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THE PARTHENON

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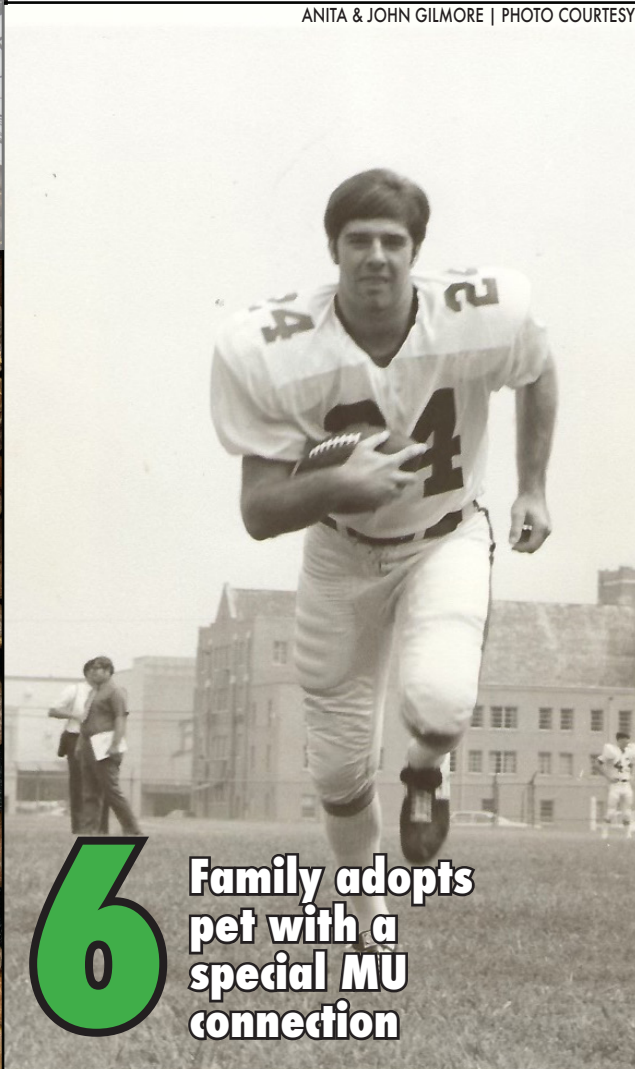


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BRITTANY HIVELY | EXECUTIVE EDITOR



12 Nonprofit gives families a new beginning

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY BRITTANY HIVELY | HAYES100@MARSHALL.EDU

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Local student gives back through coffee

By **Isabella Robinson**
NEWS EDITOR

Michaela Marshall, a junior double-majoring in nursing and psychology has been roasting coffee since January, and began her small business, Recovery Roasters, in June.

“I wanted to allow other people [to] love my coffee as much as I do,” Marshall said. “I named [the business] Recovery Roasters to allude that our profit goes towards helping those struggling with addiction who don’t have insurance or what they need.”

Recovery Roasters is a nonprofit, and Marshall says that all proceeds are divided between obtaining what she needs to maintain her business and going towards the betterment of the local recovery community.

“The rest goes into a scholarship fund that adults can apply for if they walk into the clinics we are

partnered with,” Marshall said. “Whatever funds are in the account at the time go towards their treatment cost or getting what they need such as toiletries or diapers for their kids.”

Marshall said she is passionate about sharing her love for roasting coffee, and the process of doing so.

“I order the unroasted coffee beans from a third party who gets them directly from the farmers in Mexico and Ethiopia,” Marshall said. “They ship them to me in a burlap sack where I measure out portions of the beans, and put them in the roaster where they are heated and rotated until the desired color and strength.”

Marshall said after she roasts the beans, she cools them immediately by placing them in a sifter to preserve the quality.

She said the beans are then kept for 24 hours and packaged for orders.

“Orders can be a light, medium, or dark roast and either ground or whole bean,” Marshall said. “Our most popular coffee is the Ethiopian Yirgacheffe, and my personal favorite is the Mexico La Laja.”

