

Winter 2015

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The very best of Marshall University faculty

Marshall



The Life & Legacy of Stephen J. Kopp

*President of Marshall University
2005-2014*

Forever in the Marshall Family



See page 41 for ALUMNI NEWS and more

Winter 2015

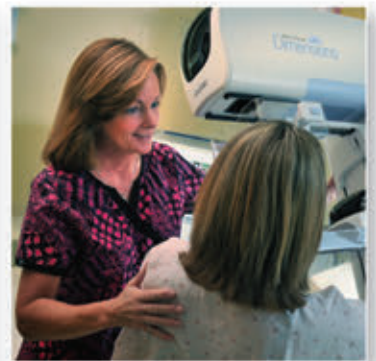
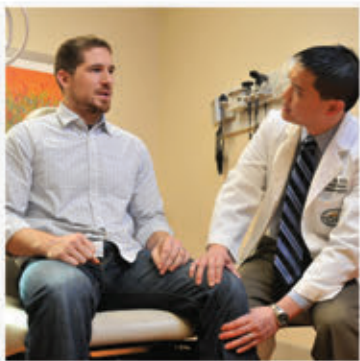
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Marshall

m a g a z i n e

The official magazine of Marshall University

Winter 2015

features

- 4 President Stephen J. Kopp's legacy to endure many generations.
- 18 Distinguished faculty explore their passions through Drinko Fellowship.
- 24 The Chris Cline Athletic Complex is an investment for all Marshall sports.
- 28 Robert C. Byrd Institute at forefront of 3-D printing revolution.
- 34 Health Informatics program prepares graduates for promising careers.
- 38 December graduates celebrate success with winter commencement.



28

department

- 2 INTERIM PRESIDENT



- 41 BERNARD "BERNIE" COSTON
- 43 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION FORM
- 44 ALUMNI WEEKEND RESERVATION FORM
- 46 CLASS NOTES
- 48 IN MEMORIAM
- 50 SPOTLIGHT
- 52 MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Marshall

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on the cover

The Marshall community remembers the late President Stephen J. Kopp and his numerous contributions to the university during his tenure.

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Thank you, Steve.

From his very first speech at Marshall University nine and a half years ago to his final meetings before he tragically passed away Dec. 17, Dr. Stephen J. Kopp's focus was on his desire to fulfill "the promise of a better future" for our students. Thanks to Steve's extraordinary vision and futuristic thinking, the future now is much better than it was before he arrived at Marshall in July 2005.

His goals never wavered. When he was hired at Marshall, Dr. Kopp asked the Marshall and Huntington communities the following questions in one of his many speeches:

- What is our probable future, especially if we continue to do what we have been doing just as we have been doing it?
- What is our possible future?
- What is our preferred future?
- What array of plausible futures do we envision as we think and dream boldly?

Next, he invited everyone to:

- Think futuristically and share your ideas
- Conceptualize Marshall University as an adaptive, high-performing institution of higher learning
- Challenge prevailing practices and assumptions in conjunction with our quest to become better and better
- Commit to robust decision-making that is evidence-based and dynamic
- Aspire to a better future that inspires us to excel each and every day

Dr. Kopp challenged each of us to "dream boldly, plan well and dedicate ourselves individually and collectively to fulfilling this promise." If we would do that, he said, "I know we will succeed."

He was so right. Under his dynamic leadership, Marshall has succeeded and progressed in ways few thought possible before 2005.

He also was realistic. "We cannot mislead ourselves into thinking we can coast and that our work is done," he said.

We owe that much to President Kopp, who had big plans for this institution before his death. He showed what the results of dreaming big and working hard could be. He never did "coast;" nor should we. Not for one second did he stop dreaming, or stop pursuing the promise of a better future for the Marshall community.

As I have said repeatedly, I am extremely honored to be the interim president of Marshall University, and this is a role I do not take lightly. In fact, I take it very seriously.

How could anyone take it any other way, after witnessing what great strides Marshall was able to take under Dr. Kopp's decade-long service as president? He and his wife, Jane, committed their full energy and enthusiasm to realizing the incredible potential they saw in Marshall. My wife, Jo Ann, and I are excited to do the same.

As Dr. Kopp predicted, nothing came easy. "We will do what is hard," he vowed in 2005. "The journey to discover and build our path to a better future will be a demanding and complex undertaking. All worthwhile ventures in life are."

So, we will not stop dreaming, nor will we stop working hard. As Dr. Kopp said, "Every time we think we have measured our capacity to meet a challenge, we look around and are reminded that to excel, to become the best, we must ask and give more of ourselves."

Thank you, Steve. Your work, your passion and your dreams of fulfilling the promise of a better future will live on at Marshall University forever. That is our promise to you.



The late President Stephen J. Kopp and Interim President Gary G. White.

– Gary White is interim president of Marshall University.




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Dr. Stephen J. Kopp

March 28, 1951 - December 17, 2014

We are forever grateful for his vision and leadership.

 **MARSHALL UNIVERSITY**
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President Stephen J. Kopp is remembered for his vision and dedication to Marshall during his nine-year tenure.



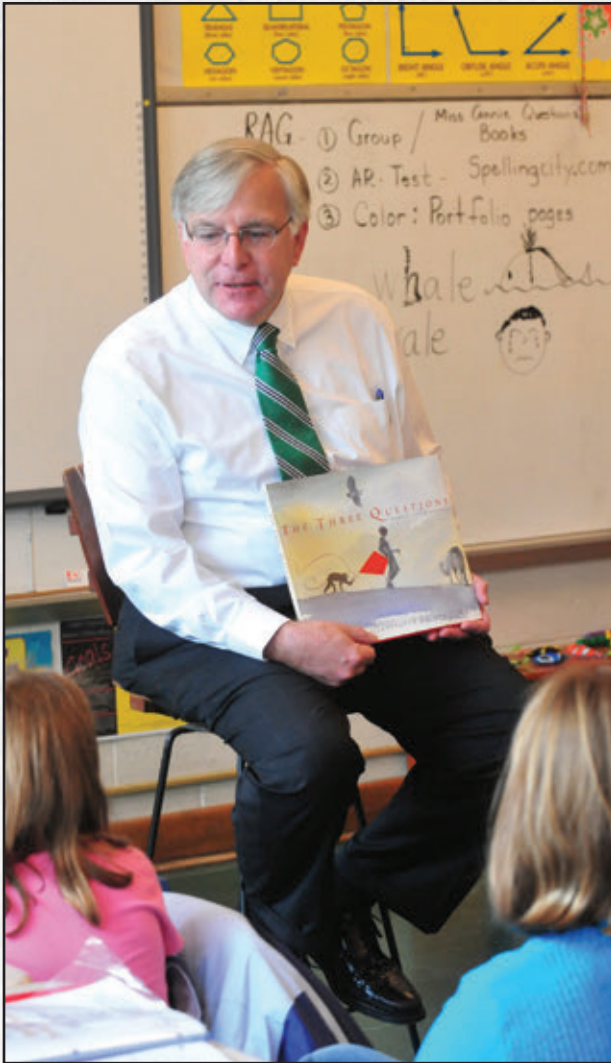
The Life & Legacy of Dr. Stephen J. Kopp

1951 – 2014

Wednesday, Dec. 17, was a typical day for Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp. He arrived at the office shortly after sunrise and tackled some paperwork before entering a Board of Governors meeting that consumed most of the morning. Following lunch, he drove to Heritage Farm Museum & Village to meet with former Marshall Interim President A. Michael Perry and new West Virginia Senate President Bill Cole to discuss higher education issues and the upcoming legislative session. At 6 p.m. he and his wife, Jane, held a small holiday dinner party at the President's House, and after an enjoyable evening with friends and colleagues the couple said goodnight to their final guests before winding down another long day. Twenty minutes later, Kopp collapsed and died. The news spread quickly and sent shockwaves throughout the Marshall community.

“When I heard the news I was absolutely stunned,” said Dr. Joseph Touma, a Huntington developer, physician and longtime Board of Governors member. “This is a huge loss for the university and the community. What he did for both Marshall and Huntington was phenomenal.”

By Jack Houvouras



Along with his contributions to Marshall, Kopp also dedicated time to serving the Huntington community by reading to local elementary school students.

Board of Governors Chairman Michael Sellards shared the sentiments of thousands of alumni around the country when he stated, “Dr. Kopp was a visionary in higher education. All you have to do is look around the campus to see the legacy this man left behind. It is a legacy that will affect generations.”

Kopp was just 63 years old when he passed away unexpectedly. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Jane; two children, Adam and Liz; and two grandchildren. He was approaching his 10-year anniversary as president of an ever-evolving and transformative university. It can easily be argued that, in its 177-year history, Marshall University never saw more growth and expansion than under the tenure of President Kopp. His list of accomplishments is vast.

Under his watch, more than \$300 million was spent on new buildings and renovations of existing facilities. Some of the more notable projects include:

- Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center
- New wing at the Mid-Ohio Valley Center in Point Pleasant, West Virginia
- Expansion of the Forensic Science Center
- Veterans Memorial Soccer Complex
- New parking garage
- Renovation and rededication of the Memorial Fountain
- Recreation Center
- Four new residence halls and a new cafeteria for students
- Marshall University Foundation Hall / Erickson Alumni Center
- Arthur Weisberg Family Applied Engineering Complex
- Four new sky suites at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium
- Chris Cline Athletic Complex with an indoor practice facility, student-athlete academic center, hall of fame and sports medicine translational research center
- Visual Arts Center in downtown Huntington
- Development of the Old Main Corridor and other Fourth Avenue beautification projects
- Renovations to various facilities on both of Marshall’s campuses
- Campus-wide landscaping and beautification projects

Alumni who hadn’t visited Marshall in the past decade often commented that they didn’t recognize the expansive campus, noting the new buildings that dotted the skyline. Many visitors stood in awe of how much the university had grown in such a short period.

But Kopp will be remembered for more than just the physical growth of the university. His mark on academics was equally impactful.

He instituted a strategic planning process for Marshall soon after arriving in Huntington, giving faculty, students and staff, as well as members of the community, the opportunity to provide ideas for how to improve all aspects of the university. The result was a strategic vision that stressed the importance of student success. Later, the Marshall Commitment, an 11-ele-

“Dr. Kopp was a visionary in higher education. All you have to do is look around the campus to see the legacy this man left behind. It is a legacy that will affect generations.”

– Michael Sellards

During Kopp's presidency, the Freshman Convocation became a part of Week of Welcome activities. Here, students walk with the president to the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center for the ceremony.



ment action plan for advancing academic quality, was implemented.

Under Kopp's leadership Marshall's academic profile grew dramatically, with new high-demand majors and degree programs, including digital forensics, and the new schools of pharmacy, physical therapy and public health. In addition, the four-year undergraduate engineering program was re-established and fully accredited.

During Kopp's tenure Marshall became a leading university for advanced, high-performance computing and Internet-2 connectivity. The evolution of this platform positioned Marshall to partner and compete globally anytime, anywhere with anyone at any level.

In conjunction with these developments, the Rahall Transportation Institute at Marshall advanced to become one of the top university transportation centers in the country.

Kopp was one of the architects of the West Virginia Research Trust Fund legislation, a plan that matched dollar for dollar the private gifts to Marshall in support of research. The result? External funding for research doubled, including \$30 million in research endowments following a successful campaign to raise \$15 million in private gifts.

Finally, under Kopp's stewardship, Marshall grew in both enrollment and the geographic area it serves. The university welcomed the largest freshman classes in its

Kopp congratulates the Marshall football team after its first Conference USA Championship Dec. 6.





From enjoying a spirited game of quoits during Constitution Week to sharing a laugh with Matthew McConaughey during the shooting of “We Are Marshall,” Kopp was never without a smile during campus events.

177-year history and recently unveiled a groundbreaking initiative to recruit more international students.

President Kopp arrived at Marshall University on July 1, 2005, with a very distinguished resume. He earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Notre Dame and his Ph.D. in physiology and biophysics from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He was hired as Marshall’s 36th president following successful administrative positions with Midwestern University, Central Michigan University and Ohio University.

