Professor accepted to HERS institute

March 3, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Dorothy Hively, assistant professor of education, special assistant to the vice president for academic affairs and director of assessment and accountability at Shepherd University, was accepted to attend the 40th annual HERS (Higher Education Resource Services) Institute this summer at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania.

HERS, an educational nonprofit, provides leadership and management development for women in higher education administration around the world.

Hively came to Shepherd in 2005. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York, Old Westbury; a master of science degree from Adelphi University; and an Ed.D. from Teachers College, Columbia University. This spring, she will complete her masters in college student development and administration at Shepherd.

"During the seven years that Dr. Hively has been associated with Shepherd, she has distinguished herself as a faculty member and an administrator," said Shepherd University President Suzanne Shipley. "The management techniques that she will learn at HERS will benefit Shepherd and enhance her considerable leadership skills."

Hively said that attending the HERS Institute in June will give her the opportunity to learn from other distinguished women faculty and administrators in higher education.

"I'm very excited for the chance to meet outstanding women leaders and learn from them and to have the opportunity to bring back exciting information to campus and continue to serve Shepherd," Hively said.
Jazzing things up

We certainly aren't going to question Kurtis Adams, director of Jazz Studies at Shepherd University, when he says music lovers can expect "the best Big Band concert you've ever heard" during the Eastern Regional Jazz Festival at Shepherd today.

It certainly seems likely to be an excellent chance for local jazz lovers to enjoy a day full of musical entertainment.

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Frank Center at Shepherd University, the festival features 500 students competing in the West Virginia Honor Jazz regional finals. During the day, activities are free and open to the public.

Ensembles that are rated high enough will have a recording of their performance submitted to the state festival. "Listeners will hear everything from Big Band-era music, Latin, funk and swing," according to J.P. Lynch, the festival chairman and band director at Jefferson High School.

The festival culminates at 8 p.m. at a concert - with paid admission - featuring the Shepherd University Jazz Ensemble, made up of Shepherd undergraduate students and the Faculty Jazz Quartet. Big Band drummer Gary Hobbs, who played with the Stan Kenton Orchestra, is the featured guest musician for the event. You can get tickets and more information by calling 304-876-5765 or visiting www.sufom.org.

That's a day of free jazz and an evening concert; You see, Adams might be right. We encourage all area jazz lovers to support the kids, the festival and Shepherd University.
Shepherd plans trip to the Spy Museum

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Scarborough Society of Shepherd University and the Shepherd Foundation will sponsor a bus tour to the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C., on May 17. The bus will depart from Shepherd at 8:15 a.m. and return at approximately 5 p.m.

Former CIA intelligence officers Jonna and Tony Mendez will guide participants through the museum’s unique exhibits, such as Covers and Legends and School for Spies. The trip will also include a pre-ordered lunch at McCormick and Schmick’s restaurant.

The cost of the trip, including lunch, is $80 per person, and the trip is open to the public. Reservations are now being accepted and are needed by May 1. To reserve a seat, please send your check to the Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443, or contact Phyllis Smock at 304-264-0560.

If you have any questions or would like to pay by credit card, contact Meg Peterson at 304-876-5021 or mpeterso@shepherd.edu.

For more information on the International Spy Museum, visit www.spymuseum.org/visit.
Theater festival director announces plays for season

CATF's 22nd season set to run for three weeks in July

March 5, 2012
By Kelly Cambrel, Ogden Newspapers, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Contemporary American Theater Festival (CATF) announced a new season of plays to a full house at its season preview event Thursday evening.

The event, which took place at the Shepherdstown Opera House, included a free film screening of the movie "Ides of March," based on the former CATF production "Farragut North."

Producing Director Ed Herendeen ushered in the 22nd season of CATF by once again prasing Shepherdstown's creative atmosphere and the community's support of contemporary theater.

"This community has embraced stories for the last 250 years," he said.

Herendeen said that Shepherdstown's unique artistic culture has made it the perfect place to CATF's mission.

"Place matters," he said. "People want to be around where art is made."

This season of the CATF will feature the world premiere of "Gideon's Knot" by Johanna Adams, "The Exceptionals" by Bob Clyman, "In a Forest, Dark and Deep" by Neil LaBute, "Captors" by Evan M. Weiner and "Barcelona" by Bess Wohl.

Herendeen, along with CATF Associate Producing Director Peggy McKowen, discussed new programming being offered this upcoming season as a part of the CATF's mission to stay innovative and engaged.

Some of the programs include "Hostel Youth," an educational camp for children designed to "fill a niche that has been untouched in this country" and introduce kids to contemporary theater early.

Others programs will include a "Breakfast with Ed" series, "Lunch and Art," late night "Salons" on Saturday nights at the Bavarian Inn, "Theater 411," a masterworks class for actors, and returning programming such as "Humanities at the Festival."

McKowen explained that she hopes the courses encourage the public to participate in and discuss contemporary theater, art and culture.

"We like to create dialog," she said.

The event was broadcast live on the Shepherd University radio station WHSC and also featured a scene reading from "Farragut North" prior to the film screening. The season is set to begin July 6 and last through July 29.

The online box office for CATF 2012 is open and can be found by visiting its homepage at catf.org or by calling 1-800-999-CATF. For general information contact Managing Director James McKeel at info@catf.org.
Useful Machines

Shepherd hosts 2012 ShepRobo Fest robotics competition

March 5, 2012
By Edward Marshall, Journal Staff Writer, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - As a small crowd of wide-eyed children and eager adults watched the white-painted maze on the Butcher Center gym's hardwood floor, 20-year-old Shepherd University sophomore Courtney Crites carefully placed a homemade miniature robot into the proverbial squared circle.

Looking on with a mixture of baited breath and nerve-wracking anxiety, the computer engineering major observed the small, plastic automaton as it slowly but successfully navigated the maze, deftly snuffing out a lit candle at the end with one fell swoop of a makeshift appendage. One day in the future, such automated robots might be able to put out small fires before the first firefighters even arrive on scene, but for now students in Shepherd University's Department of Computer Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering (CME) can breathe a sigh of relief if the little robots don't get stuck on a wall.

"It's actually very scary and it's very nerve-wracking. ... Obviously if it loses you can be quite upset, but if it wins then it's extremely rewarding just to know that you created something that can do extremely well against other people," Crites said.

Meanwhile, on the opposite end of the gym, remote-controlled, four-legged "mechs" battled each other within a walled-off miniature cityscape. Their human operators clutched modified videogame controllers and stared intently at their laptops, using webcams mounted on the robotic warriors to locate and fire BB pellets at each other.

The dual scenes that played out this weekend were both part of Shepherd University's 2012 ShepRobo Fest, a two-day competition that lets students put what they've learned in the classroom to the test, all while using robotics to inspire interest in studying science, math and engineering.

"We are doing this in order to have more awareness for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education, so the kids can really be impressed and motivated by these robots to get into STEM education and science," said Dr. Seung-yun Kim, an assistant professor with the university's CME department. "... We need to let them know that with engineering and science, it's not a boring subject. It's not a hard subject. They should see it as fun and worthwhile, too."

In 2010 Shepherd University's CME department was awarded one of
only two research trust fund grants through the West Virginia Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). ShepRobo Fest is sponsored in part by the grant, with matching donor support through the Shepherd University Foundation. This was the second year the robotics competition was held at the university.

"Our main focus is to inspire students and to inspire young kids, not only to inspire them to see what’s going on, but also we want them to remain inspired so they find themselves in the future, with all these developments, to be part of it," said professor Reza Mirdamadi, chair of the CME department. "All this technology is coming along, and we want them to be a part of it. We want them to have something to contribute."

Students studying robotics at the university already have made great strides through the program. Students are currently preparing to travel at the end of the month to Trinity University in Hartford, Conn., to compete in an international robotic firefighting competition. Last year, Shepherd University students placed third in the competition, which sees about 70 to 80 teams from around the world.

Other students also are planning to travel to California at the end of April for the 2012 RoboGames, an international competition referred to as the Olympics of robotics competitions.

Most students, however, were focused on the task at hand. Some even slept in blankets underneath tables in the gym as they worked night and day to be prepared.

"I’ve only had a maximum of like four hours of sleep this weekend. We’ve been working mostly straight on. Fun is always the feeling of success at the end," said Emad Khan, a 21-year-old junior and computer engineering major.

Khan later took the controls of "Orcus," one of the robot warriors featured in mech-warfare bouts.

Fellow team member Aaron Ladd, a 20-year-old sophomore and computer programmer, echoed the exhaustion-elation mix students felt as their complex machines came to life.

"It gets aggravating at times when stuff goes wrong - which it does a lot - but by the end of the day, once you get the thing working, it’s all worth it. We love this stuff," Ladd said.

For others like Crites, one of the more rewarding aspects is helping to get more children and students of all ages more interested in studying mathematics, science and engineering.

"It’s honestly really exciting to see kids running around here asking questions and asking what we are doing. I really just want to see them interested in it because most people I know don’t even care about science and mathematics," Crites said. "Seeing the kids come in here and having them see the actual application of it I think is really good for them."

- Staff writer Edward Marshall can be reached at 304-263-8931, ext. 182, or emarshall@journal-news.net
Journal photo by Chris Jackson

Drummer Gary Hobbs instructs a class on drum techniques and styles of old-time drumming rhythms during a clinic entitled 'How Drums Rule the Universe' at Shepherd University on Saturday. Hobbs has played professionally for more than three decades and appears on 60 recordings. He played with the Stan Kenton Orchestra from 1975 through 1977 and has played with Randy Brecker, Ken Peplowski, Pete Christlieb, Gretta Matassa, Anita O'Day, Suzanna Mckonk, Daa Siegel, Glen Moore, the New York Voices, Eddie Harris and many others. Hobbs teaches at the University of Oregon and travels the U.S. conducting clinics, concerts and jazz camps with the help of Bosphorus Cymbal Company and Yamaha Drum Company.
University president’s abode is a warm, welcoming Shepherdstown landmark

SHEPHERDSTOWN — When Suzanne Shipley arrived at Shepherd University midway through 2007, her first home was a dorm. With workers installing air conditioning in the school president’s official residence, it would be weeks before she could move into the Southern-style mansion.

But since she and her husband Randy Wadsworth settled in at Popodicon, they’ve warmed to the enchanting, 17-room campus landmark built in 1907.

The red brick, three-story house on Shepherd Grade Road has been part an official part of Shepherd for more than four decades. The state of West Virginia bought the home and surrounding land to expand the school’s campus, which then measured just 35 acres.

The history of Popodicon dates to 1879, when a civil engineer from Pottstown, Pa., came to Shepherdstown to help with the design of the Norfolk and Western Railroad.

Here, Henry W. Potts met a local girl and after their 1881 wedding at Shepherdstown’s Trinity Church, the pair began to plan for a home with views of the valley, the Blue Ridge and the Potomac.

The Pottses gave their new estate the farm name as the family had done in Pottstown, a home in the 1830s and listed in records as “Popodicon,” after a Native American leader Popodick. Little is known about the chief, except the legend that he’s buried under a giant cherry tree on the grounds.

The Shepherdstown Register on June 10, 1901, included a writeup of Popodicon, under the heading: “A Handsome New Home.” The story includes detailed descriptions of the dwelling—large porch, three bathrooms (each with hot and cold running water—and its setting, about which the writer paused, “One should never be lonely with this prospect to gaze upon, for in the length and breadth of the ever-beautiful Shenandoah Valley there is not a more charming scene.”

The estate remained in the Potts family until it was purchased in 1964.

Suzanne Shipley, a Texas native, became Shepherd’s 15th president nearly five years ago.

