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### The Parthenon, October 6, 2021

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# THE PARTHENON

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021 | VOL. 123 NO. 6 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com | SINGLE COPY FREE

## Marshall's President Search Narrowed Down to Five

By CONNER WOODRUFF  
REPORTER

The Board of Governors announced the five candidates who could potentially be Marshall's next president. The board plans to announce the school's next president on Oct. 28.

The five candidates for president are Bernard Arulanandam, Bret Danilowicz, Robyn Hannigan, Kathy Johnson, and Brad D. Smith, revealed by the Marshall Presidential Search Committee on Sept. 30. in a livestream announcement.

All candidates will be available for public interview on the Huntington Campus throughout the month of October:

Dr. Robyn Hannigan, Oct. 11-12, Mr. Brad Smith Oct. 12-13, Dr. Kathy Johnson Oct. 13-14  
Dr. Bernard Arulanandam Oct. 14-15, Dr. Bret Danilowicz Oct. 18-19.

During the livestream, the committee shared a list of attributes they consider regarding the position's applicants, such as the candidate's ability to act as a spokesperson for the school, the ability to manage the university's resources and the ability to preserve and respect Marshall's history...

SEARCH P2

## 2021 Homecoming Court Announced

INTRO TO ANNOUNCEMENT...

HOMECOMING P3



Five out of fifteen homecoming court candidates stand side-by-side after announcement. | Xena Bunton

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**Bernard Arulanandam**

Bernard Arulanandam is the vice president for research, economic development, and knowledge enterprise, and the Jane and Roland Blumberg Professor of Biology at The University of Texas at San Antonio.



**Bret Danilowicz**

Bret Danilowicz has served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Florida Atlantic University.



**Robyn Hannigan**

Robyn Hannigan has served as the provost at Clarkson University since Aug. 2019, while having previously served as founding Dean of the school for environment at the University of Massachusetts.



**Kathy Johnson**

Kathy Johnson served as executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer at the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

## Search cont. from P1

Brad D. Smith, a West Virginia native and Marshall alumni appeared on the list of candidates. Smith is the co-founder of the Wing 2 Wing Foundation, a program that plans to progress the accessibility of education in the Appalachian area via charities. Brad Smith and with his wife donated over \$35 million to Marshall University, leading the university's new school of business to be named after him.

Bernard Arulanandam has served as the Vice President for research, economic development and knowledge enterprise at the University of Texas at San Antonio's department of biology, specializing in cellular immunology and microbial pathogenesis.

Bret Danilowicz has served as the Florida Atlantic University's Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs since July 2018.

Robyn Hannigan has served as the Provost at Clarkson University since Aug. 2019, having previously served as founding dean of the School for the Environment at the University of Massachusetts.

Kathy Johnson wraps up the candidate list, having served as executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer at

the Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis.

Patrick Farrell, chairman of the school's board of governors and member of the Presidential Search Committee discussed the process of finding the school's next president.

"It was overwhelming, the amount of applications," Farrell said. "Hours and hours and days and days of searching."

During the livestream, the Presidential Search Committee presented the search's timeline of events starting in June 2021.

Information regarding the search was released as the livestream concluded via the University Communications Announcement Email.

*Conner Woodruff, woodruff9@marshall.edu.*



**Brad D. Smith**

Brad D. Smith, a West Virginia native and son of Marshall, is the co-founder of the Wing 2 Wing foundation.

All photos courtesy of University Communications

# Homecoming Court Announced

By Alaina Laster  
THE PARTHENON

Homecoming court was announced at the 2021 Unity walk, when students filled the Memorial Student Center Plaza to celebrate Unity as a University.

During the walk, students walked on each side of campus in two groups, beginning at the Rec Center and ending by the fountain at the Memorial Student Center. They arrived to see a stage set for the upcoming speakers, including MU President Jerome Gilbert, men's soccer coach Charles Grassie, Student Body President Alyssa Parks, and students from all the organizations on campus. Many attended the Unity walk for the poster decorations and to see the campus celebrate as a unified front, but many students also awaited the announcement of Homecoming court toward the end of the event.

This year's Herd Homecoming court includes:

- Donald Hansbury, senior psychology major
- Bailey Harman, senior marketing major
- Walker Tatum, sophomore biology major
- Takira "TK" Williams, senior health sciences major
- Ian Klepp, senior international business major
- Evan Herd, junior occupational health and safety

major

- Catherine Mazzei, junior international business and Spanish
- Leah Davis, junior medical imaging student
- Caroline Kinder, junior secondary math education major
- Alex Woodrum, sophomore media production major
- Nico Raffinengo, freshman political science and international business major
- Zack Ihnat, senior civil engineering and Spanish major
- Nevaeh Harmon, sophomore biochemistry with concentration in pre-physician assistant studies
- Bryton Leadman, senior forensic chemistry major
- Mark Wheeler, senior journalism major

Each student said they were excited to be announced as one of the 15 members of the court.

