimes said.

The picture of Lavina that Grimes painted in the early stages of the haunting hangs in the office stairwell today in honor of the girl who once roamed the creaky halls of the building.

"I think the little girl wanted someone she could get the message to," Grimes said. "She became a friend of mine."

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HANNA PENNINGTON | EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The artwork Grimes painted of Lavina hangs in the stairwell of his office on 20th Street in Huntington.

## New ideas, new space, Old Main— Women’s and Gender Center moves location

By **AMANDA LARCH**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Just across the hall from the Financial Aid Office, in Old Main 115, is the new location for Marshall University’s Women’s and Gender Center.

The space is for all students, said Claire Snyder, program coordinator for the center, whether they’re experiencing gender-related issues or just want to learn about getting involved.

“Although we often focus on issues and concerns faced by women and women-identifying students, we know that everyone experiences gender in some way, whether they be men, women, non-binary,” Snyder said. “And so (students) may have gender-related concerns, or they may just be really passionate about working on issues related to gender equity or gender-based violence or interested in seeing how they can get involved in leadership opportunities on campus.”

When visiting NC State last year for a conference, Snyder said she and Leah Tolliver, director of the center, were inspired by how students were working together and utilizing resources in the student center; this served as an influence for the layout of the new Women’s and Gender Center.

“We walked around and looked at how students were using the spaces,” she said.

“  
They’re always going to find a friendly face in here. They’re always going to find someone who’s happy to answer any questions or lend a listening ear, and I’m excited for students to have such a dedicated space for them.”

—*Claire Snyder*

“One thing that we noticed is that students were working in all types of different configurations and groupings, and they wanted flexible seating, flexible work options, and a lot of them were using these whiteboards to study together. And so we just wanted to have the options for students to use the space however they want and whatever fits best for what their needs are.”

Featuring a lounging area, a workspace with a plugin station and a lending library, the Women’s and Gender Center is a multifunctional and safe space welcoming all students to build community, work on projects and have a comfortable and friendly atmosphere, Snyder said.

“I’m really excited for students to have a space to come and hang out (...) between classes or if they’re stressed out,” Snyder said. “They’re always going to find a friendly face in here. They’re always going to find someone who’s happy to answer any questions or lend a listening ear, and I’m excited for students to have such a dedicated space for them.”

The Women’s and Gender Center provides resources for students, such as brochures, sexual health products and menstruation products, and its lending library offers books, films and other educational materials that students may check out and return.

“I was able to do some purchasing over the summer, and we’ve got a lot of great new releases, fiction, nonfiction, memoirs, comedy, poetry, that we thought would be really appealing to young people and some perspectives on all kinds of issues and experiences that we want students to be able to have easy access to,” Snyder said.

“We also have some educational materials like films that are sometimes prohibitively expensive for students to be able to show, especially with institutional licenses on a campus. We have all those materials and they’re available for professors to use, or if students want to plan an event around any of those materials, we’re happy to lend those out.”

Snyder and Tolliver will have their own private



AMANDA LARCH | MANAGING EDITOR

Empowering decor is located inside the new Women’s and Gender Center to make students feel more welcome.

offices if students need to speak with them, and a graduate assistant will have office hours as well.

“That’s really one of the great things about the fact that I now have a private office because it’s much more convenient and comfortable for students to be able to come in,” Snyder said. “We’ll do our best to always have someone in the office to greet students or have a way for students to reach us and they will be able to meet privately with us for advocacy support or any other needs.”

Snyder said the previous location of the Women’s and Gender Center, in Prichard Hall, will now be used to provide additional space for the Counseling Center, as well as serve as a testing location for Student Disability Services. When the space became available in Old Main, Snyder said she thought it would be a great new location for the center because students are already familiar with the building.

“Our Assistant Dean Dr. Rayshawn Eastman has been really supportive of making sure that we are investing in the Women’s

and Gender Center and in services that serve all students,” Snyder said. “This space in Old Main became available, and we really just thought it would be wonderful to be somewhere where students can easily identify. They’re familiar with Old Main; they walk through here to visit financial aid and the registrar’s office all the time. We hope that they’ll walk by and take a peek in and be like, ‘that looks interesting’ and check it out.”

The Women’s and Gender Center hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, but Snyder said there will be opportunities for afterhours activities as well, such as film screenings, meetings for student organizations and even a possible Galentine’s Day event.

“We hope students will come and visit us, this is their space, and so we want them to be able to use it,” Snyder said. “So we also love that this space gives us the opportunity to host activities and events right here in our space.”

**Amanda Larch can be contacted at [larch15@marshall.edu](mailto:larch15@marshall.edu).**

# Marshall criminal justice alum to publish 25th book

By **BRITTANY HIVELY**  
THE PARTHENON

From criminal justice major to paranormal author, Marshall University graduate Casey Bond is releasing her 25th paranormal/fantasy book Friday, Nov. 1.

“When Wishes Bleed,” a standalone, paranormal tale, will be Bond’s 25th published book, not including co-written and anthology pieces she has done.

“Magical,” Bond said, describing her newest book. “There’s a mystery to it, and there’s a romantic element that I think is just really sweet. For teens and adults, I think just about anyone can read it.”

Bond graduated Marshall in 2003 with a degree in criminal justice and an emphasis in legal studies. She worked in the field for a short time, but after having kids of her own, she moved on to writing.

“I always liked to read. I kind of fell out of it until I had kids,” Bond said. “I was gushing to my mom about ‘Twilight,’ like, ‘this is so cool,’ and she was like, ‘there’s no reason that you couldn’t write a book.’ And I just got to thinking, and I just sort of did.”



BRITTANY HIVELY | THE PARTHENON

Marshall criminal justice alum Casey Bond signs a copy of her new book, “When Wishes Bleed.” The book will be released and available to readers Friday, Nov. 1.

While Bond’s stories are more aligned with the paranormal realm than the criminal justice world, she does credit Marshall for some of her skill. “You have so many papers and things to write, a lot of it’s technical,” Bond

said. “I also took some creative writing classes while I was there.”