Shipley lives in Popodicon with her husband, Randy Wadsworth, a clinical pharmacist at Northern Medical Center in Hagerstown, Md. The couple met in Cincinnati, Wadsworth’s hometown, after colleagues of hers answered a personals ad he’d placed. They married in 1991 and lived in Germany for five years before settling on the East Coast.
Of course, living in a large, lovely home offers all kinds of perks, but Shipley says what she likes best is the fact that her presence at Popodicon puts her in the center of day-to-day campus life.

"I feel so privileged to live here," Shipley said. "I love being around students—they make the job so much fun. I get to be around these young people when they're more optimistic, more hopeful than they may be their entire lives. I get to see them come in as freshmen and take in all these experiences and learn so much and leave actually having become different people. It's amazing and wonderful to be a part of that."

She also expresses gratitude for Shepherdstown, which this year is marking the 250th anniversary of its founding. To draw attention to the town's importance to Shepherd, Shipley reveals that the university will award the 2012 President's Award not to a person or a couple, but to the Town of Shepherdstown.

"During spring commencement, we'll make the formal presentation to Meredith Wait [a key Shepherdstown 250 organizer] and Mayor Jim Auxter," Shipley said. "We felt this was perfectly fitting, as a way to show much the town has meant to our school.

"We have a great symbiotic relationship."
'Georgetown' in Charles Town

Shepherdstown artist Doug Kinnett's "Georgetown" painting series is on display through month's end at the Fire Hall Gallery inside the Visitors Center at 108 N. George St. in Charles Town. The public is invited to attend a free opening reception from 4 to 8 p.m. Saturday. The exhibit, on display from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through March 31, comes compliments of the Washington Street Artists' Cooperative and the Arts & Humanities Alliance of Jefferson County. For more on Kinnett, who has worked on the art faculty at Shepherd University, go to www.mannmashine.com.
Shepherd’s Writing Tutor Program re-accredited

The Shepherd University Writing Tutor Program, part of the Academic Support Center (ASC), was recently reaccredited by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA), a national organization that provides professional development for college professionals active in college tutoring programs.

The program is reaccredited every five years. By following CRLA training standards, Shepherd’s Academic Support Center has set itself apart from most tutoring programs.

According to T.C. Williams, writing specialist for the Writing Tutor Program, the certification is a résumé builder for tutors.

“For us it means we have a prestigious program, and it sets us apart from other programs in the nation,” Williams said. “It puts us in the minority to have a CLRA-certified program and is a résumé builder that accredits them as a CLRA tutor, signifying they’ve had additional training.”

Emily Gross, director of academic support, said that she is trying to develop the CLRA training on a larger scale for other areas of the ASC and is using the writing program as a model.

Tutors must complete English 377, peer tutoring, and composition theory, to be considered an applicant. An extension of their training includes tutoring hours and tutor meetings once a month which has mini training sessions.

“Currently, 14 writing tutors are actively working on their certification,” Gross said.

Williams also coordinates the Stretch English program, a model of developmental English adopted nationwide, which allows the English 101 course to be stretched over two semesters instead of one and gives students more time to digest material and a smaller class size. Some tutors from the writing program work with the Stretch classes and will conduct writing labs in the classroom.

This semester, the Writing Center has an influx of tutors available for students who need assistance with their papers. In addition to working with the Stretch English classes, Writing Program tutors are also available for walk-in appointments, and also for ShepOwl, an online paper review service offered by the Writing Program.

The Writing Program will be up for accreditation again in 2016.
Shepherd debate and forensics team wins nine state awards

Shepherd University’s debate and forensics team won nine awards at the state championship in Parkersburg on Feb. 23-24.

John Isner, Parkersburg, received three awards: first place for the Lincoln-Douglas debate, third place for the LD Speaker awards, and sixth place for Extemporaneous Speaking. Timothy Jacob Leonard, Wheeling, received four awards: quarter finalist, fifth place for the LD Speaker awards, fourth place for Impromptu Speaking, and sixth place for After Dinner Speaking.

Shepherd University placed second place in Debate Sweepstakes and fourth place in Team Sweepstakes.

Marshall University, Alderson-Broaddus College, West Virginia University at Parkersburg, West Liberty State University, and Ohio Valley University also participated in the tournament.

Shepherd announces winners of Common Reading student essay contest

Shepherd University is proud to announce the winners of the Common Reading/One Book, One Community 2011-12 student essay contest, in which 79 students entered.

First place went to Rebecca McCoy for Black Friday. McCoy received a $250 gift certificate to the Shepherd University Bookstore. Second place went to Summer Williams for I Believe in Today. Williams received a $50 gift certificate to a local restaurant. Third place went to Ethan Johnson for We Need More Truck Drivers, and Ben Johnson for The Power of Cheese Curls. They received a recently published book. These essays will be included in the Shepherd University This I Believe, 2011-12.

The Common Reading Program is asking area residents to write essays based on the book, This I Believe, edited by Dan Gediman and Jay Allison.

There will be a community essay reading and reception on Wednesday, April 4 at 7 p.m. in the Robert C. Byrd Legislative Center. The reading and reception are free and open to the public. Essays will be recorded and played on the campus radio station, WSHC-89.7 FM. For more information on the essay, contact Judi McIntyre at 304-876-5396. For more information on the Common Reading Program, visit www.shepherd.edu/commonreading.
Orchestra set to perform at SU

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Friends of Music will host the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra, led by Shepherd University cello professor Steven Czarkowski, at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Frank Center. The concert is sponsored by Helen and Ed Moore of Shepherdstown.

Czarkowski is long-time principal cellist of the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra. In addition, he is the conductor of the Apollo Chamber Orchestra in Maryland, assistant conductor of the Opera Camerata of Washington, cover conductor of the Norwalk Symphony, and guest conductor of the Frederick, Md., all-county orchestra.

The Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra, the Eastern Panhandle's professional chamber orchestra, has received critical acclaim since its founding by Friends of Music (FOM) in 2007.

For concert information or to learn more about the Friends of Music, please call 304-876-5765 or visit www.sufom.org.
to be performed

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd University’s Rude Mechanicals Medieval and Renaissance Players will present “Holy Harlots: Two Medieval Plays about Prostitutes” at 7:30 p.m. March 23, 24, 30 and 31; at 2 p.m. March 25; and at 9 p.m. March 28 and 29 in Reynolds Hall. Tickets will be available at the door. Ticket prices are $5 for the general public; $2 for Shepherd University faculty and staff; and free for Shepherd students.

For more information, contact Betty Elzey at 304-876-5208 or belzey@shepherd.edu.
Kinnett introduces latest series of work

March 8, 2012
journal-news.net

CHARLES TOWN - Nationally known artist Douglas Kinnett, a Shepherdstown resident, opened a new exhibit of his Georgetown Series paintings on March 2 under the combined auspices of the Washington Street Artists' Cooperative and the Arts & Humanities Alliance of Jefferson County (AHA!) in the AHA! Fire Hall Gallery in the Charles Town Visitors Center, 108 N. George St., in Charles Town. The reception with the artist is open to the public on Saturday, March 10 from 4 to 8 p.m.

The Georgetown Series represents Doug Kinnett's recent passions about "place." This group of paintings is a departure from his 15 years of fantasy concerning the garden and earlier childhood experiences in his grandmother's backyard. His subject matter has shifted from rural to urban but independent of subject matter, Kinnett's work is always about color and the mystical netherworld of subjective color interaction.

The paintings in this exhibit are in response to Georgetown and Foggy Bottom and the artist's goal has been to capture the visual flavor of a community where buildings in many architectural styles coexist in a wonderful organized clutter.

Kinnett has been an exhibiting artist since the 1970s and has worked in painting, prints, jewelry, furniture, ceramics and collage. He holds a B.A. degree from Shepherd University, an M.A. in painting from West Virginia University and a doctorate in art education from Illinois State University. He has served as the coordinator of the art education major at Shepherd University and taught art at all levels from kindergarten to graduate school. Images of the Georgetown Series are available on www.mannamachine.com.

AHA! is a nonprofit organization of volunteers dedicated to supporting cultural and artistic events and programs for both children and adults in Jefferson County. For more information about AHA! visit www.ahajc.org.

The Washington Street Artists' Cooperative gallery showing juried work by 28 local members is located at 235 W. Washington St. in the heart of historic Charles Town. The gallery is open Thursday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 304-294-2090 or visit wstreetgallery.com.
Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra to present concert

March 8, 2012
By Juliet Seligman - Special to The Journal , journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Now in its fifth season, the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra will present a concert March 10 at 8 p.m. featuring Shepherd University cello professor Stephen Czarkowski as guest director. The classical chamber orchestra will perform John Adams' The Chairman Dances and Tromba Lontana, George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and Antonin Dvorak's Symphony No. 8 in G Major, Op. 88.

Sponsored by Friends of Music, Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra debuted only five years ago in 2007, a concert in which another Shepherd University music professor, Scott Beard, performed as solo pianist for Mozart's Piano Concerto in A Major.

Czarkowski said an aspect of Two Rivers' initiative is to perform new pieces, which he said is one of the reasons the orchestra will perform John Adams' Chairman Dances and Tromba Lontana, "which are exciting, have lots of energy, but primarily they are 'different.'"

Czarkowski has worked in the past with Adams at The Juilliard School in New York. He said it was there in the library where Adams first showed Czarkowski the score for his Chairman Dances. Czarkowski said he was so excited about the piece then that he promised Adams one day his wish was to conduct the music, and indeed that day has come.

"I've also wanted to conduct Rhapsody in Blue for a long time," Czarkowski said. "To work with Dr. Scott Beard is such an amazing opportunity. He is a fantastic pianist and fantastic person, and I am so thrilled to be able to collaborate with him."

Czarkowski said Rhapsody in Blue was George Gershwin's last musical composition.

This piece combines elements of classical music with jazz-influenced effects. Since its debut on Feb. 12, 1924, at Aeolian Hall in New York, it has become a familiar sound among American music listeners.

Beard will perform as piano soloist for the jazz concerto. According to numerous sources, Gershwin incorporated several different piano styles into the work, including stride, novelty and comic piano as well as the song-plugger piano style.

"It's an iconic piece," Beard said. "We hear so many snippets of Rhapsody in Blue in advertising campaigns, and it is immediately recognized as American jazz, a really great hybrid of jazz style. Gershwin was a really fantastic pianist, who merged the classical and jazz worlds."
“Rhapsody in Blue is very energetic and, in my opinion, speaks of an urban setting,” he continued. “Gershwin’s music sounds like the great American city, alive and bustling.”

The soloist clarinet opening for Rhapsody is Shepherd music professor David Drossin. Beard said many other Shepherd faculty members and students also will perform at the concert.

“So it’s like I’m getting to do a concert with my friends,” Beard said. “The program should be fun.”

Beard serves as both co-chair for Shepherd’s Music Department and dean for the school’s graduate department. He is a graduate of The Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University Conservatory in Maryland. Beard has toured extensively in South America and numerous countries throughout Europe as a chamber orchestra piano soloist.

The last piece performed was composed by Dvorak, Antonin. Czarkowski said Dvorak was very proud of his Symphony No. 8 in G Major, Op. 88.

“It’s an orchestral piece of colors and incredible dynamics and tempos,” Czarkowski said. “This program is really about the energy and colors of the orchestra and I think this will be apparent throughout the concert. I expect all those who attend to enjoy the production tremendously. It doesn’t get any better than this.”

Czarkowski is a graduate of Catholic University and Mannes College of Music in New York. He said that around age 11 or 12, his father, Cas Czarkowski, a professional pianist, persuaded him to accompany him to see Leonard Bernstein conduct Gustav Mahler’s 3rd Symphony in a final practice with the New York Philharmonic. Czarkowski said he was so impressed at that time with Bernstein’s energy and amazing abilities of “music making” that he was inspired to pursue a professional career in music.

The concert opens Saturday, March 10, at the Frank Center of Shepherd University at 8 p.m.

