Student struck on crosswalk at Shepherd

January 13, 2012
Staff reports, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - At approximately 4 p.m. Friday, area emergency personnel responded to a vehicle and pedestrian collision at the corner of North Duke and High Streets in Shepherdstown on Shepherd University's campus, where a driver reportedly struck a female student.

The student, who has not yet been identified, suffered a "visible head injury" and was found unconscious at the scene.

According to Shepherdstown Police Chief Ransom, who was the first to respond to the call, the student was struck by the vehicle traveling southbound on Route 480, while crossing at the university crosswalk between East and West campuses.

The pedestrian has been transported by helicopter to a nearby emergency services facility. The driver, who is reportedly elderly, was also transported to a nearby hospital with minor injuries.

The area was temporarily shut down and traffic has been re-routed.
Ice House exhibit features landscapes

January 13, 2012

Local Events

The Morgan Arts Council launches 2012 in its special exhibit gallery at the Ice House with Dr. Geraldine Kiefer's curated show entitled "Landscape and the Tactile Imagination." Although the show opens on Saturday, January 14, the meet-the-artist reception takes place on President's Day weekend in February. The show can be seen during regular gallery hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday.

Kiefer, an art historian and artist on the faculty of Shenandoah University, gathered four other artists from the region to explore imaginary and actual textures and a variety of subjects in two and three dimensions. "The organic growth and breathy freshness of mixed-media approaches seem appropriate for January," said Kiefer reflecting on materials ranging from heavy watercolor paper and acrylics to fired ceramics and drawings.

Ting-Yu Chen is a dancer, potter and watercolorist also on the faculty at Shenandoah. Her exploration of light and pure subjects is reflected in "Come and Go," the watercolor selected for the show postcard.

Don Black of Winchester works in watercolors as well as acrylics featuring abstract and non-representational style. Like Chen, Black's primary art media is music.

For more than 20 years he conducted the Symphony Orchestra and opera productions at Shenandoah Conservatory.

Cynthia Fraule Hahn is an adjunct at Shepherd University displaying work of charcoal on paper in this show. Kiefer creates drawings, paintings, collages, and assemblages using landscapes from her life in both Hawaii and the Shenandoah Valley.

Nancy Bishop retired from Alexandria, Va. to Berryville where she continues her lifelong focus on ceramics currently working in porcelain clay fired to high temperatures. Her porcelain vessels lend dimensionality to the show.

The show hangs through February 26. Funding is provided in part by the WV Commission on the Arts and hotel/motel taxes from the town and county.

The Ice House is located on Independence and Mercer in downtown Berkeley Springs. For more information call 304-258-2300.
Shepherd student struck in crosswalk

Woman suffers head injury in accident

January 14, 2012

By Matt Armstrong - Journal Staff Writer (marmstrong@journal-news.net), journ-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - A 21-year-old female Shepherd University student suffered serious injuries after she was struck by a minivan while walking in a university crosswalk at 3:56 p.m. Friday, according to news releases from the Shepherdstown Police Department and SU.

The releases identified Kayla Barb, from Moorefield, W.Va., as the victim.

She was struck while crossing W.Va. 480 between East Campus and West Campus drives. Injuries included a "visible head injury," and she was found unconscious at the scene, according to SPD Chief David Ransom.

The Pontiac minivan was traveling southbound on W.Va. 480 when it struck Barb, Ransom said in a phone interview Friday evening.

Barb was flown to Inova Fairfax Hospital in Fairfax County, Va., where she was admitted to the trauma unit.

The driver, identified as Bonnie Smallwood of Maryland, was transported to Meritus Medical Center in Hagerstown to be treated for minor injuries, Ransom added.

This was the second such incident at the crosswalk between East Campus and West Campus in a little more than two years, according to Ransom.

Students who were on the scene are being supported by university counseling services, according to SU's release.

"Our thoughts are with the student and her family at this time," stated Shepherd University President Suzanne Shipley in the SU release. "Kayla is a valued member of the Shepherd community."

Units responding to the incident included the SPD, the Shepherd University Police Department, the Harpers Ferry Police Department, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Shepherdstown Fire Department, responders from the Sharpsburg (Md.) Volunteer Fire Department and a HealthNet 8 helicopter, according to Ransom.