Bond first started through a small publisher but currently self-publishes because she said she enjoys the artistic freedom of deciding how her books are formatted, covered and marketed.

Bond insisted her love of Halloween and the close release date has nothing to do with her Nov. 1 release or witchy tale.

“I like fantasy and paranormal because, not to take anything away from contemporary romance or things set in our world and our time, but I just like to be transported somewhere else,” Bond said. “I know what’s happening here, so I kinda want to go somewhere else where the rules are a little bit different and it’s fun.”

Bond said she has a variety of stories to work on for the upcoming year.

“I am working on another fantasy book and then I am going to be working on a couple of young adult fantasy legend retellings,” Bond said. “I’ve done the fairytales, so I’m going to be focusing on the legends next.”

**Brittany Hively can be contacted at [hayes100@marshall.edu](mailto:hayes100@marshall.edu).**

**Editor’s note: The following is an exclusive excerpt from “When Wishes Bleed.”**

“Sable, no one else could have detected the poison. You saved me. You’ve saved me in more ways than one. I’m just not sure how to repay you for your services this time.”

‘This isn’t about my services. I don’t want payment, Tauren. I want to make you safe. I want to make the witches behind this pay for what they’ve tried to do to you.’

He approached slowly and reached out, as if asking permission to take my hand. I slid mine into his waiting one. ‘You’re trembling.’

More than my hands were trembling. I was quivering from head to toe. Someone had just tried to poison him.

He pulled me to him and held me against his body, wrapping me in his arms, infusing me with his warmth, steadiness, and strength.

‘We can’t —’

‘Shhh.’ Tauren’s eyes searched mine. The corner of his lip curled upward. ‘I believe you owe me a kiss.’”

## SOCIAL MEDIA POLL RESULTS

Y N

ARE YOU DRESSING UP FOR HALLOWEEN? 65% 35%

DID YOU GO TO THE HOMECOMING GAME? 44% 56%

ARE YOU EXCITED FOR BASKETBALL SEASON? 60% 40%

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE NEW WOMEN’S AND GENDER CENTER IS LOCATED? 27% 73%

DID YOU KNOW THERE IS A HAUNTED DENTIST IN HUNTINGTON? 18% 82%

This poll was conducted on The Parthenon’s Instagram, @MUParthenon. The results reflect responses from an average of 50 individuals.

# PeaceTree Center support group provides safe space for LGBTQ+

By **BLAKE NEWHOUSE**  
FOR THE PARTHENON

A Marshall University graduate is helping to provide safe spaces for those in the LGBTQ+ community by creating a support group for those struggling.

Amanda Patrick, a therapist at PeaceTree Center for Wellness and graduate of Marshall, started the LGBTQ+ support group while working on her master's degree last spring.

"I just thought that it was definitely needed in the community," Patrick said. "We found that there were a lot of clients and just general need in the community for LGBTQ support groups. I was all game for it, I was like 'I want to make this my baby' basically."

According to Patrick, the group started as a way to promote self-esteem and focus on practicing self-love, rather than trying to change people's minds.

"One thing we focus on a lot in the group is that we aren't going to be able to change everyone's mind," Patrick said. "Unfortunately, we aren't going to make everyone pro-LGBTQ+ and be the ally that we wish we could be, but with

positive self-affirmations, learning about yourself and practicing self-love, we can build up their self-esteem to be like 'okay, you don't accept me, but I accept me.'"

The PeaceTree Center for Wellness is a growing development and training center that provides other services such as yoga, meditation and group therapies to promote their vision of peace, wellness and hope.

The support group for LGBTQ+ individuals was first organized in February, and since then, Patrick said she has worked to help make the location a safe space for those who identify in the LGBTQ+ community.

When the meetings first began, they were separated into two groups, one group for the students, and the other filled with the parents of those who identify as LGBTQ+.

"That's the ideal situation," Patrick said. "I know parents have a lot of things they might want to talk about, but may not want to say in front of their child because it's confusing even identifying that way, let alone being the parent of someone that identifies in that way. Plus, I know a lot of the kids also have a lot to share that you can't really say in front of mom and dad."

“

We found that there were a lot of clients and just general need in the community for LGBTQ support groups.”

—*Amanda Patrick*

The support group is also dedicated to providing education to those who are wishing to learn more about what it means to identify with the LGBTQ+ community, according to Patrick.

"We do a lot of education. We did an activity learning about the pride colors and each flag and covered some terminology that I hadn't even heard of," Patrick said. "So, it's very educational for the parents and the teens, and that way, they can educate whoever they may be talking about it with."

PeaceTree is also dedicated to providing other various events geared towards holistic healing for the mind, body and spirit, according to Patrick.

Every Saturday, the organization offers free morning yoga and meditation at 10 a.m. for what is known as "self-care Saturdays," with all members of the community welcome to attend.

The next LGBTQ+ support group will take place at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 4 at the PeaceTree Wellness Center at 5930 Mahood Drive, Huntington, WV.

**Blake Newhouse can be contacted at [newhouse19@marshall.edu](mailto:newhouse19@marshall.edu).**

# Campus preschool assists auditory access for children

By **EMILY HAYSLETT**  
FOR THE PARTHENON

The Luke Lee Listening, Learning and Language Lab, or "The L" as it is more commonly referred to, is a preschool program at Marshall University that started in 2006 for children that are deaf or hearing-impaired to learn listening and spoken language skills.

"Our goal is for all of our kids to be mainstream with their hearing peers," Jodi Cottrell, the program director, said.

Cottrell, a certified listening and spoken language specialist (LSLS), is the preschool teacher as well as the director and works directly with the four students that currently attend Monday through Wednesday every week.

Cottrell explained how in the classroom, the faculty focus on improving the children's auditory skills. They have activities such as circle time when they read and other regular preschool activities, but everything at The L is structured specifically around creating auditory access for the children. Cottrell said the strategies aim to help give children the ability to start in elementary schools with hearing peers.