"I was a little shocked, happy, super ecstatic... and I'd say honored probably is the biggest word," said court member Ian Klepp.

Members gathered for a photo together smiling brightly as they celebrated their nomination.

"Words can't describe how much Marshall means to

me, and this experience has all been priceless," said court member Bryton Leadman.

Each candidate began their campaign at midnight on Sunday, Sept. 26. Campaigns include social media, flyers around campus and student engagement. Each campaign finished on Sept. 30 and left voting open Sept. 29-30. Homecoming court nominees are based 40% upon a process of interviews and resumes. The rest is up to the student body and their votes.

Student organizations celebrated as members of their group were announced as members of the court. Each court member has the goal of pressing an initiative of their choice to increase awareness for their initiative.

The homecoming parade will take place on Thursday night beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Fourth Avenue at Tenth Street traveling east to Hal Greer Boulevard, where it will move up to Fifth Avenue and continue east to 17th Street at Harless Dining Hall. The winners or Mr. and Miss. Marshall will be announced at halftime when Marshall faces Old Dominion this Saturday.

*Alaina Laster, contacted at [laster3@marshall.edu](mailto:laster3@marshall.edu)*



Zachary Hiser | Photo Editor

# Men's Soccer Documentary Being Made

By CHRISTIAN PALMER  
REPORTER

The Marshall men's soccer team and fans can soon relive the Herd's historic 2020-21 National Championship campaign with a new documentary in production.

Videographer Casey Knopf will head the documentary's operations. "Being around these guys has been the most fun I have ever had. They are all incredible," Knopf said. "Forget soccer for a second, just as people they are incredible. Knowing I am putting in the work for people like that makes this whole process easy."

Knopf said the message and title of the documentary is "All or Nothing".

"This group 100% embodied what All or Nothing means," Knopf said. "They could have settled with reaching the college cup, they could have settled with making it to a national championship but just making it

was not enough. They either won it all or they won nothing. I hope I show that in this documentary."

Before the National Championship win, Marshall defeated powerhouse teams in the College Cup, including #23 nationally ranked Fordham University, #1 nationally ranked Clemson, the defending national champion and #8 nationally ranked Georgetown University, five-time national champion and #16 nationally ranked UNC, then finally #3 nationally ranked eight-time national champion Indiana University in the final.

Fans will not have to wait long for this documentary to be available. "It's about 85% done as we speak," Knopf said. "A few hiccups along the way have kept the documentary from being completed but it's well on its way. I would assume students and fans will have

access to it in October."

The documentary will include game highlights from throughout the championship campaign and behind-the-scenes action of the players and coaches, including over 10 cameos of Thundering Herd players.

Knopf said this might not be the only documentary that he ever works on for the team. "The most exciting part is I have no doubts I'll be making another one after this season," Knopf said. "We are currently doing an in-season documentary series and the crew, myself, plus the team all have an idea of what the season finale looks like. That's the best thing about all of this. Everyday I'm around a great group or people. I love it."

*Christian Palmer, palmer85@marshall.edu*



PHOTO BY AUSTIN O'CONNOR

# Unity Walk Kicks off Homecoming Week

By LEEAH SCOTT  
REPORTER

Eight Greek Lives, eight athletic teams, and five organizations participated in the Oct. 4 homecoming kickoff.

Marshall University President Jerome Gilbert, men's soccer coach Chris Grassie and Student Body President Alyssa Parks were all role players in this event.

"I think the Unity Walk is great, every time we do something like this it reminds who we are and what we stand for: bringing people together, and the Unity Walk is a great symbol of who we are as a university," said Gilbert.

Coach Grassie explained three key points: finding your passion, having positivity, and respect/diversity. His example of diversity is within his soccer team, with men from all over the world and only one local tri-state man.

"You're all in this process of living out our own dreams, and we all have Marshall as a connector," said Grassie.

Parks said this is an annual event, but due to COVID-19, the school wasn't able to host in person last year. Parks said they are happy to be back in person this year.

"Everyone had a great moral and we had great representation of student organizations, faculty, and student affairs," said Parks.