The roadway was temporarily closed after the incident, and traffic on W.Va. 480 was rerouted through the Shepherd's West Campus.

Updates will be posted to www.shepherd.edu, according to SU's release.
Two Bucks County residents have been awarded scholarships from the Shepherd University Foundation. Jennifer Vi Prine of Fairless Hills, received the Moler General Athletic Scholarship; and Jobin Tharakan, of Feasterville, received the William Randolph Hearst Honors Scholarship.
Journal Junction for Jan. 16

January 16, 2012
journal-news.net

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Editor's note: Journal Junction offers the public a forum to applaud successes, discuss issues, point out problems and review the events of the day in a constructive manner. Journal Junction comments should be limited to two to four sentences. Longer comments should be submitted as "Letters to the Editor," which is a separate forum. The Journal's classified ads section offers help to those with lost or found items. This is a sampling of comments received today. All others, subject to editing, are published in the online Journal Junction at www.journal-news.net under opinions.

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From Shepherdstown:

I feel very, very sorry that this 21-year-old female Shepherd University student was injured at the crosswalk. Cars are supposed to stop when they see students in the crosswalk. However, the students must take some responsibility. I live in Shepherdstown and have to cross that crosswalk daily on my commute home. I see the Shepherd students walking in front of the cars, and some don't even look!

From Charles Town:

It seems like a lot of people are automatically guessing that the student who was struck by a vehicle in Shepherdstown last week was somehow at fault, despite the fact that she was in a crosswalk in broad daylight and had the right of way. I have to wonder - if a 20-year-old female driver had struck an older woman legally crossing the street at any other crosswalk in the county, would anyone still be assuming that the pedestrian was at fault?
A day of service
MLK activities offered at Sumner-Ramer Center

January 17, 2012
By John McVey, Journal staff writer, journal-news.net

MARTINSBURG - The theme of Martin Luther King Day has become "A day on, not a day off," meaning to observe the legacy of America's great civil rights leaders by volunteering for community service projects rather than vegetating on the couch on a day off work.

"Ours is a little different - we're engaging the community," explained Allie Conroy, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer with the Family Resource Network of the Panhandle. "We want to educate people on the history of their community so they take ownership of their community. ... If they take ownership, they will feel they belong to the community and value it more."

She and Sara Koontz, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer with the Promise Neighborhood Initiative, as well as AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers Rachel Crum and Kristen Lewis coordinated MLK Day activities at the Sumner-Ramer Center on Martin Street in Martinsburg.

The Sumner-Ramer Center, formerly Ramer Memorial School, was the lone public school for blacks during segregation.

It now houses Berkeley County Schools' instructional resource center, media services and special education department as well as the Sumner-Ramer Heritage Archives, which preserves the history of the school's development, students, teachers and administrators.

The activities at the Sumner-Ramer Center were designed to get kids involved, Koontz said.

She said Shepherd University students, Martinsburg police officers, downtown Martinsburg businesses and others either volunteered their time or donated refreshments to the MLK Day event, which was held in the Sumner-Ramer Center gymnasium.

Some of the activities included making Valentine Day cards for members of the military, an obstacle course and physical fitness information, a photo booth where kids could have their pictures taken in period costumes, bicycle safety lessons, a reading room, tours of the Sumner-Ramer Heritage Archives and more.

Kids visiting the MLK Day activities could add to the Underground Railroad Freedom Quilt, Koontz said.

"It's a quilt map to freedom," she said. "The quilt not only would keep you warm on the underground railroad, but the different squares are
secret messages."

Runaway slaves heading to freedom in the North would look for signs along the way that coincided with blocks on their quilts, Koontz said.

Pointing to one block that looked like an X, she said that meant to double back. If a passenger on the underground railroad saw that symbol while en route, they knew what to do.

She said another block had a symbol for flying geese.

"That meant to follow the flying geese, who flew north," Koontz said.

The idea for the quilt came from a children’s book titled “The Patchwork Path,” by Betty Stroud and illustrated by Erin Susanne Bennett, about a little girl escaping slavery on the underground railroad and using her quilt map to freedom.

