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### The Parthenon, January 23, 2019

Heather Barker Parthenon@marshall.edu

Sarah Ingram Parthenon@marshall.edu

Kieran Intemann Parthenon@marshall.edu

Amanda Larch Parthenon@marshall.edu

Hanna Pennington
Parthenon@marshall.edu

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# THE PARTHENON

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019 | VOL. 122 NO. 70 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com | SINGLE COPY FREE



PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY HEATHER BARKER | BARKER193@MARSHALL.EDU

## NEED A LIFT? HITCH A RIDE ON THE GREEN MACHINE A MARSHALL UNIVERSITY & TTA PARTNERSHIP



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## UMS aids in recovery for Wilmington, North Carolina

#### By Meredith O'Bara

THE PARTHENON

For some students, winter break means relaxing, after the long hours of school work and spending time with family. However, several students with the campus ministry United Methodist Students, UMS, spent their break differently.

Eleven students traveled with UMS to Wilmington, North Carolina on a mission trip to help residents rebuild after Hurricane Florence swept through the area in the summer. The hurricane, which formed in August of 2018 and dropped 26.58 inches of water on Wilmington, was the "wettest tropical cyclone on record in the Carolinas," according to the National Weather Service. Due to this amount of water, communities in both states are still trying to recover.

UMS students spent a week working on homes that had been destroyed due to the hurricane.

"They had five or six houses they wanted us to work on," Jacob Thomas, a UMS intern and history graduate student, said. "A lot of it was insulation, hanging drywall and hanging new doors."

UMS worked with the North Carolina United Methodist Conference to rebuild the homes. Thomas said the mission trip was different from others UMS had gone on before, because the group was the first to work at the new site.

"Most of the mission trips we go on, when we get there, they have all the tools for us and the supplies, and they have teams already there or have been there," Thomas said. "This site was brand new. It had been created at least a month before, and they didn't really have that stuff ready for us, so we went out and bought it with the site coordinator."

With UMS being the first to work on the site, there was plenty of work to be done.

"Over the course of this trip, we split into groups and helped out four families," Sara Moreno, a sophomore forensic chemistry major, said. "My particular group spent most of the week tearing down the bits of leftover drywall on the ceilings, putting in new insulation in those ceilings, and then we put up new drywall on the ceilings."

Moreno said that this mission trip was different from another she went on due to the physical work. Along with this, Moreno said that the resident's reactions to their homes, and the UMS community, made this trip special

"So, I have two favorite parts of mission trips," Moreno said. "One of them is the reaction people have when they finally get what they have been waiting for, whether it be a ceiling in their bedroom, like on this past trip, or food to take home to their families, like on my first trip. The reaction people have makes working hard all week worth it. My other favorite part is being with the people of UMS. Over these trips, there is so much laughter, and it just makes me happy."

UMS plans to travel back down to Wilmington over spring break to continue the work they started. Thomas said that, after the organization sees how many spots are available, they will open the trip up to anyone on campus.

Along with their gatherings on Thursday nights at 8 p.m. in the Campus Christian Center, UMS also has a local recovery team that students are able to get involved with. The Thundering Herd Recovery Team works in Huntington and surrounding areas to provide help to those who need it. This semester, Thomas said the group has several volunteering opportunities planned.

"We have plans to contact a couple of organizations," Thomas said. "We have a group that is going to Beaver, West Virginia to help organize flood buckets."

For individuals seeking more information about the spring break mission trip or the Thundering Herd Recovery team, UMS's campus minister Ben Wells can be contacted at wellsb@live.marshall.edu.

Meredith O'Bara can be contacted at obara@marshall.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BENJAMIN WELLS

Senior Heather Barker and junior Jennifer Gerst screw in ceiling dry wall while on a mission trip to Wilmington, North Carolina.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BENJAMIN WELLS

Stephen Linkous and UMS alum Emily Chittenden pose outside of a house that UMS members to Wilington, North Carolina. helped install new doors on.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BENJAMIN WELLS

Graduate student Jacob Thomas, freshman Tyler Morris, homeowner Alice Jones, freshman Sophomores Shyana Rexrode and Sierra Rexrode measure cuts for drywall during a mission trip

### Students feel the effects of the government shutdown

#### By TREY DELIDA

THE PARTHENON

The partial government shutdown has officially surpassed the four-week mark, making history as the longest shutdown the United States has ever endured. On the surface, it may seem like nothing has changed. School is still operating under regular schedule, professors and staff are still showing up to work and attendance is still being taken.

Though the disruption of a partial government shutdown is not extreme, there are still looming consequences. The effects from this event are real and are being felt by some students, staff and community members.

To preface, financial aid is not going to disappear. In fact, most financial aid, including grants, are not directly affected by the shutdown. However, issues with government organizations like FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) may have occurred. Students that already completed their FAFSA for the full academic year were unaffected, and will remain unaffected, by the shutdown. Incoming students, starting in the 2019 Spring Semester, however, may have experienced hiccups.

Delays in the application process may occur in times of a government shutdown. Being able to receive and provide adequate documentation can be difficult when the federal government takes a hit. A large part of the FAFSA application process is providing information regarding parent income, which comes from the IRS (Internal Revenue Service). Many of the operations carried out by the IRS, also a federal organization, are postponed during a government shutdown.

