Walker Horton Shipley
Recital Hall dedicated

An evening of music by German composers was performed by music students and faculty during the January 14 dedication of the Walker Horton Shipley Recital Hall in the Frank Center.

Through the generosity of President Suzanne Shipley and Randy Wadsworth, a handmade Italian Fazioli piano was purchased for the newly renovated recital space. In addition, Mary Jane Shipley endowed a music scholarship in her husband’s name.

Walker Horton Shipley worked in radio and television in his native Texas during the ’50s and ’60s, moving into personnel management in the ’70s and ’80s. Until his death in 2000, Mr. Shipley was the president of Man Alive, a human resources development company specializing in the needs of small- and medium-sized organizations.

He studied music at Baylor University until World War II interrupted his studies. He served as a navigator in the 456 Bombardment Group, 15th Army Air Force, stationed in Italy. A saxophonist, Mr. Shipley enjoyed playing and listening to music throughout his life.
Shepherd Today
A balanced life leads to success .......................... 4
Dr. Ottley named to national program ............... 4
CCA II construction to begin ......................... 5
Dr. Snyder is Professor of the Year finalist .......... 5
SU receives $1.1 million TRIO grant ................. 5
Tyson played dual roles during football season ... 6
Ciancaglini demonstrates DII philosophy .......... 6
Stewart opens record store ............................ 7

Alumni
Smith ’09 creates third film .............................. 8
Ball ’96 makes strides in Hollywood ................. 9
McNeel ’01 fills CATF development post .......... 10
Charles ’02 named to “40 under 40” ............... 11
Class Notes ............................................. 12
Weddings, New Arrivals ............................. 14
Obituaries ............................................. 15
’55 football team celebrates 55th anniversary ... 16
Homecoming 2010 .................................... 17

Athletics
Hall of Fame inducts four .............................. 18
Softball alumnae return to campus for game ..... 19
Rams reach NCAA DII Final Four ................... 20
Sports round-up ...................................... 22
Steele featured in Sports Illustrated ............... 21

Development
Irwin Studio dedicated ............................... 24
Oates family donates heirloom clock ............... 24
Your gift makes a difference: Joseph Reni III ’60 . 25
Leave a legacy: Thomas Miller ...................... 27
Foundation announces 11 new named funds .. 28
Skinner joins Foundation board ................... 29

Foundation
Ramón A. Alvarez ’62
President
Shepherdstown
James M. Davis ’59
Vice President
Shepherdstown
Michael A. Smith ’89
Treasurer
Winchester, Virginia
Allan L. Lueck ’67
Secretary
Shepherdstown
Monica W. Lingenfelter
Executive Vice President
Hagerstown, Maryland
John F. Beatty
Martinburg
Jason S. Best
Shepherdstown
Kenneth J. Boone ’76
Baltimore, Maryland
Julia M. Connell ’84
Charles Town
Deborah J. Dhyer ’74
Berkeley Springs
Scott Bradford Doleman ’95
Imwood

Alumni Association
Scott Bradford Doleman ’95
President
Imwood
Tripp Lowe ’95 and ’97
Vice President
Shepherdstown
Louis Tiano ’72
Treasurer
Shepherdstown
Rebecca Myers ’02
Secretary
Imwood
Elizabeth Greenfield Adams ’98
Martinburg
Jim Auxter ’69
Shepherdstown
Denny Barron ’73
Shepherdstown
Chris Colbert ’95
Shepherdstown
Karin Hammann Dunn ’93
Martinburg
Ted Gillette ’76
Ashtabula, Virginia

Board of Governors
Mary Clare Eros
Chair
Shepherdstown
Gar Caperton
Vice Chair
Berkeley Springs
W. Mark Rudolph ’84
Secretary
Winchester, Virginia

Anna Boh
Student Representative
Shepherdstown
John Beatty
Martinburg
Jason S. Best
Faculty Representative
Shepherdstown
Lacy L. Rice III
Washington, D.C.

D. Scott Roach ’80
Martinburg
Diane Shewbridge ’73
Classified Employee Representative
Martinburg
Verosique Walker ’95
Martinburg
John Younis
Shepherdstown

Gina Groh ’86
Charles Town
Tripp Jackson ’83
Tolula Lake, California
Tiffany Lawrence ’94
Ranstown
Lynn Leatherman ’92
Falling Waters
Erik Lewis ’95
Shepherdstown
Chris Mack ’88
Hertford, Virginia
Holly McCall ’04
Ironton, Ohio
Kim Mercier ’78
Baltimore, Maryland
Nancy Smeltzer ’88 and ’97
Gerrardstown
Sandy Spauling ’95
Shepherdstown

Eric Stenger ’94
Martinburg
Nelson Vasquez ’86
Hooksett, New Hampshire
James R. Fleener ’74
Director Emeritus
Martinburg
Paul Hillyard ’58
Director Emeritus
Winchester, Virginia
Larry A. Steine ’60
Director Emeritus
Shepherdstown
Charles VanMeter ’56
Director Emeritus
Shepherdstown
Robert Wantz ’53
Director Emeritus
Hagerstown, Maryland
Chris Wooster ’87
Director Emeritus
Fallston, Maryland
Day of Service celebrates 10th anniversary

The Office of Student Community Service and Service Learning held its 10th annual Day of Service before the start of the fall 2010 semester with approximately 200 first-year students participating. The two-day event gives incoming freshmen a chance to get acclimated to campus and meet other students. On the first day, teams traveled to 25 sites where they cleaned, weeded, and organized, among other tasks. The second day was spent helping other students move into their dorms.

The program is designed to use mentoring as a method of enhancing participants’ leadership skills in their role as teacher, scholar, clinician, and nursing education community member. During the program, Dr. Ottley will develop a group project focusing on nursing education leadership, which will be presented at the National League for Nursing’s 2011 Education Summit to be held in Orlando, Florida, September 21-24. Her assigned mentor is Jan M. Nick, Ph.D., a fellow of the Academy of Nursing Education and an associate professor at Loma Linda University School of Nursing in California.

Dr. Ottley, who has been a Shepherd faculty member since 2000, received a bachelor of science degree from North Carolina Central University in 1977, an associate of science in nursing from Shepherd in 1991, a master of science from George Mason University in 1997, and a Ph.D. in nursing from Duquesne University in 2009. In addition to being an R.N., Dr. Ottley is a certified nurse specialist, specializing in maternal/newborn care, and a certified childbirth educator, licensed to teach childbirth education/Lamaze classes.

SU named a best college in southeast by Princeton Review for sixth year

For the sixth year in a row, Shepherd University has been named one of the best colleges and universities in the southeast according to the Princeton Review’s website. The New York City-based education services company selected Shepherd as one of 133 institutions it recommends in its “Best in the Southeast” section on its website feature 2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region.

The 133 colleges the Princeton Review chose for its Best in the Southeast designation are located in 12 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Princeton Review also designated 218 colleges in the Northeast, 120 in the West, and 152 in the Midwest as best in their locales on the company’s 2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region website. The 623 colleges named bests represent about 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges.

Dr. Ottley named to national program

Dr. Clarise Hairston Ottley ’91, assistant professor of nursing education, has been selected as a protégé in the National League for Nursing/Johnson & Johnson Faculty Leadership and Mentoring Program.

The program is designed to use mentoring as a method of enhancing participants’ leadership skills in their role as teacher, scholar, clinician, and nursing education community member. During the program, Dr. Ottley will develop a group project focusing on nursing education leadership, which will be presented at the National League for Nursing’s 2011 Education Summit to be held in Orlando, Florida, September 21-24. Her assigned mentor is Jan M. Nick, Ph.D., a fellow of the Academy of Nursing Education and an associate professor at Loma Linda University School of Nursing in California.

Dr. Ottley, who has been a Shepherd faculty member since 2000, received a bachelor of science degree from North Carolina Central University in 1977, an associate of science in nursing from Shepherd in 1991, a master of science from George Mason University in 1997, and a Ph.D. in nursing from Duquesne University in 2009. In addition to being an R.N., Dr. Ottley is a certified nurse specialist, specializing in maternal/newborn care, and a certified childbirth educator, licensed to teach childbirth education/Lamaze classes.
Dr. Snyder is finalist for state Professor of the Year award

Dr. Ed Snyder, chair of the Institute of Environmental and Physical Sciences and professor of environmental studies, was nominated as one of five finalists for the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia’s 2010 Professor of the Year honor.

Dr. Snyder, who joined Shepherd’s faculty in 1986, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He was named Teacher of the Year at Shepherd in 1991.

Dr. Snyder developed the environmental studies program at Shepherd in 1994. The program was implemented as a major course of study in 1997. He has secured many grants for Shepherd and said that it’s worthwhile for him to see resources come to Shepherd’s campus.

“That to me is the reward and recognition—when you see students gain and do things they wouldn’t have if we hadn’t brought resources to campus; that is the fun part,” he said. “Shepherd is easy to represent. We have great students and staff and many great things to show off. The potential here is something that has always been amazing to me. Shepherd has always encouraged creativity.”

The Faculty Merit Foundation was started to recognize and reward excellence in higher education at private and public colleges in the state. Candidates are nominated by their students and colleagues in the fall. The board of directors of the Faculty Merit Foundation met in December 2010 to begin screening the applicants. Final candidates were interviewed by the board in January. The five finalists will be honored at a March reception and banquet in Charleston where the 2010 Professor of the Year will be announced.

The award winner receives a $10,000 cash prize, with smaller awards to the other finalists. The Professor of the Year award is presented with financial support from United Bank.

Snyder said he is in good company along with past professors who have been finalists and recipients of the award. Previous Shepherd honorees of the award include Dr. Scott Beard and Dr. Jerry Thomas, finalists in 2009 and 2007, and Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt and Dr. Linda Tate, winners in 2006 and 2004.

Social work program receives grant

The Department of Social Work has received a $133,748 grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Upon receiving this grant, the program has secured more than $1.8 million in outside funding for the mission and goals of Shepherd and the social work program.
Tyson played dual roles on game day as athletic trainer and halftime performer

From her vantage point along the sidelines, Liz Tyson saw the Ram football team make its way to the DII Final Four this past season. As an assistant athletic trainer under Gayle Conner ’75, head athletic trainer, Liz has traveled with the Rams for the past three seasons.

Liz, a recreation and leisure studies major with a concentration in sports fitness and exercise science from Sellersville, Pennsylvania, will graduate in May from the honors program.

It was the Ram Band and athletic program that initially attracted Liz to Shepherd. A longtime twirler with her local high school band, she became increasingly interested in Shepherd after seeing the Ram Band perform in Allentown. The focus on community service also assisted in her decision during her visit the weekend of Shepherd’s Relay for Life in 2006.

“I thought it was so cool to be able to see a big event—I could tell it wasn’t a boring campus and the students were doing something for a good cause,” Liz said.

During the past four years, Liz has participated with the Ram Band as a featured twirler for four years, was the co-president and secretary for Shepherd’s Habitat for Humanity, as well as serving on the Homecoming committee and as the survivor recruitment chair for Relay for Life for three years.

“I love Shepherd,” Liz said. “I knew that I’d have better opportunities to be more involved and I knew I’d be more likely to work with the teams.”

After graduation, Liz hopes to get a job in her field and then plans to get her doctorate in physical therapy. Ultimately, she would like to combine her background and interests and work with the American Cancer Society to design fitness programs and bedside exercises for patients.

