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## We Are ... Marshall, November 16, 2007

Office of Marshall University Communications

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# WE ARE... MARSHALL™

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • NOVEMBER 16, 2007

## Med School Receives 'Healthy Eating' Grant

Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine has received a \$50,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to help promote healthier eating and exercise habits for children living in poor rural areas.

The new funding will pay for a replication of a highly successful childhood obesity prevention pilot project implemented earlier in the Fayette County community of Mount Hope by the Department of Family and Community Health and the Marshall School of Medicine.

"This is a very positive step for improving the health and physical fitness of poor children living in rural areas nationwide," says Marshall professor and project director Dr. Richard Crespo. "We're eager to

build on our early successes, and obviously this grant will help us to do that."

With support from RWJF, Marshall has already developed and implemented a participatory model for addressing obesity among all area residents, especially some groups of children living in Mount Hope's Housing Authority apartments.

"The exciting part about his model is that the whole community gets involved in improving the health of its children, not just participating schools or nearby universities," Crespo said.

The program comes at a time when the median income in Mount Hope is \$18,375 and 83 percent of the community's children qualify for free and reduced lunches

During the development phase of the program a system of walking trails with varying degrees of cardiovascular difficulty was built on the grounds of Mount Hope Elementary School for children to use during recess. The school also inserted regular structured activities into the after-school program.

*(continued on page 4)*

## Marshall Community Remembers Plane Crash Victims of 1970



Maurice Kitchens (left), one of the captains of the Marshall football team, and Student Body President Dominique Elmore lay a wreath at the Memorial Fountain on the Huntington campus during this year's annual memorial service. In addition to the laying of wreaths, the service included music by Sarah Moore and the Bravura Brass and remarks by alumni representative Teddy Kluemper, head football coach Mark Snyder, President Stephen J. Kopp and surviving family member Parker Ward.

## Patsy Stephenson Receives Library Award

Patsy Stephenson, Library Associate with Marshall Libraries, has been awarded the West Virginia Library Association (WVLA) Certificate of Merit for 2007, according to Barbara Winters, Dean of the Marshall Libraries.

Stephenson, a 25-year library employee, received the award at the WVLA's Fall Conference held last month in Morgantown. She was given the award in honor of her hard work with WVLA marketing efforts, Winters said.

"We at Marshall University are proud that Patsy Stephenson was chosen by the WVLA Resolutions and Awards Committee to receive her certificate of merit, given in recognition of her long-standing efforts to market WVLA services and messages to libraries in communities across West Virginia," Winters said.

Linda Blake, Electronic Journals Coordinator at West Virginia University, nominated Stephenson for the award.

*(continued on page 4)*

# Cooley, Mullen Accept New Marshall Roles

Maurice R. Cooley, Director of the Center for African American Students Programs, has been named interim Vice President for Multicultural Affairs.



Maurice Cooley

Cooley, a two-time Marshall graduate, replaces Dr. Betty Cleckley, who retired last month. He will remain as Director of the Center while serving as interim VP for Multicultural Affairs.

"It is a worthy recognition and honor to be considered for the position of interim Vice President for Multicultural Affairs for such a prestigious and growing university," Cooley said. "I also am grateful to walk in the footsteps

of the former vice president, Dr. Betty Cleckley."

Cooley said he plans soon to closely examine the goals and vision of Multicultural Affairs for the year ahead, then evaluate whether certain areas will warrant some modification.

"This is great work that must continue to be done in both areas," he said. "We will work diligently."

Before coming to Marshall, Cooley had been Director of Marketing and Corporate Development at Pretera Center for Mental Health Services, Inc., in Huntington since 1996. From 1986 to 1996 he was Program Director for Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Community Support Services at Pretera.

Cooley graduated from Marshall with a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1970, then served three years active duty in the U.S. Army as a psychology specialist. He returned to Marshall and earned his Master of Arts degree in Counseling in 1975. He joined the Marshall staff in January 2003.