The concert is sponsored by Helen and Ed Moore of Shepherdstown. More information about the concert series and tickets are available at www.suferm.org or by calling 304-876-5765.
Painter, symphony maestro among the honorees at Governor’s Arts Awards

By Staff reports

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- The 2012 Governor’s Arts Awards gala took place Thursday evening at the state Culture Center. Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin presented Vernon Howell of Barboursville, with the Lifetime Achievement award for his significant accomplishments in the arts.

Howell's paintings, relief wood sculptures and experimental mixed media have appeared in regional and national shows, including, among others, The National Gallery of American Art and the Smithsonian Institute, according to a media release from the state Division of Culture and History.

The Huntington native spent 30 years teaching art at Barboursville High School before taking an early retirement to become a full-time artist.

The Distinguished Service to the Arts Awards was given to Grant Cooper and the Marshall Artists Series.

Cooper, of Charleston, has been the artistic director and conductor of the West Virginia Symphony since 2001.

The Marshall Artists Series of Marshall University and Huntington is celebrating 75 years. It first started in 1936 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Marshall College, and is considered the second oldest of its kind in the country, according to the release.

The Artist of the Year Award was given to Landau Eugene Murphy Jr. of Logan, who went from
being an underemployed car washer and part time singer struggling to make ends meet to a Las Vegas headliner and entertainer, after becoming the 2011 winner of NBC's "America's Got Talent."

Arts in Education awards were presented to the Fine Arts Academy of Cabell Midland High School and the School of Harmony Inc. in Beaver.

The Leadership in the Arts awards was given to Chesapeake Energy and the Contemporary American Theater Festival at Shepherd University.

Marshall Artists Series to be honored at Governor's Arts Awards

March 08, 2012 @ 10:36 AM
2012/The Herald-Dispatch
Herald-Dispatch.com

CHARLESTON — Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin will recognize Vernon Howell of Barboursville, W.Va., with the top honor, the Governor’s Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement, for his significant accomplishments in the arts at the 2012 Governor’s Arts Awards gala at 6 p.m. on Thursday evening, March 8, (tonight) at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex in Charleston. The event will be hosted by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History (WVDCH) and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

Howell is an award-winning artist whose works have appeared in regional and national shows, both juried and invitational, including The National Gallery of American Art and the Smithsonian Institute. Working in paintings, relief wood sculptures and experimental mixed media, Howell has several art works in private collections, museums and corporate collections, including the West Virginia State Museum’s Collection, and four pieces in the permanent collection of McGraw Hill Publishing Company in New York. He also has won numerous awards for his sculpture that uses a method featuring dimension built by layers in space.

The Huntington native who spent 30 years teaching art at Barboursville High School took advantage of an early retirement opportunity to become a full-time studio artist. He studied at Syracuse University in New York and Marshall College in Huntington. He also earned a master’s degree in art education from Marshall University and did post graduate work at The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Other awards to be presented include the Distinguished Service to the Arts Awards to be given to Grant Cooper and the Marshall Artists Series. Cooper of Charleston has been the artistic director and conductor of the West Virginia Symphony since 2001. The accomplished trumpet soloist has performed at major concert halls from Beijing to London and has written several arrangements for the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra celebrating Appalachian heritage, including “Take Me Home, Country Roads,” “West Virginia’s Home to Me” and “The West Virginia Hills.” His passion for music also led to works designed to introduce young audiences to the orchestra by creating an eclectic blend of modern and established styles with interactive audience participation.

The Marshall Artists Series of Marshall University and Huntington each year takes its patrons on an artistic and intellectual journey by bringing outstanding entertainment to the diverse community that has supported the program. Harry Belafonte has been on the bill as well as Yo-Yo Ma, Liza Minelli, The Producers, Eleanor Roosevelt, Marcel Marceau, Isaac Stern, Tim Conway and Don Knotts, just to name a few. Roughly 25-30 percent of its budget comes from
Marshall University. The rest comes from the support provided by the community in the form of ticket sales and fund-raisers. The series, celebrating 75 years, started in 1936 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Marshall College, and is considered the second oldest of its kind in the country.

The Artist of the Year Award will be given to Landau Eugene Murphy, Jr. of Logan, W.Va., who went from being an underemployed car washer and part-time singer struggling to make ends meet to a Las Vegas headliner and entertainer after becoming the 2011 winner of NBC’s “America’s Got Talent.” Since then, he has released his first album, “That’s Life,” which features such legendary Frank Sinatra classics as “My Way” and “Fly Me to the Moon.” Murphy and his 16-piece Sweet Lippz Big Band also have performed before sold-out audiences across the country, including West Virginia. His 2012 tour will take him to the legendary Apollo Theatre in New York City in April, and to appearances at the California and West Virginia state fairs this summer.

Arts in Education awards will be presented to the Fine Arts Academy of Cabell Midland High School (FAACMHS) and the School of Harmony, Inc. The FAACMHS, located in Huntington, emphasizes excellence in the creative and performing arts by offering three unique fields of study that allow students the opportunity to explore their passions and talents: performing, visual, and graphic arts. Programs include the “Marching Knights” Marching Band, “Collegium Musicum” Chamber Choir, the “Rhythm in Red” Show Choir and “Knight Visions Designs,” a complete graphic design studio and printmaking business.

The School of Harmony, Inc. in Beaver, W.Va., just south of Beckley, is a nonprofit, community-minded music and fine arts school that fosters excellence in fine arts by challenging students of all ages and backgrounds to develop their talents, desires, and abilities by offering private music lessons as well as free online instruction. With the hard work of dedicated volunteers, community giving and grants, the former Shady Spring Junior High School was transformed into a center that supports the arts through education.

The Leadership in the Arts awards will be given to Chesapeake Energy and the Contemporary American Theater Festival. Chesapeake Energy, with regional corporate offices in Charleston, has generously invested in numerous projects and programming that support the arts and education in West Virginia, including The VH1 Save The Music Foundation program that puts musical instruments in middle-school students’ hands. The second-largest producer of natural gas also has partnered with the Appalachian Education Initiative to recognize West Virginia public high school juniors and seniors who excel in school arts programs. Other beneficiaries of its sponsorships include the Marshall Artists Series, ArtsLink, The West Virginia Center for African American Art & Culture, Inc., “Mountain Stage” and West Virginia Public Broadcasting, among others.

The Contemporary American Theater Festival at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, W.Va. is dedicated to producing and developing new American theater. Its goals are to sustain an artistic prowess of innovation and daring, tell diverse stories, and to create a profound and ever-evolving relationship between the audience and the work. Each year the annual festival presents new plays by American playwrights, most often premieres or second or third
productions that deal with contemporary issues that boldly challenge and entertain audiences. Since 1991, the festival has produced 90 new plays, including 34 world premieres.
Relationship panel to discuss communication, healthy unions
Originally published March 08, 2012

By Katie Crowe

According to relationship coach Jason Ottley, one of the most important aspects to having a healthy and meaningful connection with another person is positive communication.

Ottley, a Washington-based relationship coach, author and entrepreneur, devotes his life to empowering relationships.

"I really have a heart for helping people," Ottley said in a recent phone interview while traveling to Washington from West Virginia, where he works as an English teacher and counselor at Shepherd University.

"I am passionate about relationships ... and my purpose is to create stronger, unified, organic relationships that thrive."

After receiving his bachelor's degree in English and a master's in education from West Virginia University, Ottley, 31, began working as a personal relationship coach, under his own for-profit organization called Empowering Relationships, LLC. He also started his own nonprofit organization, Epiphany, and, in July 2011, published his first book, "Pillow Talk: Essential Conversations for a Lasting Relationship."

According to his website, "Pillow Talk" is a book that evokes discussion between men and women about how to live happy and empowered lives, while preparing them to enter into healthy, productive (romantic) relationships.

The Relationship Tour, which will be held at Frederick Community College on Friday evening, falls under his nonprofit organization activities and evolved from the book's success, he said.

"After writing the book, I was being asked to come speak about it at churches, schools and other organizations," Ottley said. "So (the tour) was a spinoff from the book."

The Relationship Tour, subtitled "From His Lips to Her Ears," is a panel discussion or forum in which panelists talk about building healthy and communicative relationships between men and women. The first one was held in October in Washington, Ottley said, and there has since been another in Forestville. The Frederick event will be the third official tour stop, although Ottley has already booked dates in Tulsa, Okla., Atlanta and parts of California for the near future.

Panelists vary based on event location. In addition to Ottley, the Frederick panel will consist of Bishop Frank L. Gibson, founder of The Lion of Judah Church; Chad Adero, director of Multi-Cultural Services at FCC; Jason Lee, owner of Top Quality Janitorial Services; and Irvin T. Clark III, associate vice president for student development at FCC. Panelists, who are usually men (based on the fact that it's subtitled "From His Lips to Her Ears") are chosen based on age, profession and life experiences -- most specifically within different types of romantic relationships.

The Frederick event is being hosted by KNC, a female-founded nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire and educate community members through seminars and retreats, said Ike Wilson, KNC's marketing director.

The organization helped Ottley choose the panelists, based on the fact that they are all well-known men in
the community who they believe will offer an interesting perspective on relationships, Wilson said.

KNC's founders attended Ottley's first relationship tour in Washington and thought it was very enlightening, Wilson said.

"Men aren't usually considered communicators," she said. "So this is a unique event that turns the tables ... and helps bridge that conversation gap between men and women."

The free event will have a "girl's night out" theme, Wilson said, although men are invited. There will be food, free manicures provided by students at the Career and Technology Center at FCC and vendors selling items including jewelry, clothing and makeup. A professional photographer will offer pictures of guests that can be purchased.

Ottley, who is currently working toward his doctorate in psychology, specializing in couples therapy, said the show will be similar to that of a live talk show and will be interactive, allowing audience members to ask and have their personal questions answered by panelists.

Ottley plans to host two- to three-day conferences across the U.S. that delve deeper into relationships, which will include breakout sessions and workshops on topics such as dealing with self-esteem, setting boundaries in relationships, communicating intimately and dealing with past relationships before getting into new ones, he said.

For more information on Jason Ottley and The Relationship Tour, visit www.jasonottley.com.
Orchestra to perform at Shepherd

Posted: Mar 08, 2012 10:35 AM EST
Updated: Mar 08, 2012 10:55 AM EST

The Friends of Music will host the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra, led by Shepherd University cello professor Steven Czarkowski, on March 10, at 8 p.m. in the Frank Center.

Czarkowski is long-time principal cellist of the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra. In addition, he is the conductor of the Apollo Chamber Orchestra in Maryland, assistant conductor of the Opera Camerata of Washington, cover conductor of the Norwalk Symphony, and guest conductor of the Frederick, Maryland, all-county orchestra.

The Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra, the Eastern Panhandle's professional chamber orchestra, has received critical acclaim since its founding by Friends of Music in 2007. The FOM selection committee and board led a national search for a new conductor and chose Tara Simonci of Harrisburg, Pa., Jed Gaylin of Baltimore and Czarkowski, of Rockville, Md.

For concert information or to learn more about the Friends of Music, call 304-876-5765 or visit www.sufom.org.

EAST

SHEPHERDSTOWN
Cook Smart initiative to start: Schoolchildren next fall will find more fresh foods, less fat and more flavor in their midday meal thanks to work from the associate director for Shepherd University's dining services.

Starting in June, Scott Anderson will be training school cooks and offering new recipes through Cook Smart, a new initiative undertaken by the Restaurant Association of Maryland Education Foundation and the Maryland Department of Education.

Anderson, a member of the local American Culinary Federation, was selected as the chef to work with schools in Washington County, one of four Maryland counties offering Cook Smart.

"It's a get-back-to-basics program, relying more on scratch cooking, preparing something from a raw or semi-raw state," Anderson said. "If we can get kids away from processed food when they're in junior high, high school, and college, we can help change their eating habits."