Along with attending The L three times a week, all of the children go to individualized therapy. These sessions are with the child and the parent or guardian. They work on instructing both the parent and the child with the hearing impairment how to improve speaking and

//

Our goal is for all of our kids to be mainstream with their hearing peers."

—*Jodi Cottrell*

listening skills at home or anytime outside of preschool.

When describing the importance of teaching the parents techniques to work on at home, Cottrell got out a jar of marbles to demonstrate how important time is for the family.

"Kids on average are awake for 84 hours a week. One

marble is one hour," Cottrell said. "If they come to therapy for one hour, then the rest of these marbles, these hours, are the parent's responsibility to help the child's development."

Undergraduates in the communication disorders program are able to observe the preschool during the week. Graduate students in Marshall's communication disorders program are also a part of the preschool, getting experience in the auditory and verbal education setting. This also helps to ensure that each of the kids are getting the attention they need while they are there, according to Cottrell.

"I rely on our graduate students," Cottrell said. "I have to have a graduate student to be able to run the preschool in the best way."

These graduate students are also helping to plan The L Speakeasy Gala, an annual fundraiser to raise money to be able to provide more services across the state for deaf and hard-of-hearing children and their families to learn to listen and speak.

This year's Speakeasy Gala is taking place Nov. 8 at the Guyan Golf and Country Club in Huntington. For more information on the event, students and faculty may visit the Facebook page "The L Speakeasy Gala."

**Emily Hayslett can be contacted at [hayslett12@marshall.edu](mailto:hayslett12@marshall.edu).**

# Special Teams lifts the Herd for 5th win of the season

By **MIKE DOTSON**  
THE PARTHENON

Redshirt senior Justin Rohrwasser's excellence and game winning field goal as time expired helped Marshall defeat Western Kentucky University Saturday evening by a score of 26-23.

"I am really proud of my players, I am proud of the way they played," Head Coach Doc Holliday said. "We took care of the ball and were two-for-two out of the redzone and that was huge."

The Herd jumped on the Hilltoppers early when redshirt sophomore Isaiah Green found redshirt senior Armani Levias in the back of the endzone for a 25-yard touchdown pass. Less than four minutes later into the first quarter, Green put the Herd up 14-0 when he found grass and ran it in from 4-yards out.

Rohrwasser drilled a 46-yard field goal to start the second quarter to give Marshall an early 17-0 lead. WKU finally got points up late in the second quarter when redshirt junior Gaej Walker ran the ball 33 yards for a Hilltopper touchdown.

Rohrwasser kicked in two more field goals from 31 and 43 yards to bring Marshall up 23-7 late in the third quarter. WKU started to climb back into the game when graduate Ty Storey ran the ball in from a yard out. The Hilltoppers' freshman kicker

Cory Munson sent a bullet through the uprights when he nailed a 27-yard field goal to make Marshall lead only 23-16 in the fourth quarter.

WKU tied the game up late in the fourth when Walker ran the ball 16 yards into the endzone to tie the game 23-23 with just minutes remaining. Marshall was able to bring the ball into WKU territory with just six seconds left, which let Rohrwasser nail the game winning field goal as time expired.

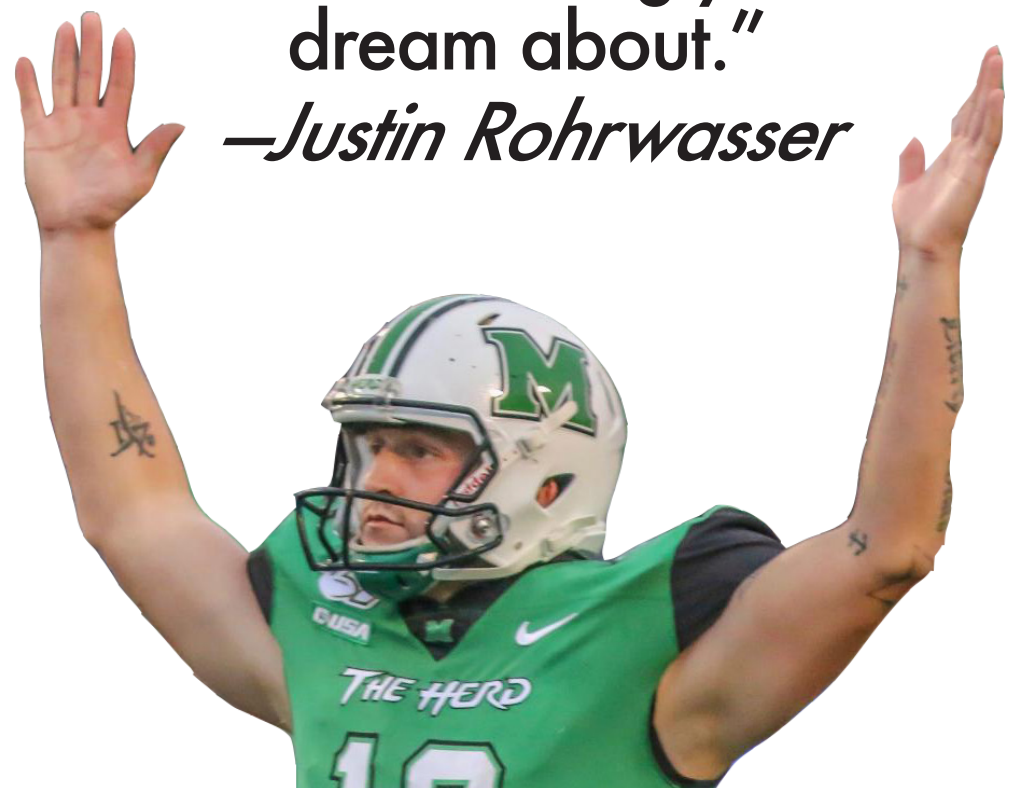
"Every bus ride since middle school and high school, it's something you dream about," Rohrwasser said. "I am lucky and happy the coaches had faith in me."