The search for a permanent Vice President for Multicultural Affairs has already begun, according to Steve Hensley, Dean of Student Affairs.

Sara Mullen has been named the new director of development for the College of Information Technology and Engineering (CITE).



Sara Mullen

Mullen will focus primarily on fundraising, strategic planning and counsel, media relations and marketing for both the Marshall University Foundation, Inc. and the college. She will work closely with CITE Interim Dean Dr. Tony Szwiiski and Lance West, vice president for major gift development, to identify key areas of need.

One of Mullen's main priorities will be securing additional funds and support for the new engineering laboratory, a 16,000 square-foot building currently under construction on the Huntington campus. The new facility will be state of the art and give students valuable hands-on experience.

"This is an exciting time for Marshall and CITE as we work together to expand and enhance our educational opportunities," Mullen said. "I will be working closely with leadership, alumni and students to ensure our young people have the best programs and facilities from which to learn and develop as leaders."

West said Mullen's previous experience will be a valuable asset to her new role. A native of West Virginia and a graduate of William Woods University with a bachelor's degree in marketing, she brings more than 15 years of experience to Marshall. Her professional career includes fundraising and more than 10 years in state government as an assistant to the Missouri state treasurer, legislative aide and lobbyist.

## 'We Are Marshall' Exhibit Starts in Logan

A "We Are Marshall" exhibit is now on display in the Museum at Chief Logan State Park.

The exhibit features items used as props in the "We Are Marshall" film, including a cheerleader's megaphone and uniform, four license plates from West Virginia and North Carolina, and many other items. The props are on loan from the MU Libraries' Special Collections. After completion of filming, the memorabilia was donated to Marshall by Warner Brothers which produced and distributed the film.

A reception at the museum this week kicked off the opening of the exhibit, which will run through Feb. 17, 2008. The exhibition is free and open to the public. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday.

## WE ARE... MARSHALL™



**MARSHALL  
UNIVERSITY**

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Dec. 7,

2007. Deadline is Nov. 30. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to [pdickson@marshall.edu](mailto:pdickson@marshall.edu).

## Profile: Tom Pauley

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Tom Pauley

Nearing midnight on a cold, rainy October night, a group of graduate students and their intrepid professor tramped through the woods of Beech Fork State Park, busy casing the terrain, peering at rocks, crevices, grassy areas, the occasional pools of water—ever vigilant for signs of all manner of creepy, crawly critters.

What was this, punishment for bad behavior in class? Hardly. In fact, this group of eager researchers had to be cajoled into leaving the woods at

midnight. That's because they're students in the field-based biology program taught by longtime professor Dr. Tom Pauley. And "field" is the operative word for the program, he says.

A noted expert on reptiles and amphibians, Pauley has such passion for his work that he has inspired students to come to Marshall from colleges and universities all over the country to enroll in this unique program.

"Our program is a field-oriented program so we're outside most of the time. We spend very little time indoors. We go to the habitats of the animals. We know the habitats of snakes, turtles, salamanders and frogs and we go out looking for them."

His enthusiasm for his work is contagious. The night of the Beech fork foray, students were in class until 9 p.m. and then after class several wanted to make the trek to the woods, ignoring the rain and cold. But it was all worthwhile, Pauley says exuding excitement. "We found some really good stuff and had a good time. We found a spadefoot toad, that was a very good find, we found marbled salamanders that only come up in the fall to lay their eggs. Then there were a couple of two-line salamanders, some green frogs and some chorus frogs that were out on the road. And tonight after class we're going to walk along the Ohio River floodplain."

Such devotion to his field started early but back then the salamanders that he devoted years of his life to studying, were merely fish bait. "I've always loved the outdoors and I often went fishing with my father. We collected salamanders to use as bait but I soon found myself more interested in studying salamanders than in fishing with them. I just had an unknown thirst for this kind of thing. I was lucky I had Maxine Thacker's 10<sup>th</sup> grade biology class at Dupont High School. She inspired me to pursue my studies in biology and later Dr. N.B. Green here at Marshall influenced me to study reptiles and amphibians."