Kids could draw their own symbols to add to a quilt, which Koontz hopes to display downtown when it is finished.

A community concert also was offered at the old school, featuring performances by a dance team from Destiny Baptist Church, the Berkeley County Strings Program and children’s musician Tony Martirano.
Shepherd music professor a finalist in international competition

6:52 AM EST, January 17, 2012

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va.

Dr. Mark Cook, assistant professor of music and director of jazz studies at Shepherd University, was recently named a finalist of the International Music Prize for Excellence in Composition 2011, awarded by the National Academy of Music in Greece.

Cook submitted his piece, “Piano Sonata,” to the master status category of the competition. It is among more than 210 compositions from entrants worldwide.

The piece was originally written for his former student Jason Solounias. Cook said that the work was “unfinished strands” of music from throughout his career and requires being performed by someone who possesses the intuitive and aesthetic skills allowing for spontaneous composition.

A graduate of the Peabody Conservancy in 1978 with a degree in music education, Cook came to Shepherd in 2005. He graduated from Catholic University with a master’s degree in music theory in 1990 and doctorate in 2004.
Journal Junction for Jan. 18

January 18, 2012
journal-news.net

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Editor's note: Journal Junction offers the public a forum to applaud successes, discuss issues, point out problems and review the events of the day in a constructive manner. Journal Junction comments should be limited to two to four sentences. Longer comments should be submitted as "Letters to the Editor," which is a separate forum. The Journal's classified ads section offers help to those with lost or found items. This is a sampling of comments received today. All others, subject to editing, are published in the online Journal Junction at www.journal-news.net under opinions.

From Hedgesville:

I don't know if anybody else was watching "60 Minutes" Sunday night, but they had a third-world country on there. They had thousands of people in these big skyscrapers and didn't have to pay taxes for anything. No taxes! Their medical bills and medicine was all taken care of. All new roads. That was all taken care of by the government. If they can do that, to think as smart as the United States is supposed to be, why can't we do that?

From Martinsburg:

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the individual who found our car keys in the Walmart parking lot Monday morning and turned them into Walmart's service center. I want to thank you very much. I pray to God that He will bless you.

From Harpers Ferry:

"You can't always get what you want. You can't always get what you want ... but if you try sometimes, you just might find ... you get what you need!" We grew up very poor, but my mom made sure we always had the greatest experiences: going to Niagara Falls, the zoo, state parks, etc. We rarely got life's "extras" like going out to eat or new toys. When I'd whine about not getting the material things that I wanted, she would sing these lyrics. Now I know that giving my child the best material things is not important; it's the love, attention and unique adventures that count!

From Jefferson County:

I agree with the person who called in about having more lights on West High and German streets. Those streets are really dark. There are a few lights but they need more lighting. It affects the residents as well and the Shepherd University students who are walking back and forth to Sheetz to buy stuff. The police should be on these streets because they don't pay any attention to the four-way stop signs.
Dr. Laura Clayton, professor of nursing education at Shepherd University, was recently named as one of five finalists for the West Virginia Humanities Council’s 2011 Faculty Merit Foundation Professor of the Year.

Clayton, who joined Shepherd’s faculty in 1993, earned her Ph.D. from West Virginia University in 2007, certificate in health care administration from WVU in 1998, master of science in nursing and family nurse practitioner from WVU in 1993, and bachelor of science in nursing from Alderson-Broaddus College in 1983.

Clayton cofounded the Emmanuel’s Table Free Clinic in Martinsburg in 2006, serves on the Eastern Panhandle Medical Reserve Corp Steering Committee, is the peer reviewer for Nursing Education Perspectives by the National League for Nursing, and is the president of the board of directors for the Shenandoah Valley Medical System.

In 2010 she received the West Virginia University School of Nursing Golden Graduate Award and received the Nursing Excellence Award in Nursing Education from the West Virginia Center for Nursing in 2007. Clayton received her certification as a certified nurse educator by the National League of Nursing in 2010.

The Faculty Merit Foundation was started to recognize and reward excellence in higher education at private and public colleges and universities across the state. Candidates are nominated by their students and colleagues. Final candidates will be interviewed by the board in Charleston in January. The five finalists will be honored at a March 13 reception and banquet in Charleston where the 2011 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.