*Leeah Scott, leeah367@marshall.edu*



ZACHARY HISER | GRAPHICS EDITOR



XENA BUNTON | EXECUTIVE EDITOR

# Drag Queens ‘Slay Cancer’ on the Plaza

By KATLYN WORSTELL  
REPORTER

Students and supporters raised awareness for American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life with a drag show on Oct. 1 at the Memorial Student Center amphitheater.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life is an organization that raises funds to help research cures for cancer and help people battling cancer.

“This organization means a lot to me as I have lost multiple loved ones to cancer,” said Elena Nichole Stone, the host/performer of the event, “We are so thankful to be able to help such a good cause and be able to recognize and celebrate all those who have beat cancer and to remember those who lost their battle.”

This event was partnered by Elena Nichole Stone and Shaunte Polk, the director of LGBTQ+ on Marshall and has been going strong for three years now.

The event was consisted of many different performers, including Elena Nichole Stone, Tammy Faye Sinclair, Ashley Stone, Jenna Stone Sinclair, drag king Nathan LaFontayne and special guest Julia Deville, who is the current Miss Huntington Pride and the First Miss West Virginia Pride.

“These days, I am semi-retired from performing. However, I do love every chance I get to share my unique style of drag with the others. I have performed since 2003 and have

been in stage in 11 other states,” said Tammy Faye Sinclair, a performer in this event.

In 2019, the event raised over \$900.

“Our hope is to at least match that if not raise a little more,” said Stone. “Five years ago when I came to the other Relay volunteers with this crazy idea, they thought I had gone mad. However, they went with it not knowing where we would end up. Being able to team up with Shaunte, we have taken this event to a level we could have only hoped for.”

The event ended up raising over \$820.

*Kaitlyn Worstell, [worstell3@marshall.edu](mailto:worstell3@marshall.edu)*



Photo by Katlyn Worstell

Queens Ashley Stone, Tammy Faye Sinclair, Jenna Stone Sinclair and Elena Nichole Stone pose at the drag show.

## New Pharmacy School Scholarship to Attract Diverse Students

By CHRISTIAN PALMER  
REPORTER

A \$15,000 diversity track scholarship has been established in Marshall’s School of Pharmacy to attempt to increase under represented minorities enrolled in the program.

The Marshall School of Pharmacy has received an exclusive diversity track scholarship of \$15,000 that will be used to help with diversity in enrollment. The grant was given to Marshall by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation. Only seven schools in the entire nation received a diversity track scholarship from the NACDS Foundation, with Marshall making the cut.

“Increasing diversity representation in the health care workforce pipeline is one of the many steps that need to be taken to address health care inequities in our country,” said Shelyv Campbell-Monroe, assistant dean for diversity and inclusion at Marshall’s School of Pharmacy said. “We are very grateful to receive this scholarship.”

West Virginia is a state that struggles immensely with

diversity. Over 93 percent of all of West Virginia’s residents share the same race, white. Just over three percent of the residents in all of West Virginia are African Americans. With such low rates around the entire state, Marshall has its work cut out for its school of pharmacy to attempt to have more representation from its student body.

The National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation did not stop after awarding the \$15,000 to Marshall. The foundation also awarded money to six other universities, awarding a total of \$130,000 in the form of scholarships to different colleges of Pharmacy. Among the other schools rewarded were Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy, South University School of Pharmacy, Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Gregory School of Pharmacy at Palm Beach Atlantic University, Philadelphia College of

Pharmacy, and the Marshall University School of Pharmacy.

Marshall’s School of Pharmacy will be using this scholarship money to enhance the representation of minorities in the pharmacy profession through mentoring undergraduate students. Marshall will also be providing academic assistance through relevant science and math courses and workshops to under-represented minority students.

“In my role as a member of the Marshall University School of Pharmacy,” Marshall dean of the School of Pharmacy Gayle Jones said. “One of my primary goals is to develop and support a culture where all individuals feel welcome in an environment that support their individual personal and professional development. I believe it starts with a commitment to caring, a focus on developing and embracing understanding, and the dedication to learning and growing from each other.”

*Christian Palmer, [palmer85@marshall.edu](mailto:palmer85@marshall.edu)*

## Lostumo Passes 2000 Assists, Herd Splits Series vs MTSU

By TYLER KENNETT  
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall volleyball returned to the Cam Henderson Center last weekend to begin its home slate for Conference USA. Friday's match left both teams on the floor until the final set as the Herd came back from being down 0-2 to win the series in five sets (19-25, 15-25, 25-18, 25-17, 15-4).