A typical week during the fall for Liz included a lot of time in the athletic training room, working with football players doing rehabilitation and treatment. Often she would travel with the Ram Band after home games to participate in shows and competitions.

On game days, Liz would participate in 8 a.m. band practices before heading to the training room to get the team ready. She would wear her twirling leotard underneath her athletic training staff uniform for her job on the field, where she would provide immediate first aid in the event of injury on the field and provide preventative measures such as taping

Ciancaglini exemplifies NCAA DII ‘balanced life’ philosophy

Rob Ciancaglini, a senior biology major from Annapolis, Maryland, has fully immersed himself in campus life since coming to Shepherd three years ago. Recruited by coach Ernie McCook in the fall of 2007, Rob was a defensive lineman on the Ram football team during the team’s fall 2010 championship season. He has appeared in 28 games for the Rams on several different special teams.

Rob fits the definition of the NCAA Division II’s philosophy of a balanced life. As a student, he is dedicated to his team and academics, as well as contributing to the campus community. The NCAA calls for a comprehensive program of learning and development in a personal setting, according to the NCAA’s academic philosophy, and Division II provides growth opportunities through academic achievement, learning in high-level athletics competition, and development of societal attitudes in service to the community. The balance and integration of these different areas of learning opportunity provide Division II student-athletes with a path to graduation while also cultivating a variety of skills and knowledge for life ahead.

“My freshman year I came into a program that had already won three consecutive conference titles with the fourth coming in my first year accompanied by our second straight playoff appearance. We’ve since had what some may call two ‘off-years,’ but this year we were committed to ‘Taking Back the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference,’ which we did,” Rob said.

“Recently I’ve run into several Shepherd alumni from back in Shepherd’s NAIA days, and they’ve expressed nothing but pride in their alma mater. Being a part of something alumni can appreciate is really rewarding,” he said.

“Our team is a great group of guys. We all gel really well and get along like the tightest brotherhood you could imagine,” Rob said.
Senior Jay Stewart, of Myersville, Maryland, opened his record store, 6 Feet Under, in August 2010, at 115 East Patrick Street in Frederick, Maryland.

The idea for the shop percolated in Jay’s mind for three years before he finally opened his doors. He said he hopes to establish a sense of community by offering to let local artists sell their goods at his shop and creating a comfortable environment.

6 Feet Under offers a variety of rock, rap, electronica, soul, funk, jazz, and reggae in addition to comic books and DVD rentals as well as drinks and snacks. Jay said that he hopes his shop encourages a laid-back atmosphere where people come to hang out. He hopes to mirror the atmosphere of the Frederick Coffee Company, a place he enjoys going to for its atmosphere. Jay said that he plans to market the shop at various events held in downtown Frederick.

Previously a mass communications major at Ashland University, a private college in Ohio, Jay was enrolled in a course there that discussed starting a small frequency radio station, which is where he says his passion for both music and business began. “I’ve always loved music, but I have no ability to play music. My contribution to the music world would be my record store,” he said.

Jay transferred to Shepherd in 2007 in an effort to save on tuition and changed his major to business administration. “A lot of the classes I’ve taken have looked at where businesses want to go, more theoretical ideas, so a lot of the vision and planning for the store has developed from the classes I’ve taken,” he said.

Jay said that one thing that came in handy from his classes was the concept of writing a business plan and developing the idea to see if there were any potential potholes.

“Jay has some strategic objectives that are founded on a good understanding of regional demographics, he has an interesting sense of the past and the future of sound recording, and he seems to recognize that people have interest in both of those directions,” said Dr. Gordon DeMerritt, associate professor of business administration and chair of the Department of Business Administration.

Stewart opens record store in Maryland

“He will be successful with this business because he is willing to try a number of approaches and product mixes; he’s the kind of guy who will keep on experimenting until he finds a formula that works. Between his solid Shepherd business education and his personal commitment, he is headed for success.”

Jay finished his degree in business administration with a concentration in entrepreneurship and small business management with a minor in sports coaching in December 2010. He is currently interning at Frederick’s Gov. Thomas Johnson High School as an assistant football coach. After graduation, he plans to get a full-time job in addition to running his shop.

Tyson played dual roles

(continued from previous page)

elbows and wrists before the game as well as keeping the players hydrated throughout the game. After the halftime show, Liz would switch back to her athletic training staff uniform. “It’s fast paced; you get them [the players] ready to go and back in the game as soon as possible,” Liz said. “You’re there when it happens, and I’ve learned a lot through that.”

Liz’s experience with Relay was something she didn’t anticipate when she came to Shepherd. She says that she loved being the survivors’ chair and reaching out to the community. “I got to know a lot of faculty and staff who are survivors,” Liz said.

During the spring semester, Liz is interning with Christopher Horowicz of Professional Sports Care and Rehab in Shepherdstown. She said that she wanted to do something with health but didn’t want to be a doctor.

She said her interest in the human body and previous experience working in a rehabilitation physical therapy office helped her narrow her focus to physical therapy. Liz said that her work with the athletic department has redefined what she wanted to do with her career.

Liz said that the two “loves of her life” were football and twirling. And while Liz said that it made the semester physically exhausting, it was also a lot of fun. “I couldn’t choose between the two if I had to give one up,” Liz said. 

Ciancaglini exemplifies philosophy

(continued from previous page)

Program Board, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, and A-Team, where he was a captain for two years.

While in high school, Rob said he was in really involved. “Extracurricular activities have always been a strong point of mine. It’s something I took away from my parents, to not get caught up in any one thing,” he said. “I always tried to be as well rounded as possible.”

Rob said that he feels Shepherd has given him a wide array of opportunities since he’s been on campus. “Everyone has their spot; everyone has their niche in the community, but then at the same time, you’re not stuck there. You can do things you may not otherwise do,” he said. “One thing I’ve noticed is that everyone is really friendly. Everyone knows everyone else and there is no need for a formal introduction to someone. Shepherd allows the cliques to dissolve. If you want to meet a lot of different people, you can.”

Of all the organizations he’s been involved with on campus, Rob said that the A-Team, a group of students who assist with new student orientation, has made the biggest impression during his time at Shepherd, second only to his involvement with the football team. “I’ve been to every advisement and registration session for the past three years and, as a result, I’ve gotten to know

(continued to page 19)
Sun Jae Smith ’09 creates his third full-length film

Kearneysville native SUN JAE SMITH ’09 started making ninja movies at a young age with his little brothers. Today, he makes them for a living with his production company, LightSmith Productions, which he co-owns with his wife Mie.

While in high school, he started learning the techniques of filmmaking and began creating films with others as a hobby. “It’s fascinating to me, and I really love learning more about it—watching behind-the-scenes stuff from Hollywood movies and seeing how people did certain special effects and made the shots work,” Sun Jae said.

Sun Jae said he didn’t want to wait until he had a degree to start doing what he really wanted to do. “I just went out there and started doing it,” he said. “At Shepherd, I saw the potential that video production had in my life as a moneymaking career and, therefore, started a business. I actually feel really blessed that I can work in a field that I love. And I hope it will always be that way.”

In the past three years, LightSmith Productions, which is run with the help of Sun Jae’s brother-in-law Kensei Tsubata, audio engineer, and mother-in-law Kate Tsubata, writer and producer, has produced two feature films. The films are designed to have a positive, uplifting message and to focus on the value of people and the impact they have on others.

“On a grander scale, I feel that it is a great way to share important good messages and hopefully make a positive impact in people’s lives and in the world,” he said.

Sun Jae said that in the early days, he didn’t always know what he was doing with production. Since then though, his work has received first place awards in the Student Narrative Film category at the West Virginia International Film Festival two years in a row.

In 2008, the group finished Soul Search, a film that was shot in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia. The 75-minute film follows Amira, a talented spoken-word artist and musician who is trying to make it big. She accepts an offer of fame and fortune for her soul, not realizing the consequences of her agreement and, in the end, loses her gift of music and her senses.

The company’s second feature film was Cashing Out, a 98-minute film following the “pay it forward” concept. Suspicions are raised when mysterious cash gifts are received by people in crisis.

Sun Jae and Mie, who married in 2006 and currently live in Hyattsville, Maryland, filmed for 22 days in downtown Martinsburg during July 2010 for their latest film, AI Means Love. Mie was interested in producing a romantic comedy infused with international culture. The story follows two families, one from Japan and one from the United States, who are trying to merge two cultures and how they come together in the end. The film wasn’t autobiographical initially; the main concept was an international romantic comedy. “It kind of evolved into that as we started fleshing out the story to involve the Japanese-American aspect, which came from our parents,” Sun Jae said.

The couple wanted to reflect on how culture and faith affect the process of choosing a mate. Throughout the film, much of the comical aspects of the film were based on real-life situations. Sun Jae said that as Mie was growing up, she kept a notebook documenting some of the funniest things her Japanese dad said and did, which inspired different parts of the film. Mie’s father ended up playing the role of the father in the film. According to the film’s webpage, “Having spent time living in Japan as a child, Mie knows some of the difficulties that Christians have faced in that nation. Growing up on a West Virginia farm, Sun Jae has long wanted to introduce moviegoers to the true beauty of his home state.”

Sun Jae said they chose Martinsburg because of his closeness to the area and they wanted to take advantage of the scenic, small town feel it has. Sun Jae said that it was important to finish the project when they did because at the time of filming, Mie was eight months pregnant. The couple welcomed their first son, Kosei Erland Smith, on August 12, 2010. When they started planning the film, they went into it knowing that they had two deadlines—a production deadline and a due date. “I kind of joked that this would be our last film for a while, because it does take a lot of work,” Sun Jae said.

Sun Jae and Mie have previously worked with Ralph Lauren Children’s Wear Distribution Center in Martinsburg; the United States Coast Guard Operation Systems Center in Martinsburg; Shepherd University Relay For Life; Berkeley County Relay For Life, Martinsburg; Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Tour de Revs, Shepherdstown; and Hope Garden Children’s Ballet Theater in Poolesville, Maryland. Currently, LightSmith Productions is working with a client on a family oral history project.

Sun Jae and Mie are mainly freelancing, doing promotional and web work with clients in the Washington, D.C.-area. They both hope to one day distribute their feature films in a larger market. To learn more about Sun Jae’s work, visit his website lightsmithpro.com/. ¬ Jillian Kesner
Actor Sam Ball ’96 makes strides in Hollywood

Sam Ball ’96 may have studied chemistry while at Shepherd, but he has yet to play a chemist on the big screen or in real life. Sam, now an actor living in West Hollywood, got his start in acting when he was invited to audition for a play during the spring of his junior year.

Sam, a native of Bunker Hill, said that when his punk rock band broke up during his sophomore year, he was looking for another creative outlet. That’s when he ran into Jessica Milazzo ’96, an acting student who was working with Ed Herendeen, professor of theater and founder and producing director of the Contemporary American Theater Festival (CATF). She talked Sam into playing Gerry Williams in Dancing at Lughnasa, which was his first acting experience.

“That was the first time I had ever acted. If they say there’s a bug you get bitten by, it’s true,” Sam said. “I got bitten by this bug. I didn’t want to do chemistry anymore; I finished my major, but I knew I wasn’t going to do anything with it.”

Sam went on to do more plays at Shepherd, including Burn This, Marat/Sade, Death and the Maiden, and Gore Hounds, and also interned with CATF.

It was at CATF where he met actor Michael Patterson, who took him under his wing. After graduation, Sam moved to New York City with $2,000 in his shoe and stayed with Patterson, who introduced him to his agent. Shortly after that, he got his first job, playing Officer Drew Buchanan on the soap One Life to Live. Herendeen said students skipped class on the afternoon of Sam’s debut of the show so they could tune in.