“The search committee voted unanimously to hire Stephen Kopp because he was a perfect fit for Marshall,” said A. Michael Perry, co-chair of the search committee at the time. “We needed a strong leader to guide us through some very complicated arenas. After conducting extensive interviews, we knew Dr. Kopp had the intellect and experience to help us formulate a comprehensive vision for the future. He was the right leader at the right time in the history of this institution.”

More than just a visionary university president, Kopp was also extremely involved in the progress of the entire Huntington community, sharing many civic responsibilities with his wife, Jane. The couple was well

respected, with a love of the region that was readily apparent. The Koppes were always proud to call West Virginia home and quickly became endeared with the people and beauty of Huntington.

“When we first visited the area, the friendliness of the people just drew us in,” Kopp recalled in 2005. “Both Jane and I felt like we have been here a long time.”

The Koppes also had a true appreciation for the arts and recognized their importance in building a strong and vibrant community. Their support helped make possible the Old Main Corridor and other Fourth Avenue beautification projects.

Kopp led Marshall through the purchase of the former Stone & Thomas building, which today is a visual arts learning center. The former six-story department store is an anchor of the new city landscape, bringing Marshall and downtown Huntington closer together. In addition, Kopp proudly lined the president’s office with student artwork – hand-picked to highlight the immense artistic talent he saw in the Marshall community.

He regularly visited area high schools to instill in students the importance of not just starting college, but completing their degrees, if they expected to compete in the global marketplace. He was a champion for rais-



ABOVE: Kopp poses at home with his family. (Clockwise from top) Son Adam and his wife, Amanda, daughter Liz and her husband, Matthew, grandchildren Rachel and Ryan, and wife Jane.

RIGHT: Kopp is survived by Jane, his loving wife of 42 years.

ing educational standards because he believed Marshall students were capable of higher levels of achievement.

Kopp was honored by Create Huntington in 2009 for his efforts to help improve the livability of Huntington. His counsel was frequently sought on business and community matters. He lent his expertise to a variety of area economic development organizations, including the Huntington Area Development Council and the Huntington Regional Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of Johnson Memorial United Methodist



Church and the Rotary Club and was a generous contributor to local charity fundraising efforts.

While both the Marshall and Huntington communities lost a dynamic leader on Dec. 17, the legacy of President Stephen J. Kopp will live on. It is a legacy defined by growth, expansion, research, academic enrichment and civic pride. It will affect students at Marshall University for generations.

When he was first interviewed by *Marshall Magazine* shortly after his arrival on campus in the summer of 2005, Kopp spoke about his vision for the future.

“How do you know you’ve made a difference in a college or university?” Kopp asked. “It’s when you see the ideas, values and vision expressed every day by the people who are still there – that the vision for the future is one that is enduring.”

His words would ultimately prove to be prophetic nearly 10 years later. President Kopp may be gone, but his vision will endure. □

Jack Houvouras is the publisher of the *Marshall Magazine*. He is also the editor of the *Huntington Quarterly* and a freelance writer living in Huntington, West Virginia.

Quotes About Dr. Stephen J. Kopp

“Dr. Kopp came to Marshall with a vision for growth and opportunity for its students, faculty, staff and the entire Huntington community. He dedicated himself every day to fulfilling that vision.”

– Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin

“The Marshall community has truly lost one of its best. There is no doubt that Steve will leave behind a legacy as an outstanding leader, a beloved adopted West Virginian and a dedicated husband and father.”

– U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin

“President Kopp’s extraordinary vision transformed Marshall University, and his dedication to the university and its students is truly commendable.”

– U.S. Sen. Shelley Moore Capito

“Dr. Kopp’s faith in education and its boundless potential for young minds was unshakable. His legacy will live on in generations of students whose lives ... will be enriched by his many accomplishments.”

– Former U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall

“For the past nine years, President Kopp’s leadership at Marshall University and his passion for education have enriched not only the city of Huntington but the entire state of West Virginia. I, along with the entire Mountaineer family, appreciate his service, his dedication and his contributions. He will be greatly missed.”

– West Virginia University President E. Gordon Gee

“He was the hardest worker and one of the smartest people I have ever known in my life, a visionary who was so committed to Marshall and who so loved this community. You couldn’t find anybody with any more commitment to what he did and more vision for Marshall and Huntington.”

– Former Board of Governors Chairwoman Verna Gibson

“I’ve never been around a president who loved athletics like he did. He loved the competition. He was always involved and talked to every recruit I’ve had here. He should have been a football coach because he was in his office at five in the morning and left at night.”

– MU Head Football Coach Doc Holliday

“We have lost one of the most dedicated and long-serving presidents in the 177-year history of Marshall University. President Kopp has a strong leadership team in place and I’m confident that together we can continue the business of the university in a manner that would make him proud.”

– Board of Governors Chairman Michael Sellards

“President Kopp was an amazing president but, more importantly, an even better man. He was an inspiration to me and I admired him so much.”

– Student Body President Duncan Waugaman

“President Kopp was brilliant and remarkable on many levels. And while he had a very powerful persona, down deep he just wanted to be one of the boys. Our community lost a great leader. I lost a great friend.”

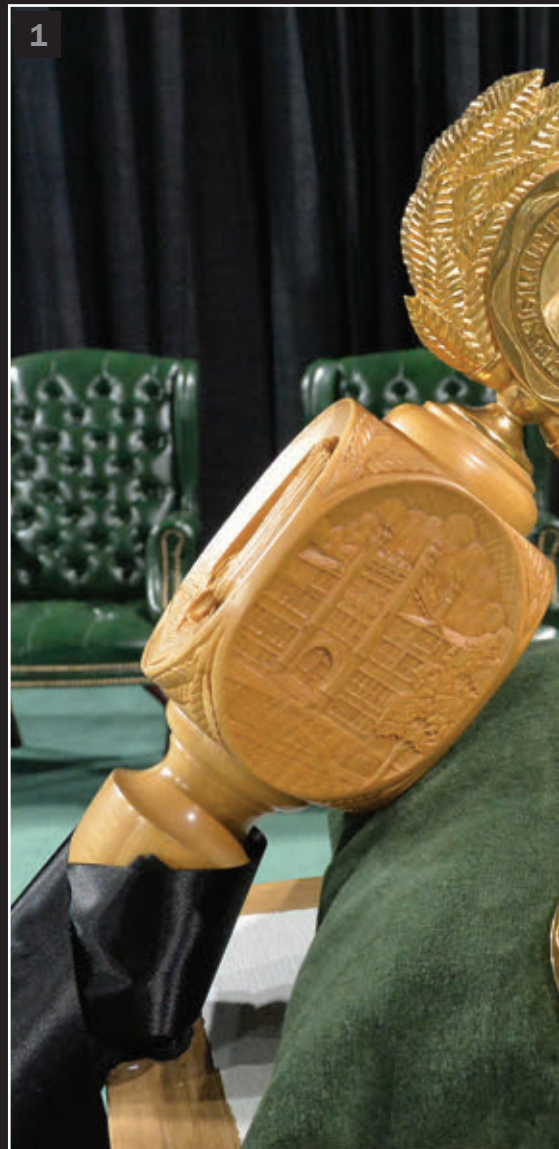
– John G. Hess, former Board of Governors member

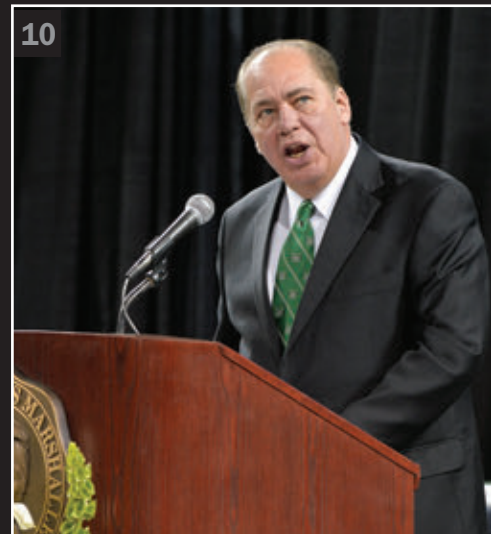
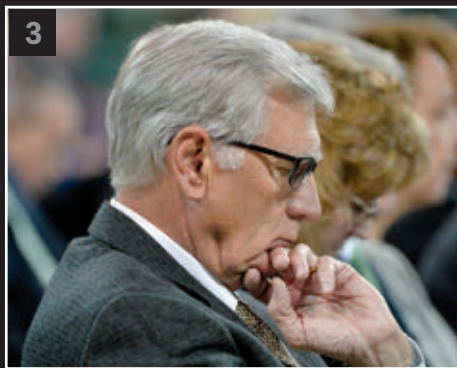
memorial service

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and other friends of Marshall, numbering in the thousands, attended the memorial service for President Stephen J. Kopp Jan. 13 in the Cam Henderson Center. More pictures and other information on President Kopp are available online at the tribute site: www.marshall.edu/kopp-tribute.

Photos: (1) The ceremonial mace and presidential medallion were featured on the stage. (2) Elizabeth Kopp Bradley, daughter of the president. (3) Dr. Robert C. Nerhood, retired senior associate dean for clinical affairs and chair of obstetrics and gynecology at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. (4) The John Marshall Fife and Drum Corps, formed during Kopp's presidency, performed at the service, as did the Marshall University Chamber Choir. (5) Kopp's seat in the Henderson Center was memorialized. (6) Jane Kopp, wife of the late president. (7) Taylor Isaacs, vocal soloist, and Rodrigo Almeida, guitarist, also performed at the service. (8) J.D. Lowman, piper, played the recessional, "Amazing Grace." (9) West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals Justice Menis Ketchum. (10) West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin.

Photos by Rick Hays





EDITOR'S NOTE

The cover story from the Winter 2000 issue of *Marshall Magazine* featured Gary White, and the headline simply said, "Friend of MU." Now, 15 years later, Marshall's friend has a new title: interim president. White has agreed to serve as president of Marshall University until a permanent replacement can be found for Dr. Stephen J. Kopp, who died Dec. 17.

To help the Marshall University community to get to know its interim president, *Marshall Magazine* has reprinted the article from 2000. Some things have changed since the article was written ... The author, Dave Wellman, has been Director of Communications at Marshall since 2001. White's daughter, Jennifer, passed away in 2011, as did his mother, Catherine, in 2009. James "Buck" Harless died in 2014. However, White's desire to help people, his love of fast cars and music, and his intelligence and people skills have remained the same. And yes, he still owns the Corvette in the picture!



PHOTO BY DAVID E. FATTALEH

gary white by Dave Wellman is **ON THE MOVE**



Business leader Gary White on the importance of family, education, and the joy of fast cars.

Occasionally, Gary White sleeps. Once in a while, Gary White plays a round of golf.

Sometimes, Gary White tinkers with his red 1960 Corvette, the one his wife says he brought home in a box and restores in his spare time.

The rest of his life, the other 99 percent, Gary White is a little busy: running International Industries Inc. in Gilbert, W.Va., as its president and chief executive officer, chairing the West Virginia Roundtable, searching for a Marshall University president and serving on the state Board of Education.

Helping people.

"Gary's always trying to help other people," says good friend A. Michael Perry, chairman and CEO of Banc One West Virginia Corporation, and former interim president at Marshall. "He has a caring and compassionate heart."

White, 49, is a native West Virginian who loves his home state. He was born in Logan, graduated from high school there, still lives there, still sings in the church choir there.

In the Mountain State, though, White is best known for his business brilliance, from his days as underground mining manager at Amherst Coal Company from 1975 to 1986 to his current position with International Industries. Many are surprised that White, who's made it big in West Virginia, hasn't left the state as others have before him.

"I'm extremely fortunate to be where I am," he says humbly. Fortunate and thankful for people such as Buck Harless, his boss and owner of International Industries.

"I've worked with Mr. Harless for seven and a half years," White says. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. He has captured the right philosophy of life. His legacy will be his philanthropy and caring."