"What a huge team effort," Herd head coach Ari Aganus said following a comeback win. "I am so proud of our fight."

Ciara DeBell led the Herd in the first match offensively, totaling 18 kills on 41 attacks.

Other players involved in the attacking mix included Macy McElhaney, Lydia Montague, Destiny Leon, and Anna Calcagno, who combined for 40 kills in the win. The Herd also produced 14 blocks throughout the match.

Sydney Lostumo dealt 50 assists on the Herd's 59 kills, showcasing her dominance as the primary assist getter for Marshall.

For the Blue Raiders, who only played eight players, Samira Lawson Body led the way with 16 kills and a block. Taylor Eisert chipped in 44 assists.

In the second set, MTSU came back with a vengeance, taking the match in four close sets (23-25, 25-23, 22-25, 19-25).

Graduate student Sydney Lostumo recorded her 2,000th career assist in the loss. She is now 10th all-time at Marshall in assists, needing 49 to pass Colette Marquis (1992-94) for ninth place.

Ciara DeBell, once again, led the way for the Herd with 17 kills. Macy McElhaney was shortly behind with 15.

Samira Lawson Body continued her dominance during the second match, tallying 20 kills.

Marshall looks next to take on Florida Atlantic University in another C-USA matchup this weekend on Oct. 8.. The Herd will return to Huntington on Oct. 15 to take on Old Dominion in another home series.



Sydney Lostumo and Ciara DeBell | Courtesy of Zachary Hiser

Tyler Kennett, kennett@marshall.edu

## Marshall Track and Field has Historical Weekend

By JAYDEN TAYLOR  
REPORTER

For the first time in Marshall University athletics history, an MU cross country runner has won the 5k at the Live in Lou Classic at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer State Park Saturday, in Louisville, Kentucky.

Abby Herring led from the gun Saturday, as the junior from Parkersburg picked up her first win in her collegiate career. Herring finished the race first in a time of 17

minutes and 45.7 seconds, leading the Herd to a second-place finish in the team standings with 149 points, behind Grand Valley State who had 94 points.

"It was awesome," Herring said. "I think that we had really good training sessions leading up to the race. I typically take races out pretty fast, then just try to hold on but there were people in the crowd telling me where everyone was at. I knew there were people still around me, so I just went."

The redshirt senior Kyleigh Edwards went on to take 17th place in a time of 18:47.7, that would be followed by Sydney Smith (26th with a time of 18:59), Meagan Ward (45th with a time of 19:12.8), Julia Muller (65th with a time of 19:23.3), Victoria Dotson (78th with a time of 19:39.3), Madelyn Garrison (143rd with a time of 20:11.8), Erykah Christopher (167th with a time of 20:24.6), Mackenzie Stanley (204th, with a time of 20:42.2) and Emma Marshall (454th, with a time of 24:27.3)

The men's team finished in 26th place as a team, led by Evan White's who placed 65th with a time of 25:57.1. White would be followed by Paul Sepulveda (134th, with a time of 26:34.1), Jackson Snyder (168th with a time of 26:51.4), Wyatt Hanshaw (182nd with a time of 26:59.3), Brett Armbruster (184th with a time of 27:00), Kazuma Bowring (211th with a time of 27:15.5), Jacob Birurakis (213th with a time of 27:15.7), Ronnie Saunders (231st with a time of 27:23.4) and Jordan Thomas

(248th with a time of 27:30).

"It's really cool to see it happen," said assistant coach for Cross Country, Caleb Bowen.

"I knew it could happen because we know how fit she is, but it takes a lot of confidence to go out from the gun to lead. I kept telling her to keep her foot on the gas, keep pushing as hard as you can."

Jayden Taylor, taylor838@marshall.edu



## Marshall Women's Soccer to Host UTSA Roadrunners

By NOAH HICKMAN  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR



*Courtesy of Alexa Pecorelli*

After a demoralizing 4-0 loss against Old Dominion, the Marshall women's soccer team will hope to rebound at home as they are set to take on the UTSA Roadrunners.

Head coach Michael Swan said the team is quickly shifting focus after losing to the 8-2 Monarchs.

"We've still got a lot to play for in these next four games and want to see a positive reaction and a much better performance when we host UTSA on Friday night," Swan said. "We've got a young team with not a lot of experience, but we've got a young team that has talent. They've just got to believe in their potential."

The Herd will have to up the sense of urgency as they are winless in their last four games and 0-3-1 in Conference USA play.

