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CONTACT seeks volunteers

Huntington Rape Crisis Center prepares to train volunteers for advocacy

CONTACT Rape Crisis Center in Huntington seeks volunteers to help provide advocacy and support to victims of sexual assault and stalking. CONTACT provides free and confidential services to victims of sexual assault and stalking in Cabell, Lincoln, Wayne and Mason counties.

Trained volunteers provide crisis intervention and referrals to callers on CONTACT’s 24-hour hotline; help out in the office with clerical, computer or other work; assist at public awareness events, handing out brochures and answering questions; and provide assistance at fundraising events. CONTACT also welcomes volunteers who want to create a special project that spreads the word about CONTACT’s services, raises money to support CONTACT or addresses a specific need for victims, survivors and partners.

All volunteers take part in the Volunteer Training Program. A new session begins Aug. 4. Those interested in becoming an advocate can register for training by calling or emailing the volunteer coordinator at 304-523-3447 or advocate@contacthuntington.com.

Thursday, July 23

Kids Yoga
Ritter Park
6 p.m.

Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District teamed up with Brown Dog Yoga to bring this event to Ritter Park behind the fountain. Ashley Morrison, yoga instructor trainee at Brown Dog Yoga will facilitate the event.

Friday, July 24

“Collis P.”
Ritter Park
7:30 p.m.

A new musical titled “Collis P.” continues at the Ritter Park Amphitheater Friday and Saturday. The musical tells the story of Huntington’s history as written by Glen McBray.

Saturday, July 25

WV Hot Dog Festival
Pullman Square
7 a.m.

Author Craig Johnson
Empire Books & News
5 p.m.

MU School of Medicine receives federal grant

The Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine’s department of family and community health received a five-year, $1.22 million grant from the federal government.

The grant will allow the department to develop ways to educate and train new physicians in methods of primary care; specifically patient-centered medical home and team approach health care.

“With this grant, we will be able to train doctors to direct the care of patients in an increasingly complex and sometimes impersonal health care system, particularly in rural and small-town communities,” Department Chair Stephen Petrany said in a press release. “We will also be able to grow our efforts to collaborate with other health care professionals, including psychologists, pharmacists, social workers, nurses and others, to provide cutting-edge medical care to our patients in a supportive and caring environment that continues to focus on the central doctor-patient relationship.”

Petrany said the projects for the grant will focus on family medicine residents in training, but will also include training of faculty and staff in support of those efforts, as well as continuing medical education for recent residency graduates and community primary care physicians.
Virginia, "Walker said. "We have the opportunity to impact farmer’s markets, and families."

Walker said. "This is a great way to show off your skills in the kitchen and make healthy food that uses ingredients grown right here in West Virginia."

The intention of the recipe book is to draw a correlation between the recipes and their connection to Appalachian communities, Gardner said. "This is one of my favorite programs in West Virginia," Gardner said. "It's going to be a fantastic opportunity for students and their individual learning process. We know that if a student is interested in engineering he or she wants to see what they are learning, so the stairs are designed as such so students can see the support structure and develop new materials."

The lab will allow students to manage in-structure and develop new materials. "Students can customize test specimens that they can put in the lab and under the actual testing scenario they will be able to make judgment calls about the sufficiency or insufficiency of the structure," Zatar said. "It's going to be a fantastic opportunity for students not only during lab time but later in the curriculum as well."

"We are trying to efficiently utilize every inch of the area," Zatar said. "Every small island that needed to be taken care of was taken care of at the time of the design so we know exactly our limitations."

The new classrooms are equipped with furniture that is not stationary. All tables and desks can be moved to accommodate students and their individual learning process. Computer stations and chairs can be grouped together for collaborative work, which is encouraged by the college. "There is a lot of collaborative space for the students to get together and learn from each other which we strongly encourage," Assistant Professor Jeff Huffman said. Classrooms and labs are also equipped with a "Smart Pulsar" which connects a screen in the classroom to display information. The idea behind this technology was to better use computer systems and distribute files to students not only during lab time but later in the semester as well.