"Students that were just enrolling during December and January and filling out their FAFSA's were having issues due to the IRS having to withhold information and documentation that is necessary to fill out the FAFSA form," said Charlotte Karnes, a junior political science major at Marshall.

Being able to provide information on parental income can be a crucial part of being able to receive government funding, and for some students, receiving parental income is crucial for keeping their heads above water.

Around 800,000 federal employees are scrambling to make ends meet living without a salary during the partial government shutdown. University students across the nation, including those at Marshall, sometimes rely on the wages of their parents or guardians for various expenses. When a steady income is taken away, the entire family feels the aftershock.

"This could cause parents and/or students to get backed up on bills, such as rent, utilities [or] payments being made toward their or their child's education," said Karnes.

Living paycheck to paycheck is a reality for some college students and their families. When a shutdown goes on for this long, the waiting game can take a harsh toll on one's finances and savings. Especially at this time of year when there are added expenses like books and supplies for class, on top of things like groceries, food and classes.

Individuals who are affected by the government shutdown, or who have friends or family affected by the government shutdown, can keep an eye open for local businesses trying to ease the distress of living without a paycheck. Specifically, in Huntington, the 8th Street Barbershop is offering free services to those not receiving their wages during the shutdown. Additionally, the Facing Hunger Food Bank is offering meals and other resources to affected workers.

Though not everyone feels the repercussions of this ongoing situation, the impact is evident. There is no time limit on how long this shutdown may last, but the Huntington and Marshall communities are making clear efforts to move forward. As progress at the White House remains at a stand-still, life, work and school are all still in session.

Trey Delida can be contacted at delida1@marshall.edu.

### Marshall, Huntington communities celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day

#### **By TIARA BROWN**

THE PARTHENON

Dozens of Huntington community members and students marched in unity in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, Jan. 21.

"We have too many walls, but not enough bridges to walk over peacefully and join one another with acceptance and unity," Maurice Cooley, associate vice president of Marshall University's Office of Intercultural Affairs, said.

Things are not perfect in America, said Jerry Gilbert, president of Marshall University.

"We have a long way to go in this country, but I believe in the country," Gilbert said. "I believe in the good side of things."

The current issue within Washington, D.C. that is affecting all people needs to be thought of, and all the work that Martin Luther King Jr. did is in the process of being reversed, said Sylvia Ridgeway, Cabell-Huntington NAACP president.

"There are people guilty of those things," Ridgeway said. "Racism is very much alive, bigotry is very much alive, and those people are guilty, but we, all of us are responsible."

Ridgeway said the issue within the nation is not only a national issue but is a local issue for Huntington.

"I really do believe that we must get involved in order to cause change," Ridgeway said. "I've seen it in Huntington.



TIARA BROWN I THE PARTHENO

Marshall and Huntington community members walk together in Huntington to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

It's not perfect, but I have seen some change in Huntington for the better"

Being involved in community events is an important factor in generating change, Sandra Clements, a retired Marshall director of disability services, said.

"We have finally come to a point where the university recognizes the city of Huntington and the Fairfield community," Clements said. "We have to be here to

support that."

It is very important and dear to the community of Huntington to have days like Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrated throughout the whole community, said Derek Rankin, MU Alpha Phi Alpha president.

"We don't always get to celebrate black leaders within our community, so it's always a great opportunity to recognize all that MLK has done," Rankin said. "Where I come from, there are not a lot of us, so unity and strength are in numbers. This day gives me and my community the chance to allow our voices to be heard."

There is still a lot of work that needs to be done, said Renay Freckleton, a Delta Sigma Theta Member.

"We must acknowledge the past, the work and progress that we have made, in order to renew our spirits," Freckleton said. "We must go forth with what needs to be done so that generations to come can continue to enjoy what we enjoy today."

Things will get better because "good always wins out" and "love conquers hate," Gilbert said. "Let's all work together to improve the quality of life for the 'We,' in the 'We the people' by approaching each other in a spirit of love and respect. Let's work together to improve the inclusiveness in the 'We' in 'We Are Marshall."

Tiara Brown can be contacted at brown1021@marshall.edu.

## Parking problems persist for MU students

### By MACKENZIE JONES

THE PARTHENON

With the spring semester taking off at Marshall University, some students stated they have noticed problems with parking on the campus.

"Parking on campus anymore is a hassle," Marshall student Scott Ray said. "Trying to find a place on campus close to your actual classroom is almost impossible."

While it may seem easier to simply park anywhere near campus with an open parking spot, local businesses and their management teams are simply saying do not.

Patricia Watson is the manager at the Pizza Hut located on 3rd Avenue, just across the street from Smith Music Hall. While she specifically takes action against students parking on their lot by warning, with a note, that vehicles will be towed at the vehicle owner's expense, she said "many students believe that we will not tow, but I have seen it before, and I am certain I will see it again."

Watson said, while she understands that it's cold outside and feels sorry for the students and the walks they must make to get to their classrooms, she simply wants to ensure they do not have another fee coming their way.