Sam went on to appear in Sex and the City in 1999 opposite Sarah Jessica Parker, then played supporting roles in Law and Order in 2000; Dawson’s Creek in 2002 opposite Katie Holmes; Charmed in 2002; and Roswell in 2001 with Katherine Heigl. He performed in The Last Castle with Robert Redford in 2001, co-starred with fellow West Virginian Jennifer Garner in 2004’s 13 going on 30, and appeared with Christina Ricci in Pumpkin in 2002.

Even with all of his experience in the past 10 years, Sam said he just recently began taking acting classes. “Right now I’m just waking up, learning lines, acting every day, and it’s working,” he said. “You think acting is this mystical thing—you know if you’re good at it, you’re good at it, if you’re not, you’re not—but it’s really not true. You just work at it and work at it and keep doing it and you do get better,” Sam said.

Herendeen said that when Sam became a CATF intern, people noticed that he was very honest and natural. “And that’s the hardest thing for actors that you can’t teach: the ability to be very present, to be yourself in the moment,” Herendeen said. “In many ways, because Sam had never done it before, he was just being himself. That’s really what it’s about—the ability to be yourself in the moment.”

Part of Sam’s success was due to being in the right place at the right time. “I really believed I could do it, and a lot of it had to do with Ed’s energy. Being around people who love what they do inspires you, and I think that was a big part of it,” he said. “Ed is so inspiring.

“Ninety-five percent of the time,” Sam continued, “you don’t always get the role you’re auditioning for and you have to learn to accept it. You have to care, but you have to care knowing you may not get it.”

Sam said that there is no better place to be than on a production set. “Everything’s already been set up, it’s all ready, and you get to do the best part of it—the acting,” he said. “You just walk in and it’s all ready for you to play—and who wouldn’t want to do that? I feel like I’m on a good path right now. My future is bright. I’m really excited about life.”

Sam recently hired a new agent and he has been auditioning a lot, most notably for a J.J. Abrams-Steven Spielberg movie. He appeared in an episode of The Event as Aaron, with Blair Underwood, and appeared in Law and Order: Los Angeles in November 2010. He’s also currently starring as Pale in Burn This in Los Angeles, the same part he played at Shepherd in 1996. “It’s so fun working on it again. I’m the right age for it, and I have more of an understanding of the part. I’m really excited about that,” Sam said.

Herendeen said it’s always exciting to see someone do something with his or her life and that he’s proud of what Sam is doing. “I think one of the things that made it possible is having CATF here. It exposes our students to working with professional Equity actors and designers and directors and gives them an opportunity they wouldn’t get at other universities. It creates a network. That’s what Shepherd has to offer—that ability to connect our students with the real world.”

Herendeen said that part of what goes into acting is creating real belief in an imaginary way. “You crave that adrenaline,” he said.

“That’s the way you survive as an artist. You have to love it. It’s hard work,” Sam said. ❖ Jillian Kesner

Photo courtesy Sam Ball

SAM BALL ’96
James McNeel ’01 returns to Shepherd to fill CATF post

A decade after working as a student intern for the Contemporary American Theater Festival (CATF), James McNeel ’01 has returned to Shepherd as CATF’s director of development and marketing, bringing a wealth of arts administration experience back to campus.

While a student at Shepherd, James interned with CATF for three seasons, working on everything from the box office to staffing and publicity. Following graduation, James, a native of Pocahontas County, moved to Washington, D.C., to work as a literature specialist at the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). He managed the granting program responsible for literature fellowships in creative writing and translation and also worked closely with awarding grants to nonprofit literary presses, magazines, and service organizations. Over the course of his four and a half years with the NEA, he also contributed to the development of national initiatives including Shakespeare in America Communities, Poetry Out Loud, The Big Read, Operation Homecoming, and the National Book Festival.

In 2005, James relocated to New York City, where he was general manager and development consultant for the Center for Creative Resources (CCR), a nonprofit arts management firm. While at CCR, he worked closely with the feasibility study and operation of The Times Center, the midtown cultural venue designed by Renzo Piano and owned by The New York Times. During his time in New York, he also provided management, marketing, and fundraising services to numerous artists and arts organizations, including the Arts and Business Council of New York, Arthur Mitchell and Dance Theatre of Harlem, the Dramatists Guild Fund, and the New York Theatre Ballet.

For the past year, James was the director of development and marketing for the historic Cherry Lane Theatre. He has taken graduate classes in the field of arts management from American University in Washington, D.C.

James, who majored in English and minored in theater, said there was a core group of students in the theater program who were together throughout the year. “We really got to do some cool stuff. We would do a lot of new plays, but we would do them as if it were a professional theater,” James said.

James said that his Shepherd educational experience was exceptional. “I would put my education, even though it isn’t a bachelor’s of theater, against anyone with a theater degree just because of the professional connections we made and the real-life scenarios it presented. A lot of my dearest friends were from that same period, and many of us are working in our field and doing it successfully, whether it’s English or history.”

James commended Ed Herendeen, professor of theater and founder and producing director of CATF, as a brilliant director and visionary in terms of the theater festival. “He’s pretty inspiring as a teacher, too,” he said.

“For the past few years, whenever people would ask what my dream job would be, my default answer was that I would like to work for the theater festival again at Shepherd,” James said.

Herendeen approached James in July 2010 and asked if he would be interested in coming back to Shepherd. After meeting with Herendeen and Jenny Allen, president of the CATF board of trustees, he decided to return to CATF and was excited about the challenge. “Everyone has been extraordinarily welcoming; it’s exciting being back on Shepherd’s campus,” James said. “The work itself is very exciting. It’s challenging, but a lot of fun at the same time.”

James said that his goals as the director of development and marketing are to raise money and fill seats. “That’s two of the hardest things about theater, but it’s also a straightforward mission. My goal is to increase our grants and other contributions.”

He said he also hopes to diversify the audience at CATF and entice a younger audience from around the region as well as work to expand the national outreach of the festival. “The two main elements at the moment are development and marketing; there’s a lot of room for growth,” James said. “It’s just a matter of doing all that we want to do. It’s exciting to build new systems and brainstorm new approaches.

“The partnership between the campus and the festival is extraordinarily strong and beneficial for both the University and the theater festival,” James said. “The festival is very lucky to be on the campus of Shepherd, and it’s a really unique partnership. Shepherd’s visibility is the highest it’s ever been. CATF plays a role in that and certainly Shepherd plays a role in CATF’s growth. I think that’s a really special thing.”

Herendeen said that he’s proud to welcome James back to the CATF. “His decade of professional theater and fundraising experience will help lead the festival into the future,” Herendeen said. “James has the right stuff. His energy and enthusiasm for new American theater is infectious. It is a pleasure to welcome him back to Shepherd University—his artistic home. James began his career at Shepherd, and I am thrilled to make theater with him.”

Jillian Kesner
Aria Charles ’02 named to ‘40 under 40’ list by Pittsburgh Magazine

Aria Charles ’02 was recently featured on Pittsburgh Magazine’s annual 40 under 40 list. The honorees were recognized for professional achievements, community involvement, and overall positive influence on the Pittsburgh region.

Nominated by her former supervisor at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Aria was recognized at a reception at the Children’s Museum on November 12, 2010, with the 39 other honorees.

Aria interned with the Shepherd University Foundation while studying communications and print journalism. She said that it was George Wilson ’59, an assistant professor in the communication department, who first suggested she take a writing course, which led to writing a weekly community column for The Journal in Martinsburg. She also worked with Cecelia Mason, the West Virginia Public Broadcasting reporter based on Shepherd’s campus, and worked with local historian Dr. Jim Price on a compilation of the history of Shepherdstown.

Today, Aria works at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank as a grant facilitator. The Food Bank’s annual budget for this year is approximately $14.1 million dollars, of which Aria helped facilitate more than $3 million in grants.

Aria said that she gives a lot of credit to the experience she received at Shepherd for helping influence the direction of her career. “I feel really blessed to do what I’m doing,” Aria said. “Working in nonprofit was a natural fit.”

Originally of Los Angeles, Aria came to Shepherd in 1997 to be closer to family who lived in the area. While interning in the Foundation, she worked with Monica Lingenfelter, executive vice president, assisting with events including the first Scarborough Society reception, donor-scholar receptions, and numerous galas.

Lingenfelter said that she first met Aria when she applied for a work-study position with the Foundation—a position Lingenfelter envisioned as better suited for a business administration major. “From the start, Aria convinced me there wasn’t anything she couldn’t handle. Over the years, she developed her position from a bookkeeping assistant to include writing for marketing publications and stewardship.”

Aria was hired as a year-round part-time staff member while she completed her degree. “Foundation staff and volunteer leaders saw her mature and fully embrace our philosophy of donor stewardship. She understood the value of working for a mission and chose a career in the nonprofit area,” Lingenfelter said.

After graduating, Aria moved to Pittsburgh where she worked for the Children’s Hospital and received her master’s degree in journalism and mass communications from Point Park University.

Dr. Jim Lewin, professor of English and faculty advisor for The Picket, knew Aria from her time in the print journalism minor and as a writer for the student newspaper, where she was always looking for the scoop on a big story. “Aria Charles was one of those students you do not forget. She has an irrepressible spirit and a knack for improvisation.”

Lewin recalled the time when Aria’s house burned down in a devastating fire. “She lost all her books, school notebooks, as well as her other personal possessions. Yet she somehow persevered and finished the semester. Honestly, I do not know how she was able to cope, but she seems to be the kind of person who looks at every roadblock as a challenge to discover a new detour.”

“Several Foundation board members and staff rallied around her,” Lingenfelter said of the fire. “She faced this challenge as she faced others—with grace and determination.”

One of the first grants Aria wrote for the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh was a multi-year $250,000 grant for the neonatal unit for a Giraffe bed, which has a radiant warmer and incubator. “It’s inspiring to feel like I am making an impact,” Aria said.

In addition to her work at the Food Bank, Aria also volunteers with various Pittsburgh organizations including Womansplace, Lydia’s Place, and the Women’s Center and Shelter. She is also involved with the local Democratic Committee, serving as an ambassador to her neighborhood. “Pittsburgh has been a great place for me,” Aria said. “It’s provided lots of good opportunities.”

Aria said that she is grateful to the staff at Shepherd for the opportunities to stretch herself, and encouraged others to take advantage of opportunities when they’re offered. She said that studying communications and taking courses such as sound design and video production were a perfect fit for raising money and making an impact on the region. “I’m thankful for my time at Shepherd. If I hadn’t taken on the challenges, my experience in my career may have been much different,” Aria said. “I feel that in a way, my time there really helped me get where I am now.”

“When I think of Aria, I think of her intelligence, creativity, and freethinking combined with a strong work ethic and a smile that would light up her face,” Lingenfelter said.

Upcoming Events
April 5: Professional Connections Day
May 12: Emeritus Club
May 14: 138th Commencement
May 20: SWAA Golf Tournament

Spring 2011
Class Notes

‘55
James Curwood Murray has published This, That, and the Other, a new book released by Dorrance Publishing Co., Inc. In his book, James writes about events in his life that have brought him smiles and sadness and have taught him a valuable lesson or two. A native of Maryland, he was employed by the Washington County Board of Education for 28 years and taught English, United States history, government, driver education, and civics in high school. Married with two sons, he is a resident of Hagerstown, Maryland.