The same, those who know him say, could be said of White and his wife, Jo Ann. Caring just comes naturally for the Whites, who are the parents of a 27-year-old daughter with cerebral palsy. Jennifer is their life. She is why they live, why they breathe.

"Our personal life centers around her and her needs," Gary White says. "Dealing with the challenges she's faced, it causes you to have a different perspective on life."

Jennifer's dad smiles broadly as he talks about how smart she is, how she lets her parents know when her socks don't match the rest of her outfit.

"We have learned to recreate with her at the lake," White says. "We have a large houseboat and we go to

Jenny Wiley State Park (near Prestonsburg, Ky.), that's Jennifer's favorite place to be. She's been exposed. She's a real rewarding part of our life."

Gary White's mother, Catherine, admires her son and Jo Ann for the way they've devoted their lives to Jennifer.

"Through the way they've brought that child up, and the many, many lives they've touched, they just reach out to everybody," Catherine White says. "They help people they don't even know. They'll go to any extent to help people."

Simply, Perry says, White "has his act together."

"He knows where he wants to be and he's a dedicated family man," Perry says.

Gary White's business savvy and skills just came naturally, his mother says. "He was always curious about everything," Catherine White says. "Instead of looking at something, he'd take it apart and see what it did." For example?

"Clocks," she says. "When he was real small it was clocks."

When White was six years old, his mother convinced her reluctant son that if he went to the dentist she would take him to the local auto dealer showroom and let him ride in a children's model Corvette. Young Gary kept his appointment and took his first ride in a sports car.

"Gary's always trying to help other people," says good friend A. Michael Perry, chairman and CEO of Banc One West Virginia Corporation, and former interim president at Marshall University. "He has a caring and compassionate heart."





Gary White at the dedication of the ultra-modern 61,500 square foot Larry Joe Harless Community Center in Gilbert, West Virginia.

“Education is the fundamental basis to diversifying our economy in Southern West Virginia. You need well-educated, well-trained people.”
 — Gary White

“Ever since that day, I’ve loved cars. There’s just something special about a powerful, fast car. I drive my vintage 1960 Corvette for fun. The rest of the time I drive a Cadillac STS with the Northstar system. It’s the fastest domestic luxury car made. I appreciate products that perform well and both of these cars can flat out run.”

At Logan High School, White followed a rigorous college prep program that he says was analogous to today’s School to Work programs. “The curriculum dictated no electives, no study hall, and you had to go to summer school,” White says.

After his sophomore year, White was hired at Kroger where he worked 32 to 40 hours a week. His mind raced at an early age. He had to stay busy, had to be productive.

After graduating from Logan, White attended Marshall for two and a half years. He left Marshall to enter the work force, full time. (He later returned to complete his baccalaureate degree.) As White puts it, “I began my business career.” One of his first jobs was rebuilding and selling electrical mining equipment.

His father, the Rev. Glenn White, has been pastor at Central United Baptist church for more than 40 years. But, he also worked in sales to the mining industry and – like his son – always worked long hours.

In 1969, it was required that mines be electrically certified. White left the sales side of the mining business to become an instructor, teaching miners the necessary electrical information for them to be certified.

“I was a pretty effective teacher,” he admits. “I’ve even thought I might enjoy teaching again. It’s very rewarding.”

White worked in mining at Island Creek Coal Company and then Amherst, where he subsequently became

an administrative manager and ultimately manager of underground mining. He left Amherst to become president of the West Virginia Coal Association, a position he held from 1985 through 1992. He’s worked for Harless since.

“He’s a successful person who never forgets from whence he came,” Perry says of White. “There’s not an elitist bone in his body.”

Perry and White have similar likes, such as Southern Gospel music. They’ve attended the popular Gaither Homecoming concerts together, and both enjoy singing hymns. White, in fact, is an outstanding singer, having earned all-state honors for three years in high school. While attending Marshall, he was the only person in the school’s 50-member symphonic choir who was not a music major.

White is deeply devoted to the education process in West Virginia, and he does everything in his power to see that it continues to improve. Perry calls White a role model “as to the importance of education, and what a person with humble beginnings can accomplish.”

“He’s an extremely successful business person who probably has the highest commitment to education, K through 20, of anybody,” Perry says.

That commitment again goes back to his love for the state. The future of West Virginia, White says, is directly tied to the state’s education system.

“The state of West Virginia the last 12 or 13 years has moved light years ahead,” he says. “But there’s still a lot to do. Education is the fundamental basis to diversifying our economy in Southern West Virginia. You need well-educated, well-trained people.”

The West Virginia Roundtable is an organization made up of CEOs from major corporations in the state. Their goal is to assist and promote public policy in West Virginia.

“We exist to bring the CEO perspective to policy making,” White says. For example, the roundtable has been involved in workers’ compensation reform and with the state’s energy industry.

“The West Virginia Roundtable has completely reorganized itself in dramatic fashion,” Perry says, lauding White for his leadership.

White acknowledges that hard work and self-initiative enhanced his advancement in life. But, he’s quick to point out that good timing and the contributions of others were important as well.

“I was involved in the coal industry when it was expanding,” he says. “I’ve worked with some wonderful people who’ve given me a great mentoring atmosphere.”

White is wise enough to surround himself with those good people. “He’s very intelligent and he has good people skills,” Perry says. “He recognizes that there are many other good, honest, hard-working, intelligent men and women out there who’ve not had the opportunities he’s had. Those opportunities have caused him to have

greater respect for the well-being of the people he cares deeply for.”

When White started working for International Industries, Harless dropped his mother a note that said, “Thanks so much for having a son who has remarkable character and dedication to the task at hand.”

What’s a mother say to that?

“I’m so proud of him,” Catherine White says. “He always maintains his integrity, which makes me so proud.”

One of these days, perhaps, White will ease up a little, and maybe find some time to do more fishing or play a little more golf. But don’t count on it.

“The problem with golf is, during that four hours out there I always think of so many productive things that I could be doing,” he says.

Like, maybe, helping people?

“Always,” Perry says. “Always.” □

Dave Wellman is a contributing writer for *Marshall Magazine*.



Stephen J. Kopp, Ph.D.

1951 - 2014

Hess, Stewart & Campbell honors the loss of Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp and recognizes his enduring legacy.

His memory will always symbolize what it means to be a son of Marshall.

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*The very best of
Marshall University faculty*

The late John Deaver Drinko rose from humble beginnings in St. Marys, West Virginia, to guide one of the nation's largest, most successful law firms. Over the years, he generously supported Marshall University, his alma mater, in countless ways. Marshall's handsome John Deaver Drinko Library stands as a testament to his remarkable generosity. In 1994, he and his wife, Elizabeth, endowed the John Deaver Drinko Academy at Marshall.

"From its inception, John and Libby played active and enthusiastic roles in the affairs of the Academy," said Dr. Alan Gould, who has served as the academy's executive director since its inception. "Indeed, until his death 14 years later, the couple never missed the university's annual Spring Celebration of Academics sponsored by the Drinko Academy. For the Drinkos, perhaps no other activity was as important as this annual event."

In part, the annual celebration consists of the John Deaver Drinko Symposium, which provides a platform for Drinko Fellows to present the results of their research to the university community.

Presented in tandem is the celebration's other centerpiece - the Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation. This important event, also established in 1994, provides the one time of the year the university collectively acknowledges its honors students.

Gould recalled that Drinko frequently marveled at the number of outstanding instructors that he, a self-described "bow-legged kid from St. Marys," had while attending Marshall in the late 1930s. "John insisted that some day he would repay the school for the quality of the education he received."

That repayment began in 1994 with the creation of the Distinguished John Deaver Drinko Fellows Award. This designation is granted only to selected distin-

**By James E. Casto
Photos by Rick Lee**



For the past 21 years, the Drinko Fellowship has allowed distinguished faculty members to further pursue varying fields of study, (Clockwise from top) Eldon Larsen, Mary E. Reynolds, Wendell Dobbs, Linda Spatig and Burnis Morris.

guished senior professors. Appointed annually, the fellow receives a generous stipend, a reduced teaching load and other financial and clerical support for two academic years to undertake research projects and other scholarly pursuits.

“Each award is for two years,” Gould explained. “In the first year, the honoree receives a significant stipend, plus research and travel money. Then in the second year, we give them additional monies to finish their research. As John pointed out, we didn’t want their work to end with one great presentation.”

Gould said Drinko was determined that the fellows “not be chosen in some sort of popularity contest. So the selections are done by a small select committee made up primarily of senior faculty members and the highest academic administrators. Anybody can make a recommendation of a faculty member. But the final selection is strictly up to the committee.”

Dr. Simon Perry, now professor emeritus of political science, was named the first Drinko Fellow in 1994.

At the 2014 Drinko Symposium in April, Dr. Marcia Harrison-Pitaniello, a professor in the school’s Department of Biological Sciences, was selected as the latest – and 20th overall – Drinko Fellow.

The symposium also saw the late President Stephen J. Kopp named a Drinko Fellow and presented a medallion and plaque. Gould told the symposium attendees that since his appointment as president in 2005, Dr. Kopp had “personally participated in a number of our programs and productions and only on rare occasions missed any of our activities.”

Despite the deaths of John and Libby Drinko the future of the Drinko Fellows is secure, Gould said.

“John wanted the program to be long lasting, so he made sure the endowment that funds the program was substantial enough to continue the awards far into the future,” he said.

Brief biographical sketches of five recent Drinko Scholars are presented with this article.

“As you read the sketches of these distinguished scholars, you will note that they have been extremely productive members of our faculty and that their association with the academy has been beneficial both for themselves and for the university,” Gould said.



Wendell Dobbs

Dr. Wendell Dobbs joined the faculty of the Marshall Department of Music in 1985 and presently is professor of flute. He came to Marshall after two years in Paris as a French Government Scholar and a seven-year stint as flutist with the U.S. Army Band, “Pershing’s Own,” in Washington, D.C.

Dobb performs regularly in solo and chamber venues in a variety of musical settings, ranging from the Huntington Symphony Orchestra and the Ohio Valley Symphony, where he’s principal flute in both groups, to Blackbirds and Thrushes, a Celtic band.

With colleague Kay Wildman, he provided the music for the Drinko Academy’s highly successful video documentary on the life of John Marshall. He followed that up with a CD recording entitled “Rallying Around Our Liberty,” devoted to American flute music and songs from John Marshall’s era.

His selection as a Drinko Fellow in 2007-2008, enabled him to found the John Marshall Fife and Drum Corps.

“For me, the honor of the Drinko Fellowship was twofold,” Dobbs said. “First, it was a recognition of my research into flutes and flute music from our nation’s early years, and second, it afforded the opportunity to establish our John Marshall Fife and Drum Corps. This has enabled our students to learn about an important repertoire of music and to travel far and wide representing Marshall University.”



Eldon Larsen

A member of the Marshall faculty since 1999, Dr. Eldon Larsen is professor of engineering in the College of Information Technology and Engineering. He also serves as the coordinator of MU's Master of Science in Engineering degree program.

While a member of the Marshall faculty, he has produced scores of scholarly publications, has delivered more than 30 professional papers and has chaired numerous sessions at national professional meetings. He has received the Marshall University Distinguished Artist and Scholar award, as well as the Ashland Outstanding Graduate Advisor of the Year award.

Prior to joining Marshall, Larsen was a development and project scientist and senior engineer for Union Carbide Corp. While at Union Carbide, he received the Chairman's Award, its highest award for individual achievement by an employee. He is a fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and was named a Drinko Fellow for 2009-2010.

"As a Drinko Fellow, I was privileged to be able to make great progress on a textbook I am writing on Project Management for graduate students," Larsen said. "I really appreciated the financial and time support, and it helped me to write project management articles for presentation at national conferences. Another benefit is that it gave me greater exposure to wonderful people who are other Drinko Fellows and an opportunity to participate with them in many worthwhile social and academic activities."