Marshall said the Ethiopian Yirgacheffe is a smooth roast with a note of lemon and hint of dried blueberries, and the Mexico La Laja is sweet with mild orange acidity and hint of chocolate.

“Right now, Recovery Roasters is just online through our website and social media,” Marshall said. “I would love to keep growing and expanding in the places where the coffee is sold.”

Isabella Robinson can be contacted at robinson436@marshall.edu.



MICHAELA MARSHALL | COURTESY



MICHAELA MARSHALL | COURTESY

All proceeds from Recovery Roasters go into a scholarship to help those in recovery.

Marshall orders coffee beans that come directly from farmers in Mexico and Ethiopia.

FOUNDRY THEATER LAUNCHES NEW ENTERTAINMENT VENTURE INSIDE HUNTINGTON'S CITY HALL

Editor's note: The following is a press release sent out on July 22 about a new venue coming to Huntington.

HUNTINGTON -- Foundry Theater is launching a new stage for creatives in the heart of Huntington.

The Jean Carlo Stephenson Auditorium, located on the second floor of Huntington's City Hall, located at 800 5th Ave., will be the home for a new entertainment venture that celebrates the talent of regional artists and nationally-touring acts.

Foundry Theater's programming lineup kicks off at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14, with "The Good Time Mountain Mama Show," which will feature regional artists performing their favorite Willie Nelson songs. Tickets are available on www.foundrytheater.org

Created by Nate Cesco and Rachel Allinder-Carroll, Foundry Theater aims to transform the auditorium into a place where locals can expect diverse and engaging content. Live comedy, variety shows, podcast tapings, and concerts are just some of the events the organization is producing within their inaugural year.

"We immediately fell in love with the auditorium and we're just excited to get folks up here," says Foundry Theater co-founder Rachel Allinder-Carroll.

Mayor Steve Williams proposed and Huntington City Council voted unanimously Monday, July 12,

to approve Foundry Theater to assume management of the space. The City of Huntington entered into a 5-year lease agreement with the organization for \$1 a year.

"Our goal is to build a resource for creatives, storytellers, and artists in the area," says Foundry Theater co-founder Nate Cesco. "It will be a new place for people to come together and create on a stage." While the auditorium will be available for rental use, Foundry Theater will focus on providing original programming for audiences. Cesco and Allinder-Carroll are hard at work developing partnerships with local creative groups and businesses to program the space. One such group is Michael Valentine's "The Good Time Show."

The Good Time Show's first event with Foundry, "The Good Time Mountain Mama Show," features singers Mandi Hurley, Angel Davila, Local Honeys, Senora May Childers, Molly Lynn Page, Sasha Colette and Teresa Prince backed by local Huntington musicians. The Good Time Show previously used the auditorium for the 2019 Good Time Christmas Show and The Good Time Show's celebration of Huntington's 150th anniversary earlier this year.



Founders hope to bring a place for not only people can enjoy diverse and engaging content, but storytellers and artists can come to create on stage.



FOUNDRY THEATER | PHOTO COURTESY

Co-founders, Rachel Allinder-Carroll [left] and Nate Cesco [right] fell in love with the auditorium immediately.

Where in the world

During the time The Parthenon editors have been working on stories and interesting happenings around the world, they have also been exploring around the world. Check out what they have been up to and get to know them a bit.



BRITTANY HIVELY | COURTESY

Brittany Hively is currently a graduate student and the executive editor. She will continue assisting with The Parthenon in the fall as editor emeritus.

While others have been traveling and being “forced” to spend extra time with their families and have exciting places to share, mine are not as exciting. The biggest place I visited this summer was Cincinnati and it was just a short day trip.

As a, slightly, older graduate student with a family my exciting has been lost with other things. We skipped vacation this year and for a good reason, we bought a house! One of the most stressful and exciting things I have ever done.

Early in the summer I was asked to cover the landmark opioid trial

of Cabell County and the City of Huntington suing the three largest drug distribution companies – Ameri-sourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson – in the nation, so that has also occupied most of my days, but has been a great experience, careerwise.