The Roadrunners are coming off a 1-0 overtime victory against the North Texas Mean Green. UTSA redshirt junior Abby Kassal scored the golden goal on a penalty kick at the 94:01 mark to secure the first conference win of the season. The Roadrunners are 1-2 in C-USA play.

Marshall looks to limit offensive opportunities against the Roadrunners as they have allowed four goals in two out of the last three games played.

They also look to provide opportunities for themselves as they only took two total shots in the ODU game, including one shot on goal. The Monarchs put up 19 total shots and seven shots on goal.

Swan said that the team has to play with more of an edge.

"We were beaten tonight by a good team," Swan said. "When you come up against a team like ODU who has been in this situation for many years, you have to stand up and compete. We didn't do that as a team, and as individuals we made it easy for them."

Marshall will return to Hoops Family Field as they seek its second home victory and first win in conference play on Friday at 7 p.m. The game can be streamed on ESPN+ or listened to on WMUL-FM 88.1.

*Noah Hickman, hickman76@marshall.edu*

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# THE PARTHENON

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*"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."*

## OPINION LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This past Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021, Marshall University's Presidential Search Committee announced that it had finalized five candidates. One of which, Mr. Brad D. Smith, the former CEO of Intuit and a major reason why you can't file your taxes through a convenient government portal, is a multimillionaire donor to Marshall, giving over \$25 million to the university and will soon have his name emblazoned on a brand-new building for the College of Business.

It may seem curious to see that his name is on a list of more traditionally qualified candidates. Member of the Marshall Board of Governors and inheritor of used car dealership, Chris Miller, has repeatedly lobbied on Brad's behalf (supposedly without Brad knowing about it) to try and influence the appointment of a new Huntington City Council member, calling Brad "a good guy to know." This occurred just last month, in advance of the city receiving a large windfall from additional federal funding and from opioid litigation awards that they hope to guide towards their own investment priorities in Huntington. Is it possible that some similar lobbying has gotten Brad put on the presidential shortlist? This is more than eyebrow-raising. The Committee should disclose their unstated conflicts of interest, especially in light of the recent City Council text message scandal that has shown how the power of big money can intimidate or

coerce our local decision-makers. Brad might be a good president. I have no idea. I know he was very successful at innovating new ways for Intuit to take more money from the American taxpayer, and he may very well bring that same innovative spirit here. However, through this selection, what the Presidential Search Committee has done is put the Marshall community into an awkward situation, where they must either (A) accept that some local multimillionaire can buy his way into being the university president, or (B) reject one of their largest donors from being president and suffer whatever financial consequences occur as a result. It is irresponsible for the Committee, and especially for the Chair and Board of Governors Chairman, Patrick Farrell, to have put the University into such a position.

What does it say to the wider academic world that Marshall's most important job is available for sale to the richest donor? Marshall University deserves an academic president, one who has made a serious career out of learning, teaching, and administering within a college environment. In my view, for the greater good of the Marshall community, Mr. Smith should respectfully withdraw his candidacy for university president.

*Leif Olson*

*MU Alum, 2018 & 2020*

**CORRECTION:** Last week an op-ed included that the Board of Governors had voted and approved a recommendation for a vaccine mandate and mask mandate, however it was the Faculty Senate.

*The Parthenon is committed to publishing a wide variety of opinions and perspectives. If you wish to send a letter to the editor for publication, email parthenon@marshall.edu.*

# Arizona Senator Condemns Activists Pursuing her on Campus

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., leaves a closed-door bipartisan infrastructure meeting on Capitol Hill in Washington.

PHOENIX (AP) — U.S. Sen. Kyrsten Sinema said Monday that activists who confronted her outside an Arizona State University classroom and filmed her inside a restroom were not engaging in “legitimate protest.”

The Democratic senator said that the immigration reform activists unlawfully entered the suburban Phoenix campus building, which was only open to ASU students and faculty, and recorded her and her students. Sinema, a former social worker, is a lecturer at ASU’s School of Social Work.

“In the 19 years I have been teaching at ASU, I have been committed to creating a safe and intellectually challenging environment for my students,” Sinema said. “Yesterday, that environment was breached. My students were unfairly and unlawfully victimized.”

Living United for Change in Arizona, also known as LUCHA, posted video of the Sunday encounter on its social media.

The video showed group members chastising Sinema on accusations that she did not adequately support

expectations of a pathway to citizenship for people in the country illegally and has not been supportive enough of President Joe Biden’s \$3.5 trillion infrastructure proposal.

Sinema did not say anything to the activists while they filmed her.