Born in Ansted, Pauley grew up in Belle and got multiple degrees in biology, starting with a B.S. from then Morris Harvey College, a master's degree from Marshall and a Ph.D. from West Virginia University. He's always been an avid teacher, beginning when he was 21. He put in time as an elementary, junior high and high school teacher and then did teaching stints at Salem University and the University of Pittsburgh. When he joined the Marshall faculty in 1987, he knew he was finally home.

With his mentor, Dr. Green, he published the only book on West Virginia reptiles and amphibians. The Division of Natural Resources has published four booklets he wrote on native snakes, toads, frogs, turtles, lizards and salamanders.

He has an absolute fascination for creatures that elicit definite *ooohs* from most people. His excitement for his

(continued on page 4)

## Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Kevin Law, Assistant Professor of Geography, along with J.S. Hobgood, has published an article, "2007: A Statistical Model to Forecast Short-Term Atlantic Hurricane Intensity," in *Weather and Forecasting*, 22, pgs . 967-980.

## Gilliam Publishes in 'BioScience'

A paper written by Dr. Frank S. Gilliam, professor in the College of Science, is published in the November issue of the journal *BioScience* one of the leading peer-reviewed journals in the biological sciences.

The paper, "The ecological significance of the herbaceous layer in temperate forest ecosystems," is a synthesis of the research done by plant ecologists primarily in the eastern United States on the plant communities that occupy the lowest layer of forest vegetation.

"When you are walking in the woods and look up, you see what we call the overstory," Gilliam explains. "When you look down, you see what we call the herbaceous, or herb, layer."

Gilliam writes in his article that by reviewing numerous studies in the ecological literature he found that 80 to 90 percent of the plant biodiversity of an average forest is found in the herb layer, despite the fact that its biomass is less than one percent of the trees. He concludes that the herbaceous layer has an importance to forests that belies its diminutive stature.

*BioScience* has a circulation of more than 6,000, including libraries of research universities around the world Gilliam's is the first article to appear in this journal by a Marshall University professor.

## Mary and Churchill Hodges Recognized for Library Endowment, Longtime MU Support

Longtime Marshall supporters Mary and Churchill Hodges have made a \$15,000 gift to the Marshall University Libraries in the form of an endowed fund known as the Mary H. and J. Churchill Hodges Library Endowment.

The Library Endowment will benefit the Library Associates' fund, which is used to supplement the libraries' book and journal budget and to provide book and author related social and cultural opportunities for the Tri-State region. The annual giving fund will now have added stability because earnings from the endowment will boost the fund on a regular basis.

The Hodges are long-standing major contributors to Marshall University. Their generosity has supported many areas including academic and athletic scholarships, the J. Churchill Hodges Sum-

(continued on page 4)

## Pauley

from Page 3

subject spills over as he talks with animation about the treasure trove of crawling and slithering animals that abound, but for the most part pass unobserved by most people. And they like it that way—they're reclusive little creatures that just want to be left alone and they don't intend to scare anybody. Even snakes? Particularly snakes, Pauley says.

"Because of irrational fears, snakes are perhaps the most misunderstood creatures in West Virginia," Pauley writes in his booklet on snakes in the state. He's protective of the reptiles, explaining that they are vital in the balance of nature, among other things providing an essential pest-control service as a result of their feeding habits.

He can nimbly tick off other categories of interesting creatures that make their home in the state. There are six species of lizards, 13 various types of turtles, three species of toads. One of the biggest finds, a cause for excitement, has been the discovery of spadefoot toads, long thought to be extinct in this area.

How do Pauley and his students find these creepers and crawlers? They go looking for them. "Oh absolutely," he says firmly. "We go where they are, that's what we do with all the species ... I've walked hundreds of miles over my career over all kinds of terrains."