As for what I am most excited about for the fall, I would have to say getting more acquainted into the new house, getting more grad classes under my belt and writing more. I am currently freelance writing for local newspapers and I love it more than I could have ever imagined.



XENA BUNTON | COURTESY

Xena Bunton is currently a senior studying multimedia journalism and the managing editor. She will continue her work with The Parthenon as the Executive Manager in the fall.

Places you have traveled or explored so far: Although I am on “vacation” in Charlevoix, my grandma is always planning adventures. This past month, I was able to (finally) travel by plane again to New Orleans and to celebrate my cousins wedding in Biloxi, Mississippi. My grandma, cousin and I rode the 2-hour boat ride to explore Beaver Island as well.

Most excited for in the fall: Although I don’t want summer to end, I am excited for my last semester at Marshall and to be the executive editor for The Parthenon. Graduating in my second quarantine-free semester at Marshall, I plan to cheer at all the games, go to the events, and to explore Huntington!



ZACHARY HISER | GRAPHIC

have the editors been?



ABBY HANLON | COURTESY

Abby Hanlon is a senior, studying public relations and advertising and serving as the campus editor. She will continue assisting with The Parthenon in the fall as online editor.

Places you have traveled or explored so far: In May, I went to visit my aunt and uncle in Fort Wayne, IN with my grandparents. It was so nice to be able to see them after almost 2 years and getting to travel out of the state for the first time in a year. I explored Downtown Fort Wayne and got to see the beautiful murals spread throughout the city. This week, I am in Jekyll Island, GA with my parents and little brother. I am so excited to see rest of the island, bike around, and lay on the beach. In two weeks, I will be back on another beach, Holden Beach, in North Carolina with a few friends to

relax before returning to campus.

Most excited for in the fall: I cannot wait to see everyone in person again. I have missed my seeing my friends and professors. I will be an Amazon Prime Student Campus Manager and am so excited for this opportunity. I am also a part of Greek life, so I am ready to start having in-person events and our fall recruitment. I will also be running the Parthenon's social media pages this fall, so make sure you go follow us on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook!



ISABELLA ROBINSON | COURTESY

Isabella Robinson is currently a junior studying multimedia journalism and the news editor. She will continue working at The Parthenon as features editor for The Parthenon in the fall.

Hi everyone! I am the summers news editor, Bella, and I've had the best summer of my entire life this year. It feels so great to be out and about again now that I'm vaccinated! I began this summer in Florida visiting Walt Disney World and soon after, I headed up to New England for a bit with my best friend. Then, I took a trip to New York City and did my favorite thing - shop! I've also been rock climbing a few times this summer as well as kayaking, and I even gave camping a try but it did not go well and I had to go home before midnight - it's just not for me. Recently, I took a trip to Charlotte to visit my

partner and we tried out some nice restaurants and visited the Carowinds amusement park and waterpark! I am leaving for a trip out west this Friday with my family, starting in Las Vegas! When I get back from Vegas I'm going to go see Modest Mouse in Pittsburgh with my friends, and take another trip to Charlotte during WOW week. I am very excited to make new friends this fall and continue with my studies in person! I will also be preparing to begin studying for the LSAT soon, so please send good vibes.



ZACHARY HISER | GRAPHIC

“Marshall” connects family with precious memories

Xena Bunton
MANAGING EDITOR

When searching for the right dog to bring to his New Jersey apartment, Matthew Gilmore was flooded with family memories when introduced to one Aussie Doodle puppy. Although Gilmore’s family has lived in Harrison, New Jersey for decades, the family views Marshall University and the Huntington community as a home. The family has supported the university ever since Gilmore’s great uncle, Kevin Gilmore, was killed in the plane crash in 1970 that killed Marshall football players, coaches, and fans—only two miles away from the tri-state airport. So, when the breeder in western Pennsylvania told Gilmore that the Aussie Doodle’s name was “Marshall,” Gilmore froze.

“It like struck a nerve and that’s when I decided to take him,” Gilmore said.