His work with the Maryland schools will run for a year, starting in June.

Anderson, who began as a part-time catering worker at Shepherd in 1991, also hosts a biweekly cooking program, "Culinary Passion," on WHAG-TV in Hagerstown, Md.
Shepherd University

Posted: Mar 08, 2012 9:39 AM EST
Updated: Mar 08, 2012 9:55 AM EST

SHEPHERDSTOWN - John E. Stealey III of Shepherdstown has been named to the McMurran Hall Board of Trustees.

Stealey, a professor emeritus of history, taught at Shepherd University for 42 years before retiring in 2011.

A seventh-generation West Virginian from Clarksburg, Stealey earned his doctorate in history from West Virginia University in 1970. While at Shepherd, he taught courses in West Virginia history, Appalachian history and Shenandoah Valley history.

The board of trustees of McMurran Hall is a self-perpetuating body of three provided for in Shepherd Brooks’ deed of trust dated April 21, 1891. Brooks is the grandson of Rezin Shepherd, who built McMurran Hall in 1859. That building became the home of Shepherd College when it was founded in 1871.

Stealey served 21 years as president of the Jefferson County Historical Society and edited its annual journal for 24 years.

He also served as president and a member of the board of directors at Old Charles Town Library. Since 1984, he has chaired the visiting committee of the West Virginia University Libraries.

Stealey is a member of the Sons of Revolution and numerous professional associations including the Southern Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, American Historical Association and the Virginia Historical Society.


The other McMurran Hall trustees are Bill Knode and Michael Taylor. Knode, a graduate of Shepherd, heads the board of directors of Jefferson Security Bank and is a member of the Shepherd University Foundation board.

Taylor, a historic restoration expert, is the owner of Michael F. Taylor Inc., a building contractor firm on German Street in Shepherdstown.
Shepherd University’s social work program, one of the first programs in the state to be accredited in 1976, recently received its reaccreditation for the next eight years from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Dr. Doug Horner, chair of the Department of Social Work, said that the accreditation is important to the institution and critical for students in order to sit for licensing exams.

The accreditation process includes a two-and-a-half-year self-study and is based on 10 competencies and 41 practice behaviors for graduates, which include attending to professional roles and boundaries; recognizing and managing personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice; and distinguishing, appraising, and integrating multiple sources of knowledge, including research-based knowledge, and practice wisdom.

The site visit took place Oct. 17, 2011; representatives from the CSWE met with community members, the social work advisory board, and students and examined the mission, goals, objectives, assessment and diversity within the program.

“We have received excellent support from President Suzanne Shipley and Dr. Richard Helldobler, vice president for academic affairs. They have always been complimentary of the program,” said Horner.

Numerous faculty and staff on campus provided data for the study.

“It’s very gratifying to be able to meet these high levels of expectation of our profession and to have the support of people at the institution and ongoing support over the last almost 40 years,” said Horner.

According to Horner, graduates of the social work program staff regional agencies, serve as field instructors and mentors for students in the community service learning class, and serve on the program’s advisory board.

“It’s been a strong community as many people move from student to practice,” Horner said.

Karen Green, associate professor of social work, said that the self-study is a good opportunity to examine the department’s strengths and weaknesses.

“A lot of good discussions and positive changes came as a result of the reaccreditation,” Green said. “It’s an important and worthwhile task.”

“Our graduates make us look good,” said Dr. Geri Crawley-Woods, professor of social work. “It’s their work in the community and the
agencies that really make us look good.

The social work faculty will make a presentation on tools for assessment of student learning at the 29th annual Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors meeting in Portland, Ore. on Mar. 14-18.

The next accreditation visit for the social work program will take place in 2019.
Shepherd hosts robot event

March 9, 2012
by Edward Marshall - Ogden Newspapers, Shepherdstown Chronicle

SHEPHERDSTOWN - As a small crowd of wide-eyed children and eager adults watched the white-painted maze on the Butcher Center gym's hardwood floor, 20-year-old Shepherd University sophomore Courtney Crites carefully placed a homemade miniature robot into the proverbial squared circle.

Looking on with a mixture of baited breath and nerve-wracking anxiety, the computer engineering major observed the small, plastic automaton as it slowly but successfully navigated the maze, deftly snuffing out a lit candle at the end with one fell swoop of a makeshift appendage. One day in the future, such automated robots might be able to put out small fires before the first firefighters even arrive on scene, but for now students in Shepherd University's Department of Computer Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering (CME) can breathe a sigh of relief if the little robots don't get stuck on a wall.

"It's actually very scary and it's very nerve-wracking. ... Obviously if it loses you can be quite upset, but if it wins then it's extremely rewarding just to know that you created something that can do extremely well against other people," Crites said.

Meanwhile, on the opposite end of the gym, remote-controlled, four-legged "mechs" battled each other within a walled-off miniature cityscape. Their human operators clutched modified videogame controllers and stared intently at their laptops, using webcams mounted on the robotic warriors to locate and fire BB pellets at each other.

The dual scenes that played out this weekend were both part of Shepherd University's 2012 ShepRobo Fest, a two-day competition that lets students put what they've learned in the classroom to the test, all while using robotics to inspire interest in studying science, math and engineering.

"We are doing this in order to have more awareness for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education, so the kids can really be impressed and motivated by these robots to get into STEM education and science," said Dr. Seung-yun Kim, an assistant professor with the university's CME department. "... We need to let them know that with engineering and science, it's not a boring subject. It's not a hard subject. They should see it as fun and worthwhile, too."

In 2010 Shepherd University's CME department was awarded one of only two research trust fund grants through the West Virginia Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). ShepRobo Fest is sponsored in part by the grant, with matching donor support through the Shepherd University Foundation. This was the second year the robotics competition was held at the university.
"Our main focus is to inspire students and to inspire young kids, not only to inspire them to see what's going on, but also we want them to remain inspired so they find themselves in the future, with all these developments, to be part of it," said professor Reza Mirdamadi, chair of the CME department. "All this technology is coming along, and we want them to be a part of it. We want them to have something to contribute."

Students studying robotics at the university already have made great strides through the program. Students are currently preparing to travel at the end of the month to Trinity University in Hartford, Conn., to compete in an international robotic firefighting competition. Last year, Shepherd University students placed third in the competition, which sees about 70 to 80 teams from around the world.

Most students, however, were focused on the task at hand. Some even slept in blankets underneath tables in the gym as they worked night and day to be prepared.

"I've only had a maximum of like four hours of sleep this weekend. We've been working mostly straight on. Fun is always the feeling of success at the end," said Ernad Khan, a 21-year-old junior and computer engineering major.

Khan later took the controls of "Orcus," one of the robot warriors featured in mech-warfare bouts.

Fellow team member Aaron Ladd, a 20-year-old sophomore and computer programmer, echoed the exhaustion-elation mix students felt as their complex machines came to life.

"It gets aggravating at times when stuff goes wrong - which it does a lot - but by the end of the day, once you get the thing working, it's all worth it. We love this stuff," Ladd said.

For others like Crites, one of the more rewarding aspects is helping to get more children and students of all ages more interested in studying mathematics, science and engineering.

"It's honestly really exciting to see kids running around here asking questions and asking what we are doing. I really just want to see them interested in it because most people I know don't even care about science and mathematics," Crites said. "Seeing the kids come in here and having them see the actual application of it I think is really good for them."
Students to volunteer with Habitat during spring break

Published: Friday, March 9, 2012 at 9:18 a.m.

Last Modified: Friday, March 9, 2012 at 9:18 a.m.

Lexington Area Habitat for Humanity is hosting 20 student volunteers next week during their spring break. The students are participating in Habitat's national alternative break program, Collegiate Challenge.

"We look forward to having the student volunteers this year. This is our first time hosting students during their spring break, and we are appreciative of their efforts," said Marjorie Parker, Lexington Area Habitat's executive director. "Collegiate Challenge provides the students with an opportunity to help build affordable housing in the area. The work they'll do during their spring break will have a lasting impact in our community."

The students are visiting from Shepherd University in West Virginia and will volunteer Sunday to March 17. Students will perform landscaping and help with four new Habitat homes. They will also partner with Lexington Housing CDC on repairs and paint a home as well as help prepare for the grand opening of the Habitat ReStore on March 16.

Habitat's Collegiate Challenge is one of the many programs Habitat has to engage youth ages 5 to 25 in Habitat's work. Since 2007, State Farm has served as the national corporate sponsor of Habitat for Humanity's youth programs, with a sponsorship commitment of more than $1.1 million in grants each year. Additionally, State Farm offices contribute more than $500,000 annually to Habitat affiliates across the United States.

Lexington Area Habitat plans to help more than 40 families this year.
Shepherd names award recipients

University gives two students first Create the Future Study Abroad Scholarship

March 12, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd University students Erin Shaw and Amanda Dotson have been named recipients of the first Create the Future Study Abroad Scholarship.

The $25,000 Create the Future endowment was created by President Suzanne Shipley and her husband, Randall Wadsworth, in 2007 to support travel expenses for faculty conducting research abroad and students studying abroad. The gift was matched by the Shepherd University Foundation in honor of Shipley's inauguration.

The fund was created because of the worthwhile experiences Shipley and her husband had while studying abroad.

Shaw, a sophomore environmental studies major from Petersburg, will travel to France, England, Switzerland, Italy and the Netherlands as part of a European art and architecture program through the American Institute for Foreign Study this summer.

"The chance to grasp how international communities and individuals regard and practice the different approaches to historic preservation would be crucial to my success in my future career field," Shaw said. "This scholarship will be immensely helpful financially in allowing me to succeed in my ambition to study abroad."

Dotson, a senior political science major from Harpers Ferry, will travel to China over spring break.

Dotson said as a political science major, she is interested in experiencing the culture difference while in China and learning more about their government and the strength of their sense of tradition.

"Throughout my life I have stayed in my own bubble and to be able to experience different cultures will help me work better with people from different cultures and different backgrounds," Dotson said.

For more information about making a private gift through the Shepherd University Foundation, please contact Monica Lingenfelter, Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443-5000; 304-876-5397; mlingenf@shepherd.edu; or visit www.shepherd.edu/fndtnweb.
Habitat for Humanity to dedicate Inwood home
March 31

By RICHARD F. BELISLE
richardb@herald-mail.com
9:43 p.m. EDT, March 12, 2012

INWOOD, W.Va.— Kira Ruby, a single mother of three, represents one of more than 4,000 working families in the Eastern Panhandle living in substandard housing.
Get the information you need fast. Sign up for our Breaking News alerts today.

In less than a month Ruby, 35, and her children will be one
less family living in such circumstances.

Working through Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Panhandle, about 100 volunteers from the Berkeley County United Methodist Cluster, made up of 23 local Methodist churches, built a one-story, four-bedroom home for the Ruby family on Lail Way in Inwood.

The home will be dedicated March 31, seven months since ground for it was broken, said Judith Boykin, president of the Panhandle's Habitat chapter.

Moving into their new home will be a “scary” experience for Kira and her three children, Victoria, 16, Daniel, 12, and Lee Anna, 8, Ruby said.

"It's our first home. It's a thrill, but it is scary having the responsibility of a home owner. It feels like a dream, but it's overwhelming."

Three more homes will be built by Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Panhandle volunteers in Berkeley County 2012.

The local affiliate of Habitat For Humanity of West Virginia was organized in 1992. From 1995 through 2011, HFHEP volunteers built 31 homes, including 28 in Berkeley County and one each in Morgan and Jefferson counties, Boykin said.

Families who apply for a Habitat home must meet certain income requirements, have a dependable source of income sufficient to make monthly mortgage payments and show that their existing living conditions are substandard, according to agency rules.

Substandard conditions, according to Habitat rules, include homes that are structurally unsound, have critical mechanical problems, are severely overcrowded or are in high-crime areas.