"We are providing the highest technology in classrooms and the highest technology on the labs," Zatar said. "The equipment is perfectly new to the region. All the classrooms and labs have been designed to use the latest technology. That will really benefit the students."

Some classrooms were designed with movable walls in order to open up areas for larger groups of students or for the use of conference and training rooms.

"When we designed the classrooms we designed for the future," Huffman said. "We can reconfigure anything at any time and any reason.

The east wing of the building is shorter than the west wing. It is because of the entrance of the building is centered on the main entrance of the university. The student center can be seen through the lobby of the building. The entrance of the building is also aligned with one of the stoplights and crosswalks on 3rd Avenue in order for students to safely cross the street when going to and from class.

Every part of the building can be used as a learning tool for students according to Zatar. "We know that if a student is interested in engineering he or she wants to see what they are learning, so the stairs are designed as such so students can see the support structure and develop new materials," Zatar said. "We can expose that, that can be a big learning mechanism. Everything on the building that can be used as a teaching tool and classroom.

There are 16 screens in the building that will be used to display achievements, important events, and classroom assignments. Huffman said he is excited for the opportunity the new facility will offer students. "It's going to be a fantastic opportunity for the students and their individual learning process."

The College of Technology and Engineering is hoping the new facility will open up new opportunities for students now and in the future. "It really opens up avenues for research and teaching that we didn't have before," Huffman said. "New opportunities for students to come here and get the education they need and crosswalks on 3rd Avenue in order for students to safely cross the street when going to and from class.

Every part of the building can be used as a learning tool for students, according to the complex's facilities.

Britanie Morgan can be contacted at morga230@marshall.edu.
The public outcry and significant disappointment expressed among the league’s fan base surely has to have an impact on the NFL’s profits or at least its popularity, right? Nope, not even a little bit.

The mounting popularity of the NFL is most evident in the national revenue the league accrued during the 2014 campaign. On Monday, ESPN reported the amount the NFL collected and split between the 32 teams totaled $7.24 billion, with each team collecting $226.4 million, mostly from television deals.

Money-wise the NFL did phenomenal in 2014, but to say the league had a rough year publicly—yes, that’s a vast understatement.

Less than two weeks into the 2014 season, the release of the non-inflatable elevator video where former Baltimore Ravens star Ray Rice strikes his then-fiancee and then proceeds to drag her unconscious body out of the elevator as if she were nothing more than a rag doll started what would be a horrendous year for the league’s image.

To make the incident worse for the league, a report by former FBI Director Robert Mueller showed the NFL had access to the video well before it was published by TMZ but chose not to give Rice the adequate punishment until the video became available for the world to see. While NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell insisted the league did not watch the video despite having it in possession (which is rather hard to believe), many fans remained rightly furious with the league and its commissioner.

During the same month of the Rice incident, the Minnesota Vikings’ Adrian Peterson, arguably the league’s best player, was arrested for abusing his 4-year-old son. Photos of the child’s gruesome injuries, which were well beyond the injuries any child should sustain from corporal punishment, quickly surfaced online in what quickly became another image-wrecking incident for the NFL.

Besides Rice and Peterson, the league was also forced to deal with eight other abuse cases during 2014. Nevertheless, the NFL is doing historic numbers and proving that it still holds the title for most popular professional sport regardless if many of its players are violent testosterone-filled idiots.

Despite numerous cases of abuse involving some of its most well known players last season, the NFL is not really feeling any business and popularity has never been better.

The highlight of the NFL’s non-conference slate is a road game against Big Ten juggernaut University of Maryland on Dec. 27 in College Park, Maryland. The Terrapins are presumed 2015-16 preseason favorite after a 28-7 finish last season that ended in the NCAA Tournament third round.

“We wanted to make the schedule very competitive out of conference,” D’Antoni said in a press release. “There will be some days that really test us, with Maryland being a potential top 10 team. There’s also West Virginia and Tennessee, two more power conference teams. We’ve beefed up the schedule to test ourselves early. We want to be battle-ready for conference play, with the ultimate goal being the NCAA Tournament.”
The case for water conservation

The framers of the Constitution probably didn’t consider Americans’ rights to water, but it is now becoming an issue that the country is going to have to face.