"I know they've paid for parking passes and are

paying tuition," Watson said. "I just try to warn them as many times as possible to try and give them a chance before they have another fee for being towed. But you can only get so many chances."

Similarly to Watson, Sergeant Scott Ballou, with Marshall University Police Department, has some suggestions, advice and warnings for students.

"After a certain amount of tickets on Marshall's campus, we will take action and put an academic hold on your account, which can hinder you from not only getting transcripts, but also [from] registering for classes," Ballou said. "Students need to really pay attention to where they are parking to ensure that one day these parking tickets do not come back to haunt them."

Along with this, Ballou states that students need to take advantage of the stadium parking lot, because unlike those neighboring it, it is rarely full.

"Students will go to the mall and walk around all day, but they have issues with parking more than 10 minutes away from their class," Ballou said. "We have a lot of adequate parking on campus, and students should be smart about where they're parking and take advantage of it. We get so many complaints about parking, for and around our campus, and honestly, it could be a lot worse."

Mackenzie Jones can be contacted at jones1032@marshall.edu.



MACKENZIE JONES | THE PARTHENON

Multiple Marshall University students stated they believe there is not enough parking for students and faculty within a reasonable distance of campus.

## Marshall's food pantry open to community, adds new location



PIPER WHITE | THE PARTHENON

The food pantry provides community members in need with non-perishables.

#### By PIPER WHITE

THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University food pantry, opened during the fall semester, continues to feed the Huntington community with the help of Marshall and community member volunteers.

Marshall's food pantry in the Tri-State MRI building at 1802 6th Avenue is open to the community on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Fridays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and on every third Saturday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

"Right now, I think that we are able to serve everyone who has a need within the timeframe that we're open, but if we were to have more people with a need, and more volunteers, we could definitely expand our hours of operation," Dr. Kelli Williams, chair of the dietetics program at Marshall, said.

The food pantry has volunteers that are students, as well as volunteers from the community, Williams said. She said the pantry welcomes more volunteers and needs volunteers to help during its operation hours, as well as volunteers for logging food, putting items away and even organizing a food drive.

"We usually have one or two volunteers for

days that the pantry is open," Sydney Mangialetti, a dietetics student at Marshall and manager of the food pantry, said. "Usually, the volunteers are dietetics students or dietetics interns."

Mangialetti said the food pantry staff prefers donations be brought during operational hours. She said most of the food, except for milk, is provided just by people who donate. The Marshall Thundering Herd women's basketball team has donated by holding a food drive during one of their games and bringing all the donations to the pantry during operational hours, Mangialetti said.

"We are always accepting donations, as well as taking on volunteers," Mangialetti said. Williams said there's always someone there during the hours of operation that will gladly take donations, but if an individual is unable to come during those hours, the food pantry's staff would be happy to schedule a time to meet with them.

Any individuals who would like to become a volunteer for Marshall's food pantry, can contact Mangialetti at mangialetti@live.marshall.edu or Williams at williamsk@marshall.edu.

Piper White can be contacted at white 741@ marshall.edu.

## School of Nursing to offer online doctorate of nursing starting fall 2020

#### By Amanda Larch

MANAGING EDITOR

Marshall University's School of Nursing will offer an online doctorate of nursing program beginning in fall 2020. The DNP will accept 25 students for the first year and 25 more students each additional year. Professor Rebecca Appleton, director of the master's of science in nursing program, said she began working on creating the DNP program in 2016, and President Jerry Gilbert recently approved it.

"It is the terminal degree for most nurses; it's usually the end of the line in terms of what you have to do for education for a nurse," Appleton said. "Students won't have to travel, they won't have to go to Kentucky or to Morgantown. This program will be online. It will take approximately three to four years, depending on whether they're part time or full time. The cost is very reasonable in terms of what currently is out there; we're very in line with WVU in terms of tuition. We're going to hire a director this year, and we're hoping that we will be able to start taking students in the fall of 2020."

The DNP program will offer classes with specific focuses, such as epidemiology, Appleton said, and students will complete an evidence based project.

"It has some interesting focuses, we're going to focus on epidemiology," Appleton said. "It's basically figuring out why diseases are occurring, the cause of diseases and we're going to focus on that because that seems to be an interest for people in this area. Most of the coursework is theoretical. There is some work that they will do with preceptors, which they will determine who they want to work with. And looking at something that they are very interested in, they choose an area and they develop an evidence based problem and do a project. It's based on research, we look at research and what the evi-

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This program is actually going to help our undergraduate and graduate programs because our graduate school then hopefully go on to the DNP, those people who want to can go on and get their DNP here.

### -Rebecca Appleton

dence shows us the best ways to help people heal. And that's how we're basing our nursing practice nowadays is on research evidence."

Appleton said after completing the DNP program, nurses will have multiple positive job opportunities, such as hospitalists, working directly with doctors or specializing in specific fields.

"There's all kinds of job openings," Appleton said. "These

nurses will actually work hand in hand with other physicians; they can be hospitalists, they can work in clinics, they can work on their own. They can work independently in West Virginia so they can set up their own clinic and work in it. They can work almost anywhere really. And they make good money, somewhere around a six-figure salary. They can teach too, they can be administrators. They can teach, they can do almost anything. They're just a higher-level nurse. They can specialize in any of the things that physicians specialize in."