‘68
Rick Wachtel was awarded the C. Leslie Goliday Business Person of the Year Award at the 84th Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce annual dinner. Rick is the president of TalkRadio WRNR, where he has served as president and general manager for the past 34 years. He was recognized for his tireless commitment to the community through work, public service, and volunteerism.

‘70
Cynthia Newcomb retired in June 2010 after 40 years of teaching at Berryville, Virginia, Primary School. Most of those years were spent teaching first grade. Cindy taught all 40 years in the same classroom, which had been her classroom as a third grader. Cindy holds a master of science in education degree from Shenandoah University.

‘77
Judith Walker, principal of Robert Moton Elementary School in Carroll County, Maryland, was appointed to the Maryland Council for Educator Effectiveness as a principal representative. She is the president of Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals. A resident of Carroll County, Judith earned a master of arts degree in early childhood education from George Washington University.

‘86
Lt. Col. John D. Nelson, Jr. recently retired after 33 years of military service. John entered the armed forces on June 10, 1973 as a private in the U.S. Marine Corps. He and his wife, Nancy, have three children, all of whom are either serving or have served in the armed forces. John is shown at Sather Air Base, in Baghdad, Iraq, in this 2008 photo (below).

Todd C. Shaffer is the resource systems officer in the Resources and Assessments Directorate of the U.S. Southern Command in Miami, Florida. For his work on deployment with Joint Task Force-Haiti, he received the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service and the Joint Civilian Service Achievement Award. Todd’s previous assignment was as comptroller of the Department of Defense Business Transformation Agency. He has 23 years of experience in defense financial management-related assignments. In 2009 he received the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller) Individual Achievement Award for Resource Management in an Acquisition Environment in connection with the U.S. Southern Command’s Contracting Center of Excellence. He earned an M.A. in public finance from American University in 1991.

‘89
Tim Peterson has joined the national trademark investigation team at NTI Santoni, a leading legal investigation services company. Tim is an expert in intellectual property research. He formerly headed the Washington, D.C., document services team for the trademark search services firm Thomson CompuMark, where his team researched and conveyed records and documents to and from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, the Copyright Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. Tim is a licensed private investigator in the state of Virginia.

‘90
Dorothy R. “Dottie” Powell, a fifth-grade teacher at Orchard View Intermediate School, was named Berkeley County’s Teacher of the Year for 2010-11 at a ceremony at Hedgesville High School. Superintendent of Schools Manny Arvon ’74 took part of the presentation.

A product of Berkeley County Schools, Dottie has been teaching for 15 years, beginning in Frederick County, Virginia. Dottie, who was recognized for using exercise balls to replace chairs in the classroom, said new teachers should remember their work is not all about book learning. She began teaching at Orchard View in Martinsburg’s west end in 2002 and received national board certification this year.

‘92
Tamara Richards Gold was promoted to the rank of deputy sheriff major with the Fairfax County, Virginia, Sheriff’s Office, where she has been employed for 15 years. The commander of the Sheriff’s Office, Major Thomas F. M. Smith, said that Gold’s selection is a testament to her experience and dedication to the position.

‘92
John W. Nelson, Jr., Secretary and Chief Financial Officer at the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. Nelson has served in the armed forces since his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1986.

In his new position, Nelson will be responsible for overseeing the financial management of NASA’s programs and projects, including the development and implementation of budget, cost, and contractor performance measures. He will also be involved in the development of long-term financial strategies and policies to support NASA’s mission.

Nelson has a degree in business administration from Ohio State University and a master of business administration degree from the University of Virginia. He is a member of the Class of 1986 and was previously assigned to the Financial Management Branch at NASA Headquarters.

Nelson was previously assigned to the Financial Management Branch at NASA Headquarters. He is a member of the Class of 1986 and was previously assigned to the Financial Management Branch at NASA Headquarters.

12 Shepherd University Magazine
changed to be more in keeping with the scale of their digital surroundings.

David L. Rudy II was named principal of Robert E. Aylor Middle School, Stephens City, Virginia. He had served as an assistant principal at Frederick County Middle School until taking over at Aylor on July 1, 2010. David joined the Frederick County school system in October 2007 and served for two years as the administrative assistant to the principal at Aylor before joining Frederick County Middle School. David taught social studies in middle school for five years in Berkeley County, then moved into administration, serving as assistant principal at Martinsburg High School and principal for North Middle School. A veteran of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Naval Reserve, he holds a master’s in educational leadership from West Virginia University.

Norie Noll-DeHaven began her new position as assistant principal of Daniel Morgan Middle School in Winchester, Virginia, on November 1, 2010. She had served two years as the lead teacher at the middle school. Her prior experience includes a year as a consultative teacher at Garland R. Quarles Elementary School and five years as a teacher at Virginia Avenue-Charlotte DeHart Elementary School, both in Winchester. She earned a master’s degree in education administration from Shenandoah University.

Leigh Ann Oliger was promoted to director of guidance at Trident Academy in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. She had been a lower-school teacher. Leigh Ann earned a master’s degree in education from The Citadel.

Mark Burrer is a working artist in the strictest sense. Whether he’s working as senior designer for Enforme Interactive in Frederick, Maryland, or creating images for t-shirts and books, he’s found ways to hone his craft ever since he discovered his love for drawing. Throughout October and November 2010, samples of his work were on exhibit at Artique Underground, including silk-screen prints, small drawings, and skateboards. Since his early doodles, Mark has won awards from the Society of Illustrators, Communication Arts, Print, American Illustration, 3x3 Magazine, HOW Magazine, STEP Inside Design, and the American Advertising Federation. Baltimore City Paper named his “Noose” Best Comic Book in 2007, and other comics by Mark have been published internationally. He spent his boyhood in Myersville, Maryland, and graduated from Middletown High School. He started exploring design while studying at Frederick Community College and then Shepherd University, earning a bachelor of fine arts in graphic design. He created comics throughout college and began publishing them as small books, some of which are available through Etsy.

Mark A. “Drew” Johnson graduated from Life University with the degree of doctor of chiropractic in September 2010. He plans to work as an associate in a family chiropractic practice and complete his certification in pediatric and perinatal chiropractic through the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association during the next year. Drew and his fiancée, Amanda Koenig ‘06, live in Marietta, Georgia.

Bryan Newlin and his wife Karen Ott Newlin produced a rap video titled “I’m on an Audit” which won them a trip to Las Vegas courtesy of Next Generation Consulting. Bryan, a manager at Yount, Hyde, and Barbour in Winchester, Virginia, said, in a story that appeared in the national accounting newsletter WebCPA, that the idea was developed over lunch with YHB colleagues Aaron Poffenberger ’04, manager; Tim LeHew ’05, supervisory senior; and Greg Mercer, supervisory senior. Originally developed for YHB’s annual Firm Day, the video features a cameo by Shepherd Professor Roger Hamood, who had been the tax professor for many of YHB’s partners and staff when they were students at Shepherd.

Rachael Kime was named the 2010 James Rumsey Technical Institute Teacher of the Year in November 2010. Rachael was presented a
New Arrivals

TAMARA RICHARDS GOLD ’92 and husband Brad, a daughter, Jessica Marie, born August 5, 2010. She was 6 lbs., 14 oz. and 21 inches long. The family resides in Warrenton, Virginia.

ELIZABETH BRIDGES RAYBURN MOORE ’93 and husband Mark, a daughter, Peyton Louise, born December 29, 2009. The family resides in Denver, Colorado.

JEREMY SIMMONS ’94 and wife Stephanie, a son, Thomas Jackson, born June 4, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. and was 20 ¾ inches long. He joins sisters Michelle, 15; Alyson, 7; and Grace, 2. Jeremy and Stephanie are both teachers in Moorefield where they reside.

RACHEL KROLIKOWSKI NIEBERDING ’95 and husband Billy, twin daughters, Lindsey Grayson and Carlie Eden, born August 14, 2009. The girls were 7 weeks early and weighed 4 lbs. and 3 ½ lbs. Both are strong and healthy now.

CHRISTINA DARLINGTON HINES ’95 and RYAN A. HINES ’95, a daughter, MaraBeth Leigh, born June 27, 2010. She joins sisters Ellanora, Ryanna, and Sarah, and brother Brant.

BRANDY FOSTER KERSHNER ’00 and fiancé Jedidiah Buretz, a daughter, Abigail Garnet Buretz, born March 2, 2010. She joins big sister Gracelyn Hope Kershner, 6.

LISA SPURGEON SHOEMAKER ’96 and husband Jason, a daughter, Elisabeth Reese, born June 7, 2010. She joins big brother, Ethan Robert, 5. The family resides in Williamsport, Maryland.

STACY WILT SMITH ’98 and ROYDEN K. SMITH ’90, a daughter, Shelby Reese, born February 11, 2010. She joins big brother Cole Thomas, 3.

AMANDA LANTZ BROWN ’01 and husband Derek, a daughter, Alexis Belle, born August 19, 2010. She joins big sister Gracelyn, 2.

SHANNON ALICIA MORELAND GROVES ’01 and husband Frank, a daughter, Lucy Jacklyn, born May 23, 2010. She was 8 lbs. 12 oz. and 20 ¼ inches long. The family resides in Petersburg.

TARA ARMSTRONG ’06 and RYAN ARMSTRONG ’05, a daughter, Kinsley Nikkol, born September 7, 2010.

KATIE CANTLER LINGE ’06 and husband Kyle, a son, Trace Landen born August 31, 2010. Trace was 8 lbs., 15 oz. and 21 ½ inches long. The family resides in Hagerstown, Maryland.

Weddings and Engagements


ROBIN STEWART SZEMORE ’87 married William H. Stevens on October 31, 2010 in a traditional Wiccan handfasting ceremony on the beach of the Chesapeake Bay in Lusby, Maryland. Robin’s children Jordan, 20; Emilee, 15; and JT, 14, and Bill’s children Emmalee, 6, and Garrett, 2, were present for the ceremony.

CHRIS DINGUS ’99 married Alicia Noel on July 10, 2010 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Alumnus MIKE SHOLL ’03 attended the wedding.

MARA DIANE KAFTON ’04 married Stanley “Matthew” Croce on May 29, 2010, at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Shepherdstown. LINDSAY MARIE KAFTON ’00, sister of the bride, served as maid of honor.

JOSEPH BASILE ’06 married RENEE BOUCHER ’08 on October 23, 2010 in Shepherdstown.

CASEY TYREE ’08 married Joshua Horner on July 3, 2010 in Morgantown. Her bridesmaids included AMANDA KALER ’08, JILLIAN KESNER ’08, and MARGARET PAGE ’09. The couple resides in Louisville, Kentucky.

DANA SALAS ’08 married Austin Bernardo on December 11, 2010 at Grace United Church of Christ in Frederick, Maryland. ASHLEY WEBLEY ’09 was a member of the wedding party. Alumni attending were KATELYN CHRISMAN ’10, JUSTIN COLLINS ’08, STOSH FRY ’08, JESS GREGORY ’10, ERIN KAKNIS ’10, LAUREN KRAUSE ’08, ALEX LEMLEY ’10, EILEEN MAGUIRE ’10, THERESA MARIENELLI ’10, ANDREW PAHL ’10, CASEY PERRY ’08, and TYLER SHERMAN ’10. After a honeymoon to Anna Maria Island, Florida, the couple resides in Frederick, Maryland.

DOUGLAS OMPs ’09 married Serena Carman on July 17, 2010 in Winchester, Virginia.

