Toni returned home Tuesday to discover family, friends and community members gathered to welcome her home. A rally that stretched from Beckley, W.Va. to Toni’s home in Chesapeake, Ohio filled with posters, balloons and support as she made her journey.

Jill Greenhill, Chesapeake, Ohio resident and owner of Jill’s Tamagawa, has known Toni since they were 10 years old and planned the homecoming event. Greenhill also created a support group, “Team Toni,” that works to help raise funds for Toni’s medical expenses.

“The ‘Team Toni’ group was originally formed for different cheesecake trays across the state to help Toni,” Webb said. “But it soon turned into a movement to support Toni in the entire country.” Greenhill said, “When a cheerleader or football player is it, it’s easy to join together all over the state. Essentially, we are all cheerleaders for Chesite so we united everyone to be on our team and we made sure to get Toni home safely and to make this possible.”

“Toni is one of the most persistent people I know, and she never complained,” Greenhill said. “No matter what the situation is, she smiles. I want people to remember that if Toni can go through what she has been through — no matter what mountains or hill people face — they can do it with a smile.”

Greenhill said a nonprofit organization is being formed under Toni’s wishes. See TOP 1 | Page 5

**Manchin celebrates accreditation of MUFVens Science Graduate Program**

April marks Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time when the issue of sexual assault is brought into full perspective.

Since 2005, this month has been fully dedicated to sexual assault awareness because it affects not only the victims but for many it is a national issue. With every assault that happens, President Obama has made this a national event, on which he does a proclamation every year.

The purpose of having an entire month dedicated to sexual assault is to create awareness to show this is not only a national issue but also a problem in local communities.

“I think as many times we don’t talk about is that much people don’t realize it’s a problem,” said Sharon White, Cabell county sexual assault response team coordinator.

CONTACT: of Huntington, W.Va., is a victim’s advocate that provides support to the victims when they need it.

“I think sexual assault awareness month is an excellent month for people around the community to spread awareness of the issue and to show support to the victims,” said Amanda White, victim advocate.

According to college statistics, one out of four college women will be sexually assaulted before they graduate.

“One thing for females to especially realize is how high of a chance they have that this might happen to them,” White said. “People don’t realize that this is happening all the time around them.”

“It’s surprising that people come up to us in the open and speak about what has happened to them in the past with sexual assaults,” White said.

“We’ve told in society not to talk about what has happened to us, when in fact victims want to speak out.”

Some women have done to protect themselves are to take self-defense classes, be aware of surroundings at all times especially at night, and never walking alone. If something is wrong that doesn’t seem right, pull the person over and say something to them. And never assume that someone can help the cause by spreading the word that this is a war on rape and to do something, and they can also help by stopping with posters, balloons and support as she made her journey.

Jill Greenhill, Chesapeake, Ohio resident and owner of Jill’s Tamagawa, has known Toni since they were 10 years old and planned the homecoming event. Greenhill also created a support group, “Team Toni,” that works to help raise funds for Toni’s medical expenses.

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**June Harless Center receives $175K grant**

**BY HILARY FREEMAN**

The June Harless Center has received a grant from the Benedum Foundation to help Pre-K students’ transition to kindergarten without a hitch. The $175,000 grant is to help 112 children and students with developmental delays during the transition.

“Old Main Corridor could be done to make it a space for the campus community to develop in-pre-school,” said President Ruth Brumfield.

“The City of Huntington organized a town hall meeting on Marshall’s campus to hear students’ opinions and priorities for the new City of Huntington Plan 2025. John Clapp, city planner for Huntington, presented and hosted the event. ‘I’m really passionate about people getting involved because I don’t know everything that needs to be done,’ Brumfield said. Plus 2025 is a comprehensive plan updated every 10 years to establish goals for the city to implement. The plan focuses on improvements for the city including housing, aesthetic attractions and businesses. Students were particularly concerned with learning in Huntington including the location of parking garages, the Southern Sociological department from reflecting on topics such as professional development to student input for city plans.

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The Marshall men’s Rugby team ended their season and the opponents they had to face in the spring season, the men’s team hopes to increase the wins as the season comes to an end.

In a tournament in Savannah, Ga., the team played in the men’s division, where they lost to the defending champions, Wisconsin, by one point.

The men’s rugby team said they strive for success each and every day on and off the field. Andrew Pfeifer can be contacted at fpfeifer@marshall.edu.
Federal regulation has had far reaching effects on the equality that women now enjoy on college campuses. Let us not forget, too, that it was a mere 50 years since the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote. As I examine our nation’s history, I am often re- minded of the charming line from “Big Yellow Taxi”: “Don’t it make my brown eyes blue?” Perhaps that line captures the essence of the need for a vital women’s studies program at Marshall University, where women’s civil liberties, in medicine, law, or engineering, must be continually studied and protected.