Kevin Gilmore was the running back for Marshall University when he died at the age of 21. His body was not identified, and he was buried in an unmarked grave near the Memorial to the 1970 Marshall Football Team with the five other unidentified players.

When Gilmore visited Marshall University and the gravesite 15 years ago, he noticed how hard it was for his family—especially his grandfather, John Gilmore.

“My family never wanted to bury the body in the wrong grave or to get the wrong body, so it was just complicated,” Gilmore said.

As the older brother in the family, John was drafted into the Vietnam war and agreed to go so Kevin had the chance to become a college football player. John was shot in war and hospitalized for over 100 days but

came back home with a purple heart and bronze star, and with excitement to see his brother play football for Marshall University.

“It has always been said in my family that my grandpa never got the closure that he wanted with his brother [Kevin] because he was never able to find his body or identify him,” Gilmore said. “He was questioning if he should have gone to Vietnam, if that was what God wanted.”

Gilmore said he learned about Kevin at a young age, since Matthew was born when his father Jack Gilmore was 18—right before he started his own college football career at University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

“As a kid, I always had Marshall gear and thundering herd stuff, and if it wasn’t Marshall, it was UNLV,” Gilmore said. “It was such a big part of my life. Football was always a family thing, it was what we did.”

Kevin was not the first tragic death in the Gilmore family, as Jack was killed in a car accident on March 4th, 1997, only months after graduation.

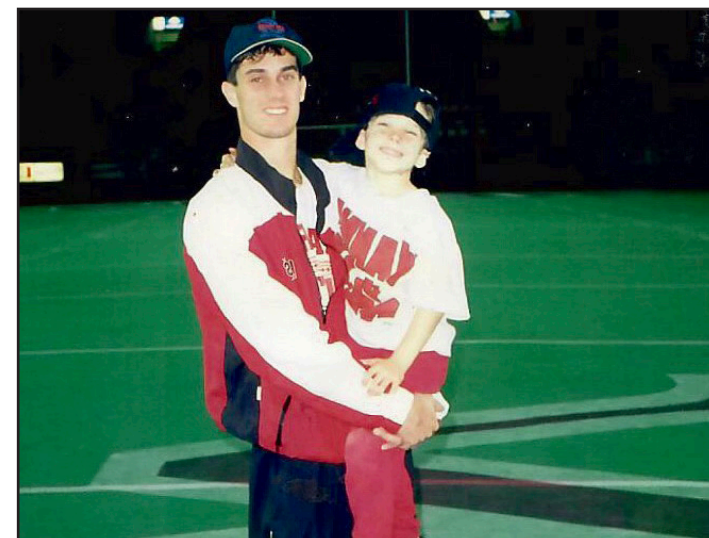
Gilmore added, ironically, that Kevin transferred to Marshall mid-season after playing for Wichita State. A month before the Marshall plane crash, Wichita’s football team also suffered a fatal plane crash.

“I think the thing is that he [Kevin] set the tone for my family and inspired us to seek a form of meaning through football and university, the community of students, players and coaches,” Gilmore said. “Everybody has been super supportive anytime I have gone to UNLV or Marshall.”



ANITA AND JOHN GILMORE | COURTESY

Aussie Doodle, Marshall, running at local dog park in Harrison, New Jersey.



ANITA AND JOHN GILMORE | COURTESY

Jack Gilmore holding Matthew Gilmore at Las Vegas bowl 1994.

Artisan market in Bridgeport features more than 20 women-owned small businesses

WEST VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

By Julia Manley, The Bridgeport News

Babe & Honey, an artisan market located on West Main Street in Bridgeport, is home to more than 20 women-owned small businesses.

Founder and owner Casey Gorby said it was important to her to include local businesses that support women and the community as a whole.

“It just kind of happened that way, honestly, and once it did it felt good to have a bunch of women supporting each other,” she said. “The hope is that we continue to grow and every woman here continues to grow.”

Gorby said the facility is a dedication to her grandmother who had a store in Nutter Fort in the late 1970s. The name “Babe & Honey” is a tribute to her

grandparents, as that is what they called each other. “She did the same thing and had a little shop,” Gorby said.