LUCHA said its members were forced to confront Sinema at ASU because she has been inaccessible.

“Sinema’s constituents have not been granted access to her office, they have been ignored, dismissed, and antagonized,” the group said in a Monday statement said.

Sinema said in her statement she has met with the group multiple times since

she was elected to the Senate.

Both Sinema and fellow Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin have been criticized for not fully backing the Democrats’ \$3.5 trillion Build Back Better Act, saying it’s too expensive. Manchin, of West Virginia, was also confronted by activists over the weekend. People on kayaks approached his boat to yell at him.

When asked about the incidents, President Joe Biden, whose first year of office could be defined by this package passing, agreed they weren’t the best strategies.

“I don’t think they’re appropriate tactics, but it happens to everybody ... the only people it doesn’t happen to are people who have Secret Service standing around them,” Biden said. “So, it’s -- it’s part of the process.”

White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki sought to emphasize that Biden supports people’s fundamental right to speak up. But in Sinema’s case, boundaries were crossed.

“That’s inappropriate and unacceptable,” Psaki said.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., also took offense at the ASU confrontation.

“I started my career protesting the Vietnam War, and I

get protested all the time,” said Schumer, who is trying to usher the Build Back Better Act through Congress. “And I understand and so feel for the immigrant community and what they are going through, but following someone into a bathroom and recording them, that’s over the line.”

LUCHA’s statement did not address the criticism of the tactics. Tomas Robles, the group’s co-director, did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the backlash over ASU bathroom confrontation.

“This is Sinema’s moment to do the right thing and stop blocking the Build Back Better Act,” the statement said. “We - her constituents - need a pathway to citizenship, access to healthcare and lower drug prices, better-paying jobs, education funding, and the ability to keep our families safe. Senator Sinema must listen to constituents and support a Build Back Better agenda.”

Immigration reform advocates were outraged after an effort to add immigration provisions to the infrastructure bill, including a pathway to citizenship for millions of immigrants, was rejected. They believe Sinema’s stance on the infrastructure package makes any immigration provisions unachievable.

Sinema spokesman John LaBombard told The Arizona Republic last month that she “supports both securing our border and fixing our broken immigration system, including passing a permanent fix for Dreamers.”

The DREAM Act — Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors — is congressional legislation that would allow young immigrants in the country illegally who were brought here as children to remain in the country if they meet certain criteria. The legislation has never been approved by Congress. It is similar to but not the same as the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. Many refer to immigrants who would benefit from either the DREAM Act or DACA as “Dreamers.”

# New App Helps You Book A Date

By XENA BUNTON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

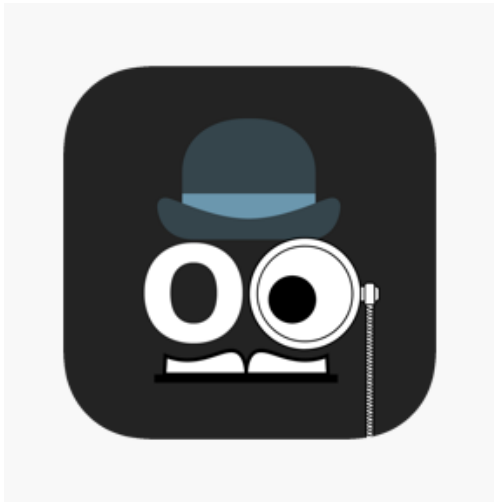
*“U up?”*

Sigh. The nightly alert forcing the memories of embarrassing dates and endless swipes.

Who is this from? The candidates this week are limited. Kevin (the mommy’s boy), Johnathan (the mouth chewer) or Tyler (who wears socks with sandals). It’s Saturday night. The DM’s are full and the expectations are low. You open the notification, wishing for some Prince Charming to swoop you up from the disappointing bachelors.

Oh, it’s “The Great Gatsby.”

*“I’m a hopeless romantic...I’ll do whatever it takes to please you.”*



Booky Call (boo-kee kaal) provides potential book matches based on the preferences set in the readers profile with swiping functions seen on dating apps. | Booky Call

According to Sachs Media, 62% of women would rather spend a Friday night with a new book than on a date. Does this mean that women have a better relationship with a book or is online dating just not successful? A majority of online-daters told the PEW Research Center in 2020 that dating apps make it “somewhat easy” to find someone they are attracted to or find common interests with.

The founders of a digital book marketing company BookstarPR, Brant Menswar and Jim Knight, noticed the need of finding a good book and the success of dating apps.