Shepherd faculty members who have previously been honored by the Faculty Merit Foundation include Dr. Ed Snyder, Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt, and Dr. Linda Tate, who were winners of the Outstanding Professor of the Year award in 2010, 2006, and 2004, and Dr. Scott Beard and Dr. Jerry Thomas, finalists in 2009 and 2007.
School Bulletin

Shepherd hosts
annual recital Jan. 28

The Shepherd University Department of Music will host its annual honors recital at the Frank Center’s McCoy Rehearsal Hall on Saturday, January 28, at 1:30 p.m. The honors recital, presented by Shepherd students, and awards ceremony, including performances by each of the chosen prize winners of the Shepherd Vocal Competition, will be free and open to the public.
SHEPHERDSTOWN — A Shepherd University student who was struck by a car last Friday as she was crossing W.Va. 480 is still being treated for her injuries, according to a press release from Shepherd University.

Kayla Barb, of Moorefield, was airlifted to Inova Hospital in Fairfax, Va., after being hit by a car at about 4 p.m. as she was crossing the road between the university’s East Campus and West Campus.

According to a Jan. 16 press release from the university’s Student Affairs office, Barb, a junior, underwent knee surgery on Sunday and has been moved from trauma intensive care to an intermediate care unit, where she is listed in stable condition.

The university offered counseling for students over the weekend, according to the school.

Shepherd University President Suzanne Shipley said Barb continues to be in the thoughts of school officials. “Kayla is a valued member of the Shepherd community,” Shipley said.

Construction of a $4 million underpass is expected to begin next month and will connect the two campuses, eliminating the need for pedestrian crossings, according to a report from the university on the project.

The underpass will be located about 25 yards northeast of the existing crosswalk.
Shepherd University adds K-9 officer

MARLA PISCOTTA Spirit Staff

SHEPHERDSTOWN — The campus of Shepherd University has a new officer walking the beat. Two-year-old Gunther, a golden Labrador retriever, recently joined the university police force with his handler K-9 officer Jim Cummings. Cummings is a veteran K-9 handler who worked for three years at Battle Ridge K-9 in Madison. He also worked part-time with the university campus police two years before joining the department fulltime in December.

Gunther was bred in Ottawa, Canada, and received 12 weeks of training at the Southern Coast K-9 academy in Florida by owner Bill Heiser. “Gunther was trained in play drive, which means he associates his toy with the odor of drugs,” Heiser said. Heiser said the dog’s response is to sit and stare knowing he will get a reward when he has found his toy, which are the drugs. “That makes him excited. He would rather play with that toy than eat,” said Heiser.

Gunther is trained to sniff out narcotics such as cocaine, crack cocaine, marijuana, heroin and meth. One of Gunther’s jobs will be to detect these drugs while performing random free-air searches around cars, buildings, and sidewalks at Shepherd University.

This will occur as a regular part of Cummings’ daily patrol duties, occasionally as part of a specific investigation, and in periodic visits to the residence halls.

Gunther was matched up with officer Jim Cummings during a visit to Florida. “The most important part of a K-9 unit is the person at the end of the leash. Officer Cummings gave us a rundown of what he was looking to do at the college. He needed a happy-go-lucky dog that could work in that environment. Gunther fit the bill,” Heiser said.

Heiser said only one in 40 dogs have the caliber to be a K-9. “They have to have a hunt and play drive personality.”

Heiser said dogs have to be at least a year old before training begins. “They have to get the puppiness out of them and we have to make sure the hips, elbows and spine are in good shape for training,” Heiser said.

In the future, Gunther will undergo tracking and search and rescue training. Training, according to Heiser, is an ongoing chore that continues indefinitely. Gunther will be living with the Cummings family.

The University hopes that the addition of a K-9 unit will deter and reduce the incidents of illegal drugs on the campus and will contribute to campus safety.
Journal Junction for Jan 19

January 19, 2012
journal-news.net

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Editor’s note: Journal Junction offers the public a forum to applaud successes, discuss issues, point out problems and review the events of the day in a constructive manner. Journal Junction comments should be limited to two to four sentences. Longer comments should be submitted as “Letters to the Editor,” which is a separate forum. The Journal’s classified ads section offers help to those with lost or found items. This is a sampling of comments received today. All others, subject to editing, are published in the online Journal Junction at www.journal-news.net under opinions.