Gorby said being able to bring this business to the community and it being received in a very positive way has made it all feel like a dream come true.

“Everyone that comes in has introduced themselves, and every business on this street is really supportive,” Gorby said. “We have had a lot of traffic in the last month and have stayed pretty busy.”

The market opened a month ago.

“That was my whole thing, I wanted people to support local artists,” she said. “I wanted all the women to support each other, too, so we can work together.”



JULIA MANLEY | COURTESY

Babe & Honey is an artisan market that has over 20 small businesses in one spot.

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THE PARTHENON

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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 AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the 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.

OPINION

Why care about the For The People Act?

By **ISABELLA ROBINSON**
FEATURES EDITOR



What's the issue that you care about most?

Regardless of what it may be, big money in politics and our broken democracy stands in the way of finding a solution.

A few examples include climate change and the opioid epidemic, two issues young West Virginians care about enormously. Fossil fuel corporations are spending millions to block climate policy, and pharmaceutical companies block the regulation of opiates entering our state, devastating our Huntington community.

Our futures depend on getting big money out of politics and having a government that actually cares about and answers to us - the For The People Act is a powerful example of how we can get there, but we have much

farther we can still go!

Students and young people currently don't have much political power, despite making up a massive potential voting bloc. That's because we don't have a lot of money to donate to political campaigns, and because young people turn out to vote at relatively low rates. This is not because we are lazy, apathetic or entitled - it's because we've seen a broken, uninspiring system our whole lives; because very few politicians actually speak to young people and the issues we face; and establishing new habits like voting when there are confusing and archaic processes in place to do so is quite difficult.

These troubling realities are symptoms of our broken democracy: money should not dictate political power and politicians' focus, and young people are choosing to not vote because we are systematically disenfranchised through nonexistent civics educations, inaccessible voting and by lack of faith in a political system that does not work for our generation.

By getting big money out of politics and making it easier to vote, the For The

People Act will go farther than any legislation we've seen in our lifetimes towards ensuring that youth political power is commensurate with our population, and that our government works for us. The FTPA will eliminate "dark money," or secret election spending, ban partisan gerrymandering, implement automatic voter registration in all 50 states, and strengthen ethics laws. This will end the cycle of politicians leaving their offices, getting rich as lobbyists, lobbying their former colleagues in Congress and undermining the public interest.

Our country is built on simple principles: freedom, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But we will never truly be free while corporations can buy our politicians and write laws that dictate our lives as they do now.

Passing the FTPA is still an uphill battle, and if it's going to pass it will be because young people like you, reading this column, stepped up and took action!

When we make voting more accessible, when we protect these systems, and when we strengthen the power voters have, everyone benefits.

So, what can you do?

Calling the offices of Senators Manchin and Capito is the best way to let them know you support the FTPA, and that, for many of us, staying in West Virginia after graduation is contingent upon its passage.

Young people have been championing this issue in West Virginia for months.

This spring, our Student Government Association unanimously passed a resolution calling upon our Senators to vote yes on the For The People Act.

The bill has such broad support from young people in this state, even Teen Vogue noticed.

Use your platform to share info about #FTPA, and tag our Senators on social media!

The majority of West Virginians across the state, and across the political spectrum, want the FTPA to pass. So, if our Senators do not vote yes on the bill, we will see a clear example of them voting against the interests of their constituents who elected them.

Senators Manchin and Capito - we are counting on you!

Column: Do not be afraid to get involved

Abby Hanlon
CAMPUS EDITOR

The COVID-19 pandemic put a hold on what we once viewed as the college experience. From Zoom classes to limited capacity sporting events, the past year and half has made it more difficult to meet new people and make friends in college. Now that many classes will be held in-person this upcoming fall semester, I urge you to make the most of your college experience whether you are new freshman coming to campus or a sophomore that did not get the typical freshman year of college. One of the best ways to make new friends and grow as both a student and a person is to get involved on campus by joining a student organization, volunteering, finding a study partner in your class, and more.