Burnis R. Morris

Morris, the Carter G. Woodson Professor of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall, is a nationally known expert on Woodson. His selection as the Drinko Fellow for 2011-2012 enabled him to spend time delving deeper into the life and work of Woodson, a pioneering black historian and newspaper columnist.

"Temporarily freed of some of my daily responsibilities, I was able to travel and study documents related to Woodson and the black press at the Library of Congress, Howard University and elsewhere," Morris said. "The solid reputation of the Drinko program also enabled me to receive two other fellowships related to my research - the West Virginia Humanities Council Fellowship and the Carter G. Woodson Fellowship at Emory University."

Each February is nationally observed as Black History Month, but the founder of that annual observance has been all but forgotten.

"The resources of the Drinko Fellowship eventually will contribute to resurrecting Woodson's forgotten national profile," Morris said. "From 1915 to 1950, when he was promoting black history, Woodson was one of the most recognizable and significant African-Americans in the world. Many people date black history based on Woodson's research - before Woodson and after Woodson. I have produced a manuscript, which is being considered for publication, that I hope will return his work to the spotlight and introduce him to many new readers."



Mary Beth Reynolds

Dr. Mary Beth Reynolds joined the Marshall faculty in 1996 and presently holds the rank of professor in the Department of Communication Disorders. Her research, which has focused on synthesized speech intelligibility and comprehension, the relationship between language and literacy and language development in children from rural Appalachia, has been published in a number of scholarly journals.

She currently serves as the director of academic assessment for Marshall, and was honored as a Drinko Fellow in 2004-2005.

“Being selected as a Drinko Fellow provided me with time to expand on research I was pursuing on oral language development in children from the Appalachian region,” Reynolds said.

“Oral language plays a pivotal role in supporting the development of literate language and, by extension, academic success,” she said. “Thus, this area of study has important economic implications for our local region. But, what was especially exciting about the Drinko Fellowship was that it supported student scholars to work with me. Research shows that one of the most effective ways for all of us to learn is through the process of discovering new knowledge, which can only occur through active learning. I believe there is no better way to accomplish this than having students actively engaged with their professors in this process of discovery and I thank the John Deader Drinko Academy for making this possible.”



Linda Spatig

Dr. Linda Spatig joined the Marshall faculty in 1987 and presently is professor of education in the College of Education and Professional Development.

She has served the university in many capacities, including her work on the Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Board, the University Faculty Senate and as co-director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia. In addition, she is an associate editor of the *Journal of Education Foundations* and a program reviewer for the Governor’s Cabinet on Children and Families.

The bulk of her scholarship rests in the area of educational foundations with emphasis on social context issues including gender, race and class, as these social factors relate to the Appalachian culture.

“Receiving the Drinko Fellowship in 2006-2007 was a major professional turning point for me,” Spatig said. “Prior to receiving the fellowship, I had an ongoing program of scholarship, but receiving the Drinko award gave me recognition and resources that enabled me to think much bigger about what was possible. I am pretty sure I would not have written and published *Thinking Outside the Girl Box*, a book about my years of research with the Lincoln County Girls’ Resiliency Program that the Ohio University Press published last year, had I not received the fellowship.” □

James E. Casto was a reporter, editor and columnist at *The Herald-Dispatch* for more than 40 years before he retired from the newspaper in 2004.

In memory of Dr. Stephen J. Kopp

March 28, 1951 - December 17, 2014

Marshall University President from 2005 - 2014

Joe and Omayma Touma

would like to express their sincere condolences to Jane Kopp and the entire Kopp family during their tragic loss.

Dr. Kopp will be remembered for his tremendous contributions to his students, Marshall, Huntington, the state and higher education. He taught us to aim high, believe in ourselves and that vision without action is just a dream.

Dr. Kopp's legacy will always be in the lives of the students and the heart of the community.



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The Chris Cline Athletic Complex is an investment in the future of Marshall athletics

Chris Cline had a pretty good first-half vantage point at the Boca Raton Bowl. The billionaire coal executive could have sat anywhere he wished at FAU Stadium, but he was on the sidelines with his sons watching the Herd put together an impressive first half against Northern Illinois. It was not unlike what he does every day in the business world, overseeing a project in which he had quite an investment.

His “investment” is named after him. The Chris Cline Athletic Complex is Marshall’s \$30 million indoor facility. Cline had said during the dedication of the building that he had Marshall’s future postseason play in mind when he dove headfirst into the project. He envisioned the Herd practicing for bowl games indoors, where the team wouldn’t have to deal with the cold and rain and the conditions that hover around Huntington in December. He was

game changer

By Keith Morehouse

right. The field gave the Herd a much-needed place to practice during a run to the Conference USA football championship and a win in the Boca Raton Bowl.

“That facility is a game changer,” Marshall Athletics Director Mike Hamrick said. “It’s already paid off significantly. We used it during conference championship week and used it every day in bowl practice. Now we never have to worry about weather being an issue.”

The complex includes the Jeff Small Indoor Track, a sports medicine institute, a student-athlete center and the Chad Pennington Hall of Fame. The long-range impact on recruiting student athletes is yet to be measured.

“Just four or five years ago, we didn’t have anything to show recruits,” Hamrick said. “No indoor practice field, no Hall of Fame, no soccer complex. Just think how well Doc (Holliday) has recruited without this. In fact, since we opened it, we’ve had presidents of three different universities in our league come in to look at our facility.”

The Cline Athletic Complex, along with the Veterans Memorial Soccer Complex, is part of the most ambitious athletics fundraising project ever at Marshall. The Vision Campaign had heavy hitters like Chad Pennington and Mike D’Antoni leading the charge to transform the façade of Marshall’s athletics blueprint. They enlisted the help of Greenbrier owner Jim Justice and other Marshall alumni across the country to make the vision become a concrete example of what you can do when positive-minded people jump on board.

In fact, Hamrick said 70 percent of the private money raised for the Vision Campaign came from places outside Cabell County. The idea was to engage boosters, build state-of-the-art facilities, and show athletes that the new project was much more than a shell building and an AstroTurf practice field.

“We designed it to honor our university,” Chad Pennington said about the Hall of Fame wing that bears his name. Pennington took a tour of the facility prior to the home game against Rice, and even he was awestruck by the school’s new athletics showplace.

“This is to honor our student-athlete program and to make it a game-day experience,” Pennington said. “This is where our fans and supporters can come in and feel a part of our great story, which they should. Without our fans and our supporters we don’t even have a story.”

Perhaps unbeknownst to football fans is the versatility of the Cline Athletic Complex. For every lineman or linebacker who utilizes the training options, there’s a golfer, a baseball player or a track and field star that reaps the benefits, too.

Loren Dyer is a senior track and field athlete who’d heard about the new indoor track and field project for a few years. She and her teammates had run around the rock-hard floor of the upper concourse at the Henderson Center at practice since she first came to campus. Even on the nice days, the team had to travel to Huntington High School for practice and workouts. It was hardly an ideal situation.

PHOTO BY RICK LEE

The Chris Cline Athletic Complex is the latest in a series of projects in the Vision Campaign that aim to make Marshall a top competitor in college sports.



THUNDERING HERD

With a stunning indoor track, the Cline Athletic Complex provides the women's track and field team a much-needed place to practice and host meets.



Then on Dec. 4, Marshall hosted its first track meet since April of 2000 when Ohio came to Huntington for a dual meet.

“I was really excited,” Dyer said, “because it had been about three years since I first heard they were building it. Seeing all the people there was really great.”

She’s a senior now and said it’s bittersweet only to be able to use the new track for her final year. She has a pretty good idea about the effect it will have on future Herd track stars.

“I think once the girls see the facility and all the training there, it’ll be easier to get them to come,” Dyer said of potential recruits. “It was hard to recruit when other schools have what you don’t.”

Back at FAU Stadium, Marshall had put the finishing touches on a 52-23 dismantling of the MAC Champion Northern Illinois in the Boca Raton Bowl. Rakeem Cato finished his remarkable career by throwing for three touchdowns and running for two more. He extended his NCAA Division 1 record of throwing a touchdown pass to 46 straight games. But stats and trophies, as nice as they are, are overshadowed by the indelible title Cato had worked so hard for in 2014.

He wanted to be called “champion.”

“That’s what I wanted to do the day I walked on campus,” Cato said. “Chad Pennington, Randy Moss, Byron Leftwich, those guys did a great job while they were here, bringing championships back. That was my main focus as a quarterback and I just worked hard my whole career.”

His lifelong Miami sidekick, Tommy Shuler, had a record-breaking day himself, catching 18 passes and becoming the most prolific receiver in Marshall and Conference USA history with 322 receptions. His celebration was tempered just a bit by the reflections of a career at Marshall that was now over.

“I’m really trying to not think about it,” Shuler said. “I’m just trying to get with this win but I know tomorrow it’s going to hit me. I love Marshall University and what it’s all about and what it did to me. It helped me become a man and a leader and I just thank everybody.”

The win capped off an undulating week of emotions for everyone associated with Marshall football. On Dec. 17, Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp died suddenly after an apparent heart attack. It was news that rocked Marshall, and especially hit hard were the staff and the players on Marshall’s football team. Kopp had been an avid fan and was planning on attending the Boca Raton Bowl with his wife, Jane. In his honor, the Herd’s players donned helmets with the initials SJK displayed on a decal. It was the least the team could do



Catika Slay long jumps to second place as the Thundering Herd Women’s track team opened its 2014-2015 indoor season on the new Jeff Small Track with a win over the Ohio University Bobcats.

for a school president who made it a point to introduce himself to each recruit who came through Huntington. He would have billowed with pride at the Herd’s bowl performance.

“I guarantee you Dr. Kopp is smiling somewhere,” Doc Holliday said after the win. “We’re going to miss that guy. There have been some heavy hearts around here. Our kids rallied and we said we’re going to take that game ball and give it to Jane at some point.”

Marshall now has facilities that are the envy of the league, and a conference and bowl championship football program. All that accomplished by an administration that aimed high, boosters who helped pay the prices, and athletes with a singular goal of making a mark. □

Keith Morehouse is a freelance writer and the sports director for WSAZ News Channel 3 in Huntington.

By James E. Casto
Photos courtesy of RCBI

Here & Now

RCBI leads the way in the 3-D printing revolution



An RCBI staff member and a manufacturer examine a 3-D printed thermoplastic part they just removed from the build bay of the Fortus 900 3D Printer Production System at RCBI. The Fortus offers prototyping, modeling and direct digital manufacturing in build sizes up to 36 inches by 24 inches by 36 inches for form, fit and function assessments as well as limited-rate production of end-use parts.

Imagine, if you will, a device connected to a computer that can print out a solid object. Sounds like something out of “Star Trek,” doesn’t it? But 3-D printing isn’t science fiction, it’s science fact. And it’s happening every day at the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI).

Born nearly 25 years ago in the basement of Marshall University’s Old Main, RCBI today operates Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers in downtown Huntington, Charleston and Bridgeport, West Virginia.

“Our centers,” said RCBI Director & CEO Charlotte Weber, “encourage job creation, economic development, innovation and entrepreneurship by offering affordable access to leading-edge production and prototyping equipment and specialized training for everyone from sole proprietors and start-ups to Fortune 500 companies.”

Since 2009, RCBI has been offering its clients access to the latest in 3-D printing - a process that’s revolutionizing the way things are made. “3-D printing isn’t the wave of the future, it’s happening here and now,” said Weber.

Weber said RCBI has used its 3-D printers to develop products for dozens of West Virginia companies, including Toyota, NGK Spark Plug, J.H. Fletcher & Co. and Alleward Sogefi USA, among others. Items range from castings to fixtures and tools used on assembly lines to prototypes for future development and marketing opportunities.

The process shouldn’t be confused with the kind of printing that gives us books, magazines and newspapers. Nor does it have anything to do with the 3-D movies that filmgoers enjoy. To eliminate any such confusion, the term “3-D printing” is increasingly being replaced by the descriptive term “Additive Manufacturing.”