From Hedgesville:

I would like to thank the young man who stopped to help us on Interstate 81 last week. We were broken down for four to five hours in all that traffic. One young man with compassion stopped to help. I just wanted to let him know he was appreciated.

From Martinsburg:

I would like to thank the manager and staff of The Landing restaurant located at the airport for being so kind to my elderly father, who just recently moved to this area and was looking for a place to eat that would be close to home for him. He is treated like royalty each time he goes to your restaurant. The manager goes way beyond his duties to get my dad what he wants, especially chipped beef gravy. He even peeled my dad’s hash browns for him because my dad didn’t like the skin. This is a restaurant that is truly thankful for your business.

From Charles Town:

To the other Charles Town caller: Of course it matters who has the right-of-way when a fatal accident occurs, since the person who failed to yield has committed a crime. We have laws regarding the use of our roads, for pedestrians and for drivers, for a pretty simple reason — safety. If those who do not have the right-of-way yield to those who do, nobody gets hurt. If they don’t, and someone does get hurt, they are legally responsible, and face consequences intended to deter such recklessness.

From Hedgesville:

I am the girl who this happened to at the gas station. Yes, please, I would like the witness to find me any way that he/she can. And if any other people witnessed this, if they could come forward also, I would greatly appreciate it. Thank you.

From Shenandoah Junction:

In 2005 I hit a Shepherd University student (dressed in black) on a dark, rainy night as he ran into the street. My insurance company paid him $100,000 in the end. It affects me to this day that I could have killed this teenager. He was not paying attention but I was, and there was nothing I could have done to avoid hitting him.
Shepherd to offer free lessons

January 20, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The Shepherd University Department of Music will be offering free piano lessons to a select number of beginning piano students this spring semester. As part of their Piano Pedagogy class, Shepherd music majors receiving their training in the art of teaching the piano will teach the beginning piano students under the supervision of Gary Mullenax. Local students will receive group and private piano lessons and perform in a recital.

Students will have access to the latest technology, taking group lessons in an electronic piano lab, with most lessons being taught on Yamaha Disklavier pianos. Online learning centers will also be used as instructive tools. The only cost to students and parents will be a nominal amount to cover the cost of materials at $25 per student. All lessons and recitals are free.

Students interested in taking lessons should be beginners between the ages of 6 and 11. No previous keyboard or musical experience is required. Lessons will be from 7 to 8 p.m. on Thursday beginning on Feb. 15. The final recital will be held April 26.

For more information or to set up an interview, please contact professor Gary Mullenax at gmullenax@shepherd.edu.
Student recovering from accident in crosswalk

January 20, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

Kayla Barb, a 21-year-old student who was injured after being hit by a vehicle while crossing the road on Shepherd University's campus last Friday, is reported to be recovering, according to a statement posted by the university.

Barb was reportedly hit at the crosswalk between East and West campus by a vehicle moving southbound on W.Va. 480 and was reported to have suffered a "visible head injury," according to Shepherdstown Police Chief Dave Ransom.

According to a statement released Monday, Jan. 16, Barb, who was airlifted to Fairfax Inova Hospital following the accident, is in stable condition and remains conscious.

The university statement also stated that Barb's mother told Shepherd University Student Affairs officials that her daughter underwent knee surgery on Sunday, Jan. 15 and had been moved from trauma intensive care to an intermediate care unit of the hospital.

At press time, an official police report had not been issued for the case and it is unclear as to whether charges will be filed against the vehicle driver.
Shepherd set to host recital

January 20, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The Shepherd University Department of Music will host its annual honors recital at the Frank Center's McCoy Rehearsal Hall on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 1:30 p.m. The honors recital, presented by Shepherd students, and awards ceremony, including performances by each of the chosen prize winners of the Shepherd Vocal Competition, will be free and open to the public.