I was so scared my freshman year that I would not make any new friends and would simply go to class and then go back home to my parents. As a commuter student, it may seem difficult at first to meet new people outside of your classes because you are not on campus all of the time, but by joining a student organization or studying with someone at Drinko Library or the student center, I slowly began to find new friends. One of the best decisions I made my freshman year was joining a sorority and pushing myself out of my comfort zone. I came into college hating Greek life and saying that it was never something that I would want to be a part of, but here I am. It gave me a chance to grow more confident in myself and my

abilities as both a student and a human being. I took on leadership positions and got involved with other campus organizations and events, including Dance Thunder. I changed my major to something that I was passionate about and made me happy and made so many new friends. Through with Greek life and other campus organizations that I am involved with, I have been able to grow my resume and meet new people across the country. I even started my own club here at Marshall, which is something that I never thought I would do, but I am a long way from who I was when I started my freshman year three years ago.

Though, your way of getting involved may be completely different from mine and that is okay. There are so many student organizations and campus programs to get involved with and volunteer and networking events to attend as well. Find what you are passionate about and what makes you happy. Do not be afraid to hang out in the student center or in Drinko library because someone you know may come in and want to join you.

I know that coming out of this pandemic, life seems a little weird and awkward. We have not really had normal social interaction and that is okay. Be patient with yourself. We will all be in this together, pushing through, and learning how to navigate this new fall semester.

Abby Hanlon can be reached at hanlon10@marshall.edu.



ABBY HANLON | CAMPUS EDITOR

Abby Hanlon is a senior at Marshall University, majoring in public relations and advertising. She is from Huntington, West Virginia.

Local woman shares 'whistleblower' story for National Whistleblower Appreciation Day

WEST VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

By Toni Milbourne tmilbourne@journal-news.net

SUMMIT POINT — When Teresa Tumblin secured a job with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), she felt it was a dream come true.

Now, that dream seems more like a nightmare, as the Summit Point resident has spent the past seven years as a whistleblower when she saw things being done incorrectly within the National Name Check Program, where she was a quality assurance reviewer research analyst.

Within the department, checks are done to ensure that those seeking employment, or even political appointment, are vetted sufficiently, explained Tumblin's attorney, Dan Meyer.

"Basically, this is the beginning of a background investigation, and Teresa found that it was not being done properly," Meyer said.

"My job was to review the reports and make sure they were done correctly. I started finding discrepancies, where changes were being made to make individuals look good," she said, adding that when she reported the discrepancies back in 2013, the process improved.

"About a year later, I found it happening again," she said. "I reported it up the chain to my supervisor, the unit chief, the section chief and the ethical advisor counselor. I was told I didn't have all of the information."

Tumblin continued to report the discrepancies, going higher and higher up the chain of command within the FBI until she was submitting reports directly to former Director James Comey and current Director Christopher Wray.

"An executive order says, 'If you see something, you say something,'" Tumblin said. "Over 300 other people knew about these violations, and I was the only one who reported it. No one is willing to say something if it's going to cost them, but my integrity is not for sale."

Tumblin's whistleblowing has not come without a cost. She was initially moved out of her position and has been passed up for promotions and performance awards despite having been recognized as an outstanding employee prior to her coming forward as a whistleblower. She has developed significant health issues as a result of the stress levels involved in whistleblowing, while continuing to work for the agency.

Tumblin's case has gone through the whistleblower program, as well as an investigation by the Department of Justice separate from the FBI process.

"The FBI has been granted special license by the Congress to run its own whistleblower program. Teresa's case shows they have abused that license from Congress," he added, saying that FBI whistleblowers should have the same protection as all other government employees, and those within the FBI who commit whistleblower reprisal should face a stiff punishment.

Meyer sent Tumblin's case through the Department of Justice, where an investigation was done separate from the FBI. That investigation found that negative personnel actions were taken against Tumblin based on her reporting of violations in the department. The report, issued on March 24, found that she had been reprisal against.

AD Ritzman emailed Tumblin stating, "As you are well aware, your transfer out of NNCP (which was just the start of reprisals against her) is tied to your litigation against the FBI."