REBECCA MYERS ’02 is engaged to marry Raymond Lewis on October 1, 2011 in Shepherdstown.

LAUREN MCKEE ’06 is engaged to marry TRAVIS BAYES ’08 on October 15, 2011 in Shepherdstown.

CARA DEWIT T’07 is engaged to marry Noah Hurst on May 29, 2011 in Frederick, Maryland.

JEFFERY KELLER ’08 and COURTNEY BARBOUR ’10 are engaged to be married in 2011.

LISA SAURO ’10 is engaged to marry MATTHEW MARTIN ’10 on September 10, 2011 in Mt. Airy, Maryland.

CHRISTY COPELAND ’10 is engaged to marry JONATHAN FUNK ’09 on June 4, 2011 at Historic Jordan Springs, Virginia.
Spring 2011

Obituaries

CATHERINE B. COLLINS ’43 of Bolivar died November 5, 2010. She was a retired teacher who taught at the Pleasant Valley Elementary School in Brownsville, Maryland.

HAMMOND BRENTON SHRIVER ’48 of Berkeley Springs died Friday, September 10, 2010. He was a principal and teacher who retired in 1978 after having taught 38 years in Morgan County and Hancock, Maryland, schools.

Athletic Hall of Famer GUY T. TUCKER ’50 died November 26, 2010. He was a high school coach, including stints at Charles Town and Harpers Ferry, where he coached basketball, baseball, and football.

KATHRYN KERSHNER JENKINS ’52 of Middletown, Maryland, died June 11, 2010. She was chair of the Frederick County Extension office until her retirement in 1992.

MARVIN V. REEL ’54 of Keyser died July 2, 2010. He was a retired Mineral County school teacher with 30 years of service.

DR. SCHLEY ROOSEVELT LYONS ’55, Outstanding Alumnus of the Year (1998), died July 17, 2010. He retired from the University of North Carolina Charlotte in 2005 after a 20-year stint as the dean of the College of Arts and Science.

ROBERT “BOB” HENRY SCHELLHAUS ’59 of Cumberland, Maryland, died September 24, 2010. He retired from the Kelly Springfield Tire Company Corporate Center with 30 years of service.

JAMES “BUCK” GARDNER ’68, died September 18, 2010 in Annapolis, Maryland. He was a retired football coach and teacher at Southern High School in Anne Arundel County.

Former Alumni Association board member MARLO BARNHART ’69 of Martinsburg died October 12, 2010. She was retired from the Hagerstown Herald-Mail, where she was a reporter for more than 40 years.

R.O. DEAVERS ’72 of Linville, Virginia, died October 20, 2010. He was the manager of the Ready Ice Plant.

MARGARET REBECCA SPURRIER ’72 of Brunswick, Maryland, died August 24, 2010. She was a retired elementary school teacher in Frederick County, Maryland.

MARY HILL TWIGG ’73 of Potomac, Maryland, died July 17, 2009.

HAROLD EUGENE BITNER SR., ’89 of Hagerstown, Maryland, died November 1, 2010. He retired from Allegheny Power in 1988 after more than 40 years of service.

REV. PATRICIA ANN HAYNES DRAKE ’89 of Boonsboro, Maryland, died October 26, 2010. Rev. Drake was a United Methodist minister for 21 years.

Class Notes

(continued from page 13)

plaques, banners, and savings bonds from Verizon, the Berkeley County school’s business partner. She earned her master’s degree from Marshall University.

‘07

TYLER JAMESON has been named assistant director of policy for U.S. Wheat Associates in Arlington, Virginia. Tyler provides support for trade policy issues, food aid, biotechnology, and trade with sanctioned countries. He also serves as a liaison to partner organizations and other trade associations. Most recently, Tyler worked as a legislative assistant for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture. Tyler earned his bachelor of science degree in political science and was a McMurran Scholar.

‘09

NATASHA FIELDS is the art teacher with Pendleton County Schools in Franklin.

RYAN MILLER joined the class of 2014 at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM), Lewisburg in August 2010. Ryan received his white coat during the annual convocation and White Coat Ceremony in September. The white coat, a gift from the members of the WVSOM Alumni Association, is presented to students as a welcome to the medical profession. He will earn a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree (D.O.) after successfully completing the four-year medical education. Ryan received a bachelor of science degree in biology and was a Joseph McMurran Scholar and a member of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

Send your class note information to the Office of Alumni Relations via e-mail to alumni@shepherd.edu.

Deadline for the fall issue is June 20.
Alumni Association sponsors receptions

The Alumni Association kicked off the 2010 Ram football season by hosting an Alumni Ram Spirit Picnic (left) on Saturday, August 28 before the Shepherd vs. Shippensburg game. Alumni were joined by staff and the volleyball team. The Shepherd cheerleaders performed a cheer at the picnic to get everyone ready for the game.

Another pregame reception hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations was held prior to the men’s basketball exhibition game against Loyola University in Baltimore, Maryland, on November 4. The event was attended by alumni as well as men’s basketball fans and parents. Attendees received a complimentary ticket to the game.

Alumni golf tournament raises funds for nonrevenue sports

The 19th annual Alumni Association Golf Tournament was held on Friday, October 15, 2010 at Cress Creek Country Club in Shepherdstown. The tournament was kicked off with words from Scott Bradford Doleman ’95, Alumni Association president; B.J. Pumroy, athletic director; and President Suzanne Shipley.

This year’s tournament was divided into two flights resulting in two first place teams. Flight one winners were Keith Koenig ’97, Rick Pella ’99, Kory Tucker ’95, and Chauncey Winbush ’95. Flight two winners were Fred Parsons, Trupp Lowe ’95 and ’97, Ken Lowe ’71, and C. Shultz.

The Alumni Association would like to thank the following sponsors: Valley Proteins, Golden Ram; Jefferson Security Bank and RC Bottling Company, Pillar; Capital Fiduciary Advisors and Yount, Hyde, and Barbough, Cornerstone; JGW Co. Inc., Parson’s Ford, Chick-Fil-A, and Jefferson Distributing Co., Inc., Eagle.

The Alumni Association thanks all tournament sponsors, golfers, and volunteers. Without their contributions, the tournament would not be possible. Proceeds from the annual tournament help support nonrevenue-generating athletics at Shepherd.

1955 team celebrates 55th anniversary

Members of the 1955 Undefeated Football Team and first WVIAC football conference champions celebrated their 55th anniversary during a reunion held Homecoming weekend at the Entler Hotel. Pictured above (front row, l. to r.) are Claude Flagg, Larry Strite, Barry Hall, and Soupy Hillyard, second row, Jimmy Omps, Norm Lineburg, Norm Bradford, Bill Griffith, and Meredith Boyd.
Homecoming 2010

Homecoming 2010 festivities began October 15 with the alumni breakfast on the lawn of McMurran Hall preceding the Homecoming parade on German Street. Other activities included a NASCAR simulator, provided by Alumni Association Affinity Partner Tom Jones of Nationwide Insurance Co.; an athletic alumni tailgate; and a postgame party on the grounds of the Bavarian Inn. During the Homecoming game, the Rams defeated West Virginia Wesleyan 37-26.

Photos, clockwise from top right: A crowd gathers at McMurran Hall for the alumni breakfast and to get the best parade-viewing spots.

Tailgating behind Scarborough Library attracts Shepherd fans.

West Virginia House of Delegates member Tiffany Lawrence ’04 and her husband Steve Morris join 300 alumni who attended the postgame party sponsored by the Alumni Association at the Bavarian Inn.

Josh Nichols and Anna Bob were crowned 2010 Homecoming King and Queen.

Ram mascot Zan kicks up his heels as he leads the Shepherd Nursery School Little Lambs in the parade.
Athletic Hall of Fame honors four new members

The Athletic Hall of Fame, celebrating its 25th anniversary, inducted four new members on September 17, 2010 during a dinner held at Shepherdstown’s Clarion Hotel and Conference Center.

The 25th induction class included Jeff Casteel (assistant football coach) whose award was accepted by head football coach Monte Cater, Jason Johnson ’00, Judy Masano Ryskamp ’85 (women’s tennis), and Wayman Everly ’66 (football and basketball).

Also honored was Ken Lowe, Jr. ’71, who was awarded the Hall of Fame medallion for his continued support of not only Shepherd athletics, but also of Shepherd University and the community.

Ken’s award was presented by his sons Tripp Lowe ’95 and ’97 and Andrew Lowe ’02.
a large percentage of Shepherd’s campus over the past four years,” he said. “It’s really neat to think about. A-Team has opened up a lot of opportunities.”

Rob, who is in the honors program, plans to go to medical school and become a pediatrician. He has applied to medical schools including Johns Hopkins, West Virginia University, Penn State, and Wake Forest.

“There’s lots of individual attention from professors at Shepherd. It may be difficult, but you can tell they want you to understand the material. You can tell they care,” Rob said.

During his first visit to campus, Ciancaglini said he was reminded of his hometown. “It’s pretty cool, I enjoy it. And of course I love the football games.” Rob said one of his favorite parts of Shepherdstown is German Street. “I love the town; it reminds me a lot of downtown Annapolis.”

Jillian Kesner

Softball alumnae return to campus for a game

Softball alumnae gathered on campus for a game that took place on October 2, 2010 at the Shepherd University Softball Complex. Alumnae participated in a seven inning slowpitch-style game. Participants included, front row (l. to r.) Kristen Pike, Amy Edmondson, Jamie Griffin, Rae Johnson, Allie Brambeck, April Przygocki, Megan Zahnocz, and Jess Detrick, back row Coach Leslie Lopez, Kelli Summers, Denise Bridgeman, Shannon Smiles, Crystal Tharp, Amanda Fleming, Vicki McGilton, and Shana D’Aurora.

Football players receive All-America accolades

Senior fullback Bobby Humphries, Frederick, Maryland, earned first team honors and four other Rams were named to the 2010 Don Hansen NCAA Division II All-America Team.

Sophomore cornerback Keon Robinson, Fairfax Station, Virginia, was a second team selection; junior running back Tommy Addison, Germantown, Maryland, was a third team choice, while senior offensive lineman Steve Baisey, Laytonsville, Maryland, and senior return specialist Deante Steele, Woodbridge, Virginia, were honorable mention selections.

Humphries, who helped key the Ram running game with his punishing blocking, rushed 13 times for 117 yards and a pair of touchdowns. He added nine receptions for 105 yards.

Robinson recorded 10 interceptions on the year, including two that were returned for touchdowns. His 10 interceptions are the most in NCAA DII this year, while his .71 average ranks him fourth nationally. He also had 16 kickoff returns for a 21.0 average and nine punt returns for a 9.7 average. Robinson was sixth on the team in tackles with 65 with a team-best 59 solo tackles. He added 11 pass breakups, three forced fumbles, and a fumble recovery.

Addison led the Shepherd ground attack as he rushed 239 times for 1,670 yards and 19 touchdowns. He added seven receptions for 60 yards. He rushed for 100 yards or more in nine games.

Baisey, a first-year starter for the Rams, has keyed the offensive line play for the Rams and helped pave the way for Tommy Addison.

Steele, who gained All-America honors for the third straight year, had a 20.8 kick-off return and a 9.7 punt return average. He earned WVIAC Special Teams Player of the Week honors after his NCAA DII record 11th career kick return touchdown keyed a Shepherd victory over West Liberty.

Tommy Addison and Keon Robinson were named to the 2010 D2Football.com All-America Team. Both were named second team selections.

Additionally, Robinson was named a second team selection on both the Daktronics NCAA Division II and AP Little All-America teams.