Rohrwasser was named Conference USA Special Teams Player of the Week. Senior defensive back Kereon Merrell was named Conference USA Defensive Player of the Week after having an interception, one fumble recovery and 10 tackles.

Marshall improves its record to (5-3) on the season and (3-1) in Conference USA play. The Herd will be traveling to Rice next Saturday to take on the Owls.

**Mike Dotson can be contacted at [dotson132@marshall.edu](mailto:dotson132@marshall.edu).**

**"Every bus ride since middle school and high school, it's something you dream about."**  
*—Justin Rohrwasser*



# Herd travels to Texas to battle Rice Owls

By **BRIGHAM WARF**  
THE PARTHENON

Despite key injuries, Head Football Coach Doc Holliday's team has been red hot in its last three conference games but now swings its attention to a winless Rice University.

"It is going to be a fight for us," Holliday said. "Everyone looks at Rice's record and thinks they are not a very good football team, but just look at their scores. Everyone they have played they have taken it right to the wire."

Redshirt sophomore quarterback Isaiah Green has stressed the importance of younger players stepping up in the absence of key veteran playmakers. Recently, not only has that happened but

the entire Marshall team has upped their play, including Green.

After turning the ball over four times against Middle Tennessee University in the teams first conference game, Green has been more consistent in the pocket. Without veteran receivers, he still has thrown for 611-yards and four touchdowns and only one interception in the last three conference matchups.

One of the young players that has stepped up to the challenge is freshman wide receiver Broc Thompson. Against its latest win over WKU, Thompson led the team in receiving yards with 91-yards on three receptions.

Even though he is not a younger player, redshirt senior Tyler Brown

made an immediate impact for the defense when starting redshirt junior linebacker Jaquan Yulee went down with an injury in game one. With Brown having 30 total tackles and 5.5 sacks and one of them accounting for a safety, the Herd's defense will need him to continue his level of play against a Rice team that has explosive offensive playmakers.

"We went through a lot of adversity at the start of the season," senior defensive back Kereon Merrell said. "Through it all, we have never separated, everything that we have went through made us come together."

Prior to Marshall's win over Western Kentucky where senior kicker Justin Rohrwasser drilled a career long 53-yard

field goal to win 26-23, the Hilltoppers controlled the East Division of Conference-USA. While even though WKU is still number one in the East Division because of more games played thus far, if the Herd and Hilltoppers win the rest of their games, Marshall will be crowned the winner based on power of schedule.

"It was one of the best moments of my life, but as far as I am concerned it is over," Rohrwasser said. "Now we are on to a really good team in Rice and I have to go my job against a new opponent."

The Herd will make the trip to Texas to take on the Owls at 3:30 p.m. EST Saturday Nov. 2nd.

**Brigham Warf can be contacted at [warf13@marshall.edu](mailto:warf13@marshall.edu).**

## Marshall baseball's groundbreaking ceremony for new stadium



TAYLOR HUDDLESTON | ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Left to right: Senior Associate for AECOM, Brian Pounds, Chairman James Bailes, current Head Baseball Coach Jeff Waggoner, Marshall University President Jerry Gilbert, Jack Cook, Athletic Director Mike Hamrick, Jeff Montgomery, Mayor Steve Williams and Rick Reed all participated in the groundbreaking

**By GRANT GOODRICH**  
THE PARTHENON

A home stadium for the Marshall University baseball team will become a reality in a short 17 months, Athletic Director Mike Hamrick announced Saturday morning at a groundbreaking ceremony inside the Chris Cline Athletic Complex.

"We will be playing baseball in Huntington, West Virginia instead of Charleston, instead of Beckley, instead of Chillicothe, instead of wherever," Hamrick said. "We will have a baseball stadium that we can call our own."

The stadium will seat 3,500 people, and it will be located between 3rd and 5th Avenue on the old Flint Group pigments

property. Construction is set to begin in the spring.

For years, the failure to follow through on the promise of a baseball stadium has left many doubtful that it would ever happen, Huntington Mayor Steve Williams said.

"The reason this is happening is because of the connection between the city and the university," Williams said. "What we have is something special that doesn't happen around the nation."

The city of Huntington teamed with Marshall to play a big role in helping the university get this long-lasting quest accomplished.

The Huntington Municipal Development Authority purchased the land with the help

of \$500,000 from the \$3 million attained in the America's Best Community Competition, said Williams.

Although Williams stressed the importance of the combined effort, Hamrick said that without Williams and "his driving force," they would not be in the position that they are.

For the next phase of the process, Marshall announced the onset of the "Herd Rises" fundraising campaign during the homecoming football game against Western Kentucky.

**see BASEBALL**  
**on pg. 10**

## Women's soccer faces WKU, last game

**By BRIGHAM WARF**  
THE PARTHENON

Seven seniors will take the field for the last time as student athletes for Marshall University's women's soccer team in the squad's final game of the season against Western Kentucky University on Friday.

"We hope that their emotions will drive them through the game," Head Coach Kevin Long said. "Despite wins and losses, being able to call yourself a son or daughter of Marshall is a special thing to call yourself."

The Herd - who have struggled this season with

a 4-13-0, (Conference USA 2-8-0) record thus far - still have an opportunity to end the season on a high note with a win over the Hilltoppers.

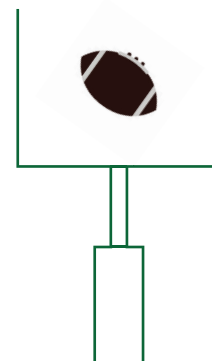
Additionally, the Abu-Tayeh twins, Marah Abu-Tayeh and Farah Abu-Tayeh will have one last game to challenge opposing defenders in a Marshall jersey. The sisters led the Herd during the 2018 season in scoring and this year has been no different.