Additive Manufacturing is the addition of layer-upon-layer of material to build a 3-D object. This method is radically different from traditional machining techniques that mostly rely not on addition but on subtraction - the removal of material by drilling, cutting, etc. - or use powerful presses to bend or shape material into a desired form.

The process starts with a computer-aided design (CAD) file that shows the desired object in three dimensions. Once the CAD sketch is produced, a 3-D printer reads the digital data from it and lays down successive layers of material in layer-upon-layer fashion to fabricate an actual object identical to that envisioned by the design.

“We provide inventors and entrepreneurs the tools they need to take their idea or concept to reality,” says Weber. “We can help them shape their ideas into digital computer files that our 3-D printers can then use to create end-use products or working prototypes. The prototype is then used to test the form, fit and function of the product prior to full production.”

RCBI operates Design Works labs at each of its Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers. They have computer workstations with 3-D design software

Additive Manufacturing technology with 3-D printers, including an EOS INT M280 Direct Metal Laser-Sintering System, is available at the RCBI. The EOS system is used to 3-D print both end-use and prototype parts from a variety of metal powders, including titanium, aluminum, stainless steel, cobalt chrome and Inconel (high nickel alloy).





RCBI's Z Corp. 450 3-D printer creates full-color objects by combining a dust-like resin powder with inks and a bonding agent. Like other 3-D printers, the ZPrinter can produce moveable objects that require no assembly.

set aside exclusively for use by clients who need to design their products. In addition, clients have access to FARO ScanArm technology, which can be used to reverse engineer a part or product.

Using traditional techniques to fabricate a prototype of a new product can take days or even weeks. In contrast, a 3-D printer typically can produce the same prototype in hours. The savings in time and dollars is obvious.

The potential of Additive Manufacturing, though, goes far beyond rapid prototyping. It can be used for limited production runs of a product, thus avoiding the time and expense of the traditional tooling that would be required. Or by altering the digital design file, it can produce a series of objects that, while more or less identical, have been individually customized in some way.

Weber noted that RCBI is a national leader in the 3-D revolution. "We're a founding member of America Makes, the nation's first Additive Manufacturing Institute. And we're a partner in the U.S. Fab Lab Network, an organization managed by MIT that's

working to promote the commercial use of Additive Manufacturing."

RCBI has been invited to join the Workforce and Education Outreach Advisory Committee at America Makes, a national committee formulating education policy and use of 3-D printing technology. The committee is developing a roadmap to support workforce education in Additive Manufacturing Technology with 3-D printing.

Meanwhile, RCBI's certificate-level course, "Introduction to Additive Manufacturing," is drawing the attention of interested individuals who see it as a viable manufacturing career opportunity, as well as companies looking to expand their commercial markets.

RCBI has an arsenal of 3-D printers that use either dust-like thermoplastic or spooled coils of composite plastic filament to build layers that form a three-dimensional object.

The latest addition to this lineup is a \$750,000 e-manufacturing system acquired through a public/private partnership among Alliant Tech Systems, the U.S.

Navy, RCBI and Marshall. Equipped with a 400-watt laser that melts fine metal powder and builds up a product layer by layer, the EOS INT M280 system can process a wide range of materials, from light alloys to high-grade steels and super alloys. It gives manufacturers and entrepreneurs access to the cost-efficient fabrication of metal prototypes and end products.

“This advanced, innovative system is a game-changer that will help keep local and regional businesses at the leading edge during the global resurgence of manufacturing technology,” Weber said. “A half dozen manufacturers already have taken advantage of the revolutionary metal-powder laser-sintering system with great success. In addition to ones that serve the automotive sector, the users include Department of Defense suppliers that design and manufacture precision weapons systems as well as both manned and unmanned ground and air tactical systems.”

Additive Manufacturing is already contributing to a variety of industries, including aviation and aerospace, automotive, medicine and health care, architecture, sporting goods and others.

In the future, 3-D printers could be used to output spare parts for all manner of products, both civilian and military, meaning it no longer would be necessary to keep huge inventories of such parts. Instead, you would just call up an image and specifications of the appropriate part on a computer screen, then print out as many as you need. NASA already has installed and activated a 3-D printer on the International Space Station.

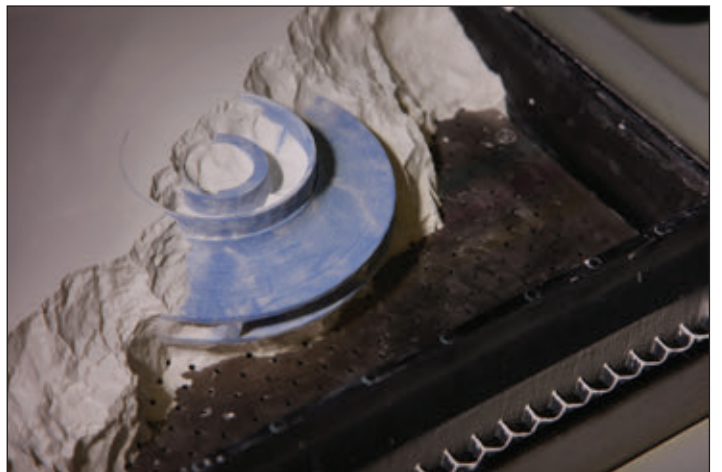
Again this summer, RCBI is hosting summer camps for junior and senior high school students, offering them an introduction to 3-D printing. Similar camps were conducted in 2012 and 2013. The camps are designed to be “fun, interactive and educational,” Weber said. “We’re thrilled to be able to offer youngsters a hands-on introduction to this revolutionary technology.”

Registration for the 2015 camps is underway and seating is limited. Visit www.rcbi.org/3DPCamp or call 800.469.RCBI (7224) for information. □

James E. Casto was a reporter, editor and columnist at The *Herald-Dispatch* for more than 40 years before he retired from the newspaper. From 2004 to 2013, he was associate director for public information at RCBI.



Additive Manufacturing contributes to a number of industries, including aviation, aerospace, automotive, medicine and health care, architecture, sporting goods and more. Additive Manufacturing also allows for limited production runs, eliminating the traditional time and expense.



Parts printed on the ZPrinter 450 are excavated from a bed of fine resin powder, which serves as a support system during production.



Since 2009, RCBI has been offering 3-D printing technology to various clients including Toyota, NGK Spark Plug, J.H. Fletcher & Co. and Allevard Sogefi USA.

The physicians and staff of HIMG convey our sincere condolences for the loss of Dr. Stephen Kopp. His leadership was exemplary and his vision strong. He will be missed.





Dr. Stephen J. Kopp

March 28, 1951 - December 17, 2014
Marshall University President from 2005 - 2014

***The Hagy Family
of La Famiglia and Mulberry Street Deli***
express their deepest sympathies to Jane Kopp and the entire Kopp family during this tragic loss.

Dr. Kopp will be remembered as a visionary in higher education who always had the best interests of Marshall students at heart. A Son of Marshall forever, his legacy is visible in the lives of Marshall students, whom he loved, and the many innovations and projects that took place during his administration.



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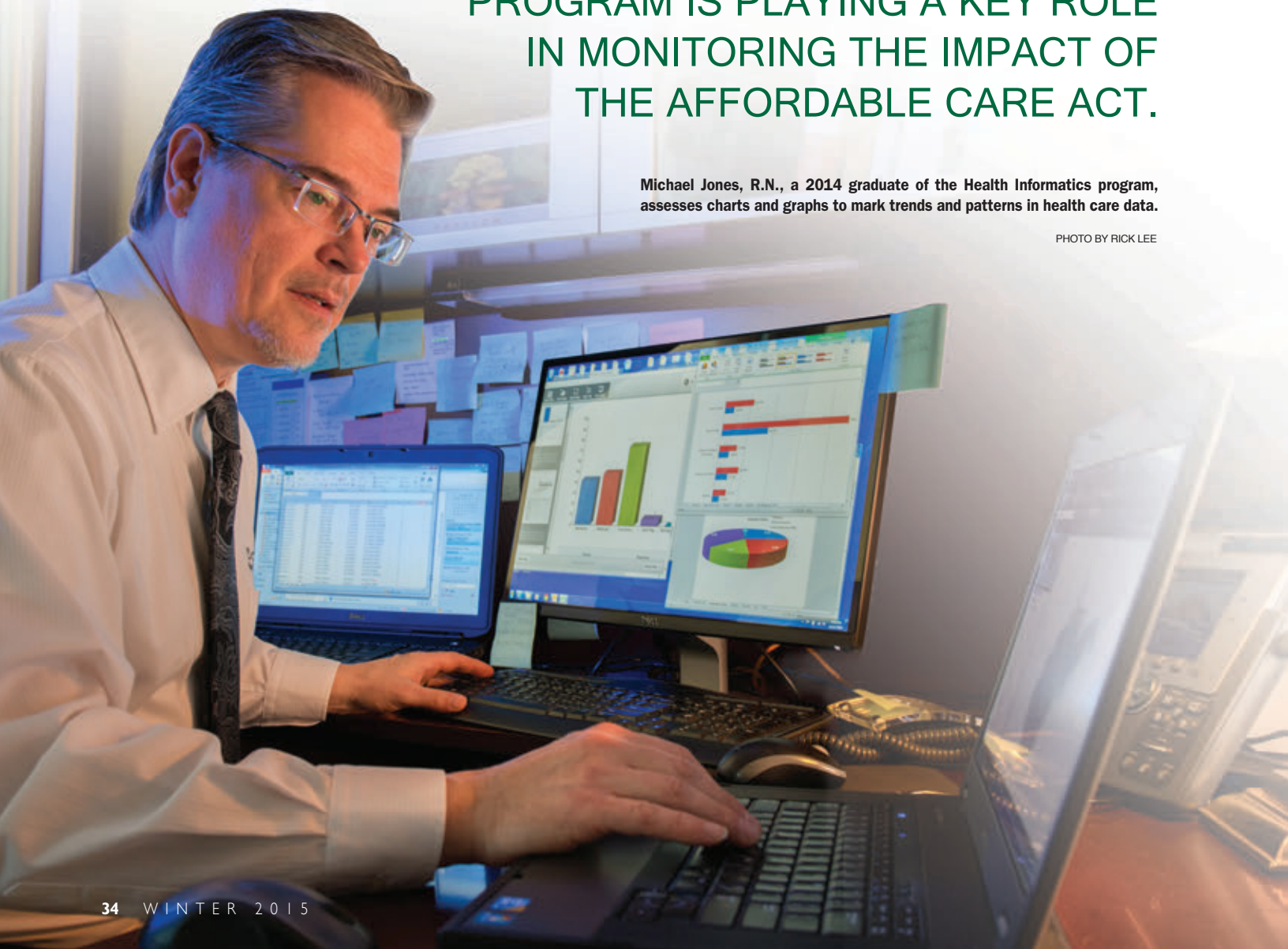
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Exceeding

MARSHALL'S HEALTH INFORMATICS PROGRAM IS PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN MONITORING THE IMPACT OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.

Michael Jones, R.N., a 2014 graduate of the Health Informatics program, assesses charts and graphs to mark trends and patterns in health care data.

PHOTO BY RICK LEE



Expectations

The effects of the 2010 Affordable Care Act changed the game across the board for the nation's health care system, and as a result there has been a need for vital information and statistics to monitor its impact. It is a need being met on Marshall University's Huntington campus, and is exceeding all expectations.

Marshall's Health Informatics program, which started four years ago, is ranked No. 1 in affordability for master's degrees out of 25 other health informatics programs. It is also one of only three nationally accredited programs, and, as such, is the only one in West Virginia. Graduates of the program can expect to make between \$60,000 and \$125,000 in their first year, and job placement is 100 percent.

"Marshall University's Health Informatics program is a prime example of how affordability and quality go together," said John Biros, an associate professor in the program. "In addition, the fact that the program was accredited within its first three years only speaks to its quality."

Health informatics, which can range from bioinformatics to nursing informatics, is a multidisciplinary field that uses information technology and information management techniques to improve the quality and efficiency of the nation's health care system.

"The key element for all these informatics is the utilization of technology," said Dr. Girmay Berhie, director of Marshall's Health Informatics program.