Seven named to Super Region Team

Seven members of the Shepherd football team have been named to the 2010 Don Hansen NCAA Division II All-Super Region One. Junior running back Tommy Addison, Germantown, Maryland; senior fullback Bobby Humphries, Frederick, Maryland; and sophomore cornerback Keon Robinson, Fairfax Station, Virginia, earned first team honors.

Senior offensive lineman Steve Baisey, Laytonsville, Maryland; senior linebacker Brian Taylor, Elkridge, Maryland; and senior return specialist Deante Steele, Woodbridge, Virginia, were second team selections, while senior tight end Dominique Jones, San Diego, California, was a third team choice. Shepherd became the first WVIAC team to reach the NCAA Division II football national semifinals.
Rams post record-setting 12-2 mark; win NCAA II Super Region One title

Coming off a 5-5 season in 2008 and a 6-4 mark in 2009, the expectations of the 2010 Shepherd football team were far from lofty according to most experts. Using the mantra “Take Back the WVIAC,” the Rams earned their 12th conference title under head coach Monte Cater and recorded arguably the greatest season in program history.

The Rams posted a 12-2 overall mark with a 7-1 record in conference play. The 12 wins in a season are the most ever by both a Shepherd and WVIAC team. After suffering a last minute 28-24 loss to Glenville State in the regular season finale, the Rams reeled off three straight wins en route to a national regional title and a place in the semifinal game.

Here are some of the notable performances and highlights of the 2010 season:

- Head coach Monte Cater earned his 200th career victory after Shepherd’s 53-3 win on the road at West Liberty.
- Nineteen team members gained All-WVIAC honors. Senior guard Steve Baisey, Laytonsville, Maryland, junior running back Tommy Addison, Germantown, Maryland, senior linebacker Brian Taylor, Elkridge, Maryland, sophomore cornerback Keon Robinson, Fairfax Station, Virginia, and senior kick returner Deante Steele, Woodbridge, Virginia, were all first team selections.
- Robinson gained first team Daktronics, Inc. Division II All-Super Region One honors, while Taylor and Steele were second team selections.
- Senior quarterback Kevin Clancy, Westminster, Maryland, set new Shepherd single season records for completions (233), pass attempts (400), and passing yards (2,979). He set a single season total offense record with 466 attempts and 2,899 yards. Clancy also tied the mark for most touchdown passes with 22.
Junior running back Tommy Addison rushed 13 times for 145 yards and a touchdown and junior running back Nate Hoyte added 106 yards and a score on 13 carries to lead Shepherd University to a 40-6 win over Shaw University in NCAA DII Football Super Regional One first round action at Ram Stadium.

Clinging to a 10-0 halftime lead, the Shepherd offense erupted with 30 second-half points en route to the lopsided win.

Sophomore linebacker A.J. Parrish had a game-high nine tackles to lead the defense. The Rams allowed a lone fourth quarter touchdown in the contest.

Shepherd 40  November 20, 2010  Shaw 6  Ram Stadium (4,212)

Junior running back Nate Hoyte rushed 17 times for 109 yards and four touchdowns and junior running back Tommy Addison added 15 carries for 135 yards and a pair of scores to lead Shepherd University to a 49-14 win over Mercyhurst in NCAA DII Super Region One final football action at Tullio Field.

Shepherd amassed 483 yards of total offense while yielding only 225 yards to the Lakers. After both teams battled to a 14-14 tie in the first half, Shepherd dominated the second half with 35 points while shutting out Mercyhurst.

Hoyte ran for three scores, Addison had a 69-yard touchdown jaunt, and senior defensive end Will Wheeler added a 27-yard interception return to highlight the second half barrage.

Senior outside linebacker Ben Minturn had a game-high 10 tackles (7 solo) and senior linebacker Brian Taylor added seven stops to lead the Shepherd defense.

Shepherd flourished in the wintry elements to gain its first-ever NCAA DII regional title with the victory.

Shepherd 49  December 4, 2010  Mercyhurst 14  Tullio Field (1,893)

Junior running back Tommy Addison rushed 25 times for 172 yards and a touchdown and junior running back Nate Hoyte added 15 carries for 55 yards and a pair of scores to lead Shepherd University to a 41-34 win over Kutztown in second round action of the NCAA DII Football Championship at Kutztown.

Kutztown rallied from a 13-7 halftime deficit to take a 27-19 lead with 6:49 left in the game after Jay McKnight picked off a Kevin Clancy pass and went 50 yards for a score.

Shepherd then took control of the game in dramatic fashion. Sophomore Keon Robinson returned the ensuing kickoff 97 yards for a touchdown with 6:31 left. Clancy teamed with senior tight end Dominique Jones on the two-point conversion to tie the game at 27-27.

Shepherd took a 34-27 lead with 6:16 remaining on a 32-yard interception return by junior outside linebacker Maurice Perry on Kutztown’s first play from scrimmage after the Robinson score. Addison later raced 72 yards for a touchdown to seal the victory.

Shepherd 41  November 27, 2010  Kutztown 34  University Field (4,823)

Delta State held on for a 29-17 win over Shepherd in NCAA DII football national semifinal action at Delta State. The game endured a 39-minute lightning delay and a heavy downpour as the playing surface became waterlogged.

Shepherd capped a 15-play, 77-yard drive with a four-yard touchdown run by junior running back Nate Hoyte with 6:00 left in the first quarter to take a 7-0 lead.

After the Statesmen answered back with a pair of scores, Shepherd tied the game at 14-all when senior quarterback Kevin Clancy teamed with senior tight end Dominique Jones on a 10-yard scoring strike with 4:42 left in the half.

Delta State took a 17-14 lead into the break on a field goal as time expired in the first half. The Statesmen added a touchdown with just over five minutes to play in the third quarter, but Shepherd scored on a 31-yard field goal by junior kicker Eric Dobratz in the final minute of the quarter to draw to within six points at 23-17.

The Rams took possession with 8:18 left in the game poised to take the lead, but a pair of turnovers and a late score by the Statesmen thwarted the Shepherd comeback effort.

Shepherd 17  December 11, 2010  Delta State 29  McCool Stadium (4,566)
Athletics

Ram Chalk Talk lunch series launched in fall

Shepherd’s Department of Athletics introduced its successful Ram Chalk Talk lunch series this past fall. On Fridays before each of Shepherd’s home football games, alumni and fans joined head coach Monte Cater for lunch at the Wellness Center to get an insider’s look at the upcoming opponent and receive updates on the Shepherd football team.

Shepherd director of athletics B.J. Pumroy, head coaches from other varsity sports, and student athletes from various teams were on hand to greet and meet fans and alumni.

Each week featured a new guest speaker including women’s soccer coach Jim Sweeney, Shepherd graduate Robert Terpening ’64, volleyball coach Sarah Smith, baseball coach Wayne Riser ’89, men’s basketball coach Justin Namolik, and women’s basketball coach Melanie Ford.

The Ram Chalk Talk lunch series continued this spring with softball coach Leslie Lopez, lacrosse coach Tammy Butler, and coaches Riser, Namolik, and Ford talking with fans about their respective seasons.

Men’s Soccer

The Rams finished the season with a 12-6-0 overall mark and a 7-2-0 record in conference play. Shepherd’s seven conference wins are the most in program history. The Rams earned a number two seed in the conference tournament and made their first conference tourney semifinal appearance since 2006.

Senior defender Matt D’Amico, Germantown, Maryland, and sophomore more defender Robel Desta, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, were selected to the NSCAA/Performance Subaru Men’s NCAA Division II All-Atlantic Region Team. D’Amico (one assist) and Desta (three goals) were both third team selections.

Desta gained first team All-WVIAC honors; senior forward Jeffers Frazier, Prince Frederick, Maryland; senior midfielder Bobby Doyle, Leesburg, Virginia; and junior goalkeeper Edgar Lopez Zuniga, Rockville, Maryland, were second team selections; and senior defender Lucas Medina, Rockville, Maryland, and sophomore midfielder Shane Lowery, Boonsboro, Maryland, earned honorable mention accolades.

Women’s Soccer

The Rams finished the year with a 3-13-0 overall mark and a 2-8-0 record in WVIAC action. The team had a pair of players gain postseason honors.

Junior forward Brianna Hines, Woodbridge, Virginia, and junior defender Kate Bryant, Fallston, Maryland, were named to the All-WVIAC team. Hines, a second team choice, led the Rams in scoring with six goals and one assist for 13 points. Bryant, an honorable mention selection, anchored the Ram defense and tallied one goal on the year.

Women’s Tennis

The Rams recorded a 10-6 overall record and a 6-3 mark in conference action. The Rams advanced to the conference tournament semifinals before falling to West Virginia State. Senior Brittany Moreland, Charles Town, and junior Brittany Bolster, Eldersburg, Maryland, were named to the 2010 All-WVIAC team.

Volleyball

The Rams posted a 13-18 overall mark and a 10-4 record in conference play. A pair of Rams gained All-WVIAC honors.

Junior setter Lauren Jeschelnik, Huntingtown, Maryland, and sophomore right side Lauren Gardner, Clarkston, Michigan, earned conference accolades.

Jeschelnik was a second team selection, while Gardner gained honorable mention honors. Jeschelnik led the Rams with 845 assists for a 7.4 per game average. She also led the team in aces with 42. Jeschelnik added 239 digs, 135 kills, and 46 blocks.

The versatile Gardner had 269 digs, 162 kills, 79 assists, 37 blocks, and 26 aces on the year.

Men’s Golf

The Rams placed 11th at the WVIAC Championship. Season highlights include an eighth place finish at the Burger King Invitational and a 10th place finish at the Central Regional.

Alumni Association board member Chris Colbert ’95 (front) and assistant football coach Ernie McCook listen to one of the Chalk Talk speakers at the September 10, 2010 lunch.
Ram Rally receptions followed the Rams during playoffs

The Office of Advancement and the Alumni Association hosted a Ram Rally pregame reception prior to each playoff game this season. Ram Rally I was hosted on the Shepherd Midway prior to the Rams home game against Shaw University on November 20, 2010. Alumni and Ram fans gathered for a breakfast buffet, raffles, and a pregame pep rally by the Shepherd band and cheerleaders.

The Rams headed on the road for the second round playoff game against Kutztown University on November 27, and the Alumni Association followed them there to host Ram Rally Road Trip. The Ram fan spirit was not discouraged by the cold, snow, or rain.

Ram Rally Road Trip II was hosted at Mercyhurst College, in Erie, Pennsylvania, on December 4. Defeating the Lakers, Shepherd advanced to the NCAA semifinals. A fan bus was organized to bring Ram pride to Delta State University. Fifty-six fans, including the Ram mascot, loaded on the bus for the long trip to the game in Cleveland, Mississippi. For fans who were unable to make the trip to Mississippi, watch parties were organized at the Rumsey Tavern and 3 Onions in Shepherdstown. Ram Rally Road Trip III closed out a historic season for the Rams at Delta State University on December 11.

Senior corner-back/return specialist Deante Steele, Woodbridge, Virginia, was featured in “Faces in the Crowd” in the November 15, 2010 issue of Sports Illustrated. Steele featured in ‘Faces in the Crowd’ in Sports Illustrated.

Steele, who set an NCAA II record with his 11th career kick return touchdown to key a come-from-behind win over West Liberty, joins Doug Higgins (baseball 1978), Bootsie Washington (football 1997), and Mike Farrell (tennis 2004) as Shepherd athletes featured in “Faces in the Crowd.”