**see SOCCER on**  
**pg. 10**

## Athlete of the week: Justin Rohrwasser

ABOUT JUSTIN ROHRWASSER:

Class: Redshirt senior  
Position: Kicker  
Height: 6'3 Weight: 230 lbs.  
Hometown: Clifton Park, NY



LAST WEEK'S RESULTS:

Vs. Western Kentucky University (W 26-23)  
FG: 4 ATT, 4 M, 53 Long  
KICKOFFS: 6 ATT, 385 YDS  
PATs: 2 TB, 2 ATT, 2 M

Redshirt senior kicker Justin Rohrwasser was named Conference USA Special Teams Player of the Week after his performance against WKU. In addition, he was honored nationally by the Lou Groza Award as a "star of the week." He kicked a 53-yard field goal to secure the Marshall University's football win over the Western Kentucky University Hilltoppers on Saturday with a final score of 26-23. He made all four field goal attempts from 46 yards, 31 yards, 43 yards and 53 yards against the Hilltoppers. The 53-yard field goal made by Rohrwasser is now tied for fourth-longest made kick in school history and tied for fourth-longest made kick in stadium history. Rohrwasser scored 14 points in total for the Herd.



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

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## THE PARTHENON

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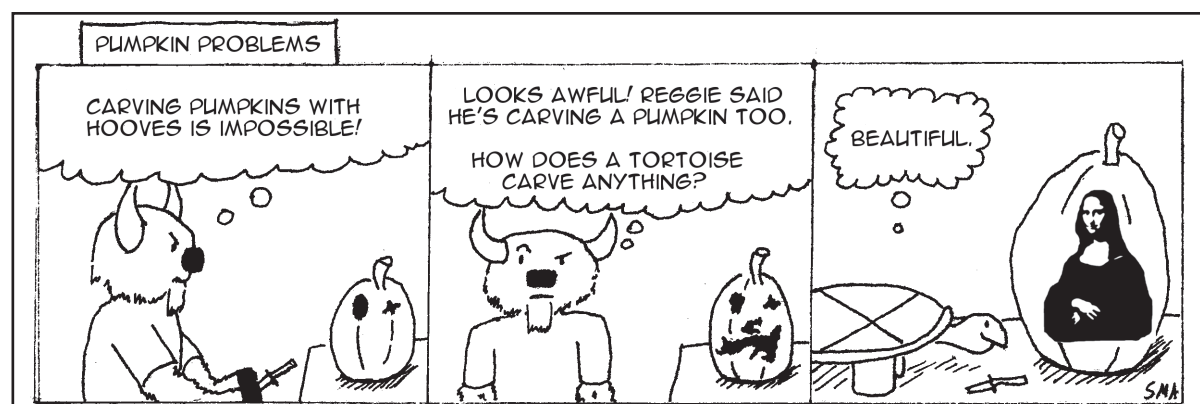
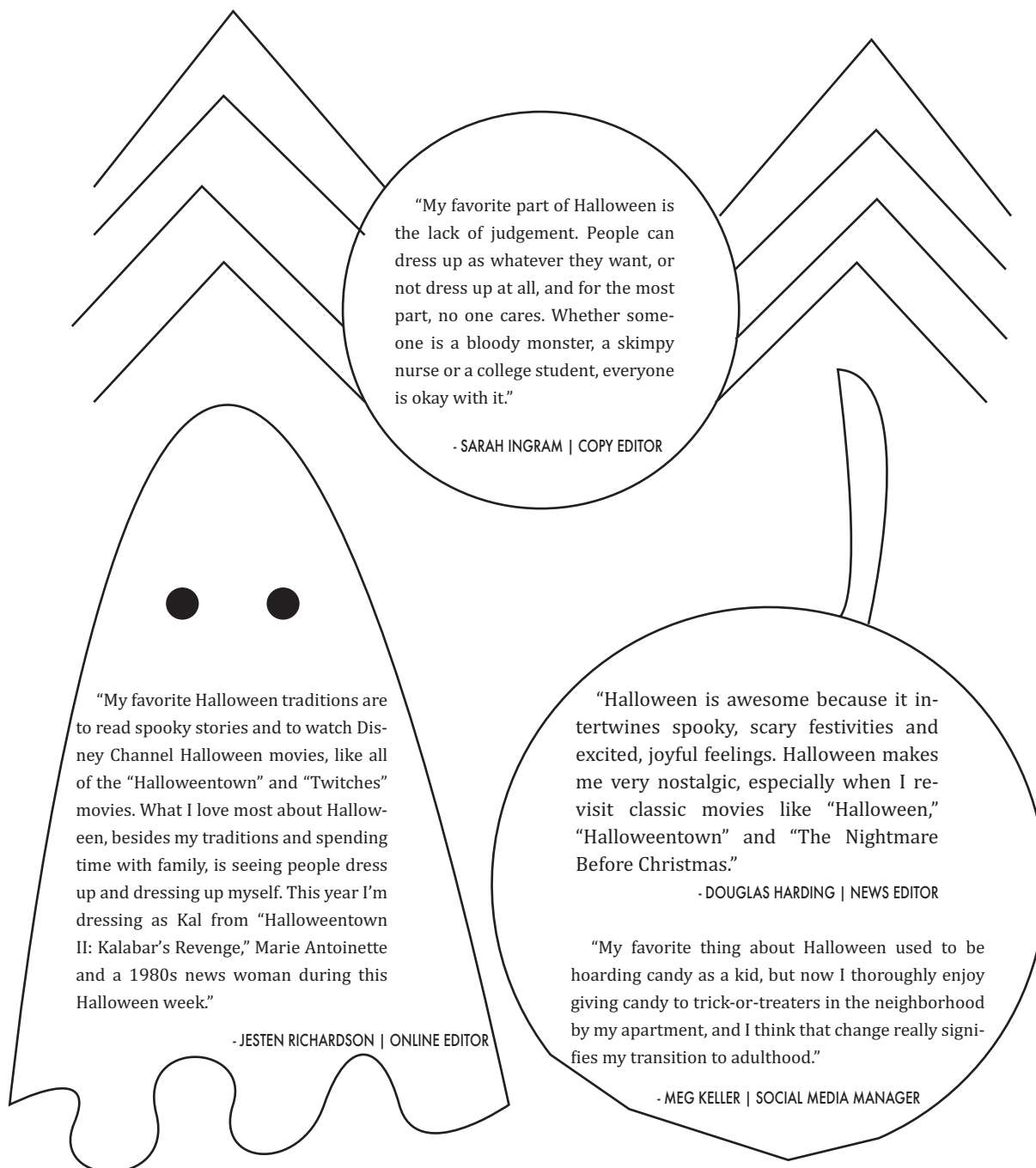
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## EDITORIAL