"Most families in those conditions can't afford to move," Boykin said.

Elizabeth Granzow, development director of Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Panhandle, said typical Habitat homeowners are single- and two-parent families, people on disability and older individuals. "About 75 percent are single mothers," Granzow said.

Habitat holds an interest-free, 20-year mortgage on every home it builds. The owner pays all property taxes and utilities. Budgeting and home maintenance assistance is available.

Habitat families can sell their homes after eight years and keep any profit from the sale, Boykin said.

The cost of building an average Habitat home in the Eastern Panhandle, built with volunteer labor and mostly donated materials, runs about $60,000. The home can be appraised as high as $90,000 at closing, Boykin said.

Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Panhandle, with headquarters at 630 W. Race St., Martinsburg, has three part-time employees — Granzow, Brian Truman, the operations director; and Michael Plant, manager of the ReStore, a large warehouse at 650 W. Race St. ReStore is stocked with donated used and new building materials, supplies, furnishings and appliances for Habitat building projects or to be sold as fundraisers.

* This week is spring break for Shepherd University students. Thirty-seven of them are participating in the campus's Alternative Spring Break program and are going to North Carolina to build Habitat homes at two different sites. The students raised about $11,000 to finance this year's trip.

In its 25 years of existence, Habitat For Humanity of West Virginia has built nearly 700 homes around the state. It hopes to build 25 homes this year to celebrate its silver anniversary.
Shepherd to host Celtic Roots course

March 13, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Appalachian Studies Program at Shepherd University is sponsoring a Celtic Roots travel course in spring 2013. The course will include a travel component to Ireland, Scotland and parts of England influenced by Celtic culture and heritage. Shepherd and community members are invited to join students on this journey into the Celtic heartland.

The trip will include visits to the Ring of Kerry; W. B. Yeats' Coole Park; James Joyce's Dublin; Blarney Castle; Rock of Cashel; Trinity College, home of the Book of Kells in Ireland, among other places. Part of the travel includes the Robert Burns' National Heritage Park, Glasgow's Museum of the Argyll, Sir Walter Scott's Edinburgh and Abbotsford and more in Scotland. The end of trip will be spent in London.

Anyone interested in the Celtic Roots trip is invited to join the spring 2013 class sessions exploring the literature, both Appalachian and Celtic, associated with the travel adventure. For more information about the travel course, visit webpages.shepherd.edu/sshurbut/travelcourse1.htm.

Travelers should contact Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, Appalachian studies coordinator, at sshurbut@shepherd.edu. Initial deadline for the $500 deposit is March 31.
Journal photo by Chris Jackson

Stephen Czarkowski conducts the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra during a standing room-only capacity Friends of Music Concert Series Saturday at the Frank Center at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown. Czarkowski is an in-demand conductor, cellist and educator in the Washington, D.C., area and nationally. He serves as music director and conductor of the Apollo Chamber Orchestra and has collaborated with artists from the Metropolitan Opera and the Washington National Opera.
Hedgesville High receives computers from RESA 8

Shepherd University donates used hardware for refurbishing and use in local schools

March 14, 2012
journal-news.net

HEDGESVILLE - Some students at Hedgesville High will benefit from the donations from local universities because RESA 8 repurposed donated equipment. RESA 8 received some Macintosh computers from Shepherd University recently, and donated them to Hedgesville High School, to be used by Mrs. Milliman’s class.

Milliman’s redesigned instruction focuses on project-based learning. The use of technology is a large part of the assignments for the students. Online chats, video editing and podcasting are just a few of the activities involved in the class projects.

Jill Woolcock, RESA 8 IT manager, stated, “I was excited to help Mrs. Milliman when she asked about getting some additional Macs for her classroom. We had some that were donated by Shepherd University, but only a few of our counties use them.”

RESA 8 refurbishes and repairs donated equipment from local colleges and businesses so the equipment can be used in the schools to replace older units or add to existing networks. RESA 8 serves the schools in Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan and Pendleton counties. They also provide services to the community. More information may be found at resa8.org.
SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Jefferson County Chapter of the League of Women Voters will sponsor a public forum on water quality from 7 to 9 p.m. today in the auditorium of the Byrd Center at Shepherd University. Special guests include Alana Hartman, Potomac basin coordinator; Roger Goodwin, Jefferson County engineer; Joe Hankins, director of The Conservation Fund’s Freshwater Institute; Lyn Widmyer, Jefferson County commissioner; and Peter Vila, professor of environmental sciences from Shepherd University. Topics will include a perspective on water issues that are of concern in Jefferson County; a review of the Chesapeake Bay Initiative; information on centralized water systems; and more.

For more information, email Peter Bradford at pbradfordwv@earthlink.net.
4/6 Keigwin and Company to perform

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Performing Arts Series at Shepherd University (PASS) will present the dance troupe Keigwin and Company at 8 p.m. April 7 in the Frank Center. The performance will feature "Caffeinated," "Love Songs," and "Mattress Suite," as well as a solo performed by Artistic Director Larry Keigwin. There will be a free master class with the dancers of Keigwin and Company on Friday, April 6.

Tickets to this event may be purchased through the Shepherd University Bookstore by calling 304-876-5219, visiting www.shepherdbook.com, or at the bookstore, located on the ground level of Shepherd's Student Center. Tickets are $20 for the general admission, $15 for senior citizens and Shepherd staff, $5 for kids under 18, and free to Shepherd students with a valid Rambler ID.

To register for the master class, or for more information about the event, contact Rachael Meads at rmeads@shepherd.edu.
Get ‘Smart’

Shepherd chef’s lessons will boost school lunch menus

CHRISTINE MILLER FORD
SPIRIT STAFF

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Thanks to the Cook Smart initiative and lessons from a cooking expert here, children eating in school cafeterias in neighboring Maryland will see a change for the better come fall.

Scott Anderson, associate director for Shepherd University’s dining services, will work with the cafeteria staff in Washington County to introduce students to more fresh foods, less fat and more flavor in their midday meal.

Starting in June, Anderson will begin training school cooks and offering new recipes through Cook Smart, a new initiative undertaken by the Restaurant Association of Maryland Education Foundation and the Maryland Department of Education.

Anderson, a member of the local American Culinary Federation, was selected as the chef to work with schools in Washington County, one of four Maryland counties offering Cook Smart.

“It’s a get-back-to-basics program, relying more on scratch cooking, preparing something from a raw or semi-raw state,” Anderson said. “If we can get kids away from processed food when they’re in junior high, high school and college, we can help change their eating habits.”

According to Shepherd University officials, Anderson traces his love of cooking to the early 1980s, when as a junior high student he began to spend time in the kitchen with his grandmother and great grandmother. After finishing high school, Anderson moved to Haders, N.J., with his family and took a job as a dishwasher at Publick House Restaurant.

There he advanced to sous chef, honing his skills under the Publick House’s chef, Dennis Richmond. He enrolled at County College of Morris, where he completed his associate degree in hotel restaurant management.

Later, he pursued bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Northwestern Pennsylvania’s Edinboro University, studying history and political science.

Then in 1991, Anderson was hired as a part-time catering employee at Shepherd. He worked his way to a position as full-time assistant catering manager and then became catering manager and, since 2002, associate director and chef. These days, Anderson oversees Shepherd’s purchasing, culinary training, menu management and recipe creations.

Anderson also hosts a bi-weekly cooking program, “Culinary Passion,” on WHAG-TV in Hagerstown, Md. His work with “Cook Smart” and the Maryland school system is set to continue until spring of 2013.
The American Public University System held a colloquium on the “history, identity and heritage” of the Eastern Panhandle on Saturday. The event featured numerous academic, cultural and artistic speakers from Shepherd University, the Arts and Humanities Alliance, and area historical associations. The event was organized by Dr. Fred Stielow, APUS’s dean of libraries and course materials, and Bradley Wiles, APUS’s newly hired archivist. It was streamed over the web. The colloquium investigated many areas of the Eastern Panhandle’s history, including the pottery industry, opinions on secession from Virginia, the Niagara Movement and Storer College.
23rd Judicial Circuit Judge Gina Marie Groh confirmed by U.S.
Senate

Posted: Mar 15, 2012 3:42 PM EDT
Updated: Mar 15, 2012 3:56 PM EDT
By Andrea Lannom - email

A 23rd Judicial Circuit judge could serve on the federal bench after the U.S. Senate confirmed her nomination March 15 in a 95-2 vote.

Gina Marie Groh was nominated in May by President Barack Obama to fill a vacant seat left from the 2006 death of Northern U.S. District Judge W. Craig Broadwater.

In his floor speech before the U.S. Senate, Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., expressed support of Groh's confirmation.

"I believe that Judge Groh's experience, intellect, leadership, impartiality and deep roots in the community make her a prudent choice for the vacancy in the Northern District of West Virginia," Manchin said in a prepared statement. "She exemplifies not only the qualities of a talented jurist, but also the high moral character and sense of justice necessary to make a great judge."

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved her nomination in an Oct. 6 hearing.

"I know it has been exasperating for Judge Groh and her family, waiting for this confirmation knowing that she came out of the Senate Judiciary Committee without any opposition," Manchin said. "It has been very difficult that this body has gotten to the point of slowing down these nominations, and I believe very strongly that our system needs to change so we can get quality judges, such as Judge Gina Groh, on the bench as quickly as possible so the can work to protect the people of the United States."

Groh received a bachelor's degree in 1986 from Shepherd University and later received her law degree from West Virginia College of Law.

A Charles Town resident, Groh was appointed in 2006 to the 23rd Judicial Circuit and elected in 2008 to serve a full term.

Before her appointment to the bench, Groh served eight years as an assistant prosecutor for Berkeley and Jefferson counties.

"As then-governor of West Virginia, I was honored to have the first female from the Eastern Panhandle — with the highest credentials — Judge Groh, brought to my attention," Manchin said in a prepared statement. "I was so proud to appoint her to the 23rd judicial circuit in 2006 and she has served with great distinction ever since."
Shepherd course to study in Ireland

Posted: Mar 15, 2012 11:32 AM EDT
Updated: Mar 15, 2012 11:36 AM EDT

The Appalachian studies program at Shepherd University is sponsoring a Celtic Roots travel course in spring 2013. The course will include a travel component to Ireland, Scotland and parts of England influenced by Celtic culture and heritage. Shepherd and community members are invited to join students on this journey into the Celtic heartland.

The trip will include a visit to the Ring of Kerry, W. B. Yeats' Coole Park, James Joyce's Dublin, Blarney Castle, Rock of Cashel, Museum of Kerry Life and Gardens, Muckross House and Gardens and Trinity College, home of the Book of Kells in Ireland. Part of the travel will explore the Robert Burns National Heritage Park, Glasgow’s Museum of the Argyll, Sutherland Highlanders Buchanan Street, Merchant City, Stirling Castle, Sir Walter Scott’s Edinburgh and Abbotsford, and Bram Stoker’s Whitby in Scotland. The end of trip will be spent in London.

Anyone interested in the Celtic Roots trip is invited to join the spring 2013 class sessions exploring the literature, both Appalachian and Celtic, associated with the travel adventure. For more information about the travel course, visit http://webpages.shepherd.edu/sshurbt/travelcourse1.htm.

Travelers should contact Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, Appalachian studies coordinator, at sshurbt@shepherd.edu. Initial deadline for the $500 deposit is March 31.
SU? to host travel course

March 16, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The Appalachian Studies Program at Shepherd University is sponsoring a Celtic Roots travel course in spring 2013. The course will include a travel component to Ireland, Scotland, and parts of England influenced by Celtic culture and heritage. Shepherd and community members are invited to join students on this journey into the Celtic heartland.

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Dr. John E. Stealey III, of Shepherdstown, has been named to the McMurran Hall Board of Trustees. Stealey, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, retired in 2011 after a teaching career at Shepherd University that spanned 42 years. During his years as a history professor, he instructed approximately 7,500-8,000 students. His courses in West Virginia and Appalachian and lower Shenandoah Valley history became legendary among students.