Marshall's School of Nursing also offers bachelor's and master's programs, and Appleton said they are both credited, with high certification rates.

"The NCLEX certification rate for the BSN students in 2018 was 98 percent for Marshall, and the Family Nurse Practitioner passing rate on ANCC certification exam was 100 percent in 2018. There are very few programs who ever manage to do that, and we're usually right up there, if we're not at 100 we're near that," Appleton said. "Our undergraduate and graduate students do very well at Marshall. People in this area really look forward to having our graduates because they're so good compared to some of the others in the area.

"This program is actually going to help our undergraduate and graduate programs because our graduate school then hopefully go on to the DNP, those people who want to can go on and get their DNP here," Appleton said.

Amanda Larch can be contacted at larch15@ marshall.edu.

## SGA senate vote creates new position in executive branch

#### By JESTEN RICHARDSON

**COPY EDITOR** 

After failing to be confirmed by the Student Senate's Judiciary Committee before the meeting, a member of Marshall University's student body executive branch was promoted to a newly created position Tuesday during the first the student senate meeting of the semester.

with his cabinet and the consideration of Six to fill it. Barclay expressed concern that the members of his cabinet would be overwhelmed without Six being allowed to take on the responsibilities of the new role and to provide extra assistance in projects and objectives of the cabinet. Six's confirmation

Buffy Six, a senior online journalism major who served as student body press secretary during the fall 2018 semester, was promoted to senior counselor to the executives Tuesday. The Senate voted to confirm her 14-12 with three abstentions.

Whether or not to confirm Six was a subject of debate in the Senate, as the Judiciary Committee had voted 5-3 against her confirmation, with two members of the committee abstaining. This vote was taken as a recommendation, and a roll-call vote was opened to the Senate, following an explanation of the new position and the opportunity for senators to discuss and ask questions about the position.

Student Body President Hunter Barclay was involved in the discussion and advocated for the creation of the new position with his cabinet and the consideration of Six to fill it. Barclay expressed concern that the members of his cabinet would be overwhelmed without Six being allowed to take on the responsibilities of the new role and to provide extra assistance in projects and objectives of the cabinet. Six's confirmation would also mean his proposed candidate Caroline Kimbro could fill the role of press secretary, if she was also confirmed by the Senate, making a full cabinet.

Concerns raised in connection to the creation of the senior counselor to the executives position, and Six's confirmation involved questions of funding, lack of need for the position with an already nine-person cabinet and conflicts with the documents of the Student Government Association.

Kimbro was also confirmed in the Senate.

Jesten Richardson can be contacted at richardso164@marshall.edu.



JESTEN RICHARDSON | COPY EDITOR

The Student Government Association created a new position in the executive board for senior Buffy Six.

## Dang Good rolls into downtown market



MICHAELA CRITTENDEN | PHOTOS AND GRAPHICS EDITOR

### By ANNA MARSH

THE PARTHENON

Dang Good Cinnamon Rolls and Waffles opened at The Market in downtown Huntington Monday, Jan. 7. Andrew Hines, the owner of Dang Good, also owns Butter It Up, which is a coffee shop also located in The Market. Hines said he had the idea to open a new business when the space became available a few months ago, and he had another idea of a different business he wanted to put in the space before he came up with Dang Good.

Hanna Lester, a crew worker for Dang Good, said she actually applied at Butter It Up, but Hines informed her of his new adventure of opening a new business. Lester said Hines told her about his idea of opening Dang Good if she wanted to wait and start working at the new business instead of Butter It Up.

"As a worker, I get here at 6:45 a.m. every day," Lester said. "I prep and make the dough and start making the icing. I also prep for the next day, because we sell so much."

Dang Good offers a unique range of different homemade cinnamon rolls. All rolls and waffles are made with Dang Good's special cinnamon roll dough.

"My favorite part about working at Dang Good is the fact that people can see you over the counter and watch me make the cinnamon rolls," said Jumod Jones, another crew member at Dang Good. "It makes me proud of what I do."

One of Dang Good's specialties is the cinnamon roll waffle they have. Jones said the waffles are shockingly good, and they are so delicious, it is the best waffle someone will taste.

"I think The Market, in general, is good for the Huntington community, especially a part of Pullman, because it uplifts the entire community and gives people something to do," Lester said. "You can get healthy food, snacks, ice cream-- there is something for everyone here. It is a cool business, because it is a small treat that everyone likes. Everyone likes cinnamon rolls and waffles, and they are dang good."

The hours of operation of Dang Good are 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Sunday. It is located inside The Market at 809 3rd Ave.

Anna Marsh can be contacted at marsh43@marshall.edu.



HEATHER BARKER | EXECUTIVE EDITOR



MICHAELA CRITTENDEN | PHOTOS AND GRAPHICS EDITOR

Top left:
Dang Good Cinnamon Rolls
and Waffles is located at
809 3rd Ave. Huntington,
WV 25703.

Bottom left:

Dang Good offers various homemade cinnamon rolls and waffles, made with special dough.