Most other industries are up to date in their use of technology, but health care has fallen behind. However, the ACA (Affordable Care Act) has caused the need for health informatics to be recognized.

"Health informatics has become dominant," said Berhie.

Marshall's program is integrative and combines the curriculum of the College of Health Professions, the College of Business and the College of Information Technology and Engineering.

"The collective skills, the collective knowledge and the collective projects expose our students to a wide range of areas that will help them in the future," said Berhie.

Michael Jones, R.N., a 2014 graduate of Marshall's Health Informatics program, is no stranger to the health care field. He has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Bowling Green State University, a nursing degree from Ashland Community & Technical College and a multitude of experience working in the field.

Still, he was searching for something more. While considering going back to school to earn a master's degree to become a nurse practitioner, Jones kept running across health informatics as another option for field of study.

"When I read about the different things you can do with a degree in health informatics, I suddenly became interested in it and shifted gears to go in that direction," said Jones.

BY REBECCA STEPHENS

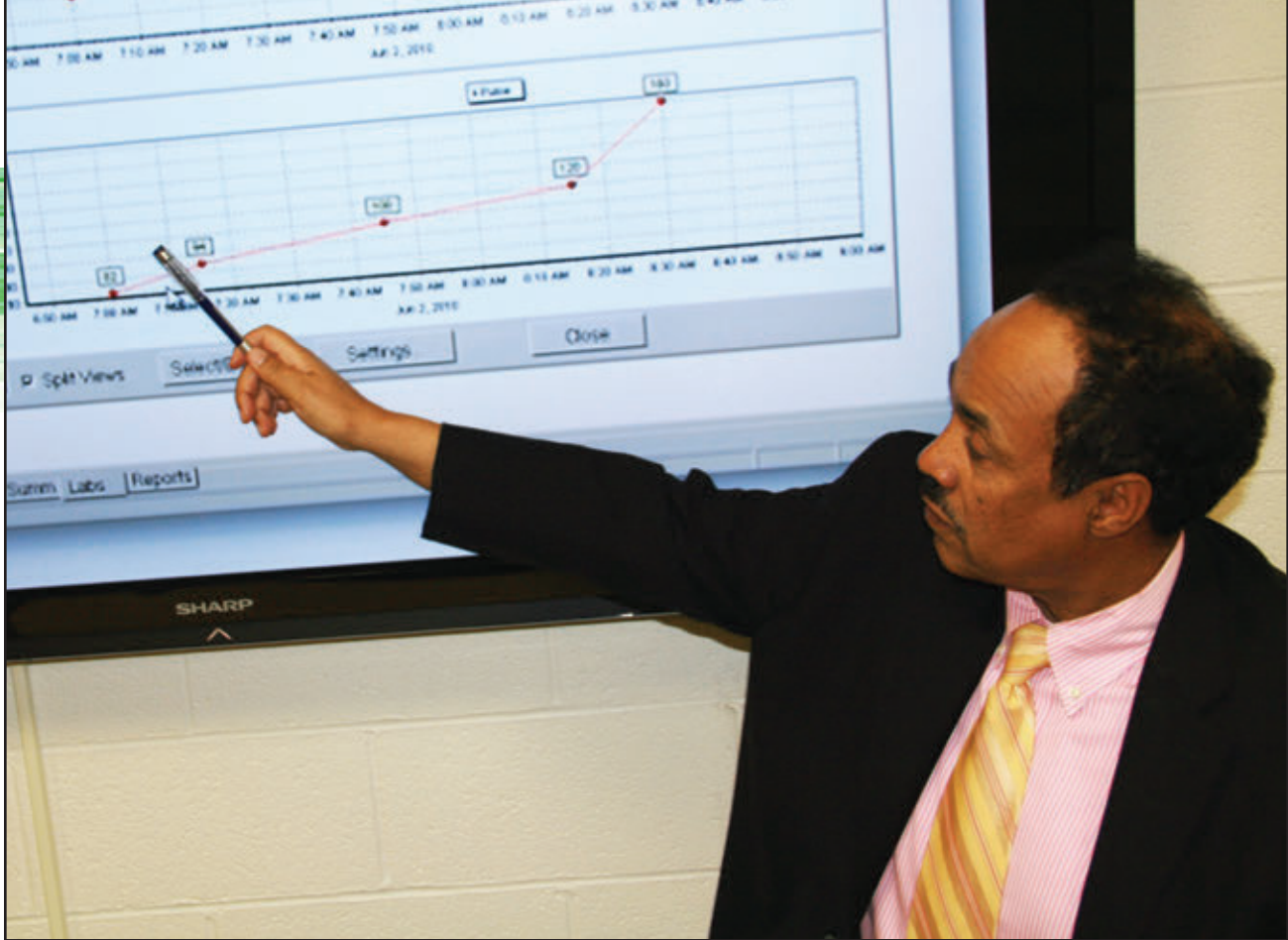


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Dr. Girmay Berhie, director of Marshall's Health Informatics program, works carefully with students to improve and diversify their skill sets.

HEALTH INFORMATICS, WHICH CAN RANGE FROM BIOINFORMATICS TO NURSING INFORMATICS, IS A MULTIDISCIPLINARY FIELD THAT USES INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE NATION'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

Jones explained that his interests lie in research and technology, and this is now something that is a part of his every day life as a health informatics specialist for the West Virginia Primary Care Association.

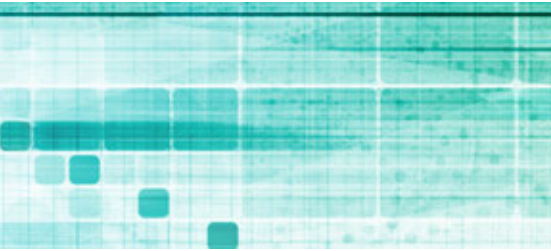
Jones primarily works as a clinical analyst marking trends and patterns in health care data in order to make health care more efficient and affordable. He also analyzes uniform data system reports for the Health Resources and Services Administration and tracks patient satisfaction surveys, among other duties.

"Marshall's program did a really great job of preparing me because they exposed me to a lot of different areas," said Jones. "Being a multidisciplinary program,

people's skill sets will vary. Dr. Berhie does a great job of helping the students hone their skills, while also working with them on what they need to improve."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, health informatics is expected to see an 18 percent increase in the number of jobs available in the United States through 2016. There was a need of more than 6,000 new professionals in 2014 alone.

"Because the ACA shifted focus from treating diseases to preventing them, data analysis becomes crucial, therefore leading to the growth of this field," said Dr. Jan Fox, senior vice president of information technology and chief information officer.



“Health informatics becomes important in understanding disease and understanding cause and effect. It’s all data driven.”

Faculty members in Marshall’s program are making sure they do all they can to prepare students thoroughly and quickly. An example of this is the practicum requirement students must fulfill. These practica are often paid and allow the students to gain hands-on experience in the field.

Recently, an agreement was reached for an accelerated master’s degree program between the health informatics and integrated science and technology programs. This accelerated program will allow students to receive their health informatics degrees in just one year, putting them in these much-needed positions in record time.

Though the program has already accomplished so much, Berhie said he wants to see the program grow to become more competitive, as well as do more work with the state’s health information network. Ultimately, he wants to see the program go statewide.

“We have a long way to go,” said Berhie. “If it is done well, these young people can really make a big difference in the health care industry when they graduate here.” □

Rebecca Stephens is the managing editor of *Marshall Magazine*.


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Turning the Page

Winter commencement grows in popularity as graduates celebrate their work and success.

By Molly McClennen



On Sunday, Dec. 14, hundreds of Marshall University students gathered in Huntington's Big Sandy Superstore Arena to take their long-anticipated walk across the stage, receive a scroll from their academic deans and shake the hand of President Stephen J. Kopp during the university's winter commencement ceremony. [Editor's note: Sadly, it turned out to be Kopp's last commencement. He died just three days later.]

Marshall held its first winter commencement in 2008, giving its summer and December graduates an opportunity to participate in a graduation ceremony without returning to Huntington in May. Winter commencement has grown rapidly in the past seven years. It began as a small ceremony in the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center, but after one year was moved to the larger Cam Henderson Center. With 450 of 1,077 summer and winter graduates wanting to participate in the ceremony, the 2014 winter commencement was moved to the Big Sandy Superstore Arena because the Henderson Center could not accommodate the expected crowd.

"The large number of graduates and guests in attendance was an amazing sight," said Karen Riffle of Mineral Wells, who graduated with her bachelor's in marketing. "It is wonderful that Marshall provided this avenue for us to celebrate our hard work and successes, which many of us would have been unable to do had it been necessary to wait until May commencement. It was an incredible experience to have my family at commencement, to be congratulated by professors and to sit with friends I made during my educational journey."

During the ceremony, Kopp told the stories of three graduates who had overcome exceptional challenges on their way to graduation - journeys Kopp said were representative of the challenges and accomplishments of all the graduates present. Active duty military and veterans, who wore red, white and blue cords in honor of their service, were asked to stand for recognition.

History professor Dr. Montserrat Miller delivered the first winter commencement speech in 2008. It has since become a tradition for a member of Marshall's faculty to deliver the keynote address each December. Dr. Simon Perry, professor of political science,

Dr. Bonita Lawrence, professor of mathematics, Dr. Jamie Warner, professor of political science, Dan Hollis, associate professor of journalism and mass communications, and Dr. Kateryna Schray, professor of English, have delivered past commencement addresses.

The honor of speaking at the 2014 ceremony was given to Dr. Judith Silver, emeritus professor of mathematics and 2014 winner of the Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award, who taught at Marshall for 30 years before retiring in 2014.

"It was a tremendous honor and totally unexpected because I am retired," said Silver.

Silver's speech focused on regrets, a topic she had been thinking about in October, around the time Kopp asked her to deliver the speech.

"We had just been back to our home state of Washington for my husband's 50th high school reunion," said Silver. "Events like that take you back to your past and make you reflect on your life, the things you have done and the things you wish you had done, and that was on my mind when I got the call to give the commencement address."

Silver interspersed advice like "never make excuses" and "use time well" with anecdotes from her own life. In closing, she told the graduates that if they live "lives filled with love" their regrets would be few.

"I hope something I said will help the graduates learn from some of my regrets," said Silver.

The popularity of winter graduation speaks not only of the university's growth; it is also a testament to the connection Marshall graduates feel to their alma mater.

"I am so grateful that we, the Sons and Daughters of Marshall, enjoyed this opportunity," said Riffle. □

Molly McClennen is a freelance writer living in Huntington.

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A MESSAGE FROM BERNARD "BERNIE" COSTON

MUAA National President, Class of '79



Greetings Alumni & Friends,

We have so much to be proud of in Herd Nation! Our first Conference USA Football Championship and a win in the Boca Raton Bowl! Hats off to Coach Holliday, the players, coaches and all personnel who contributed to an outstanding season. Mike Hamrick has done an outstanding job as our director of athletics. His vision has allowed us to actively compete with some of the top-tier programs in the nation. Our indoor athletic facility and the Hall of Fame venue will forever change how others see us and are showpieces for MU. The best is yet to come for MU Athletics.

As we begin a new year, I'd like to remind each of you that there are numerous ways you can support Marshall with your active alumni participation. Your gifts, large or small, make it possible for us to continue our rich heritage and legacy. Those gifts are a valuable part of the continued growth and expansion of our dear alma mater. Your contributions continue to provide scholarships, buildings, facilities and maintenance for higher education, both now and in the future. While much has been accomplished, we must never lose sight of the work that is always ahead.

Mark your calendars now for the weekend of April 24, as we recognize outstanding accomplishments of Marshall alumni. Alumni Weekend recognizes our 50-year graduates and this year we will be honoring the class of 1965. The agenda will be released soon, so stay tuned. The weekend highlight will be Saturday evening with our annual Alumni Awards Banquet to honor outstanding achievement in the areas of:

- Distinguished Alumni
- Distinguished Service
- Community Achievement
- Young Alumni
- Distinguished Faculty Service

This event honors those who are successful, loyal, high achievers and unselfish in their endeavors. If you know of any alumni who are deserving of these awards we encourage you to contact the Marshall University Alumni Association and nominate them. You can also find a form in this magazine.