A seventh generation West Virginian from Clarksburg, Stealey received his education at West Virginia University where he earned his Ph.D in history in 1970. He served 21 years as president of the Jefferson County Historical Society and for 24 years edited its annual journal. He also served as president of Old Charles Town Library, Inc., and was on its board of directors. Since 1984, he has chaired the visiting committee of the West Virginia University Libraries.

Stealey is a member of the Sons of Revolution and numerous professional associations including the Southern Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, American Historical Association, and Virginia Historical Society. He has published 37 articles, encyclopedia entries and chapters of books; reviewed 41 books for scholarly journals and published three books with academic presses. Stealey's fourth book, "West Virginia Civil War Era Constitution: Loyal Revolution, Confederate Counter-Revolution, and the Convention of 1872," to be published by the Kent State University Press, will appear in 2013.

Stealey pursues an active research and writing schedule at his Shepherdstown home where he resides with his wife, Patricia, and keeps horses.

Stealey joins current McMurran Hall trustees Bill Knodle and Michael Taylor. Knodle, a Shepherd University alumnus, is chair of the Board of Directors of Jefferson Security Bank and a member of the Shepherd University Foundation Board of Directors. Taylor, a historic restoration expert, is the owner of Michael F. Taylor, Inc., a building contractor firm located on German Street. The business does new homes, restorations, and remodeling.

The board of trustees of McMurran Hall is a self-perpetuating body of three provided for in the Shepherd Brooks deed of trust dated April 21, 1891. Shepherd Brooks was the grandson of Rezin Shepherd, who built McMurran Hall in 1859. After briefly serving as the county seat after its construction, McMurran Hall became the home of Shepherd College when it was founded in 1871. The building has been leased continuously to Shepherd since the trusteeship was established.
WVU instructor Napolitano named Professor of the Year
By Staff reports

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- Marcello R. Napolitano, a mechanical and aerospace engineering professor at West Virginia University, was named the Faculty Merit Foundation’s 2011 Professor of the Year at the West Virginia Culture Center Tuesday.

Napolitano, who has been with WVU since 1990, teaches at the university’s Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources.

With the recognition, Napolitano received a $10,000 cash award.

"Dr. Napolitano is certainly one of our very best," WVU President Jim Clements said in a university statement. "I am extremely pleased that he is being recognized for his outstanding teaching and research as well as his dedication over the years. The comments from his students say it all, and underscore the huge difference our faculty members make in the lives of our students and the quality of [WVU]."

Napolitano received his doctorate in aerospace engineering from Oklahoma State University and his master’s degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Naples Federico II, in Italy. Along with his colleague, Dr. Mario Perhinschi, he developed the unique MAE Flight Simulation Laboratory at WVU.

The center is used for teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the area of flight dynamics, flight simulations and flight controls, and determining the many different classes of failures on aircraft, according to a WVU news release. The technologies are part of full flight test development programs within NASA and the Air Force.

Jason Gross, a former WVU student body president and currently a NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory researcher at California Institute of Technology, took Napolitano’s classes at WVU.

"His enthusiasm, in-depth knowledge of the subject matter and willingness to challenge me quickly made his courses my favorite," Gross said, according to the news release.

Gregory P. Noone, a political science and law professor at Fairmont State University, was named the runner-up at Tuesday’s event. The three other finalists were: Phil O. McClung, a professor of social sciences at WVU-Parkersburg, Yi Charlie Chen, who teaches biology at Alderson-Broaddus College, and Laura H. Clayton, a professor of nursing education at Shepherd University.

The Faculty Merit Foundation was created in 1984 to provide a means to recognize and reward outstanding innovation and creativity among the professors at West Virginia's public and private colleges and universities.
Group from China Conservatory of Music visits Shepherd

March 19, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - A delegation from the China Conservatory of Music, Beijing, China, visited Shepherd University March 7 as part of a visit to the Washington, D.C., area to exchange ideas in music education. The seven faculty members - specializing in the areas of piano, voice, general music education and choral conducting - met with Shepherd music faculty and students, toured the music facilities, sat in on student performances and exchanged gifts with the Shepherd Department of Music.

Haichuan Li, assistant professor of piano at the China Conservatory of Music, had met with Scott Beard, co-chair of Shepherd’s department of music, in 2009 in Croatia, where Beard was performing contemporary Chinese piano music for the College Music Society International Conference. Li contacted Beard in early January to arrange to visit Shepherd.

“This presents an excellent opportunity for us to recruit some international undergraduate or graduate music students, and also provide a partnership for both their students and our own students in terms of study abroad,” Beard said.
Storytelling class offered at Shepherd

March 20, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Shepherd University Appalachian Studies program will offer a new course in the fall titled APST 345 - Appalachian Folk Tales and Storytelling. The course is designed to familiarize the student with the rich and diverse traditions of storytelling and folktales associated with the geographical region of Appalachia. Special attention will be given to the exploration of oral traditions within these genres and to the ethnic, historic and socio-cultural reflections found in storytelling. The course is available to the public for credit or audit.

Students will explore the Jack Tales, traditional Appalachian fairytales, ghost stories and other kinds of storytelling. Award-winning storyteller and winner of the prestigious Northeast Storytelling Festival Liars’ Contest, Adam Booth, will teach the class each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:10 to 2 p.m. Booth is also the three-time winner of the West Virginia Liar’s Contest, the Autumn Glory Tall Tales Competition, the Tell! Fredericksburg “Away We Go” Summer Stories Competition and recipient of the National Storytelling Network J. J. Reneaux Mentorship Grant.

Booth has a master’s degree from Case Western Reserve University, as well as a bachelor’s degree in music from the University of South Carolina and Shepherd. Booth has made conference presentations, held workshops and participated in festivals across the country.

Other Appalachian Studies courses taught this fall include APST/ENGL 358 - Appalachian Literature and APST/HIST 309 - History of West Virginia and the Appalachian Region.

For information, see the fall 2012 class schedule at www.shepherd.edu.
Shepherd students receive awards

Full Circle WV Inc. honors volunteers for more than 800 hours of service

March 20, 2012
journal-news.net

CAPON BRIDGE - Full Circle WV Inc. recently announced it has awarded four volunteers with the President’s Volunteer Service Award, a national honor offered in recognition of volunteer service.

The following three Shepherd University students will receive the Gold Award for completing more than 800 hours of service:

Morgan Davis, freshman, environmental science;

Kristi Edwards, junior, environmental science; and

Miranda Miller, junior, nursing.

Established in 2003, the award is available on an annual basis to individuals, groups and families who have met or exceeded requirements for volunteer service and have demonstrated exemplary citizenship through volunteering.

Full Circle WV Inc. has a long history of volunteer service, and more than 25 volunteers perform community service each year on behalf of the organization. The organization advocates for individuals in need of social services and is currently creating a “caring community” at Shepherd University in which students pay forward a kindness.

For more information about how to qualify for the President’s Volunteer Service Award and to find out how to identify additional volunteer opportunities in the area, call 1-866-545-5307.
Groh resigns from circuit court to take federal position

March 20, 2012
By Edward Marshall, Journal Staff Writer, journal-news.net

MARTINSBURG - As a result of the U.S. Senate confirming her nomination to the federal bench in the North District of West Virginia last week, Judge Gina M. Groh formally announced her resignation Monday from her position as a judge in the state's 23rd Judicial Circuit.

Groh was confirmed by the Senate in a 95-2 roll call vote Thursday.

West Virginia Supreme Court public information officer Jennifer Bundy said Groh's resignation letter was faxed Monday morning to West Virginia Supreme Court Chief Justice Menis E. Ketchum II, with copies sent to Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, the director of human resources for the courts and Nominations Counsel Jeremy Barber.

Groh's resignation was effective at noon Monday.

"I look forward to the new direction of my career, even though I will miss the friends I have made in the state court system. Thank you, the other justices, Steve Canterbury, Rory Perry and all of the other folks at the administrative office for the support and opportunities you have provided me during the last several years. I have enjoyed my time on the state court bench," Groh’s resignation letter reads.

Bundy subsequently announced that Ketchum has appointed Senior Status Judge Andrew N. Frye Jr. to preside in all matters on Groh's docket in state court beginning Monday and continuing until a governor-appointed successor is decided upon to serve the remainder of Groh's unexpired term on the state bench, which expires in 2016.

Groh was nominated to the federal bench by President Barack Obama on May 19, 2011, to fill the seat on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia. That seat has been left vacant since 2005, following the death of Judge W. Craig Broadwater.

Groh was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee by an unopposed voice vote on Oct. 6, 2011, and had been waiting since for an up-or-down vote by the full Senate.

Groh was appointed in 2005 to a newly created judgeship in the state's 23rd Judicial Circuit by then-West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin. She was re-elected to a full, eight-year term in 2008.

Prior to becoming a judge, Groh spent nine years as a litigation associate at firms in Martinsburg and Washington, D.C., and later served as an assistant prosecution attorney in Berkeley and Jefferson counties for more than eight years.

Groh earned her juris doctor degree from the West Virginia University College of Law and a Bachelor of Science degree from Shepherd University.

- Staff writer Edward Marshall can be reached at 304-263-8931, ext. 182, or emarshall@journal-news.net
Whistleblower set to hold book signing

March 20, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - In cooperation with Shepherd University and the Four Seasons book store, Honorcode Publishing LLC is holding a book signing at the SU Library at 1 p.m. April 14. Robert Danno, former C&O Canal chief ranger, recently authored a book, "Worth Fighting For," about being the federal whistleblower in a treecutting case at a national park.
Submitted photo
Raymond Smock spoke about the first Congressional investigation in U.S. history during a talk at the Martinsburg Public Library recently. Smock is shown presenting a copy of "Congress Investigates: A Critical and Documentary History," published in 2010 as a Congressional research project of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, to Pamela Chyle, director of the Martinsburg Public Library. Smock was one of the project's editors.
Groh appointed by President to federal bench

BRYAN CLARK Spirit Staff

Judge Gina Marie Groh was appointed to a seat on the West Virginia Northern District Court by President Barack Obama on Tuesday, ending a six-year vacancy on the federal bench.

"It is an honor, and it is also very exciting now that it is sinking in and becoming a reality," said Groh, a Charles Town resident, soon after hearing of her nomination. "I think it is going to give me an opportunity to learn and grow and exercise my mind."

"I really appreciate it. I am honored by the President’s nomination, and I am so appreciative and honored that Sen. (Jay) Rockefeller had the confidence to recommend me and that Sen. (Joe) Man-

◆ See GROH page A6
vote last week.

Groh had been nominated for the seat by President Barack Obama in May, 2011, and was unanimously recommended for confirmation by the Senate Judiciary Committee. But her confirmation, along with that of several other nominated federal judges, had been held up in the Senate.

A previous nominee put forward by President George W. Bush was never passed through the Judiciary Committee.

The issue of stalled judicial nominees was beginning to draw the ire of the president and Senate Democrats. Earlier this week, Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., threatened to use parliamentary procedures to force an up-or-down vote on the 17 nominees currently before the Senate. Some Republicans, in turn, threatened to use parliamentary procedures to force 30 hours of debate on each candidate before the vote.

Groh’s confirmation is the first of a series of 14 confirmations expected to occur in the coming days, following an agreement announced recently between Republicans and Democrats.

The only votes against Groh’s confirmation came from Sens. Mike Lee, R-Utah, and Jim DeMint, R-S.C., who have said they will vote to block all judicial nominees in retaliation for recent appointments made by Obama.

Judge John Preston Bailey, chief judge of the Northern District Court, called Groh a great appointee. “We’re tickled to have her join the bench,” he said. “We know she’s going to do a great job.”