Bottom right:

Hanna Lester, who has been working at Dang Good since it opened, wakes up early to prepare the dough each day.

## Second-half collapse sends WKU past Marshall for first C-USA loss

#### By KIERAN INTEMANN

**SPORTS EDITOR** 

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. – Marshall looked like it had control Monday night in Diddle Arena. Instead, a collapse over the final six minutes happened, as Western Kentucky closed the game on an 22-6 run to hand the Thundering Herd its first Conference USA loss of the season, 68-59.

"Give credit to Western Kentucky," Marshall head coach Dan D'Antoni said. "They're a good team and they played well down the stretch. That was a great crowd and a fun game."

Marshall had a 53-46 lead after Jannson Williams made a layup with 6:18 left in regulation. From there, the Hilltoppers went on their long run to take the lead and, eventually, ice the game.

Jon Elmore led Marshall with 17 points, followed by C.J. Burks with 13 and Jannson Williams with nine. The Thundering Herd was unable to stop Josh Anderson, who led all scorers with a career-high 25 points. Charles Bassey added a double-double for the home team, finishing with 17 points and 17 rebounds.

"We didn't do a good job of stopping Anderson in the second half," D'Antoni said. "He made a few very athletic plays down the stretch and we couldn't answer."

Marshall forced WKU into 15 first-half turnovers but was unable to convert that into any semblance of an advantage due to poor shooting. The Thundering Herd missed its first 13 3-pointers of the first half before Darius George drained one from the corner in the last two minutes. Marshall closed the opening half on a 9-2 run, capped by a 3-pointer by

Jarrod West in the dying seconds of the half, to take a 25-24 lead into the break.

"I'm not sure how my shoe fell off on that play, whether someone stepped on it or it just fell off," West said of the play. "I was open and I saw time running down and thought I was in range to shoot, so I just knocked it down."

The Herd started the second half by connecting on its first three 3-pointers, including two from Elmore, racing out to an eight-point lead – the largest by either team at that point.

After WKU attempted to switch its defense from man-to-man to a 2-3 zone, which proved unsuccessful, the Hilltoppers switched to a 1-3-1 zone that stifled the Thundering Herd over the final seven minutes. WKU went on a 14-0 run that turned a 53-46 deficit into a 60-53 advantage.

"We played well for the first 35 minutes of that game," West said. "We took our foot off the gas pedal and they capitalized."

Marshall forward Mikel Beyers said, "We let up and they capitalized on it. Jon hits many of those shots and tonight they weren't falling. (WKU) got hot and we let up. They capitalized on our mistakes.

Marshall missed nine of its last 10 shots, while WKU hit seven of its last nine, punctuated by a dunk by Anderson to send the red-and-white clad fans home happy for the second straight game.

Marshall will look to right the ship Thursday night on the road when it takes on Louisiana Tech at 9 p.m.

Kieran Intemann can be contacted at intemann@marshall.edu.



Marshall sophomore guard Jarrod West (13) focuses during one of Marshall's Conference USA home games. West finished with eight points, including a buzzer-beating 3-pointer, along with a game-high five steals and two rebounds in the Thundering Herd's road loss at Western Kentucky, the first Conference USA loss that the Herd suffered on the season.





### **OPINION**

### The Parthenon

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

CONTACT US: 109 Communications Bldg. | Marshall University | One John Marshall Drive Huntington, West Virginia 25755 | parthenon@marshall.edu | @MUParthenon Letters to the Editor are accepted. See guidelines online.

### EDITORIAL STAFF

### **HEATHER BARKER**

EXECUTIVE EDITOR barker193@marshall.edu

### **SARAH INGRAM**

NEWS EDITOR ingram51@marshall.edu

### HANNA PENNINGTON

LIFE! EDITOR penningto 131@marshall.edu

### **JOE ARTRIP**

PRODUCTION EDITOR artrip30@marshall.edu

### JESTEN RICHARDSON

COPY EDITOR richardso164@marshall.edu

### **AMANDA LARCH**

MANAGING EDITOR larch15@marshall.edu

### KIERAN INTEMANN

SPORTS EDITOR

intemann@marshall.edu

### SYDNEY SHELTON

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR shelton97@marshall.edu

### MICHAELA CRITTENDEN

PHOTO AND GRAPHICS EDITOR crittenden2@marshall.edu

### DOUGLAS HARDING

ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER harding 26@marshall.edu

### **SANDY YORK**

FACULTY ADVISER sandy.york@marshall.edu

### THE PARTHENON'S CORRECTIONS POLICY

"Factual errors appearing in The Parthenon should be reported to the editor immediately following publication. Corrections the editor deems necessary will be printed as soon as possible following the error."

### THE FIRST | The Constitution of the AMENDMENT | United States of America

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

# How the wall hurts our state



Last week, Republican law-makers in the West Virginia House of Delegates proposed an idea to send \$10 million of the state's money to help fund President Donald Trump's border wall.

\$10 million.