## What Halloween means to us



SAM APPLETON | CONTRIBUTOR

# PROGRESSIVE PERSPECTIVE: Horrifying realities of U.S. economy

By **DOUGLAS HARDING**  
NEWS EDITOR

For decades, Halloween has been a festive holiday celebrated through trick-or-treating, costuming and decorating spooky, scary scenes of haunted horrors. This year, however, many Americans are finding themselves incapable of celebrating comfortably.

Nearly 90% of Americans surveyed said they plan to spend less on festivities this Halloween compared to last Halloween, a recent nationally-representative survey by personal finance website WalletHub revealed.

Surveying over 800 respondents in September, WalletHub concluded 85% of participants planned to reduce expenditures. The survey also revealed two in three participants think the American economy will only become even scarier and more unstable in the next year.

According to the survey, roughly 78 million Americans, or 31% of adults, would most likely willingly describe their own finances as “a horror show.”

Despite claims by President Donald Trump and other Republicans in Washington D.C. that the American economy is flourishing at historic heights, such dire realities about the economic wellbeing of average Americans will likely come as little or no surprise to working people across the country.

The most recent reports on the subject—including one by CareerBuilder in 2017 and one by Charles Schwab in 2019—reveal that somewhere between 60% and 80% of full-time workers in the U.S. live paycheck-to-paycheck, terrified



ALEX BRANDON | ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump give candy to children during a Halloween trick-or-treat event on the South Lawn of the White House which is decorated for Halloween, Monday, Oct. 28, 2019, in Washington.

primarily of costs of emergencies and medical bills.

Meanwhile, various statistics reveal the damning realities inspiring such fears: More than half a million Americans go bankrupt each year because of medical bills; More than 40,000 Americans die each year unable to afford health insurance, and only about 40% of the country could

handle an unexpected \$1,000 expense such as an emergency room visit.

Unsurprisingly, economic experts realize the risks associated with such a broken and rigged “house of cards” economy. A recent survey by the National Association for Business Economics revealed nearly three out of four economists say the American economy will plummet into recession by 2021.

As the Washington Post reported in August, “The report illustrate[s] that for many economists the question is not so much whether the U.S. economy will enter a recession but when.”

So, when President Trump and other Republicans claim responsibility for a growing American economy, what, exactly, are they referring to?

Last month, President Trump tweeted, “Some of the best economic numbers our country has ever experienced are happening right now,” and, believe it or not, while this statement is undoubtedly misleading, it is not entirely untrue.

The problem with conservative claims about a flourishing American economy is not necessarily the accuracy of their numbers, but rather the relevancy.

These claims often rely on stats relating to annual GDP growth in the U.S., but such is not remotely reflective of the wellbeing of average Americans, and politicians and representatives have a responsibility to understand this simple fact.

As explained in a 2016 article in the World Economic

**see PROGRESSIVE on pg. 10**

## Movie Review: ‘Black and Blue’

By **DILLON MCCARTY**  
CONTRIBUTOR

“Black and Blue” follows Alicia West (Naomie Harris), a young New Orleans police officer. After capturing an act of corruption, she is targeted by local gangs. She goes on the run, hoping to survive the ordeal. The end result is a crime film that lies in the middle ground; it’s neither bad nor great. In simple terms, “Black and Blue” is a satisfying experience, complete with solid craftsmanship.

With the help of cinematographer Dante Spinotti, Deon Taylor (the director) creates a murky, lived in atmosphere. Spinotti, an artist accustomed to the cinematic mechanics of crime environments, photographs this setting with ease, capturing the long term scars of New Orleans. The aftereffects of Hurricane Katrina loom large, and at the onset, we see the harshness that plagues urban civilians. This broken, vandalized environment creates something of a ghost town, perfectly suitable for a film of moralistic proportions.

With this picture, there is a sense of photographic franticness. Thankfully, the film’s utilization of frantic-like sensibilities never feels overbearing or visually uninteresting. The action is always clear,

and when bullets are fired, we see the ugliness that comes with undisciplined gunplay. When bullets hit human beings, the results are quick and nasty, pointing to the ever disturbing nature of violence. Kinetic energy is sprinkled throughout the narrative, giving the film a peppy change of pace.

Overall, the performances do not disappoint. Naomie Harris turns in an exceptional performance, consisting of perspective, hopefulness and unabashed morality. The screenplay, written by Peter A. Dowling, does a solid job of capturing female goodness. While a bit on the nose at times, the script shows us that in a world so corrupt, it’s easy to give into adversity. Harris’ character is a source of moralistic inspiration, telling us that it’s okay to be at odds with our environment. If we are in the right, there is nothing wrong with our existential path.

Tyrese Gibson turns in a fine performance, a far cry from his flashy, overly comedic roles in the “Fast and Furious” franchise. This time around, Gibson is more subdued. His seriousness perfectly echoes his earlier work with John Singleton, a filmmaker who wonderfully navigated the cinematic

**Read the full review online at  
marshallparthenon.com.**

## Parthe-Pet



Stewart OscarMayerWiener is two years old and enjoys spending quality time with his human friends. He relies mostly on his looks for charm because he’s not very good at tricks. His favorite holiday is Halloween, if you couldn’t already tell by his fashionable, yet spooky, bandana.