The seat has been vacant since 2006, following the death of Judge Craig Broadwater. Bailey said it has taken hard work to keep up with the court’s docket with one judge short.

“The docket is current. I’ve been travelling to keep the docket current,” said Bailey, who lives and primarily practices in Wheeling but has to travel to hear cases in Martinsburg as well.

“I loved the people and the lawyers in Martinsburg, but it’s a four hours each way. It was difficult physically,” Bailey said.

There are currently 83 unfilled seats on federal benches throughout the country.
Shepherd to host Celtic Roots travel course

The Appalachian Studies Program at Shepherd University is sponsoring a Celtic Roots travel course in spring 2013. The course will include a travel component to Ireland, Scotland, and parts of England influenced by Celtic culture and heritage. Shepherd and community members are invited to join students on this journey into the Celtic heartland.

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Shepherd to host cultural seminar

March 22, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd University will host the Diversity and Cultural Competence: Create and Cultivate with Courage and Compassion seminar and workshop today.

Beverly Malone, chief executive officer of the National League for Nursing, will present the keynote address from 11 a.m. to noon at the Butcher Center. Her address is free and open to the public.

This professional development opportunity is supported by a federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Clarise Ottley, associate professor of nursing education, said the workshop is a collaboration with the Department of Nursing Education, Division of Student Affairs, Multicultural Student Affairs and the Diversity and Equity Committee and that the goal of the workshop is to create a climate of diversity and cultural competence.

A workshop for faculty and staff will be held in the Storer Ballroom, Student Center, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.; a seminar for prenursing and nursing students will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Frank Center. A workshop will be held with nursing faculty, the nursing advisory council and community health care partners at 3:30 p.m. in Erma Ora Byrd Hall, with a reception to follow.
Shepherd to hold a cappella concert

March 22, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Shepherd University a cappella choirs Chamber Singers, Women's Camerata and Men's Choir will join the new Vocal Jazz Octet at 8 p.m. March 31 in the Frank Theater. The centerpiece of the concert is "Requiem" by Herbert Howells, as well as "Mass No. 9" by Gyorgy Orban.

General admission to the a cappella concert is $10; $5 for faculty, staff and students 18 and under; and free to Shepherd students and Friends of Music MAC cardholders. Admission and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The box office opens one hour prior to performance.

More information is available by contacting the Shepherd Concertline at 304-876-5555 or visiting www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Shepherd museum trip scheduled

March 22, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Reservations are now being accepted until May 1 for the Scarborough Society of Shepherd University and the Shepherd Foundation tour to the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C., on May 17.

The bus will depart from Shepherd at 8:15 a.m. and return at approximately 5 p.m. The cost of the trip, including lunch, is $80 per person and is open to the public. To reserve a seat, please send your check to the Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443, or contact Phyllis Smock at 304-264-0560.

If you have any questions or would like to pay by credit card, contact Meg Peterson at 304-876-5021 or mpeterso@shepherd.edu.
Readings set at Shepherd

Neil LaBute plays slated to be read aloud at theater

March 22, 2012
Journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Ed Herendeen will direct the staged readings of three plays by critically acclaimed playwright Neil LaBute. "Some Girl(s)," "Reasons to Be Pretty" and "The Mercy Seat" will be read in repertory from today to March 31 on Shepherd University's campus in the Studio Theater at Sara Cree Hall.

The dark prince of American theater brings his fierce, disturbing energy to the Shepherd stage with three stage readings. His rapid-fire dialogue vividly captures provocative moments of conflict, a theatrical mix of sympathy and savagery, pathos and power.

The acting ensemble includes Sonya Evanisko, a Shepherd graphic design professor; Sean Murphy II, a computer information science major from Middletown, Md.; Brenna Ross, a music major from Waynesboro, Pa.; Caity See, a mass communications major from Moorefield; Ryan Smith, a mass communications major from Columbia, Md.; Bryan Staggers, a mass communications major from Keyser; Leiken Summerson, an elementary education major from Inwood; and Eileen Waggoner, a political science major from Hedgesville. Set design is by Patrick Wallace, and costume design is by Christina Smith.

Tickets are free. The box office opens one hour before curtain on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are no advance reservations.

The Studio Theater in Sara Cree Hall is located at 310 N. King St. in Shepherdstown. Performances for "Reasons to Be Pretty" are March 22, 28 and 31 at 8 p.m. Performances for "The Mercy Seat" are March 23 and 30 at 8 p.m. and March 25 at 2 p.m. Performances for "Some Girl(s)" are March 24, 27 and 29 at 8 p.m.

- From staff reports

IF YOU GO

What: Staged readings of plays 'Some Girl(s),' 'Reasons to Be Pretty' and 'The Mercy Seat'

by Neil LaBute

When: From today through March 31

Where: Shepherd

University's campus in the Studio Theater at Sara Cree Hall, 310 N. King St. in Shepherdstown

Ticket cost: Free
'Holy Harlots' set to be performed

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd University’s Rude Mechanicals Medieval and Renaissance Players will present "Holy Harlots: Two Medieval Plays about Prostitutes" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday and March 30 and 31; at 2 p.m. Monday; and at 9 p.m. March 28 and 29 in Reynolds Hall. Tickets will be available at the door. Ticket prices are $5 for the general public; $2 for Shepherd University faculty and staff; and free for Shepherd students.

For more information, contact Betty Ellzey at 304-876-5208 or belzey@shepherd.edu.
Celtic Roots travel class to be offered

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Appalachian Studies Program at Shepherd University is sponsoring a Celtic Roots travel course in spring 2013. The course will include a travel component to Ireland, Scotland and parts of England influenced by Celtic culture and heritage. Shepherd and community members are invited to join students on this journey into the Celtic heartland.

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Travelers should contact Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, Appalachian studies coordinator, at sshurbut@shepherd.edu. Initial deadline for the $500 deposit is March 31.
Fusco makes dean’s list

Nichole Marie Fusco of St. Mary’s County was named to the dean’s list at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, W.Va.

To be eligible for the dean’s list, a student must maintain a 3.4 grade point average for the semester and carry at least 15 hours of course work or be in a professional teaching block.
Eastern Panhandle jurist approved for federal judgeship

U.S. Senate approves Groh's nomination to U.S. District Court

By MATTHEW UMSTEAD

mattw.umstead@herald-mail.com

9:33 PM EDT, March 15, 2012

MARTINSBURG, W.Va.

Growing up in Williamsport, Gina Marie Groh never in her “wildest dreams” thought she would one day become a federal judge.

As it turns out, Groh, didn’t have to dream.

The U.S. Senate Thursday approved the 23rd Judicial Circuit judge’s nomination to U.S. District Court by a vote of 95-2.

Alerted of the Senate’s impending vote on Wednesday, Groh, 47, said she watched the vote as it happened via the Internet in her chambers on the fourth floor of the Berkeley County Judicial Center.

“We sat back here and did the math,” said Groh, laughing.

Nominated by President Obama on May 19, 2011, Groh said she did not know when she would resign from the state bench because she is currently presiding over a jury trial, which began Monday.

“I still have a jury out (deliberating) ... so I can’t make any decisions at this point,” Groh said Thursday evening. “I’m obligated to see this through.”

The jury impaneled for the trial is expected to continue deliberations Friday.

Aware the Senate could soon vote on her nomination, Groh said she has worked to keep her docket up-to-date to help ease the transition for the circuit court’s other judges.

“I consider myself fortunate to have been given this opportunity,” Groh said of the federal appointment.

After the president signs her commission, Groh will take the oath of office and begin serving at the U.S. courthouse in Martinsburg, which has been without a sitting judge since 2006, when Judge Craig
Broadwater died. The federal building was dedicated in Broadwater’s honor last year.

Groh said she is particularly thankful that the new appointment allows her to continue to serve West Virginia.

Groh graduated from Shepherd College, now Shepherd University, attended law school at West Virginia University and worked as an assistant prosecuting attorney before being appointed a judge in 2006.

“It’s an honor, but it’s humbling as well,” Groh said of her elevation to the federal bench.

Groh thanked U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller for recommending her nomination to the president.

She said she also appreciated the “whole-hearted support” of Joe Manchin, who joined Rockefeller in the Senate after winning a special election in 2010 to complete the unexpired term of the late Sen. Robert C. Byrd.

Both senators lauded Groh’s confirmation Thursday.

“I know she’ll do a great job,” Rockefeller said in a news release. “I commend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for moving her nomination forward for the good of the American people, and I’m hopeful this is a sign of a renewed spirit of bipartisanship in Congress.”

Manchin, in a floor speech Thursday, said he was proud to appoint Groh to the 23rd Judicial Circuit, where she has served with “great distinction” ever since.

Manchin noted Groh was only the third female circuit judge in the state when he appointed her to the circuit, which is comprised of Morgan, Berkeley and Jefferson counties.

Groh’s nomination cleared the Senate Judiciary Committee in October.

Although she is a Washington County native and Williamsport High School graduate, Groh was quick to note her lifelong ties to West Virginia. Her father, the late Foster P. Householder Sr., was from Morgan County.

After several years in private practice, Groh began prosecuting cases for the state in Berkeley County. She became an assistant prosecutor in Jefferson County in 2002.

After being appointed by Manchin in 2006, Groh successfully won election to an eight-year term in 2008.

She lives in Jefferson County with her husband, Steve.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin will appoint Groh’s replacement after the Judicial Vacancy Advisory Commission interviews applicants and recommends three finalists for the governor’s consideration, spokeswoman Kimberly Osborne said Thursday.
A Cappella concert set at Shepherd

March 23, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The Shepherd University a cappella choirs Chamber Singers, Women's Camerata, and Men's Choir will join the new Vocal Jazz Octet on Saturday, Mar. 31 at 8 p.m. in the Frank Theater. The centerpiece of the concert is Requiem by Herbert Howells, as well as Mass No. 9 by Gyorgy Orban.

The Chamber Singers is a mostly a cappella ensemble concentrating on masterpieces of the 20th century.

The ensemble is made up of 20 to 24 students each year. While most of the members are vocal majors, other music majors and Shepherd students participate. The Women's Camerata, under the direction of Dr. Erik Reid Jones, is an ensemble of 30 to 35 female singers comprised of voice majors, music majors, and students from other disciplines at Shepherd. The Men's Choir, under the direction of Joseph Regan, is an ensemble of 12 to 15 male voices singing jazz, doo-wop, barbershop and classical male choir literature. The new Vocal Jazz Octet, under the direction of Dr. Jones, will be premiering several works in the vocal jazz style.

General admission to the a cappella concert is $10; $5 for faculty, staff and students 18 and under; and free to Shepherd students and Friends of Music MAC cardholders. Admission and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The box office opens one hour prior to performance.

For more information, contact the Shepherd Concertline at 304-876-5555, or visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
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Travelers should contact Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, Appalachian studies coordinator, at sshurbut@shepherd.edu. Initial deadline for the $500 deposit is Saturday, Mar. 31.
Summer music camps scheduled at Shepherd

March 23, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

Shepherd University’s summer Jazz Camps and String Orchestra Camp are now open for registration. Application deadline is Monday, May 14.

The String Orchestra Camp will take place from June 18 to 22 in the Frank Center from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is open to students currently enrolled in grades 9-12, as well as those who will have completed the eighth grade this year. A string orchestra concert performance will take place on Friday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m. String instructors for the camp include Shepherd faculty members Heather Austin-Stone, violin/viola; Stephen Czarkowski, cello/bass; and guest faculty member Teresa Gordon, violin/viola.

The Senior Jazz Camp will take place from June 25 to 29 in the Frank Center from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and is open to students currently enrolled in grades 9-12, as well as those who will have completed the eighth grade this year. The Senior Jazz Camp members will participate in a concert on Friday, June 29 at 6:30 p.m. Camp instructors include Shepherd faculty members Dr. Kurtis Adams, Dr. Mark Cook, Dave Marsh and Ronnie Shaw.