Take a look at our state, and you will notice crumbling roads, full of potholes, in need of serious repair. You will see an abundance of schools that are underfunded; some of these schools have moldy classrooms that need updated. Just last year, public schoolteachers and school personnel went on strike to protest low pay and high health insurance costs, and the state had to seemingly scramble to find money to satisfy the teachers' demands.

Let us not forget about the opioid crisis here, either. Though our state is continuing to see progress, the fight is far from over, and additional funds would do recovery programs and those living in poverty a world of good.

If you look even closer at our

beautiful state, it is not hard to notice that most of the people here are not tourists. Additionally, the state's population is continuing to decline. Fewer people are willing to travel here because of road conditions and because of the negative impressions we continue to leave in the news, most recently the news about our lawmakers and their eagerness to give away \$10 million.

Imagine how much good \$10 million would do if it stayed in West Virginia. Yes, it is part of an almost \$200 million surplus, but not a penny of that money should be spent on anything but bettering our state. Not when West Virginia is in such desperate need and deserves the attention of the politicians who care more about President Trump and the federal government. Perhaps if those elected to represent us took the time to listen to and understand our discontent, they would help us. They would not allow themselves to fund the wall and try to deny anyone the

chance at the American dream, especially when so many West Virginians have to travel outside of the state to experience that dream for themselves.

By using this money to contribute to a wall thousands of miles away, these lawmakers are, however inadvertently, creating another wall. This wall is between West Virginia and its once-loyal people, though it is more emotional than physical. Many people leave, and they do not return. A wall is built around their love and memories for the state they were born in, and this wall is funded by poor conditions and lack of respect from those in state government. This wall does not cast shadows on the ground; instead, it darkens the hearts of our people, and they realize they have had enough. They leave, and the wall keeps them away. This wall is permanent, and it is scary.

It is getting harder to love a state that does not seem to love its people in return.

## It's (Still) A Wonderful Life

#### By AMANDA LARCH

MANAGING EDITOR

Growing up, I thought Donna Reed was the most beautiful woman and Jimmy Stewart was the most handsome man in the world. I thought the pair of them, their characters George and Mary Bailey, made the best couple in my favorite movie, "It's A Wonderful Life." They were two genuinely good people. Or at least their characters were. But to a kid infatuated with movies, that's just one and the same. Yes, and I also thought "It's A Wonderful Life" was the greatest movie ever made. Actually, I still do think all those things, except now I can successfully differentiate between the fictional world of movies and the people who bring these worlds to life. Sometimes anyway.

All this brings me to my main point of how "It's A Wonderful Life" is simply a great movie, regardless of whether or not it's the best movie ever made (which it is). It's also so much more than a movie that comes on TV every Christmas Eve. In fact, there's so much more to it than Christmas.

With the holiday season now officially over, we can all move on from the hustle and bustle of buying presents for our loved ones, scrambling to wrap them in time and finding time to complete all our traditions. We can finally breathe and reflect on the good times we had,

even though they went by too fast. As much trouble as Christmas may be at times, it's all worth it. The Christmas spirit fills us with so much joy, love and cheer...but what happens once the new year hits? Where does it all go and more importantly, why?

If we pay attention to the ending of Charles Dickens' classic, "A Christmas Carol," we notice mean, old, yet recently reformed, Ebenezer Scrooge keeps Christmas alive the whole year in his heart, meaning he always cares for and loves his fellow human beings, no matter the day on the calendar. The lessons he learned from the three Spirits affected him not only on Christmas Day, but they stayed with him long after. Those good feelings and warmth should stay with us all year, too. Why aren't we as generous, thoughtful and kind all year round as we are in December?

George Bailey is.

Which brings me back to "It's A Wonderful Life." If we sit and watch the movie and ignore all our preconceived notions that it's just another feel-good Christmas movie, we can learn so much from George. He sacrificed his dreams for those he loves, he helped anyone who needed it with no questions asked, and he always put others before himself without a second thought. To me,

that is an endearing example of the true spirit and meaning of Christmas.

During the movie, George feels hopeless and contemplates what the world would be like without him. I'm sure we've all wondered at some point in our lives how much we truly mean to others and the impact we have on their lives. I know I have. And even though we can't have a chance at experiencing the world without our presence, I think this movie teaches us that we are important, we do matter and we do change peoples' lives for the better, sometimes simply with our presence.

And let's not forget Clarence, George Bailey's guardian angel. I think it would do us all a world of good to remember his message to George at the end of the film.

"No man is a failure who has friends," Clarence writes in his gift to George.

If you haven't seen the movie, then please, watch it right away because the title of it really is true, and you just have to discover it for yourself. Be like Mr. Scrooge and keep the Christmas spirit, with love and selflessness, in your heart the whole year. You'll be surprised at how good of a year it will be.

And if you ever feel like you don't have any friends, well, if you're reading this, then I consider you mine.

Amanda Larch can be contacted at larch15@ marshall.edu.



### Parthenon Spring 2019 Editorial Staff



### Bridal Expo brings brides-to-be, vendors together

### By Madalyn McCoy

THE PARTHENON

The biggest day of their life is how some people choose to describe their wedding day, yet some brides-to-be have no idea where to start or how to contact the vendors they need. The 28th annual KEE100 Bridal Expo at the Big Sandy Superstore offered brides-to-be an opportunity to explore possibilities Sunday, Jan. 20.