This concentration on field experience has attracted students from all over the country and even internationally. "They come from all over because they're interested in going out in the field and studying these animals. And each of these students is writing a thesis that will add to the research in this field." He's modest, but his infectious enthusiasm for his field and wealth of knowledge undoubtedly keeps students flowing into the program.

A major thrust of the program is conservation, Pauley says. "We emphasize conservation, how to protect and preserve."

He's been on a personal quest to find habitats of the rare Cheat Mountain salamander. In fact, he's spent the last 31 years studying this protected species.

One of Pauley's favorite activities is the special hands-on program he and his grad students take to area elementary schools. Sporting t-shirts that read "Thundering Herps," they bring a variety of animals with them. "Kids get to see animals up close presented by professionals and they learn not to be afraid."

And in the summer it's more of the same for the tireless researcher. "I don't take vacations, I work on them," he says, not a bit regretfully. Summers mostly are spent in West Virginia combing the mountains searching for the elusive amphibians and reptiles to which he's dedicated his professional life. He and his wife, Gloria, a retired teacher, have reached an amicable compromise. "Tramping through the woods is not her thing, but she completely supports me." Together they're happy campers because most of their travels are done in a comfortable motor home with all the amenities. "We don't do tents," he says, laughing. "We like nice warm beds and warm food."

The Pauleys have been married for 43 years and have two children. Son Jeffrey is an electrical engineer who lives in Fairmont with his wife Dena and their children. Beth Anne followed in her father's footsteps and is now a biology professor at the University of Charleston, along with her husband, Mark, who also teaches biology there. Tom and Gloria are fortunate to be able to spend lots of time with the grandchildren, Jacob and Bradley, both 11, and Sarah, Eli and Emma. The grandkids have been on trips with Pauley and apparently have learned their lessons well. It was a great source of pride to him both as a grandfather and a teacher when Jacob wrote a class paper on "Why You Should Not Kill Snakes."

"I never get tired of students and teaching," he says reflectively. "I love students and most of the time the lab next door to my office sounds like a shopping mall, with students milling about, and I like that. Teaching has been so fulfilling. If I had 10 lifetimes I'd do the same thing over again. I wouldn't change it."

## Med School

from Page 1

Support from a local bank and churches, along with private donations and seed funding from RWJF, paid for free healthy breakfasts and lunches for all students

The new RWJF grant will replicate the Mount Hope model in other rural communities. The role of the Marshall team will be to bring together a core group of leaders in a specific rural community, facilitate the planning process, manage the needs assessments, provide training as needed and design the monitoring and evaluation system.

The groups of community leaders will include school principals, mayors, health care providers, after-school program directors and volunteers. The Marshall team will help assess the children's health status, analyze the results and develop a plan for promoting healthy eating and physical activity.

## Stephenson

from Page 1

"I was so happy (to nominate Patsy Stephenson)! I kept watching the work Patsy was putting in at the WVLA conference and the West Virginia Book Fair and thought, 'She really needs to be recognized.' She's just so tireless in marketing the values of the Association: reading is good and librarianship is a noble cause."

Stephenson began working at Marshall in April 1982, full time at the Circulation Desk and in 1984 joined the Cataloging staff where she serves today. She graduated from Marshall with a Regents Bachelor of Arts Degree in May 2007. She plans to continue her education by pursuing a degree in Library and Informational Science online.

She began working with the WVLA in 1999 and with the WVLA Marketing Committee in 2000. "Working with WVLA has given me a strong understanding of the importance of libraries and the people who are dedicated to the enhancement of education. It is awesome to be a part of this working group of people," she said.

## Hodges

from Page 3

mer Scholars, the library. The Geography GIS Laboratory, the President's home and the Erickson Alumni Center. Their contributions to science were recently honored and recognized with the naming of the Mary H. and J. Churchill Hodges Biotechnology Capstone Research Laboratory in the new Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center.

The Hodges are natives of Huntington and Marshall alumni. Mary attended Marshall in 1950 and 1951, and Churchill earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1948 and Master of Arts in 1953.