Booky Call staff celebrate launch day on Sept. 30. From left to right – Coleen Bowman (Matchmaker Manager), Jim Knight (Co-Founder), Dr. Keisha Hoerner (Chief Operating Officer), Brant Menswar (CEO/Co-Founder), Nicole Talbott (Creative Content Director) | Booky Call

They decided to create an app with the same functionality.

“If dating apps are so successful, why aren’t we using that same psychology and technology to match people with books?” asked Menswar.

Booky Call (boo-kee kaal) provides potential book matches based on the preferences set in the readers profile with swiping functions seen on dating apps. A curated library of 5,000 books include book profiles with nine questions that come directly from dating profiles, but that is not the only comparison.

Twice a week, all Booky Call users will get that inevitable notification—“U up?” Unlike the message inviting someone over, the app will provide up to three potential matches of books. After clicking the link, the app will take the user to a 150-character tease to persuade the user to swipe up and read that book.

A weekly podcast will also be available for users searching for the perfect book, but do not have the time to swipe through books.

The app’s host, boo, will interview voice actors who imitate the books shown on the app. Boo has a mustache designed as a book, a derby hat, and a monocle looking down for a book.

“I had sort of a cross between the monopoly guy and the planter’s peanut,” Menswar said. “But the reason that we came up with the idea to have a spokesperson like boo is because we had to figure out a way to get people to pronounce booky call.”

Before noticing the need to collaborate book review and dating apps, Menswar knew there needed to be a place for authors to sell their books as well.

“Almost a year ago—Sept. 29—I released my book that came out called ‘Black Sheep’ and I had a really bad experience with the traditional book publicity. I spent tens of thousands of dollars and just didn’t get any results at all,” Menswar said. “I had to take things under my own control.”

Since Booky Call is ad-free, the app is monetized from book partnerships and a percentage of physical, digital, and audio books. The app also does not include reviews from strangers or bots.

Booky Call is available on Apple now, and will be available on Android soon.

*Xena Bunton, Bunton2@marshall.edu*

# MU Professor Finds New Undiscovered Walter Whitman Writings

CONNER WOODRUFF  
REPORTER

Several never-before-seen writings from American poet Walter Whitman have been unearthed from a Marshall University faculty member.

Dr. Stefan Schoberlein, assistant professor in the English Department and director of Digital Humanities at Marshall, published his findings of over 40,000 words in letters, sketches, and other writings in the *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*.

The findings, written under Whitman's penname, "Manhattan," revealed Whitman's quiet collaboration with the New Orleans newspaper, the *Daily Crescent*, while he was living in Long Island, New York.

These writings went unmentioned in most of Whitman's records. Schoberlein's investigation led to the

proper attribution of these findings, revealing new information about this period of Whitman's life.

"I have always had this gnawing feeling that there was something more," Schoberlein said about this period in Whitman's history.

Schoberlein, along with research colleague Dr. Zachary Turpin from the University of Idaho, have been investigating the origin and authenticity of these writings since July 2019.

As an active contributor to the Walt Whitman archive, these documents are not the first of Schoberlein's discoveries regarding Whitman's history.

Schoberlein has published an essay revealing that one

of Whitman's more famous writings, "The World Below the Brine," was a product of plagiarism.

"The poem rearranges phrases from a science book by a Swedish-German scholar into verse form," Schoberlein said. "I would fail students for something like that."

Despite this, Schoberlein does not deny the importance of Whitman's work.

"A lot of his poems are about what it means to live in a democratic society," Schoberlein said.

*Conner Woodruff, woodruff9@marshall.edu*



# Worship Directory

To advertise on this page, call Brenda at (304) 526-2752

## Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

1135 Fifth Avenue  
Corner of Fifth Avenue & 12th Street in downtown Huntington

Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 am  
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Visit our website for Worship Services and for other times of Bible study, worship, and activities for children, youth, and adults.

[www.fifthavenuebaptist.org](http://www.fifthavenuebaptist.org)  
**304-523-0115**

### CATHOLIC

#### St. Peter Claver Catholic Church

828 15th St. (on 9th Ave) Htgn.  
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Sunday Mass: 11:00a.m.  
Daily Masses: 12:05 on  
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Father Shaji Thomas

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545 Norway Ave., Huntington • 304-525-0866

**Mass Schedule:**  
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Sunday 8 am, 11:00 am & 6:30 pm

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[www.ourfatimafamily.com](http://www.ourfatimafamily.com)  
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Confessions on Sat. 4:30pm-4:45pm or  
anytime by appointment  
Office Hours Mon-Fri. 9am-12pm

**Rev. Fr. Thomas**

#### St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

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526 13th Street  
(304) 525-5202

Pastor: Msgr. Dean Borgmeyer

**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

# Craig Johnson, Author of Longmire, Publishes New Novel

By **ALYSSA WOODS**  
REPORTER

Author Craig Johnson, Marshall University alum, just published on Sept. 21 his latest book, “Daughter of the Morning Star: A Longmire Mystery.”