On a final note, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Nancy Pelphrey on her recent retirement from the Alumni Relations staff. Nancy's love for MU and the alumni are reflected in countless ways throughout the Marshall community. She will be sorely missed and we wish her the best in this new chapter of her life.

I'm wishing you a prosperous New Year. GO HERD!!!!

Bernie Coston

ALUMNI RELATIONS STAFF

MATT HAYES, Executive Director

LARRY CRUM, Assistant Director

ROB ELLIS, Assistant Director

SAM WORTHY and SHESHANK GUNNALA, Graduate Assistants



Alumni Weekend 2015

April 24-25, 2015

Mark your calendar and plan on joining the Marshall University Alumni Association for Alumni Weekend 2015. The university community will celebrate as alumni from around the country return to Marshall.

You will have the opportunity to renew old friendships, make new friends, remember your days at Marshall and see the amazing changes on the Huntington campus.

A reservation form for Alumni Weekend 2015 is provided. Make plans to join us for as many events as your schedule will allow. Visit www.herdalum.com for complete details.



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John O' Connor, Vice President

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Marshall University Alumni Association Board of Directors Nomination Form

The Alumni Association is now accepting nominations for 10 of its 30 elected positions on the Board of Directors. The term of office is three years beginning July 1, 2016.

Qualifications:

- Must be an active member of the Alumni Association through an annual gift to the Marshall University Foundation Inc.
- Be energetic and enthusiastic in support of the university and concerned with its growth and potential.
- Be available to attend three on-campus board meetings during the year, and be willing to assist in his/her home area in promoting Marshall and the Alumni Association.
- Nominations must be received by Jan. 15, 2016 to the Office of Alumni Relations.
- Attach nominee's curriculum vitae/resume.

Please complete this biographical form in conjunction with your nominee in order to provide the nominating committee with the necessary information to assist them in the selection process.

Nominator's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

Reasons for Nomination _____

Nominee's Name _____

Class _____ Degree(s) _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

Employer _____ Position _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Years served on Board (*list dates if previously served*) _____

We are very interested in how the nominee serves his or her community, and any professional awards received. Include civic groups the nominee belongs to, volunteerism and community service projects in which the nominee has been involved, honors and awards he or she has received and professional organizations in which the nominee is a member (please list all pertinent information to assist the nomination committee, including dates and offices held).

Only a maximum of five items would be listed on the ballot. Please list in order of preference.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Self-nominations will be accepted. The MUAA Nomination and Election Committee will screen the nominations and select no fewer than 10 nor more than 20 for the ballot to run for the 10 director's positions. You can return your nomination by e-mailing it as an Adobe PDF document to ellis77@marshall.edu, faxing it to (304) 696-2299 or mailing it to: MUAA Board Nominations, Erickson Alumni Center, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755-6200

For more information, call the Alumni Association at 304-696-2901.

Alumni Weekend Reservation Form 2015

Name _____ MU Class Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone () _____

Evening Phone () _____

Your Guest(s) _____ MU Class Year _____

Tickets for reservations received after April 17 will be held at first event.

		No. of Tickets	Price per person	Amount
FRIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> Please make me an active member of the Marshall University Alumni Association. I have designated my gift to the right and included the amount in my total.	—	—	
	Dinner Theatre: Join us for dinner and the MU Theatre production of "Clybourne Park" at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse. \$38 ticket includes dinner, coffee with the director and play. - 6 p.m. Dinner / 7:30 p.m. Showtime		\$38/person	
	Breakfast for Class of 1965 "Grand Class" and "Golden Class" - The breakfast is designed to honor both classes (50th year and anything prior to 1965) - Erickson Alumni Center - 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.		\$18/person	
SATURDAY	78th Annual Alumni Awards Banquet Honoring Distinguished Alumni and Friends - Don Morris Room, Memorial Student Center - immediately following the Champagne Reception - 6:30 p.m.		\$75/person \$140/couple	
			TOTAL	

Check enclosed. Please make checks payable to MUAA and mail this completed form to:

**Marshall University Alumni Relations
Alumni Weekend Reservations
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755-6200**

I wish to charge my order to: Visa MasterCard Discover

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

To make reservations by phone and for more information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 304-696-2901.



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MU Alumni Association

The MU Alumni Association serves more than 120,000 alumni living in all states and in more than 59 countries. The MUAA is the organization dedicated to serving past, present and future students from around the globe.

To become an active member of the alumni association, simply make a yearly gift of your choice to the Marshall University Foundation and/or the Marshall University Alumni Association. This gift will make your membership active for 12 months from the date of your gift.

MUAA active members receive the following benefits and opportunities:

- Network with MU grads in your area or in your field of work
- Become a mentor to current students
- Maintain contact with friends, former classmates and professors
- Access career guidance and services available at Marshall
- Assist the university in student recruitment
- Attend pre-game events and receptions in conjunction with the university
- Have access to affinity program and alumni discounts
- Attend reunions and homecoming
- The opportunity to join a giving society
- Discounts on Choice Hotels and several rental car companies
- Discounts on home and auto insurance with Nationwide Insurance
- Access to Marshall University Libraries
- Discounts at the Marshall University Bookstore (excluding textbooks)
- Discount at the Hall of Fame Café in Huntington



Please share your news with us by sending it to the Marshall University Alumni Association; One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, W.Va. 25755. *Preference will be given to active alumni;* other news will be printed as space allows and should be received within six months of the event. For more Class Notes, go to www.marshall.edu/alumni.

1970s

James R. Lape, senior vice president of behavioral health and psychiatry and long term care administration at Trinitas Regional Medical Center, retired Jan. 3. For more than 20 years Lape was head of the Department of Behavioral Health and Psychiatry, first at Elizabeth General Medical Center and Later at Trinitas Regional Medical Center, both located in New Jersey. He is credited with restructuring psychiatric services, resulting in the creation of one of the largest psychiatric centers in an acute care hospital in the state of New Jersey. During his long career Lape shared his professional expertise with numerous local, regional and state organizations and boards and received many awards. His most recent honor came when he received the Lifetime Leadership in Behavioral Health Award from the New Jersey Mental Health and Addiction I (NIMHAA) in recognition of his roles on the NIMHAA board, as well as for his significant contributions to the behavioral health field throughout his career. In addition to his B.A. in psychology from Marshall, he has master's degrees in psychology and business administration from Fairleigh Dickinson

University. He is also a licensed nursing home administrator. Lape currently resides in Mountainside, New Jersey, with his wife of 40 years, Peggy. They have two daughters, Erin of San Diego, California, and Megan, of Washington, D.C.

Jocelyne Samu ('73) participated in Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course in summer 2014 in the Central American country of Belize, where she studied diverse terrestrial, coastal and coral reef communities. An anatomy teacher at Rock Hill High School in Ironton, Ohio, she took the graduate course in pursuit of her master's degree from Miami's Global Field program.

Julia Keller (B.A. '76) a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter with the *Chicago Tribune*, has written three mystery novels about West Virginia, *A Killing in the Hills*, *Bitter River* and *Summer of the Dead*. The daughter of a Marshall mathematics professor, she earned her MU degree while working at the Ashland Daily Independent and eventually earned a Ph.D. from the Ohio State University. She won the Pulitzer Prize for her coverage of a 10-second devastating tornado.

Kevin L. Clauson (B.A. '78, M.A. '83), J.D., was appointed vice president of academics at Bryan College, Dayton, Tennessee, effective June 1, 2014. Clauson has been professor of government and law and director of the Center for Law and Public Policy at the college since 2009. Previously he was president of Christ College, head of the government and criminal justice programs at Liberty University, and a political science professor at Grove City College. A native of Huntington, he and his wife currently live in Dayton, Tennessee.

1980s

Pat Seifert (B.A. '83) was one of 29 Tucker Ellis LLP attorneys who have been named "Ohio Super Lawyers®." Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The multi-phased selection process includes independent research, peer nominations, and peer evaluations. Tucker Ellis LLP is a full-service law firm of more than 180 attorneys with locations in Cleveland, Columbus, Denver, Los Angeles and San Francisco.



Judy Mullarky Rose (B.A. '88) of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, was awarded a diploma last August at commencement exercises during the 70th annual session of the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The school, sponsored by the state bankers' associations from across the central United States, as well as the UW-M, was established in 1945 to provide bankers with an opportunity for advanced study and research in banking, economics and leadership. Rose is an assistant vice president with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, where she has been employed since 2001. She is a Huntington native who served as the economic development director for Huntington from 1992-2001.

James Epling (B.A. '87) has been selected as the West Virginia 2014 State Star by America's Small Business Development Centers. Epling and

other State Stars from around the nation were recognized in a private reception in September during the ASBDC national convention in Grapevine, Texas. He has worked with the West Virginia Small Business Development Center since 1986, before that working in the coal and supply industry. He is one of 2014's six WWSBDC business coaches to receive a certificate for Capital Access Recognition for accessing more than \$1 million dollars of capital infusion for their clients.

Becca Moore was recently named the lead guide for the grades 1-3 classroom at Mountaineer Montessori School in Charleston, West Virginia. She completed training at the Association Montessori Internationale program at the Milwaukee Montessori Institute. Moore has 10 years of experience in Kanawha County schools.

1990s

G. Marshall Lyon III ('94, M.D., M.N.Sc.), a graduate of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, is the lead author of an article published recently in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on one of the world's most gripping health issues, Ebola virus disease (EVD).

Lyon, who graduated from both Huntington High School and the School of Medicine, served on the Emory University medical team that treated two patients stricken with the deadly Ebola virus earlier this year.

The article, "Clinical Care of Two Patients with Ebola Virus Disease in the United States," was written by Lyon and members of Emory's Serious Communicable Diseases Unit and chronicles the care two patients received at Emory after contracting the virus in Liberia.

Sabrina L. Deskins, (B.A. '98), was sworn in as judge of the Mingo County Family Court on Oct. 27. Deskins had served as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Logan County since 2002. She has been an active volunteer for such organizations as WE CAN, Tug Valley Recovery Shelter, Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia's Court Improvement Program and Logan County Circuit Court Teen Drug Court.

2000s

Lauren Hutchins McCartney (B.A. '10) has joined Jackson Kelly PLLC as an associate in the firm's Pharmaceutical, Toxic Tort and Product Liability Practice. She

holds a dual degree in psychology from Marshall, where she graduated magna cum laude from the Honors College, and the University of Debrecen, in Debrecen, Hungary. In addition to the University of Debrecen, while at Marshall she

studied at the University of Antonio de Nebrija in Madrid, Spain, and Oxford University in Oxford, England, and the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw, Poland. She was a member of the Society of Yeager Scholars.

FEATURED NOTE

Jack Lengyel, former collegiate football coach and U.S. Naval Academy athletics director, was selected as the 2014 Alumni Leadership Award recipient for Kent State University's College of Education, Health and Human Services Fifth Annual Hall of Fame Awards.

Lengyel earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Akron in 1957 and a master's degree in education from Kent State in 1962. He served as assistant football coach at Akron, Heidelberg College, and Cornell, before coaching at the College of Wooster. Perhaps Lengyel's greatest task and achievement as a coach was rebuilding the football program and community at Marshall University after the tragic airline crash involving most of the team in 1970. He remained at Marshall until 1974, and was portrayed by Matthew McConaughey in the 2006 Warner Brothers motion picture, "We Are Marshall."

IN MEMORIAM

James A. Hunter, (B.S. '50) a native of Ironton, Ohio, died in Columbus, Ohio, April 28, 2011. He was an Air Corps veteran of World War II and served stateside in the Korean War. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity and the Masonic Lodge. His career was in Human Resources in Industrial and Governmental organizations in Ohio.