Alumni and Ram fans were directed through the snow at Mercyhurst College to the Ram Rally Road Trip II reception by the Ram Rally banner.

Spring 2011
Oates family donates heirloom clock in memory of parents

Step into the elegant Shepherd Room in McMurran Hall and you will notice its newest addition, an impressive Ashton of Bredbury grandfather clock, c. 1780. The clock was donated by the Oates family—Max Jr., T.K. II, and Liz—in memory of their parents, Dr. Max O. and Evelyn S. Oates.

As longtime Shepherd benefactors, the family members wanted to continue their support of the University with a different kind of gift. “We feel fortunate that Shepherd University is part of our region and we are always interested in ways we can show our support,” said Liz. “The donation of this clock also provides a lasting legacy to our parents.”

To learn more about in-kind giving through the Shepherd University Foundation, visit www.shepherd.edu and click on Alumni and Friends.

Liz Oates (l.) and President Suzanne Shipley admire the antique grandfather clock on display in McMurran Hall. Liz and her brothers Max and T.K. presented the clock to Shepherd in memory of their parents, Dr. Max O. and Evelyn S. Oates.

Catherine Irwin Studio dedicated at the CCA in October 2010

A classroom in the Center for Contemporary Arts was named in honor of Catherine Irwin, longtime Contemporary American Theater Festival (CATF) fundraiser and manager, during a dedication ceremony held October 2010.

The naming of the Catherine Irwin Studio was made possible through a generous gift from John and Jenny Allen to Shepherd’s Create the Future campaign, a comprehensive fundraising campaign. Jenny Allen serves as a vice chair of the Create campaign. The Allens’ gift recognizes and honors Catherine for her devotion to supporting and nurturing artists and their work throughout her career.

Speakers during the ceremony included President Suzanne Shipley, Ed Herendeen, founding director of the Contemporary American Theater Festival, and Bob McMillan, chair of the Create the Future campaign.

Catherine served as the director of CATF’s Casting the Future Initiative, a joint fundraising venture with Shepherd, until her retirement in October. Previously she served as CATF managing director from 1999 to the fall of 2004, where her responsibilities included management of finances and the annual budget, marketing, staffing, and fundraising. Under her leadership, CATF saw exponential increases in audience size, media coverage, and contributions.

Catherine Irwin (center) is shown with Jenny and John Allen. The Allens’ gift to the Create campaign recognizes and honors Catherine for her devotion to supporting and nurturing artists and their work throughout her career in arts management.
Upon her acceptance into West Virginia University’s School of Medicine, Katherine “Katie” Sterner ’09 never expected to end up in Dr. Joseph J. Renn III’s classroom. Then again, Dr. Renn, who in 1999 created the Elsie Brown Renn Scholarship Fund, probably wasn’t expecting to be a preceptor and mentor to his 2007 scholarship recipient.

Although a member of Dr. Renn’s first-year lecture class in 2009, Katie didn’t immediately make the connection. “I kind of thought the name sounded familiar but thought it was too coincidental, because it’s a common name,” she said. Having Dr. Renn again in fall 2010 as a preceptor for her Physical Diagnosis and Clinical Integration class finally established the unique connection between the two Shepherd graduates. “He mentioned he supported a scholarship award at Shepherd,” said Katie. “That’s how I figured it out.”

Dr. Joseph Renn III ’60 established his scholarship fund as a tribute to his parents and the school that not only provided an education to his mother and two sisters, but also gave him a solid basis for fulfilling his dream of attending medical school. This desire to practice medicine stemmed from an incident in 1943, when, as a five year old, Joseph decided to restructure his swing set into scaffolding he had seen during a trip into town. After suffering a serious head wound from a fall onto the chains, he was rushed to the doctor.

“They were trying to conserve all the medicines they had because of the war effort,” Renn said. “The doctor said to me, ‘if you let me sew you up without anesthesia, you’ll be a good soldier.’ At that time it was very important to be a good soldier.” Even though he was rewarded for his bravery with his first-ever nickel, young Joseph Renn recognized the more important influence of the man who had sewn him up. “From the age of five I had a singular direction and I never wavered,” he said.

Like Dr. Renn, Katie Sterner knew from an early age she wanted to go into the medical field. A high school anatomy class completely changed her perspective on science. Before the class, Katie thought she might like to go into a business field. However, the knowledge she received in the class made her go in a different direction.

“I knew then I wanted to major in biology and maybe become a doctor or go into research,” she said. After trying both avenues in her collegiate studies at Shepherd, Katie decided that a hands-on approach was her calling. “I didn’t like how isolated research was. I enjoy interacting with people and seeing the results of my work a lot faster,” she said. Receiving the Renn Scholarship allowed Sterner to purchase school materials and expensive textbooks, making her path toward becoming a doctor a little bit easier.

Katie's enthusiasm to help others solidifies Dr. Renn’s belief that his 2007 scholarship recipient was a wise choice to receive the award. “Katie has shown a compassionate side that I believe is essential to the diagnosis and treatment of patients,” Renn said. According to his young student, the admiration is clearly mutual.

“I think he’s probably one of the best preceptors,” said Katie. “I hear from my colleagues in class that they’re just now starting physical exam rounds, and my partner and I have already finished and are practicing them weekly. That is the better way to do things.”

This valuable mentoring is just one more link in the chain connecting the two with their alma mater, Shepherd University. In his own time at Shepherd, Dr. Renn credits the support of Dr. Ray Harris, former head of Shepherd’s science department, as a main reason for his desire to give back to young people such as Katie. As the Renn Scholarship continues to influence future students, Dr. Renn will continue to feel satisfied. “As long as the fund is used in a way in which it was set up—for those who have an interest in some field of medicine—as far as I’m concerned, it’s doing its appropriate job,” said Renn.

For more information on how you can create a unique legacy such as the one between Dr. Renn and Katie Sterner, contact the Shepherd University Foundation at 304-876-5397 or by e-mail to mlingenf@shepherd.edu. ➤ Meg Peterson
A helping hand early in his career inspired John Reynolds ’64 to return the favor by funding student scholarships

When John Reynolds ’64 moved to Washington, D.C., in 1965 to take a job with the federal government, he was dismayed by its notoriously high cost of living. Needing assistance, John turned to his aunt and uncle, District residents Charles and Sarah Reynolds Ebert, who offered to rent him their basement apartment for $100 per month until he could get on his feet. John gratefully accepted their offer and stayed in the apartment for the next two years, at which point he had saved enough money to purchase a home in Dale City, Virginia.

“I told my Aunt Sarah I didn’t know how I would ever be able to repay the two of them,” said John. “She said to me, ‘You can repay us by one day helping other young people the way we helped you.’”

After earning a bachelor of science degree in chemistry at Shepherd, John left a brief high school teaching career to join the CIA, where he served with the offices of imagery analysis, information technology, and security as an intelligence officer. He was then assigned to the White House, where he performed risk analysis on White House computer systems until his retirement. He is active in the Tuscarora Presbyterian Church in Berkeley County and serves on the board of directors for the Shepherd University Foundation.

Since his early beginnings living in his aunt and uncle’s basement, John has repaid his debt to them and then some. In 1988, he created the Charles David and Sarah Reynolds Ebert Memorial Scholarship, designating the award for elementary education students in honor of his Aunt Sarah, a longtime teacher in Berkeley County.

John went on to establish the Thomas Guy Reynolds Endowed Scholarship in 1999 to honor his father, a 1933 graduate of Shepherd. The scholarship is also designated for students majoring in education. An education major himself, T. Guy Reynolds ’33 taught for 18 years in Berkeley County before going to work for Corning, where he enjoyed an exemplary career until his retirement. But flying is his true passion. At 98 years of age, Guy currently logs approximately 120 flight hours per year in the plane he has owned for six years and hopes to turn over 600 hours by April 1, 2011. In 1943, he founded the Martinsburg Civil Air Patrol squadron, now the largest in the state, and was a guest of honor at the October 2010 dedication of the new hangar at Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport. And in 2007, Guy celebrated his 93rd birthday with a parachute jump, fulfilling a lifelong dream in the process.

A year after his son created the award which bears his name, Guy reciprocated by endowing the John Thomas Reynolds Scholarship. “He just couldn’t be outdone,” laughed John. All joking aside, however, it’s clear this father and son have a tremendous amount of respect for each other.

John’s own spirit of generosity continues with his most recent gift to Shepherd. The John T. Reynolds Endowed Chair in Chemistry will help recruit, recognize, and retain outstanding faculty for the chemistry department. Widowed in 1992 after the loss of his wife, Elizabeth Stuckey Reynolds, John first decided to make the gift in 1998 after the loss of his only child, Anna Elizabeth Reynolds, in an automobile accident at the age of seventeen. At that time, John made the decision to leave his estate to his alma mater, although the agreement was only recently formalized. With this deferred gift, John joins the more than 100 members of the Joseph P. McMurran Society who have informed Shepherd that they wish to provide for the future of the University with a planned gift or bequest.

John’s aunt and uncle gave him a gift that inspired him to create a legacy. With their faith in him realized, John hopes the students who benefit from his scholarships will one day follow in his footsteps and return the favor. He is living proof that your gift can make a difference.
Thomas Miller poses beside one of his paintings in his Shenandoah Junction home.

Leave a legacy

Thomas Miller is not a Shepherd University graduate, nor has he ever been an employee of the University. In fact, he has no ties to Shepherd beyond the 39 visual arts credit hours he acquired over the past seven years. Yet he chose to establish the Thomas Miller Endowed Chair for Visual Arts using a bequest in his will to provide awards to support and inspire faculty excellence.

“I wanted a local entity to benefit from my estate,” said the 46-year resident of Jefferson County. “If you don’t plan ahead, then the laws of the state predetermine what happens to your assets once you’re gone. I wasn’t going to let that happen.”

Miller feels that Shepherd University is critical to the cultural and economic life of the region. “If continued to develop properly, I see it as an engine of growth for the entire Eastern Panhandle,” he said.

Miller’s gift will help continue that progress. The real estate entrepreneur, retired high school art teacher, and lifelong artist would like to see Shepherd’s visual arts program expanded to offer more three-dimensional programs such as jewelry making and ceramics, two areas of study currently offered in many high school art departments. For students who wish to pursue those interests beyond high school, he hopes that Shepherd will one day be a viable option for them. Miller’s gift will help the University recruit, recognize, and retain outstanding faculty for the visual arts department while providing a lasting legacy of support.

If you would like to establish your own legacy with Shepherd University through a planned gift, contact Monica Lingenfelter, executive vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu. ✉ Kristin Alexander

From the Foundation

National Archives bus trip planned for June

The Scarborough Society’s annual bus trip will travel to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., on Thursday, June 16. In addition to viewing the permanent exhibit “America’s Historical Documents,” guests will tour a new, socially relevant exhibit opening in June titled “What’s Cooking, Uncle Sam?” which examines the government’s influence on food in our nation. Dr. Richard Hunt, director of the Center for Legislative Archives, also will offer a behind-the-scenes look at the legislative vault, which houses originals of some of the greatest documents in American history and is not normally open to the public. The bus will depart Shepherd’s campus at 9:30 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. The cost of the trip is $75 and includes lunch at McCormick and Schmick’s restaurant. For more information about this popular event or to reserve your seat on the bus, contact Phyllis Smock at 304-264-0560.