As with most things here in West Virginia, people don’t care about this issue because it doesn’t affect them. They don’t even attempt to fight it.

As California goes through its worst drought in 1,200 years of us here in West Virginia at comfortability with access to clean water is our comfortability. However, the United Nations reported in 2009 that two-thirds of the world’s population will face a lack of water in the next 20 years (now 14 years and 4 years).

The U.N. also says that a majority of the world’s population already lives within a 30-mile radius of stressed water sources. A recent NASA study warns that if we don’t change our current behavior, the United States could see “mega-droughts” that would include most of the west and midwest, hitting close enough to home that even those in Huntington could feel the impact. The price of water has risen 41 percent in much of the U.S. since 2010.

The U.N. projection goes as far as 14 years to the right, but first we’ll have to convince millions of Americans that we don’t believe they’re impacted by a drought. Sure, water is easily accessible for most of us on the east coast but it’s hard to be concerned about something when the effects aren’t obvious now.

It’s also hard to convince people in the west that there isn’t anything more than natural occurrence. But if there’s one thing many in this area can identify with, it is how important the right to water is. After going through a major water crisis last year and another minor one this year, West Virginians should know more than any other what it’s like to not have clean water. That daily struggle has become a reality for many in west, too.

The wider the drought spreads, the larger the impact will be in West Virginia. Food products grown largely throughout the Midwest and beyond will become much more expensive. That is important to everybody.

Most importantly, though, it’s about everyone’s right to have access to clean water. It’s not a Constitutional thing – the U.S. declared in 2010 that all humans have a right to clean water – but saying everyone deserves doesn’t mean everyone will get it.

The people who will be and are being hit by the drought are the hardest are the poor. Some residents in Huntington, West Virginia have a bill that amounts to a day’s worth of clean water without even their name on the bill.

As water bills rise across the country, some cannot afford to pay the bill leading to people getting shut off. This is a case in Detroit, sparking the debate over the right to water and whether water should be privatized.

One of the greatest mistakes we’ve made, though, is that we make people think about water conservation and access seriously.

GUIDELINES FOR SENDING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor are limited to 300 words or fewer. They must be sent in 300 words or fewer and submitted at an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for length.

The Parthenon publishes letters to the editor or on-line at the discretion of the editorial staff. The Parthenon online columns and letters do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon staff.

My rollercoaster ride with religion

By SHANNON STOWERS

Managing Editor

To begin to understand my personal dilemma, you have to understand how I was raised.

As a kid, I literally grew up in church. My family hardly missed a Sunday service, I was taught how to shoot, to kill, to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

As a kid, I was taught to be a good Christian and never stray from the path. I wasn’t a rebel, I didn’t question. I learned to accept things without question.

The people who raised me were religion oriented and they made sure I knew the faith I was raised with. I was taught to be a good person, to be moral, to be religious.

It was 14 years ago I was taught the faith I was raised with. I had been taught that sex was a sin. I had been taught to pray to God for my troubles and to do what was right.

My opinion on religion has changed over the years. I’ve become more accepting of religion and what it does for people and comfortable enough to live with the fact that I, along with every other Christian, am not perfect. I also realized, with anything else, there are a lot of great Christians out there who are more like the people the Bible told me to be rather than those in the congregation of that tiny, rural church.

I also realized that spirituality isn’t about picking one religion and one set of beliefs. That, to me, is the beauty of religion and the world we live in. Nobody knows the answers to what we’re doing here and what it’s all about.

Believe what you want to and don’t judge others who don’t share that same belief. Most importantly, take the ride. Explore your faith or lack thereof and see if you’re truly happy.

And if you happen to decide against religion or anything about what belief is the most important thing I learned to be nice and show compassion.