The Shepherd Vocal Competition is an annual event organized by the Voice Department at Shepherd University in an effort to provide young singers the opportunity to perform for and receive feedback from professional musicians. This is also an opportunity for these young artists to become familiar with Shepherd University's music program and what it has to offer as they consider their options for college.
AHA! Fire Hall Gallery exhibit on conservation

January 20, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The current exhibit at the AHA! Fire Hall Gallery, located at 108 N. George Street in Charles Town, puts the spotlight on the theme of conservation. Artwork created by Shepherd University graphic design, photography and studio art majors provides a provocative and exciting visual experience.

Students were challenged to create a work of art that promoted ideas of conservation. Professor Rhonda J. Smith, chair, Department of SU Contemporary Art and Theater, said the American Conservation Film Festival (ACFF) held in Nov. 2011 inspired the assignment.

The students were enrolled in Visual Thinking Skills 1, a freshman course where students begin to understand the nature of contemporary art. They learn how concepts and ideas are conveyed through the language of visual information.

Smith explains, "Imagery has the power to inform and inspire." The challenge to the students was to create an image that will promote conversation and awareness of conservation. They were to select a theme related to advocacy, respect, protection, defense, reporting, awareness or some other related theme that supports the ACFF idea of the power of imagery to inform and inspire.

Professor Sonya Evanisko organized the exhibit. She said that the artwork had specific guidelines. No people could be used as subjects, yet the image was to bring greater understanding and awareness to others about conservation, how it may be fostered, or how to be an advocate for action.

The solution had to incorporate images that provoke rather than document. "Your goal," Evanisko told them, "is to stimulate the imagination of the viewer while conveying your conservation message." She said, "Our students are go-getters. Our faculty inspires innovation and we get results."

Participating artists are Christine Soares, Richard McClung, Jake Lichtman, Sara Briester, Austin Bridge, Trenton Meiron, Samantha Jones, Kaitlyn Jones, Mariah Donavan, Kyla Johnson, Ana Lopez, Emma Frank, Brittany Bates and Evan Barke.

The artwork was previously exhibited in the Scarborough Library at SU during November and December.

The AHA! Fire Hall Gallery is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Shepherd alumnus honors family with funds

January 20, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

The Shepherd University Foundation is pleased to announce the creation of three new scholarships by Robert A. Holmes, Ph.D. Funds will be used to provide financial assistance to members of the Stubbs-Washington-Branson family who exhibit an interest in community and public service.

Holmes endowed the first of the awards, the Robert A. Holmes and Gloria Cary Holmes Scholarship, in honor of his wife, Gloria.

"Her love, caring, sharing, encouragement and support were instrumental in my success in many academic, business and civic endeavors," he said. "This scholarship is designed to provide a tangible reflection of our joint legacy in support of Shepherd University."

Holmes created his second award, the Priscilla L. Holmes and Genevieve Monroe Scholarship, to honor his mother, Priscilla.

"She worked hard and sacrificed much in her efforts to raise my brother and me to become successful adults," he said. "This scholarship represents a small token of appreciation for all that she has done to ensure that we would make her proud." Additionally, the award honors his aunt Genevieve, a former employee of the VA Medical Center in Martinsburg and treasurer of Asbury Methodist Church in Charles Town.

"She has been responsible for what I have become and what I've accomplished," he said.

Holmes established his third award, the Marcella Washington and Daniel Staubs Scholarship, in honor of his grandmother Marcella.

"She instilled fundamental values that provided the guidance I've followed throughout my entire adult life," he said. The award is also named for his cousin, Daniel Staubs, a graduate of Hampton University whose love, kindness, concern and belief that Holmes would grow up to be someone special encouraged him to set high personal and professional goals. Staubs was an avid bowler and sports fan who took Holmes to his first baseball game and ultimately instilled in him his own love of sports.

"He acted as my surrogate father," said Holmes. "He was there for me from my formative years in Harlem, New York, continuing through my graduate studies at Columbia University and beyond."
Finalists work toward next round of business competition
(http://timeswv.com/business/x1456425069/Finalists-work-toward-next-round-of-business-competition)

By Jessica Borders
Times West Virginian (http://timeswv.com)

FAIRVIEW — The 10 teams remaining in the 2011-12 West Virginia Statewide Collegiate Business Plan Competition are gaining “phenomenal experience.”