**Interested in featuring your pet in the paper? Use #ParthePet on social media or contact larch15@marshall.edu with photos and a short bio.**

**PROGRESSIVE from 9**

Forum, "GDP is like a speedometer: it tells you whether your economy is going faster or slower. As in cars, a speedometer is useful but doesn't tell you everything you want to know. For example, it won't tell you whether you are overheating, or about to run out of fuel."

Following this metaphor, the U.S. economy is moving at an acceptable pace, experiencing a 3.1% growth in GDP in the first quarter of 2019 and 2.1% in the second quarter. For comparison, in the second quarter of 2014, the U.S. economy under the Obama administration achieved a growth of 5.5%. The country's GDP growth throughout other eras, including the 1950s and 1960s, has been even higher.

But while the "speed" of the U.S. economy may be reasonable, for working-class and

middle-class citizens, its more impactful indicators are anything but. For most U.S. workers, wages have remained stagnant for decades.

A Washington Post fact check revealed last year that the Trump tax cuts, thus far a defining policy enactment of his presidency, serve primarily to lower taxes for the top 1% of income earners in the country, further exacerbating already-absurd American wealth inequality while raising taxes on working- and middle-class citizens.

"In 2027, 82.8% of the tax cuts will flow to the top 1%. The top quintile actually receives 107.3% of the tax changes— because taxes actually increase for the folks in the lowest, second-lowest and middle quintiles," the fact check said.

Another metric touted by the Trump administration has been lowering unemployment rates during his presidency. Again, like most relatively effective propaganda,

such claims are rooted only in vague, misleading realities.

While unemployment rates under Trump have recently hovered around 3-4%, similar to those experienced throughout the country in the late sixties, such statistics do not take into consideration a metric Trump himself often hounded President Obama—and rightfully so—for ignoring throughout Obama's presidency.

Trump, throughout his own presidency, has switched to stating only the U-3 unemployment rate, which excludes underemployed and part-time workers unable to find sufficient work in a struggling economy. Tellingly, before his election, he and others constantly pointed out during the Obama years that the "real unemployment rate" is the U-6 rate, which includes more broadly representative factors.

The president's hypocrisy here speaks volumes. Despite a U-3 unemployment rate

of just 3.3% last month, the U-6 rate, a much more accurate measure of nationwide unemployment and underemployment, remained nearly double, at 6.5%.

Don't be fooled: American workers have been struggling for decades, living paycheck-to-paycheck without experiencing significant wage increases, under corrupt, corporate, establishment republican and democratic administrations alike, and the Trump presidency has emphatically proven to be a mere continuation rather than an exception.

If President Trump has truly "drained the swamp" of elitist American corruption as he so promised throughout his historic 2016 campaign, one must assume he has also syphoned the corporatist cronies of his administration and their constant faux-populist propaganda from the rotten remains.

**Douglas Harding can be contacted at [harding26@marshall.edu](mailto:harding26@marshall.edu).**

**BASEBALL cont. from 7**

The campaign will require donors to step up and make the AECOM architectural plans a reality.

Donating \$1 million, former baseball player Rick Reed stepped up to the plate to lead off the fundraising campaign, Hamrick announced to those present at the ceremony.

"It's a thrill to be here and be involved in this," Reed said. "It's been a long time coming."

No one has had a longer time waiting and hoping than legendary Herd baseball coach Jack Cook, who was in attendance at the groundbreaking ceremony.

"I'm 93. I've had a lot of days, but not too many of them have been like this," Cook said. "This is probably one of the happiest days of my life."

Cook's coaching career ended in 1989, but he still plays a vital role in the Marshall program.

Current Head Baseball Coach Jeff Waggoner said

his first interview for the Marshall head coaching job was with Cook.

Years later, Waggoner is about to begin his 14th season as Marshall's head coach.

"Coach [Waggoner] is a good baseball coach," Cook said. "But when you go to Charleston or Beckley to play a home game, that's a big disadvantage for you."

Waggoner said he knows the advantages the stadium will bring his program in recruiting and with wins and losses, but he said his main focus is on things that will help nurture the development of his players.

Batting cages, bullpens, lounges, a video room and a nutrition bar area are all accommodations Waggoner mentioned that will be a part of the new stadium.

"All of those things are going to help us develop our guys," Waggoner said. "That's what it's all about."

**Grant Goodrich can be contacted at [goodrich24@marshall.edu](mailto:goodrich24@marshall.edu).**

**SOCCER cont. from 7**

Marah Abu-Tayeh has found the net eight times this season to add to her resume of 16 career goals and Farah Abu-Tayeh added four to give her 10 career goals with the final game yet to be played.

"We knew going in that they (the twins) were going to be really hard for opponents to handle," Long said. "They have stepped up in the absence of injured players and have been great."

Still, WKU will come to Hoops Family Field with getting a win on its mind. The lady Hilltoppers are 9-6-1, (C- USA 5-4) on the year and coming off a 1-0 win against UAB on senior night.

Marshall has lost its last three matchups against WKU, but Long's team should be loose and competing at its highest level since they did not make the conference tournament. Despite the ups and downs of the season, the Herd can put everything behind them and go out and have fun in the final game and build confidence for next season, according to Long.

"The motivation for this game is just to finish the season on a high note helping us spring forward to next year," Long said.

The matchup is set for Friday at 7 p.m. EST at Hoops Family Field.

**Brigham Warf can be contacted at [warf13@marshall.edu](mailto:warf13@marshall.edu).**

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# Ministry organization aims to provide safe space for international students

By JULIANNA EVERLY  
THE PARTHENON

The Bridges International Marshall University group aims to create a positive environment on campus for international students through ministry services.

According to Erica Burns, one of the organization's leaders, on a campus that so many international students consider their home away from home, the organization intends to show international students what life in America is like while also creating a safe space for spiritual discussions.