Shannon Stowers can be contacted at stowers44@marshall.edu.
Forecastle music festival recap

By MEGAN OSBORNE
THE PARTHENON

Stood next to the front row of Louisville, Kentucky, Forecastle attracted a variety of music lovers with its diverse lineup, from pop singer-songwriter Sam Smith, to the funkadelic Kay Michaels of “Parade” fame to Louisville’s own modern rock band My Morning Jacket. It’s “good to be home,” Jim James of My Morning Jacket said to a crowd of Forecastle Festivalgoers Saturday in the middle of the band’s Saturday headliner set.

Standing next to me in the crowd was Louisville’s Emily Hall, who said she has waited more than half her life to see My Morning Jacket. “I’ve been listening to them since I was ten,” Hall said before the set began. “So it’s going to be great.”

Hall also said she suspected the crowd mostly consisted of Louisvilleians because MMJ is such a hometown favorite. And one could tell the band was home, just from the epic performance – the set ended after a one-hour encore, making MMJ’s Bonnaroo set seem like a half-hearted practice run (and it was by no means sub-par).

Festival-goers were prompted to leave the venue by officials during Sam Smith’s performance due to bad weather Friday. While Smith performed his hit “Lay Me Down,” high winds caused equipment to blow around the stage area.

No damage was reported by Forecastle, but the venue opened an hour late Saturday as the festival crew prepared the venue. Up and Sam Smith’s set, Smooshound, Cold War Kids and Silos were among the artists that performed.

Leading up to MMJ Saturday, Illovo-Malokhonen and Cheekr were the acts to catch for a midday dance party. The real place to get down at Forecastle, however, is after the festival venue closes and the late night shows begin.

“The Flavors last-night performance brought the festival spirit to a smaller venue, and played a set featuring remixes of Jay Arnoldil tunes and Spac Jam that would make any true MMJ kid explode with nostalgia,” Reeves Kirtner, Associate General Manager at Kindred Communications said before the set began. “So we have everything we like and put them on the schedule,” Kirtner said, “We try to have a diverse crop of musicians – we have everything from jam bands, country acts, classic rock cover bands, soul – we’ve even had bluegrass.”

Although the weather has not been pleasant the Reiner Summer Concert Series has not faced a decline in attendance because of the rain and storms.

“It’s a great place to catch a festival with your friends, and hear some live music,” Kirtner said, “we have a Marshall night with players, coaches, the band, cheerleaders to kick off the series.”

Selecting the bands for the Reiner Summer Concert Series is something that doesn’t end. Kindred Communications is always looking for new music to showcase for the Huntington area.

“We are always looking for new bands and artists. A lot of bands will call us and send us information. We get a lot of recommendations from other bands, or employees of the company well have a band they like and at the beginning of the year we will look at everyone like and put them on the schedule,” Kirtner said. “We try to have a diverse crop of musicians – we have everything from jam bands, country acts, classic rock cover bands, soul – we’ve even had bluegrass.”

Local stylists will be available starting at 6 p.m. for $10 haircuts, makeup and maintenance. All proceeds will benefit the Golden Girl Group Foundation.

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Kindred Communications gives back with Chairs Of Change

By SHALIE ROGNEY
LIFE EDITOR

Kindred Communications has been bringing live music to the Huntington area since 2006. This Thursday, Kindred Communications is going back to the community with Chairs Of Change.

Chairs of Change is a charity that benefits the Golden Girl Group Home. The Golden Girl Group Home is based out of Cincinnati and services young ladies that are in family situations that are hard toandle.

City Heat, an R&B group, is headlining the evening with music starting at 7pm and local hair stylist have volunteered to do haircuts, make-up, or manicures for $10 starting at 4 pm.

Kindred Communications has other charity nights planned for the remainder of the summer. Next week is Pack the Backpack night, benefiting the Facing Hunger Food Bank.

“We do a lot of charity nights at Fullman Square. It’s a community event, and we like to help out our community,” said Reeves Kirtner, Associate General Manager at Kindred Communications.

“Coming up next week is Pack the Backpack Night, which benefits the Facing Hunger Food Bank. We are going to celebrate Reiner’s Bakery’s ‘110th Anniversary in August, and we have a Marshall night with players, coaches, the band, cheerleaders to kick off the series.”

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