What this means now is this: No matter what crime a person might have committed, they should not be conducted on individuals arrested for minor offenses such as those involving drugs. Strip-searches should only occur if officials have probable cause. One example of this law in action was a nun being strip searched for “trespassing” at an anti-war demonstration. If this example does not illuminate where we are going in this country, thanks to2012 decisions made by the Supreme Court, little else could demonstrate it with such clarity.

With this decision, along with the National Defense Authorization Act signed into law by President Barack Obama on Dec. 31 which allows U.S. citizens to be “indefinitely detained” if thought to have association with terrorist groups, our civil liberties are continually being further restricted. This has held many disappointments. They have let down the American people and the Founding Fathers of this country who cre- ated the Constitution. Citizens United? Health care? There should be no debate about basic hu- man rights. And now strip searches. Every chance they have had to defend the most basic principles of democracy, they have failed.

It is vital to celebrate women’s history

By DAVID J. FITTINGER
Dean of the College of Liberal Arts

During much of April, the Marshall University Women’s Studies Program will host a number of in- novative and informative events on campus that celebrate women in history and the important social and legal milestones that have advanced the civil lib- erities and rights of women in America.

This year, we celebrate the 45th anniversary of the passage of legislation leading to the creation of Title IX. With the simple assertion, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be ex- cluded from participation in, denied the benefit of, or subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance,” this federal regulation has had far reaching effects on the equality that women now enjoy on college campuses. Let us not forget, too, that it was a mere 50 years since the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote.

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**CONTACT**

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**CONTACT Continued from Page 1**

Actions that do not seem right at the time.

Marshall students can help by volunteering on their hotline which is constantly up and running on any given day. They can follow CONTACT of Huntington on Facebook or either look at their website for information, they can pass along to others.

**TREE Continued from Page 6**

"You're walking on street trees," he says.

Ferrik Kaisar, a re-cycling specialist in Barcuh, Calif., said about 1 percent of what goes to the landfill is wood — an amount he calls "obscene."

**TONI Continued from Page 1**

"Toni wants to be able to pay back for what the community has done for her," Greenhill said. "If Toni is beheaded here on Earth, she will become the CEO of the organization. If she does go to heaven, then we will continue to honor her legacy in the best way we can to be able to raise money for the scholarship and to be able to help those who want to be involved in helping with their sick, loved ones. Toni realizes the challenge of those people when they cannot pay their bills. "Toni Toni" will be a legacy that will carry on forever."

Greenhill said the state of Illinois has turned Toni to see the impact it has truly made on others. "She doesn't realize how many people look to her Facebook everyday or look for her smiles," Greenhill said. "Toni's story has spread all across the nation. We even had some celebrations who wanted to be involved with the welcoming and loved the idea of all these other people wanting to help. But I wanted this to be about Toni. I have never in my life known a person to have this big of an influence on people at the exact same time."

Holly Black, cousin to Toni and Christopha, Ohio resident, has been part of "Team Toni" since it began and also helped with the homecoming rally.

"Our small town has re- ally come together to support Toni," Holly Black said. "We wanted the community to know how inspirational Toni has been. She's never lost her faith in God and never let her self get discouraged. She has become an inspiration not just to many people who do not even know her, they just know her story."

Both Law and Lynch said that there are numerous ways to join the fight against Autism. Including wearing your own blue attire, participating in an Autism walk or donating money to Autism Speaks. They hope that the Marshall community and Huntington join them this April in raising awareness and money to stop autism. Jesse Milledge can be contacted at jessie19@marshall.edu.
OSU professor to bark on classics

**BY HENRY CULVYHOUSE**
THE PARTHENON

A professor from the Ohio State University will visit Marshall University to discuss dog breeds during ancient times April 20.

Glennis Meckler, a fellow at the Ohio State University Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographic Studies. His expertise includes Roman history, Medieval Latin and Classical traditions.

The Marshall department of Classics in sponsoring the event.

Classics professor Eric Chrol said Meckler is well-known in the classics field.

“He is fairly well-known in our field, but I don’t know if other folks are familiar with him,” Chrol said. “From what I understand, he is a dynamite speaker.”

Chrol said the event will appeal to a wide audience.

“Having Meckler come and talk about the way people viewed dog breeds and animals both in the ancient world and today will be accessible to anybody from kids to your parents,” Chrol said.

Chrol said he expects the talk to go very well, despite any rivalry between the Ohio State and Marshall.

“The food we’re having at the reception will not include any rotten fruit or vegetables,” Chrol said. “Hopefully, it won’t be something to drive people off. I assume he’s a good man — even though he’s at the OSU.”

Meckler will speak at 3 p.m. April 20 in the Marshfield Dining Room at the Memorial Student Center.

Henry Culvyhouse can be contacted culvyhouse@marshall.edu.