"Bridges is a ministry on campus that focuses on showing love to international students," Burns said. "We just want to make sure that they feel that they are seen on campus."

Another Bridges International leader and junior international affairs major, Grace Reed, said that organizing activities such as offering rides to the airport or grocery store and hosting holiday-themed events

are all ways to show international students' what life is like in the United States. Reed said the organization also serves as a safe place for spiritual conversations.

"Our most consistent meetings are on Tuesdays, where we hold dinner for international students and go through passages of scripture together," Reed said. "Often, students are coming from places that don't allow for the same capacity to question and wrestle with other religions or beliefs. Our hope is to provide a space and community that allows them to comfortably learn what Christianity and salvation through Jesus really means."

Reed became involved with Bridges International her freshman year and started serving on the leadership team the following year. Due to her experience of growing up in both the United States and Latin America, Reed said she found herself able to empathize with the struggles that international student experience such as culture shock, trying to integrate into a new

community, missing home and more.

"I love being able to help create a space and community where international students feel seen and loved," Reed said. "It's difficult to transition from home to college no matter how far you're traveling, but leaving your home country for further education adds an entirely new level to that transition. It can be lonely and confusing, but knowing that we get to focus on building a place of respite in the midst of all the difficulty of being away from home has been extremely rewarding."

Burns said just living life with international students and doing different activities with them, big or small, is another way the organization can serve them during their time at Marshall.

"Doing bigger activities such as taking them on trips like Bridge Day, which we did a couple of week ago, or little things like taking them to lunch or dinner and getting to know them really helps to make

these students feel like they are seen on campus," Burns said.

Burns got involved with Bridges International at the beginning of this year and said she knew she wanted to get involved in whatever way she could.

"I am in the Japanese program here at Marshall, so I have some Japanese friends that I wanted to help get involved with things on campus and also be able to have spiritual conversations with them," Burns said.

According to Reed, getting involved with Bridges International is a unique way to connect with different countries from all over.

"You'll be connecting with countries all over the world, right in the heart of Huntington, welcoming them to your country and your own set of unique experiences," Reed said. "It's a great way to foster unity and friendship across culture and place."

**Julianna Everly can be contacted at**

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# Legend of Mothman lives on in Point Pleasant, West Virginia

By **BRITTANY HIVELY**  
THE PARTHENON

Is it a man, is it a bird, is it a Mothman?

Two young couples were driving through the TNT area of Point Pleasant on a mid-November night when they found themselves being chased by what was first thought to be a large man. They soon realized it was more of a large, bird-like creature with even larger wings.

While the original sighting on Nov. 15, 1966 was unexplainable, it has since become a tale known across the world.

"I worked in sales and was traveling all over this part of the country," said Dennis Bellamy, executive director of Mason County Tourism Center. "It put me in all of the attractions, and I was staying in hotels three and four nights a week. I started noticing every time I checked in and they saw I was from Point Pleasant, West Virginia, they'd ask me about the Mothman. It doesn't matter where you travel now."

Mothman Museum was opened in 2006 by Jeff Wamsley, who grew up in Point Pleasant and knew several of the Mothman sighting witnesses. He also wrote a book on the legend, titled "Mothman Behind the Red Eyes."

"The Mothman story is an open book and probably will never be fully explained," Wamsley said. "That's why the story is so interesting to many. Everyone has their own theory or explanation as to what it was, so the interest will never go away."

After the initial sighting, people started going out to the TNT area to hunt for the mysterious bird-creature. Some with no luck and some with a story that they may never forget.

"A large bird was chasing cars in the TNT, is what they said, so everybody had to go out and look for it," Bellamy said. "No one was scared. They were looking for this big six-foot bird that was chasing cars. Apparently, some of them found it and that's how this whole thing got going."

While it may seem unbelievable, there have been more than a few credible sightings leaving some shaken.



A statue of Mothman is in Point Pleasant.

"Over 100 reported sightings followed the next year and a half [from the first sighting]," Wamsley said. "Many eyewitnesses were shaken by their encounters, and some still won't talk about it today."

Newspaper coverage was almost weekly until the Silver Bridge Disaster in December 1967. Bellamy said there was no longer talk of the Mothman.

"The bridge fell, and it ended all of the Mothman talk because that was too real," Bellamy said. "Everyone knew someone who fell on that bridge and it was a national tragedy."

While the bridge disaster is what many associate the Mothman with, Bellamy said there has never been a credible source or promotion of the connection beyond a movie.

"The bridge ended all of the writing in the newspaper about the Mothman. It just stopped. No one wanted to hear about the Mothman being on the bridge," Bellamy said. "We've never encouraged that. We've never had any credible witnesses. We leave the bridge out of it as much as we can, although it was a huge part of the movie. That part was totally fictional."

Talk of the Mothman did not start back up until the movie adaptation of "The Mothman Prophecies" by John Keel. Bellamy said Point Pleasant went with the hype by putting a statue in on Main Street.

"It was a bold move. It was 50/50. A lot of people said we put a demon in the middle of our town," Bellamy said. "When we went out to do the dedication, I went out and CBS was here. The national show with Willie Geist was here to cover the dedication."

While Point Pleasant commissioned the Mothman Statue, the town does not spend any other money on the museum or Mothman Festival, started in 2002, which were both founded by Wamsley, Bellamy said.

"This thing started with just two card tables," Bellamy said. "Jeff selling his book on one and Carolyn Harris selling her hot dogs on the other, and it has just grown every year. It grows by two or 3,000 every year."

Harris owned Harris' Steakhouse on Main Street, was a co-director of the Mothman Festival and was a promoter of tourism in Point Pleasant until her death in 2016.

The Mothman Festival is in September and has since grown to over 10,000 visitors and counting. More information can be found on their website.

"I think if you delve deep into the sightings, you will find that many of those who saw it were completely puzzled by what they saw. Some still can't explain it," Wamsley said.

**Brittany Hively can be contacted at [hayes100@marshall.edu](mailto:hayes100@marshall.edu).**