KEE100 invited over 50 vendors to the 2019 KEE100 Bridal Expo. The vendors included photographers, venues, caterers, florists, DJs, wedding dress shops, tux rentals and transportation. In addition to inviting different vendors, KEE100 gave away door prizes and a Myrtle Beach trip and cruise and hosted a cake dive event where three grooms tore apart a cake to win prizes for their brides. For the grooms, Texas Roadhouse offered a "grooms' room" at

Some brides-to-be use KEE100's Bridal Expo as a place to start planning their wedding.

"If it wasn't for this wedding expo, I wouldn't even know where to start," said bride-to-be Madison Adams.

Like several other brides-to-be, Adams came to the Big Sandy to get inspiration for her big day.

(304) 526-2717

"I had no idea what I wanted for my wedding, and I had no idea where to even start looking to get a caterer or florist, but after today, I am pretty sure I have my entire wedding planned,"

Adams said she now has her DJ, caterer, florist and cake designer already picked out for her wedding, even though she had nothing prepared before coming to the bridal expo.

"I have always had a passion for weddings and the magic behind them," said Nikki Stark, wedding venue owner of Little Tennessee Event Farm.

Stark created her all-inclusive wedding venue to take stress off of the bride and groom. Stark and her team do everything from photography and decorating to catering and designing the cake.

"I love coming to the bridal expo, and it has really opened up my business to different clients," Stark said.

She also said coming to the bridal expo has helped ex-

"I do not believe that my wedding venue would reach as



MADALYN MCCOY I THE PARTHENON

Soon-to-be brides and grooms converged on the Big Sandy Superstore Arena Sunday, Jan. 20 to explore possibilites for their weddings from 50 various vendors.

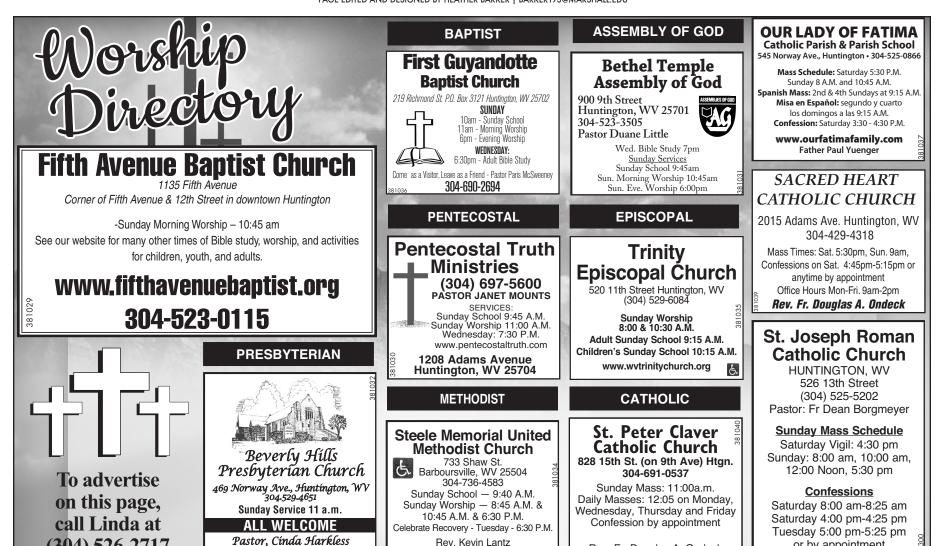
> many brides as what it does, because being able to reach out in person rather than just a website makes a huge difference in the wedding business," Stark said.

> Madalyn McCoy can be contacted at mccoy325@ marshall.edu.

> > or by appointment

Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY HEATHER BARKER | BARKER193@MARSHALL.EDU



Rev. Ralph Sager, Associate Pastor

bhpcusa@comcast.net

## McElroys partner with Marvel Comics to release new comic series

#### By MAKAYLAH WHEELER

THE PARTHENON

Earth is at war in a new comic series written by a family of podcasters, and readers can jump into the adventure soon.

The series takes place in a world where Earth is taken over by Frost Giants, Trolls and Fire Goblins.

Clint McElroy and his sons, Justin, Griffin and Travis, have teamed up with Marvel Comics to produce a five-issue limited series set to release April 10. "War of the Realms: Journey Into Mystery" was announced Jan. 3. The series will be available both online and in comic book stores.

The McElroys said the comics will be written by the four of them and drawn by Marvel interior artist Andre' Lima Araujo, with covers by Valerio Schiti. The series will include popularized Marvel characters.

"When it turns out that the key to stopping the war might be Thor's baby sister, Spider-Man (Miles Morales), Hawkeye (Kate Bishop), Wonder Man, Sebastian Druid, Death Locket, Thori the Hellhound and Balder the Brave must go on an epic quest to save Earth's only hope. And, yes, deal with diaper duty," from the McElroy family business website.

The McElroy's will be taking over the Thor storyline from Jason Aaron after six years, but the plot will follow the original "Journey Into the Mystery," which was published by Atlas Comics before it was taken over by Marvel Comics in the 1960s.