FACULTY OBITUARIES

Wallace Edward "Ed" Knight, former associate professor of journalism, died Sept. 25 at his home in Dingé, France. He was born in Charleston, West Virginia, on Feb. 4, 1926. He grew up in the farmlands of nearby Sissonville and graduated from Sissonville High School. At the age of 18, he became a reconnaissance scout in the Third Armored Division of the U. S. Army, saw combat duty in Germany and was discharged as a sergeant.

After the War, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia Wesleyan College and a master's degree from Ohio University, both in English Literature.

Knight began his career as a reporter and business editor for the *Charleston Gazette* newspaper and subsequently had a long career in public relations for Ashland Oil Inc. After retiring from Ashland Oil, he began his career as an associate professor of journalism at Marshall University, a position he held for more than a dozen years.

Dr. Clayton L. McNearney, who retired last year after serving Marshall as a longtime faculty member and chair of religious studies from 1989 to 2013, died Jan. 4.

Born in Minneapolis, McNearney attended Minneapolis public schools, then spent a year and a half at Maryknoll Seminary in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. After receiving a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, he went on to be a postdoctoral fellow at Columbia University in New York from 1976 to 1977.

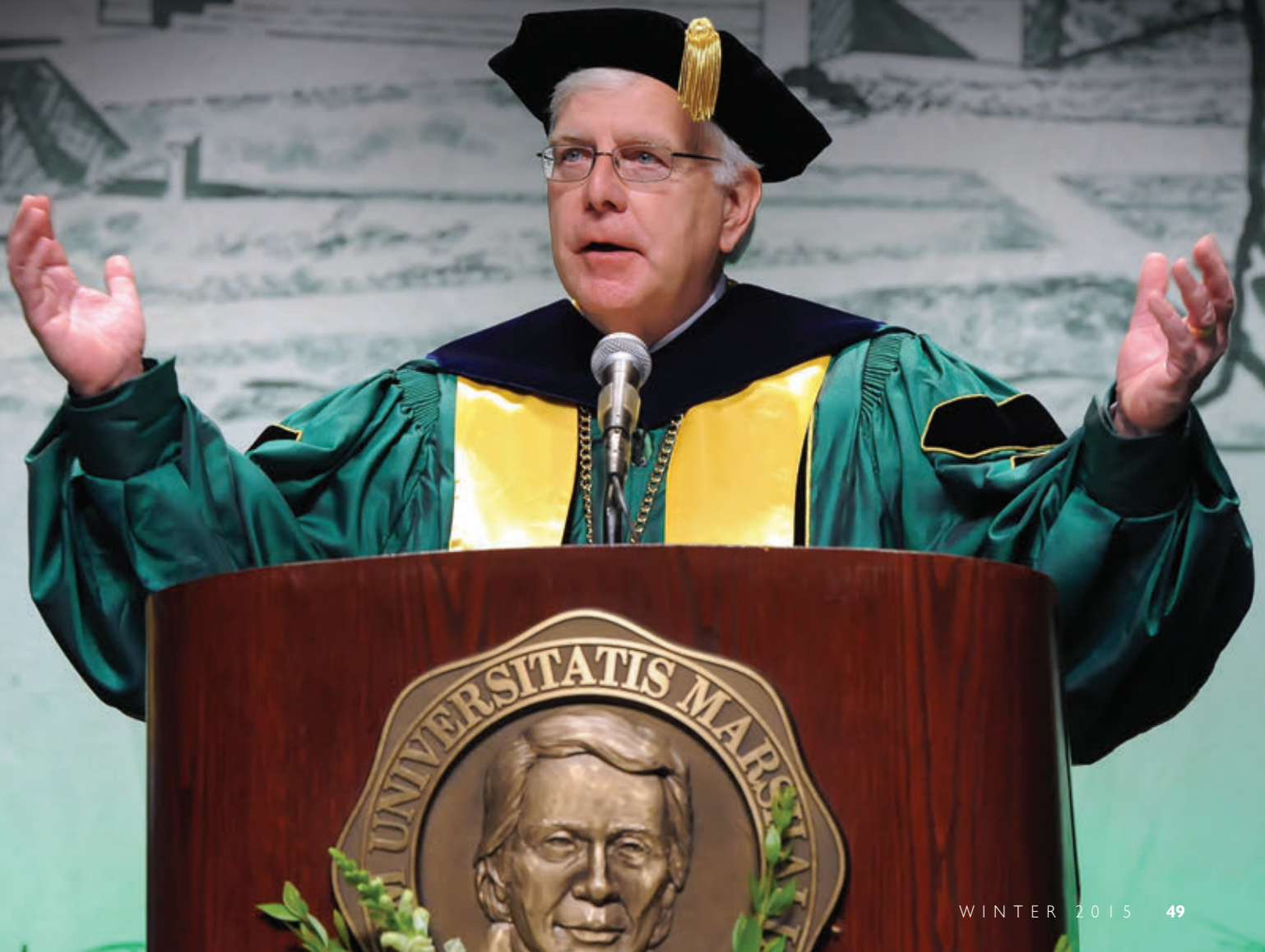
He taught at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts, before joining the Marshall faculty in 1972. For many years he studied printmaking with Peter Massing of the art department.



ILLUSTRATION BY MARSHALL ALUMNUS WADE MCCOMAS

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Stephen J. Kopp
1951-2014



Joe Ciccarelli

Career of Huntington's new police chief comes full circle

As the last few seconds of Halloween 2014 slipped away and a few fretful snowflakes struggled outside, Joe Ciccarelli officially assumed his duties as chief of police for the city of Huntington.

Actually, he had taken the oath of office following City Council's confirmation of him on Oct. 27 and there would be a public swearing-in ceremony Nov. 3, only this time with much more pomp and circumstance, a very public affair on the steps of City Hall with family, fellow police officers and the public looking on.

But whatever the circumstances one thing was clear, the cycle that started at Marshall years ago had come full circle and the former beat patrolman is now Huntington's "top cop."

Born in Chester, West Virginia, where he graduated from Oak Glen High School, Ciccarelli's career in law enforcement has spanned more than 30 years, including service with the FBI and a stint as an investigator with the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. His career, though, actually began on the streets of Huntington.

Ciccarelli was the first person in his family to go into law enforcement. After successfully completing police academy training in 1978, he joined the Huntington police force and still managed to earn a degree from Marshall in 1981. It was a grueling schedule, but he made it work.

"Actually for my first two years at Marshall I was a traditional student. I lived in the dorm, which was South Hall then," he said. "And I liked campus life, I enjoyed living in the dorm, I found that was as much of an education as going to my classes. But once I joined the police force, I worked full time while simultaneously taking classes. I took them bit by bit but I finished my degree."

Then, in 1984, he began a nearly 30-year career with the FBI, first assigned to St. Louis, Missouri, and then three years later to Miami, Florida, where he would spend the next 11 years.

"Miami was very cosmopolitan and I had investigative authority throughout the Caribbean and South America," Ciccarelli said. "I worked cases in Mexico, Haiti, a lot of the Caribbean islands, so the work was not limited to just the U.S., but went international as well. For a kid from a little town in West Virginia to end up in some of the places I did, I think is pretty amazing."

His stellar work earned him a number of awards, which he brushes off modestly, saying, "I have been blessed to work with a lot of talented people along the way who contributed to those accomplishments."

In 1998, Ciccarelli returned to his home state, serving in posts in both Huntington and Charleston, first as a supervisor for the district and then as a senior agent. He retired from the FBI in 2013 and then spent seven months as an investigator for the West Virginia Supreme Court, where his attention was focused primarily on attorneys and judges. The opportunity to return to Huntington as its chief of police proved hard to resist.

Appointed by Mayor Steve Williams, and then approved by the Huntington City Council, Ciccarelli was grateful for the 30-day transition period, which allowed him to be on the job before officially taking office Nov. 1. That time allowed him to take stock of the department and format plans. Actually, he said, he was very pleased with what he found.

"I'm very pleased with the quality of the police department," he said shortly after he took office. "We have exceptional officers and good equipment and I'm

By Pat Dickson

impressed with the level of expertise that is here. I'm hoping to bring some of my experiences into the mix and enhance that further. What I've seen so far is a very professional, very outstanding police department and I'm hoping to move that forward even more. I know this whole area quite well and I've covered a wide array of issues."

Cicarelli said he's grateful that City Council just added an additional 10 officers to the force, bringing it up to a total of 121, with another 10 to 15 non-sworn employees to serve the public. And the public is very much the force's primary concern, he added.

"Crimes run the gamut," he said. "One thing we keep in mind is that no matter how trivial a crime may seem to us, that's a significant event in the life of the victim. Even something as insignificant as a minor traffic accident ...



that may be just another routine day in the office for us but for the victim it's a very big deal."

The official swearing in ceremony had a special significance for Ciccarelli because it was a family affair with his son, Corey, also a police officer in North Carolina; daughter-in-law, Megan; the apple of his eye, 2-year-old granddaughter, Josie; girlfriend, Kim, and her children all in attendance.

Now as he's settling into his new post, he likes what he sees and he's optimistic about the future.

"There seems to be a perfect alignment of the mayor, the administration and the council backing our efforts; everyone is marching to the same tune," he said. "We all want to bring the community forward and make it a better place to live. That makes the job of the police department and our individual officers easier when we have that support."



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YOUR ALUMNI CONNECTION

A MESSAGE FROM MATT HAYES

Executive Director of Alumni Relations, Class of '94 and '97



Greetings, my fellow alumni and all friends of Marshall University.

Do you remember life before Facebook and the advent of social media? For an ever-increasing number of us, the answer to that question is no. The impact social media have had, and continue to have, on our lives is fascinating. This amazing technology offers us multiple options with which to communicate with each other, transact business, gather and disseminate information and collaborate with one another. For these reasons, the Office of Alumni Relations maintains accounts in multiple social media platforms in order to offer MU alumni, friends and fans numerous opportunities to remain connected with each other and to our alma mater.

Early last year we began the process of redesigning our website to better meet the needs of our constituents. Working with our web designer, we were able to incorporate revolutionary thinking and ingenuity into an entirely revamped look that we know will serve us well for years to come. These recent improvements to our website were made based upon feedback from many of you through the ongoing dialogue we have toward improving the alumni experience for all of Herd Nation. During the early stages of our redesign, we heard from many of our alumni and friends who expressed concerns over not being able to access all of what was available from Marshall University via social media channels.

This revelation sparked the concept of going to one webpage where we provide access to nearly all of Marshall University's social media channels and activity. Your MU Alumni Association website, www.herdalum.com, has been retooled and redesigned to include a social media hub. From our landing page, place your pointer on "Connect" and drop down to click on the Social Media Hub link and you're there! Now it is easier to stay up to date with the MU department or group of your choice in multiple platforms.

The Marshall University Alumni Association is your best connection to everything Marshall. Visit our redesigned site at www.herdalum.com today to see the improvements we have made. In addition to browsing the social media hub, shop in our new alumni store courtesy of FANATICS® for licensed Thundering Herd merchandise with the proceeds benefitting Marshall University!

We invite you to make your voice heard by joining the conversation today at www.herdalum.com or by emailing us at alumni@marshall.edu. We hope to hear from you very soon and look forward to seeing you at future alumni events.

GO HERD!!

Matt Hayes

Executive Director of Alumni Relations



HONORING THE LIGHT AND INTEGRITY OF DR. STEPHEN J. KOPP

A light went out on December 17, 2014, as Marshall University lost a valuable leader and loyal friend. Dr. Stephen J. Kopp, the 36th President of Marshall University, will not only be remembered as a visionary in higher education, but as a man of true compassion and integrity. Since 2005, Dr. Kopp gave Marshall University years of dedication. His devotion inspired many and kindled a flame, a passion, within the community for learning and improvement. Though this light may have expired, that passion still burns bright in Huntington. The First State Bank would like to honor and acknowledge a great leader who helped illuminate our community's bright future. Thank you, sir.

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When it's a life-threatening illness or injury, there's a clear choice for the most comprehensive emergency care.

St. Mary's has been saving lives for more than 90 years.

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