Those finalists were announced in December following round two of the competition, which was held Nov. 15 at the University of Charleston. The West Virginia University Entrepreneurship Center, located in the College of Business and Economics, houses and supports the statewide contest, which is now in its sixth year.

Nancy McIntyre officially stepped into the role of associate dean and interim director of the WVU Entrepreneurship Center last week, taking on the position that Mindy Walls formerly held. McIntyre said she likes the fact that students from schools around the state can get involved in this competition.

“It’s a really neat project,” she said. “I’m an entrepreneur myself. I’ve having fun. I’m learning a lot.

“I wish I had this opportunity when I was their age. I’ve been through what they’re going through. I went through it very young without this kind of support.”

McIntyre said the competition started in September with 117 teams — full-time students from four-year colleges and universities across West Virginia — submitting summaries of their business ideas. The 44 entries in the Hospitality and Tourism category and 73 entries in the Lifestyle and Innovation category came from nine schools.

“There are more and more kids who submit their ideas,” she said of the growth of the competition. “This year was a record number of entrants.”

The entries were cut down to 20 semifinalists, 10 in each category, who were invited to compete in round two. Those students traveled to Charleston, where they gave elevator pitches about their ideas
in front of judges and then met with the judges individually. After that round, five teams in each category were chosen to move forward in the contest, McIntyre said.

In the Lifestyle and Innovation category, the top five are Jenna Mullins from WVU with her business Bella Boots; Meg Grzeskiewicz, WVU, Bulls-I Breeding Technology; Beth Montgomery, Shepherd University, Comfort Caregiving Solutions; Ruth Mary Oldham, WVU, Full Circle Compost; and Melissa Campos, Glencive State College, Happy Paws Groom & Board.

The semifinalists in the Hospitality and Tourism category include Krista Youngblood, Shepherd University, Blue Ridge Wine Tours; Eric Watkins, WVU, Don't Drink N Drive; Katie Workman, WVU, Home-style Meals at Snowshoe; Jameson Holehouse and John Howard, WVU, Pranzo Veloce; and Brianna Heckert and Alexandra Bay, WVU, Whistlin' Dixie's.

"I think they're all equally wonderful ideas," McIntyre said. "We have students from all different areas."

She said the remaining teams will each receive a $1,000 stipend this semester. The students are encouraged to use this money to develop their business in some way, such as by purchasing a software package for bookkeeping or obtaining their business license.

One student from each of the finalist teams is required to be enrolled in an online entrepreneurship course, which provides them with a lot of resources. The students, who are given guest registration and do not have to pay for the class, will go through a series of online webinars through early February, McIntyre said.

She said she's really enjoying teaching the class, coordinating the speakers and getting to know the students. All the teams will come to WVU on Feb. 3-4 for a two-day workshop covering more topics related to starting their business. At that time, the finalists will also be assigned their coaches, who will provide assistance as the students develop their business plans, McIntyre said.

The teams must submit their final business plans by March 27, and the final round will take place April 13-14 in Morgantown, she said. One team in each category will be awarded $10,000 plus a bundle of services to help start their business.

The West Virginia Statewide Collegiate Business Plan Competition is supported by local companies and the business community, McIntyre said. The students present their ideas in a well-developed manner in front of bankers, investors, attorneys and other professionals, which is a great experience for them.

Many of the students who have participated in the past have gone on to start their companies, even if they didn't win the contest.

"We often see success stories after the fact with our business school graduates," she said.

The competition gives the college the chance to support emerging entrepreneurs earlier in their careers and help them be successful, McIntyre said.

Email Jessica Borders at jborders@timeswv.com.
Shepherd U. to offer Turkish Language Culture class

9:21 AM EST, January 24, 2012

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va.

Shepherd University will be offering the course, Turkish Language Culture, that will span approximately 12 weeks during the spring 2012 semester.

Starting Jan. 25, sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. in White Hall 209.

Through Shepherd’s Division of Graduate Study and Continuing Education Adult Education Program, instructor Yasar Aydin will offer lessons on a variety of topics related to Turkish language acquisition and culture. Though the session is open to the general public, those interested are able to obtain continuing education units for this after registering with Shepherd’s Division of Graduate Studies.