The tuition fee for either the String Orchestra Camp or the Senior Jazz Camp is $250. The tuition includes lunch every day and Friday dinner at the Dining Hall.

The Junior Jazz Camp that will take place from June 25 to 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The camp is open to students currently enrolled in grades 6-8, and the tuition fee is $125. Lunch is not included, students should bring a bagged lunch.

For more information or to receive a registration form, visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb/summer_camps.html or contact Anne Munro at amunro@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5555.
The King’s Singers to perform at Shepherd University

March 16, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The King's Singers, one of the world's most celebrated ensembles, will be in concert at the Frank Center of Shepherd University on Tuesday, Mar. 20, 2012, at 8 p.m. Brought to Shepherdstown by Friends of Music, The King's Singers have a packed schedule of concerts, recordings, media and education work that spans the globe. Championing the work of young and established composers, they remain consummate entertainers; a class-act with a delightfully British wit.

Neal Barkus, Friends of Music board president promising "a great evening of entertainment" said "The King's Singers are one of the finest and most famous singing groups in the world. We are very lucky to have them perform on the Frank Center stage."

At the Grammy Awards in February, 2012, the King's Singers won in the Best Choral Performance category for Light and Gold. The album was released in October 2010 and jumped to the number one Classical Album on the US and UK charts within a week.

"The King's Singers represent the finest in the British choral tradition" said Dr. Scott Beard, co-chair of the SU Department of Music and Dean of Graduate Studies, "We are thrilled to have this world-renowned, Grammy-award winning group here at Shepherd University."

The mission of Friends of Music, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is to support the Shepherd University Department of Music, the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra and promote musical excellence throughout the region.

To purchase The King's Singers tickets and to learn more about the Friends of Music, please call Friends of Music, 304-876-5765 or visit www.sufom.org. General admission tickets are $45. The King's Singers concert is not included in the FOM concert series.
SU Theater to present staged reading repertory

March 23, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

Ed Herendeen is directing the staged readings of three plays by critically-acclaimed playwright Neil LaBute. Some Girl(s), Reasons to Be Pretty, and The Mercy Seat will be read in repatory from March 22-31 on Shepherd's campus in the Studio Theater at Sara Cree Hall.

A rotating repertory of three plays by the critically acclaimed playwright, filmmaker, and fiction writer, Neil LaBute. The dark prince of American Theater brings his fierce, disturbing energy to the Shepherd University stage with three Stage Readings. His rapid fire dialogue vividly captures provocative moments of conflict with theatrical mix of sympathy and savagery, pathos and power.

Neil LaBute has been described as "the most legitimately provocative and polarizing playwright at work today," by The New York Magazine; "Like a chiropractor of the soul. LaBute is looking for realignment, listening for a crack," by Elle Magazine; and "[he] will make you squirm in your seat. It's theater without novocaine," by The Journal News.

The acting ensemble includes: Sonya Evanisko, a Shepherd University graphic design professor; Sean Murphy II, a Computer Information Science major from Middletown, Md.; Brenna Ross, a Music major from Waynesboro, Pa.; Caity See, a Mass Communications major from Moorefield; Ryan Smith, a Mass Communications major from Columbia, Md.; Bryan Staggers, a Mass Communications major from Keyser; Laiken Summerson, an Elementary Education major from Inwood; and Eileen Waggoner, a Political Science major from Hedgesville. Set design is by Patrick Wallace and costume design is by Christina Smith.

Tickets are free. The Box Office opens one hour before curtain on a first come, first serve basis; there are no advance reservations. The performances will take place in the Studio Theater in Sara Cree Hall, which is located at 310 North King Street in Shepherdstown, WV. Performances for Reasons to be Pretty are March 28, and 31 at 8 p.m.; Performances for The Mercy Seat are March 23 and 30 at 8 p.m. and March 25 at 2 p.m.; Performances for Some Girl(s) March 24, 27, and 29 at 8 p.m.
Shepherd announces recipients of the Create the Future awards

March 23, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

Shepherd University students Erin Shaw and Amanda Dotson have been named recipients of the first Create the Future Study Abroad Scholarship.

The $25,000 Create the Future endowment was created by President Suzanne Shipley and her husband, Randall Wadsworth, in 2007 to support travel expenses for faculty conducting research abroad and students studying abroad. The gift was matched by the Shepherd University Foundation in honor of Dr. Shipley's inauguration.

The fund was created because of the worthwhile experiences Dr. Shipley and her husband had while studying abroad.

Shaw, a sophomore environmental studies major from Petersburg, will travel to France, England, Switzerland, Italy and the Netherlands as part of a European art and architecture program through the American Institute for Foreign Study this summer.

"The chance to grasp how international communities and individuals regard and practice the different approaches to historic preservation would be crucial to my success in my future career field," Shaw said. "This scholarship will be immensely helpful financially in allowing me to succeed in my ambition to study abroad."

Dotson, a senior political science major from Harpers Ferry, traveled to China over spring break.

Dotson said as a political science major, she is interested in experiencing the culture difference while in China and learning more about their government and the strength of their sense of tradition.

"Throughout my life I have stayed in my own bubble and to be able to experience different cultures will help me work better with people from different cultures and different backgrounds," said Dotson.

For more information about making a private gift through the Shepherd University Foundation, please contact Monica Lingenfelter, Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV, 25443-5000, 304-876-5397, or visit www.shepherd.edu/fndtnweb.
Spring events at Shepherd for the community

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Shepherdstown Chronicle

By Chuck Corra

Special to the Chronicle

Shepherd University’s spring events schedule is packed full this year and many activities highly encourage community involvement. Although Shepherd seeks to primarily serve its student population, several of the events hosted this spring will provide a great opportunity for community members as well.

On Monday Mar. 26, The Shepherd University Republicans will be hosting nationally acclaimed author and political commentator S.E. Cupp at 6:30 p.m. in the Erma Ora Byrd Auditorium. Cupp will be speaking about modern conservatism in the United States as well as the upcoming Presidential election for 2012. Admission is $5 for members of the community.

Changing pace from modern conservative speakers to two medieval plays about prostitution, the Shepherd University Rude Mechanicals will be performing "Holy Harlots" beginning Friday Mar. 23 at 7:30 p.m. until March 31, with seven showings. This event is also $5 for admission for community members. Other events encompassing the arts that may interest members of the community include several performances related to Shepherd’s music department. During the month of April, the music department will host a composition recital (April 16; 3:15 p.m.), a small ensemble concert (Apr. 17; 8 p.m.), and Jazz night at the Frank Center (Apr. 10; 8 p.m.).

One of the biggest events, arguably, for the entire Shepherd University campus is Relay For Life.

Every year, Shepherd students form teams and compete to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

The event will be held in the Shepherd Wellness Center this year, and will start on March 30 at 4 p.m., and last through the night until the next morning.

Several fundraising events coinciding with Shepherd’s relay have already happened, including bracelet sales, raffles and bake sales. Because Relay For Life unites everyone together toward a common goal, not just college students, community members are highly encouraged to find a team and join in on the fun and advocacy. Many fundraisers will occur during the actual event and teams will be walking all night around the track in the wellness center. Registration for team members is 10 dollars, but people are encouraged to have some extra cash handy, if possible, for the various fundraising activities on site.
Shepherd Symphony debuts with the Shepherd Wind Ensemble

March 23, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The new Shepherd University Symphony Band, along with the Shepherd Wind Ensemble, will perform their first concert featuring international wind band music on Friday, April 6 at 8 p.m. in the Frank Center. A pre-concert lecture describing the works is free with admission beginning at 7 p.m. The audience is also invited to spend an hour with conductor Dr. Scott Hippensteel and the ensemble following the performance.

The Symphony Band is open to Shepherd music majors, non-music majors, faculty, staff and community members. Selections to be performed by the Symphony Band will include Ambarito Roca, a Spanish march; Chester, an overture based on the American Revolutionary War song by William Billings; Country Gardens by Percy Grainger; Courty Airs and Dances, a six movement suite of international Renaissance dances by Ron Nelson; a setting of Amazing Grace by Frank Ticheli; and a syncopated, bouncy southern fugue by Brant Karrick titled Bayou Breakdown.

The second half of the program will feature the Wind Ensemble with the Festive Overture by Dimitri Shostakovitch; Toccata Maritale by Ralph Vaughan Williams; Vientos y Tangos, a new work by Michael Gandolfi in the style of Astor Piazzolla using a creative variety of timbres and Argentinian dance rhythms; Florentiner March by Czech composer Julius Fucik in an grand Italian march style; October by Eric Whitacre; and Frenzy, a work of fast-paced intensity by Andrew Boyesen.

The Wind Ensemble is comprised of Shepherd music majors and a few select non-majors. The ensemble has been invited to perform around the world. In 2001, the group accepted an invitation from the Lord Mayor of Dublin to tour Ireland. In 2004, its recording of Barnes's Symphony #3 garnered the ensemble an invitation to be a part of the 2005 season in Carnegie Hall. And in 2009, the Wind Ensemble attended a 10-day concert tour of Munich, Salzburg, Vienna, and Prague.

Admission and seating for the Symphony Band and Wind Ensemble concert is on a first-come, first-serve basis. The box office will open one hour prior to each performance. General admission is $10, $5 for students 18 and under, and free to Shepherd students and Friends of Music MAC Cardholders.

For more information, call 304-876-5555 or visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Shepherd to host diversity seminar

Shepherd University will host the Diversity and Cultural Competence: Create and Cultivate with Courage and Compassion seminar and workshop on Thursday, Mar. 29.

Dr. Beverly Malone, chief executive officer of the National League for Nursing, will present the keynote address from 11 a.m. to noon at the Butcher Center. Her address is free and open to the public.

Malone is a leader in the national conversation about the nursing and nurse educator shortage, and the role of nursing in ensuring access to safe, quality, culturally competent care to diverse patient populations, domestically and globally.

This professional development opportunity is supported by a federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). According to Dr. Clarise Ottley, associate professor of nursing education, the workshop is a collaboration with the Department of Nursing Education, Division of Student Affairs, Multicultural Student Affairs, and the Diversity and Equity Committee.

A goal of the HRSA grant is to address the cultural competence and diversity climate on campus. Cultural competence is typically defined as a set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, agency, or among professionals that enables effective work in cross-cultural situations.

Ottley said that the goal of the workshop is to create a climate of diversity and cultural competence.

"It's more than just getting nurses in the workforce; it is developing a knowledge that they're caring for a diverse people," Ottley said. "By creating a culture on campus, all students understand the need for cultural sensitivity and competency and diversity."

Community business people and health care professionals have been invited to attend the keynote in addition to the Shepherd community, Ottley said.

"The theme affects all people in all walks of life, not just in nursing or on Shepherd's campus," Ottley said. "We want to be the trendsetter and set the example."

Ottley said that Shepherd sets the example for the community, and she believes that the campus has the ability to make a difference in people's attitudes toward cultural sensitivity and diversity.

"I'm always an advocate for diversity conversations on campus," said Christana Johnson, assistant vice president for student affairs. This is a promising and positive event. I'm happy we're able to accomplish something like this. It shows our commitment to diversity on campus. It's a great learning opportunity for the campus community. I really want them to be involved."
"We believe in the people and departments and administrators here and from (this workshop), the campus will change," Ottley said. "It's about being aware of the need for diversity and cultural sensitivity in the classroom and everything we do. We will strengthen that which is on a strong foundation."

A workshop for faculty and staff will be held in the Storer Ballroom, Student Center, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.; a seminar for pre-nursing and nursing students will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Frank Center.

A workshop will be held with nursing faculty, the nursing advisory council, and community health care partners at 3:30 p.m. in Erma Ora Byrd Hall and a reception will following the workshop.