The original publication has played host to several updates over the last few decades, but the McElroy family's new release is the only launch to generate attention since The Mighty Thor.

This will be the first tie-in mini-series to Aaron's Thor run. Marvel announced the newest comic arc by labeling it as the "final showdown" between Midgard and the rest of the universe.

The fate of the Marvel universe is trusted to the McElroy's based on their past success. The family shot to fame with their podcast "My Brother, My Brother and Me" and then secured their place in the limelight with their comic "The Adventure Zone," a Dungeons and Dragons spin off that landed number one on The New York Times Best- Sellers list.

Marvel Comics and the McElroys promise to deliver a new "cosmic calamity" for the masses that offers a fresh take on old favorites.

Makaylah Wheeler can be contacted at wheeler 152@marshall.edu.



SARAH INGRAM I NEWS EDITOR

Justin McElroy (right) demonstrates how to use podcast equipment to community members at CoWorks in Huntington, West Virginia.



PARTHENON FILE PHOTO

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(From left) Travis McElroy, Justin McElroy and Griffin McElroy are co-hosts of popular podcast and online television series "My Brother, My Brother and Me." During their live recording Nov. 2 at the Keith-Albee, Travis McElroy and wife Teresa McElroy will give a live recording of podcast "Shmanners," while Dr. Sydnee McElroy and husband Justin will perform "Sawbones."

## The Haute Wick Social brings 'flame' to Heritage Station

### By HANNA PENNINGTON

LIFE! EDITOR

A new business at Heritage Station in downtown Huntington specializing in custom soy candles is bringing heat to the cold winter weather in a community-friendly environment. The Haute Wick Social opened its doors in late November after months of research and experimentation by owner Ashley Casto, who said the idea came simply from making candles in her own home.

Casto said one of the driving factors that motivated her to begin experimenting was the shocking amount of toxins and chemicals hidden in a typical scented candle.

"I've done some research, and there are a lot of chemicals and bad things in candles on the market," Casto said. "We try to be mindful of what we have in our store."

Casto has developed approximately 60 different scents for customers to choose from to mix and match to create their ideal soybean candle, each ranging from \$16 to \$24.

However, Casto said the shop is not simply about candles; it is about slowing down and spending time with family and friends.

"People can walk in, you don't have to make an appointment; if you have a group of five or more just message or call me before so I can figure out where you'll be placed," Casto said. "We're also available for private parties, and I get a lot of groups and girl's night outs, birthday parties, bachelorette parties, all kinds of things we can celebrate in here."

Casto said the shop also works to collaborate with other local businesses and individuals.

"This week we have palette signs and candles, we're doing hot florals and flames, we have bracelet making and candles coming up," Casto said. "We have so much. We're also open to ideas if people want to see something specific here."

Casto said her husband, Eric, has been extremely supportive in bringing her dream to life.

"For me, it's one of those things that's fun because it's her vision, her idea, and it's fun for those things to come to life and happen, and that's been the best part for me," Eric Casto said.

Eric Casto said the decision to open shop in Heritage Station came

naturally for he and Ashley.

"Last spring, we were actually here at Heritage Station at another business just hanging out and we thought, 'Hey, wouldn't it be really cool to have a shop over here at Heritage,'" Eric Casto said. "I didn't think anything about it at the time, and then Ashley got pretty passionate about making candles."

Ashley Casto said she loves the community atmosphere at Heritage Station and the time spent on the waiting list to obtain the space was worth it.

"I think we all work really well together over here," Ashley Casto said. "Your candle takes 90 minute to cure, so we do well in an area where you can go somewhere. Here, you can go to Taps, you can go to Sip, you know, please go check out Full Circle Ceramic or Birds of a Feather; there's so much to do. There are places you can go check things out right here."

Eric Casto said he believes the store would not have worked as well in any other space.

"You can hang out here, we encourage it, but you can also go shop or get a bite to eat," he said. "We want it to be a place where you can come have a good time. That's one of the reasons we wanted to have 'social' in the name."

Ashley Casto said while the community has been extremely welcoming, it is important to her to provide the same energy to every customer who enters the store.

"We just love everybody and we want everybody to feel comfortable coming in here," Ashley Casto said.

The Haute Wick Social will be joining Huntington's Open to All campaign Friday in support of diversity and inclusion in the community.

"We've had tons of diversity Ashle and inclusivity training, we're coming from higher education, it's always near and dear to our hearts," Ashley Casto said.

Ashley Casto said one of her goals for the business is to add a second location within the state in the coming years.

"I never thought in my mind it wouldn't





HANNA PENNINGTON | LIFE! EDITOI

"We've had tons of diversity Ashley Casto and her husband, Eric Casto, opened The Haute Wick Social in late November of 2018.

be successful, but we've been very successful in the past two months we've been open, so I want to continue that and grow on that," Ashley Casto said. "I think within the next three to five years I would like another location in West Virginia."

Ashley and Eric Casto said they also

hope to continue to provide a unique, ever-changing experience to customers.

"Just come have fun here," Ashley Casto said. "We just want to make this an awesome space for the community."

Hanna Pennington can be contacted at penningto 131@marshall.edu.