An admission like this confirming reprisal would likely be enough to cause a change. However, it has not in Tumblin's case.

"Usually, at this point, it's over, but the FBI is not letting it go," she said, explaining that the FBI has now requested access to all evidence and information used by the Department of Justice to reach its decision.

There has been no date given when the FBI may examine the information and bring an end to the seven-year nightmare that has plagued Tumblin and cost her physically, mentally and financially.

"I was naïve enough to believe in the process," she said. "I work for the FBI, sure to goodness they will do the right thing, I thought."

Despite the torment that she has endured in trying to live out the directive given as part of her job, Tumblin said that she still believes the FBI does good work.

"I stand behind all the good work done there, or I wouldn't still work there," she said.

Tumblin hopes to bring to light the failed process she has gone through and work to get some laws changed to further

protect whistleblowers, especially within the FBI.

As for her own case, she is still not certain where it will go from here.

"I have an email from Director Wray that states, '...Your concerns are important to me ... I know that you will be well served by our legal counsel here at FBI Headquarters,'" she said.

Tumblin does not believe she was well served in this situation.

"They were in a position to stop it, and they didn't," she said.

Tumblin hopes to at least gain leave back and receive financial compensation for legal and medical bills that resulted from her whistleblowing.

"I also want to get some laws changed," she stressed. "Have I wanted to give up? Yes."

Tumblin said that even when she was not sure where finances were going to come from to continue the battle, they were provided.

Relying heavily on her faith, she said, "I'm faithful to God, and he is faithful to me. I believe God put me there for this purpose — to do what's right."



Teresa Tumblin found her dream job with the FBI in 2006, but that job turned into a nightmare as she has faced reprisals for whistleblowing.

Marshall University fall mask policy

By **Brittany Hively**
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Masks or no masks during class? That is the current wonderings of students as the fall semester gets closer.

Marshall has not updated the university's website to fall 2021 coronavirus policies. It is being updated according to the website.

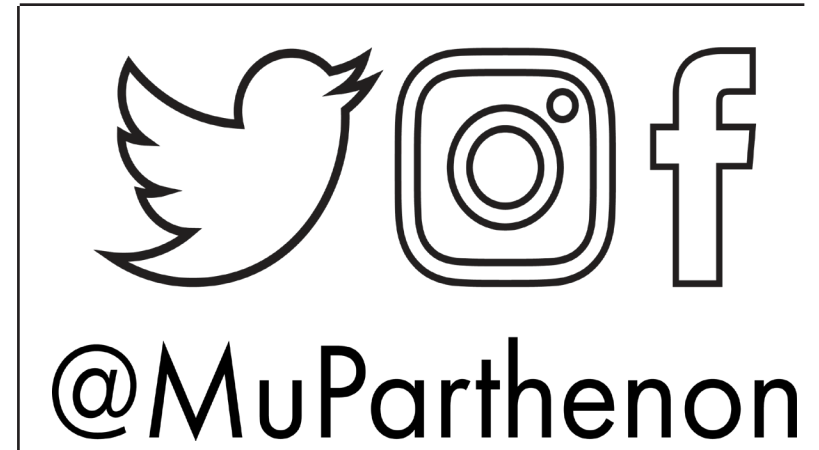
Currently, everyone is required to wear face coverings inside all university buildings, with the exception of students in their own residence hall rooms and employees in personal work spaces.

The last update given by the university was on June 24, stating plans "are still being developed and will be released to the university community as soon as they are finalized."

While Marshall is not requiring students and employees to receive the COVID-19 vaccination, they are strongly encouraging it and have an online registry to help determine if the campus has or has not reached herd immunity.

Those who have not been vaccinated should "be prepared" to wear a mask no matter if they are indoors or outside while on campus, the statement said.

There is also a student incentive program for those vaccinated which includes high dollar gift cards for the student bookstore and in Herd Points. The program is running until August 20.



PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY BRITTANY HIVELY | HAYES100@MARSHALL.EDU

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Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 Noon, 5:30 pm

Confessions

Saturday 8:25 am
Saturday 3:30 pm-4:25 pm
or by appointment

Local nonprofit gives “hope” for new beginnings

By **Brittany Hively**
Executive Editor



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Project Hope is a residential treatment facility that helps mothers adjust to recovery while caring for their children.

As the drug epidemic continues to spread, more effort for recovery is needed. However, recovery is not a one-size-fit-all case, especially for those single mothers with substance use disorder.

Marshall Health identified a gap in recovery options for pregnant women with substance use disorder, leading to Project Hope, a nonprofit in Huntington, opening in 2018.

“We’re all pathways to recovery. Someone can come in on medical assisted treatment or they can be abstinence based,” said Jessica Tackett, director. “Our requirements are you have to have children up to the age of 12, a least 50% custody or doing a reunification with your children or be pregnant.”

Project Hope is a residential treatment facility that helps woman adjust to recovery, with their children.

“We have 17 apartments. So, each woman and a family – we don’t take men – but their children have their own apartment,” Tackett said. “Either a one bedroom or a two-bedroom apartment [is available]. We have a courtyard, playground

equipment, basketball, cornhole, you name it we’ve pretty much got it outside.”

Tackett said the program is person centered, with clients staying an average of four to six months.

“What works for you may not work for me,” Tackett said.

The program also offers many of the recovery services at the main facility.

“We do everything in-house except for medical appointments and medical assisted treatment,” Tackett said. “So, we do individual case management, group, parenting, therapy, we do all of that here. And then we work with Proact, which is a Marshall Health facility for women for their psychiatric needs and their medical assistant treatment needs.”

The program has seen 50-60 clients in the nearly three years it has been opened.

“We’ve had to discharge some, some need a higher level of care than our facility and we’re getting ready to graduate four more out of our facility in the next month or two, hopefully,” Tackett said.

While the program keeps mothers with their children, it also offers services for children – many who were born with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

“That’s where I work with Pam Holland and Marianna. They help us with Kid’s Clinic,” Tackett said. “They come in, do the assessments, do the observations and then help us to refer out if we need to, like birth to three. They do the eye stuff too, so they came in and figured out one of our kid’s needed eye surgery and glasses. They are a great asset to our program, too.”

Project Hope has two therapists, a program assistant, a driver, three family navigators, a clinical psychologist, three peer recover coaches and one peer recovery coach who focuses on overall wellness – including exercise classes, individual plans and healthy eating.

While some treatment centers release individuals once the treatment time is completed, Project Hope will not release someone who is unable to find housing despite their best efforts, Tackett said.

“We try to have them housing. And that’s what our case managers, our family navigators do to ensure they have housing,” Tackett said. “We’ve only had a couple that didn’t have housing and we set them up to go to the mission, because they didn’t do anything they were supposed to do when it came to housing or they were fine with going to the mission, so they could save money.”

Tackett said substance use disorder usually picks up other disorders that fall under poly-substance use disorder. She said it will always be a struggle for people.

“We are a smoke-free facility too, because research has shown that if you can quit everything, your chances of relapsing are very slim compared to doing that,” Tackett said.

Project Hope has a thriving success rate and Tackett believes it is due to the connections made with clients.

“Whenever they [clients] graduate, they still keep in contact with us,” Tackett said. “They come back and do group and they come back, and lead group and they keep in contact with most of my staff.”

The program also does not end just because a client graduate.

“My recovery coaches, they follow them a year and then a lot of times still keep in contact with us, even if they’re gone a year,” Tackett said. “You know, our first client that came on December 26, 2018, we still talk to her. She comes and drops off donations for the clients, so we’re still in contact with her.”

The program is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year with clinical and residential staff. Project Hope is funded through grants and donations.

Tackett said they are always taking donations; they also have an Amazon Wishlist on their website for more information.

“I just wish that people would see what I see,” Tackett said. “When these clients come in and when they leave here and they graduate, they’re not even the same person. They’re productive citizens again. And people do recover, and that’s the thing I want people to understand, that people do recover.”

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