The book has already started a national conversation about missing persons cases of people of color being handled with less priority than others.

“Daughter of the Morning Star” is a story about the many missing Native American women in Indian County, and the tribal police chief enlisting the help of famous Sheriff Walt Longmire.

The book highlights the real stories of missing Native women who have been forgotten.

Johnson said he was inspired to write the book when he saw a missing persons flier for a Native woman near his home in Wyoming.

He said too many Native women go missing without ever being reported by the media.

Johnson said he is “very pleased” with the outcome of the book, as it is already starting conversations about this topic.

“It was simply an important social issue that preyed upon my mind and needed to be in the novel,” he said.

Johnson said the statistics in the book about missing indigenous women were so staggering, he had to reassure his publisher that they were accurate.

Johnson said this doesn’t stop him from being hopeful, however.

He said he believes that with proper exposure by the media, better communication between jurisdictions and support of organizations spreading awareness, the ending can be changed for these missing women.

Johnson said he encourages support for the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center in Lame Deer, Montana.

“All their information is available on their website, at NIWRC.org, and if you can, please consider making a donation...Let’s bring them home,” he said.

Johnson has written 17 books in the Longmire series, though it wasn’t his original plan to do so.

He says, “as long as I’ve got something to say with the characters and the place, I’ll be writing about the sheriff of Absaroka County.”

Johnson said this is far from his last work. “There’s always another Walt Longmire novel lurking in the wings, and possibly two,” he said.

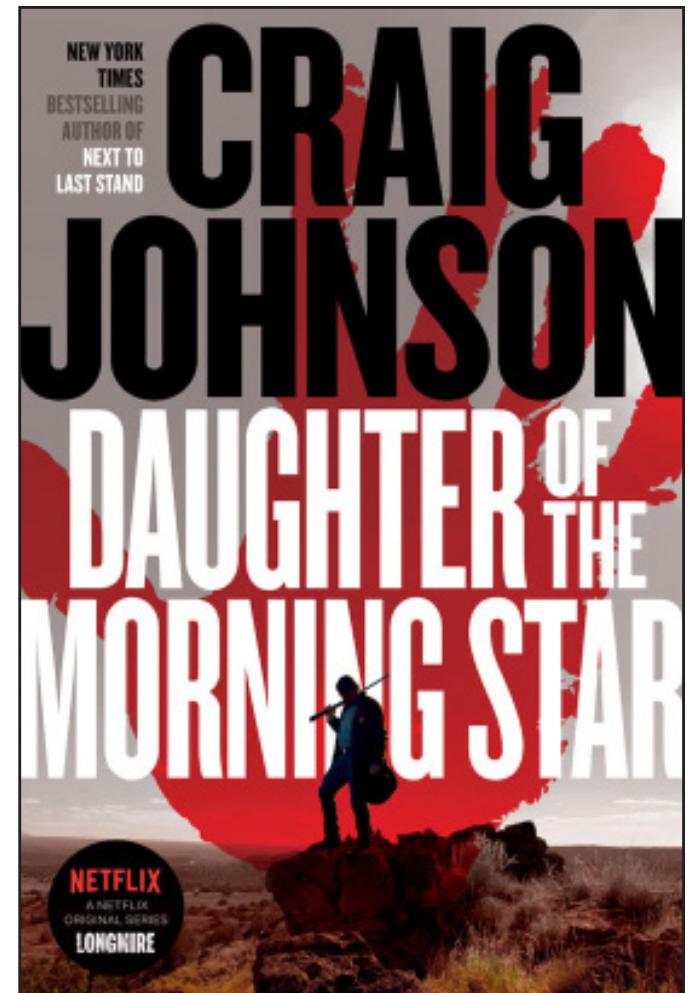
Longmire is still one of the “top-ten original content shows on Netflix.”

“Daughter of the Morning Star” is #3 on the New York Times Combined Print and E-Book Bestsellers List.

*Alyssa Woods, woods161@marshall.edu.*



Photo of Author Craig Johnson | Adam Jahiel



The cover of Johnson’s new book “Daughter of the Morning Star.” | Adam Jahiel