Gala goes ‘Around the World in 80 Days’ in August

The classic adventure novel Around the World in 80 Days by French author Jules Verne will set the stage for the 10th annual Scarborough Society Gala. The popular event will be held on Friday, August 12 at the Bavarian Inn. For more information, contact the Foundation office at 304-876-5397 or visit the Scarborough Society’s website at www.shepherd.edu/fndtnweb.

McMurran Society to hold annual dinner in April

The Joseph P. McMurran Society will hold its annual dinner reception on April 30 at 6 p.m. in the atrium of Erma Ora Byrd Hall. Hosted by President Suzanne Shipley and sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation, the event honors members of this distinguished membership society and is open to other alumni and friends who may be interested in providing for the future of Shepherd University with a planned gift or bequest.

The Foundation welcomes new Society members John E. ’71 and Sally Z. ’71 Adams, Shepherdstown; Richard S. Durham, Kearneysville; Anders and Ann Witherspoon Henriksson, Harpers Ferry; Thomas W. Miller, Shenandoah Junction; Nila Saylor, Front Royal, Virginia; Michael A. Smith ’89, Winchester, Virginia; and Robert Schell Ulrich, Montoursville, Pennsylvania.

For more information about the Joseph P. McMurran Society or the reception, please contact the Foundation at 304-876-5397 or visit www.shepherd.edu and click on Alumni and Friends. ✉ Kristin Alexander
The Shepherd University Foundation is proud to announce the establishment of 11 new funds. These named scholarship, program, and faculty awards recognize donors for their contributions to Shepherd University or offer them the opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one. The awards provided through these funds will support the educational future of Shepherd students, assure excellence in teaching, and generate a spirit of giving in all Shepherd alumni and friends.

• Carl K. Rauch ’58 and Susan Besaw Rauch ’79
  Endowed Scholarship for Business
  Carl K. Rauch ’58 has achieved a lifetime of accomplishments as a scholar, professor, and philanthropist. A former math professor at Shepherd until his retirement in 1990, Carl has already endowed five scholarships across several disciplines, including mathematics and mathematics education, science and science education, fine arts, nursing, and education. Now he has added to that distinguished list with the Carl K. Rauch ’58 and Susan Besaw Rauch ’79 Endowed Scholarship for Business, created to honor his former wife, a retired assistant professor of accounting at Shippensburg University.

  The award, made through a bequest, will be designated for Shepherd students majoring in business or accounting. Of his philanthropic work, Carl said, “I don’t think anyone could do better than to leave their money to a school where students are not just a number and faculty members are dedicated to teaching.” He thinks Shepherd is that kind of school and believes its personal approach to teaching and learning makes it unique in its appeal.

• John T. Reynolds ’64 Endowed Chair in Chemistry
  John Reynolds ’64 looks back fondly on his time as a chemistry student at Shepherd University. Widowed in 1992, John lost his only child in an automobile accident six years later. Of that time, he said, “The wheels started turning and I decided I wanted to leave my estate to Shepherd. I enjoyed my time there as a chemistry major and feel it prepared me well for my career.” That decision was recently formalized with the creation of the John T. Reynolds ’64 Endowed Chair for Chemistry, a deferred gift made through his estate plans that will help the University recruit, recognize, and retain outstanding faculty for the chemistry department. Read John’s full story in “Your gift makes a difference” on page 26.

• Tiano Family Endowment
  Shepherd University has been at the heart of the Tiano family for more than 40 years. Both Lou ’72 and Marina ’74 Tiano graduated from Shepherd with degrees in education, remain active within the University and the Shepherdstown community, and enjoy cheering on the Rams at sporting events with their four grown sons. Lou and Marina chose to show their appreciation for Shepherd by establishing the Tiano Family Endowment with their eldest son, Marc, and his wife, Kristin. “We share President Suzanne Shipley’s vision for Shepherd’s campus and support the programs she has initiated,” said Lou about the family’s decision to create the fund. “We chose to endow a named fund so that deserving students across all curriculums would have the opportunity to benefit from its financial assistance both now and in the future,” added Marina. The Tiano Family Endowment is a general education fund.
WALKER HORTON SHIPLEY MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

When President Suzanne Shipley and her husband Randall Wadsworth pledged a generous gift to Shepherd's music department in memory of Suzanne's father, Walker Horton Shipley, Dr. Shipley's mother was so moved by the gesture that she chose to make her own endowed gift to the University. Mary Jane Shipley created the Walker Horton Shipley Music Scholarship to honor her husband's love of music, designating the award for Shepherd students pursuing studies in the area of music. Born in 1922 in Hillsboro, Texas, Walker Horton Shipley attended Baylor University as a music major from 1939-42, at which point he interrupted his education to serve as an Air Force navigator in World War II. Mr. Shipley went on to work in personnel management with a focus on leadership motivation and organizational development, eventually founding Man Alive, a human resources development firm specializing in the needs of small- and medium-sized organizations. He served as president of Man Alive until his death in 2000. President Shipley and her brother Wes share their father's love of music and his belief in the inherent worth of the individual. When making the gift, Dr. Shipley said, “Dad based his life’s work on helping people uncover their innate strengths and talents and urging them to give unsparring of those talents.” Mary Jane Shipley was inspired to honor her husband’s memory with a named fund after recalling his efforts to make scholarships available to young people in need through his civic work. Mr. Shipley enjoyed many hobbies but was always happiest when playing or listening to music.

THOMAS MILLER ENDOURED CHAIR FOR VISUAL ARTS

As a 46-year resident of Jefferson County, Thomas Miller feels Shepherd University is critical to the cultural and economic life of the Eastern Panhandle. This led to his decision to establish the Thomas Miller Endowed Chair for Visual Arts, a faculty excellence award that will help Shepherd continue to recruit, recognize, and retain exceptional faculty for the visual arts department. Tom chose to make his gifts through a bequest in his will, saying, “I wanted a local entity to benefit from my estate.” A lifelong artist and retired high school art teacher who also acted as department head for the largest art department in Baltimore City Schools, Tom hopes his gifts will help develop Shepherd’s visual arts program to include more three-dimensional curriculum such as jewelry making and ceramics. To learn more about Thomas Miller’s estate gift to Shepherd University, see “Leave a legacy” on page 27.

JEFFERSON COUNTY DEGREE COMPLETION SCHOLARSHIP

Established by an anonymous donor, the Jefferson County Degree Completion Scholarship is an endowed fund created to inspire and assist socioeconomically and racially diverse Shepherd students. Recipients must be residents of Jefferson County.
Shepherd Alumni Association Endowment

Created to establish a lasting legacy of support to financially disadvantaged Shepherd students and, in turn, encourage them to help future students and fellow alumni, the Shepherd University Alumni Association’s new endowment will also inspire Shepherd University’s more than 15,000 alumni to give back to their alma mater with gifts of any size to the fund. “It requires both vision and commitment to maintain the level of excellence we’ve come to appreciate at Shepherd University,” said Alumni Association President Scott Bradford Doleman ’95. “With the Shepherd University Alumni Association Scholarship Endowment, we ensure that this great institution continues to provide cutting-edge, high quality education that will benefit future generations of Shepherd students and alumni.” Funds will be used to provide financial assistance to full-time students or part-time or full-time graduate studies students. First preference will be given to a Shepherd University graduate or the child, spouse, or sibling of a Shepherd University graduate.

Eta Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Scholarship

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honorary society of women educators that promotes the personal and professional growth of its members and excellence in education. With this mission in mind, the local Eta Chapter, comprised of exceptional teachers in the Eastern Panhandle, created the Eta Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Scholarship to be awarded to female education majors who have achieved the rank of junior. Awarded for the first time at Eta Chapter’s April 2010 meeting for the 2010-11 academic year, the scholarship will be presented every other year to a resident of Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan counties.

Ida May Flemming Award

The Ida May Flemming Award was created by an anonymous donor in support of living history. The award helped fund Shepherdstown walking tours conducted by Shepherd University’s historic preservation program with help from local agencies in July 2010.

Dr. Keith Alexander, visiting assistant professor of environmental studies, designed the program to educate residents and visitors about Shepherdstown’s rich history during the Civil War and early 20th century. The tours featured students dressed in period costumes and highlighted the Battles of Antietam and Shepherdstown (1862), the opening of Shepherd College (1871), and the introduction of the railroad (1879). The successful program has been renewed and will once again feature living history tours around Shepherdstown this summer. Dr. Alexander is grateful for the funding. “The Ida May Flemming Award makes it possible for several of my students to get real-world experience doing historical interpretation,” he said, “and the response [to the program] shows they’re serving a real need in the community. It’s wonderful that the town and the University are helping each other with this project.”

New named funds announced

(continued from previous page)

Foundation welcomes new board member

The Shepherd University Foundation has named Stephen G. Skinner, a trial lawyer who is a partner with the Charles Town-based Skinner Law Firm, to its board of directors.

Skinner is a 1990 graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College and received his juris doctorate from the West Virginia University College of Law in 1994. He has a long-standing involvement with Shepherd University, having served as president of the Contemporary American Theater Festival board of trustees and is currently serving as a member of the festival’s board. He also is a member of the Shepherd University Create Campaign Steering Committee.

Speaking about his election to the Foundation board of directors, Stephen stated, “Shepherd University is integral to the continued development of our region. The future of the region and the University are closely tied. Assuring the strong growth of Shepherd translates to insuring the strong growth of this community. I’m honored by the opportunity to serve both the University and Jefferson County in this capacity.”

Stephen Skinner

LARRY STRITE ’60 (L) and SCOTT BRADFORD DOLEMAN ’95 authorize the Shepherd University Alumni Association Endowment.

Kristy Alexander
McMurrnan Scholar award to celebrate 50th anniversary on April 29

The McMurrnan Scholar award, Shepherd University’s highest academic honor, is celebrating a half-century milestone. Plans are underway for a 50th anniversary commemoration of the distinguished McMurrnan Scholar award. Former scholars have been invited back to campus for recognition at the 50th convocation of McMurrnan Scholars on Friday, April 29, at 3:30 p.m. at the Frank Center. Following the convocation, a dinner reception hosted by the McMurrnan Scholars Association and the Shepherd University Foundation will be held at 6 p.m. in McMurrnan Hall.

The McMurrnan Scholar award was conceived in 1961 by Professor Kenneth Riley, who served on the first Honors Committee. McMurrnan Scholars must complete a minimum of 92 semester hours, maintain at least a 3.8 grade point average, complete two consecutive semesters of study at Shepherd, and be nominated by at least three faculty members. Nominees must then be approved by the faculty at large.

The McMurrnan Scholars Association was created to provide networking opportunities among all scholars, as well as to mentor current Shepherd University students and model applications of scholarly work on campus and in the community. An organizational committee led by McMurrnan Scholars Jennifer Pownell ’95 and Berniece Collis ’77 has been meeting since June 2010. The McMurrnan Scholars Association is sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation.

To learn more about participating as a member of the McMurrnan Scholars Association or the upcoming 50th anniversary celebration, contact Dr. Geri Crawley-Woods at 304-876-5337 or gcwoods@shepherd.edu, Rob Shaw at 304-876-5391 or rshaw02@shepherd.edu, or visit the McMurrnan Scholar website at www.shepherd.edu/aaweb/mcmurrnan/.
Parade marks Founders Day celebration
President Suzanne Shipley led faculty, staff, students, and the Ram Marching Band across campus during the Founders Day Parade held on October 15, 2010. The parade ended at McMurran Hall for an ice cream social. View additional photos on Shepherd’s flickr page at www.flickr.com/photos/shepherdu/.