For more information, call the Division of Graduate Studies at 304-876-5651.
Free piano lessons offered at Shepherd

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Shepherd University Department of Music will be offering free piano lessons to a select number of beginning piano students this spring semester. As part of their Piano Pedagogy class, Shepherd music majors receiving their training in the art of teaching the piano will teach the beginning piano students under the supervision of Gary Mullenax. Local students will receive group and private piano lessons and perform in a recital.

Students will have access to the latest technology, taking group lessons in an electronic piano lab, with most lessons being taught on Yamaha Disklavier pianos. Online learning centers will also be used as instructive tools. The only cost to students and parents will be a nominal amount to cover the cost of materials at $25 per student. All lessons and recitals are free.

Students interested in taking lessons should be beginners between the ages of 6 and 11. No previous keyboard or musical experience is required. Lessons will be from 7 to 8 p.m. on Thursday beginning Feb. 16. The final recital will be held April 25.

For more information or to set up an interview, email Gary Mullenax at gmullenax@shepherd.edu.
SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd University will be offering the course Turkish Language Culture, which will span approximately 12 weeks during the spring 2012 semester. Starting Wednesday, sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. in White Hall 209.

Through Shepherd’s Division of Graduate Study and Continuing Education Adult Education Program, instructor Yasar Aydin will offer lessons on a variety of topics related to Turkish language acquisition and culture. Though the session is open to the general public, those interested are able to obtain continuing education units for this after registering with Shepherd’s Division of Graduate Studies.

More information is available by calling the Division of Graduate Studies at 304-876-5651.
Professor named faculty merit finalist

January 24, 2012
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Laura Clayton, professor of nursing education at Shepherd University, was recently named as one of five finalists for the West Virginia Humanities Council's 2011 Faculty Merit Foundation Professor of the Year.

Clayton, who joined Shepherd's faculty in 1993, earned her Ph.D. from West Virginia University in 2007, certificate in health care administration from WVU in 1998, master of science in nursing and as family nurse practitioner from WVU in 1993 and Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Alderson-Broaddus College in 1983.

"I'm extremely honored to be nominated and chosen to represent the Shepherd faculty," Clayton said. "To be named a finalist at state level was humbling."

Clayton cofounded the Emmanuel's Table Free Clinic in Martinsburg in 2006, serves on the Eastern Panhandle Medical Reserve Corp Steering Committee, is the peer reviewer for Nursing Education Perspectives by the National League for Nursing and is the president of the board of directors for the Shenandoah Valley Medical System.

In 2010, she received the WVU School of Nursing Golden Graduate Award and received the Nursing Excellence Award in nursing education from the West Virginia Center for Nursing in 2007.

Clayton received her certification as a certified nurse educator by the National League of Nursing in 2010.

Clayton said the best thing about being a nursing education professor is preparing students for careers in nursing and health care.

The Faculty Merit Foundation was started to recognize and reward excellence in higher education at private and public colleges and universities across the state. Candidates are nominated by their students and colleagues. Final candidates will be interviewed by the board in Charleston in January. The five finalists will be honored at a March 13 reception and banquet in Charleston where the 2011 Professor of the Year will be announced.

The award winner will receive 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.

Shepherd faculty members who have previously been honored by the
Shepherd professor named finalist in international composition

Dr. Mark Cook, assistant professor of music and director of jazz studies at Shepherd University, was recently named a finalist of the International Music Prize for Excellence in Composition 2011, awarded by the National Academy of Music in Greece.

Cook, who submitted his piece “Piano Sonata” to the master status category of the competition, is among more than 210 compositions from entrants worldwide. The piece was originally written for his former student Jason Solounias. Cook said that the work was “unfinished strands” of music from throughout his career and requires being performed by someone who possesses the intuitive and aesthetic skills allowing for spontaneous composition.

Each submission was evaluated by at least five members of the artistic committee; only entrants who had been nominated by at least four members of the artistic committee were declared finalists of the competition.

Cook said he submitted his work to see where he stood in the music world and to receive feedback from other composers and people who evaluate composers.

A graduate of the Peabody Conservancy in 1978 with a degree in music education, Cook came to Shepherd in 2005. He graduated from Catholic University with a master’s degree in music theory in 1990 and doctorate in 2004.

He is an honorary, fully-inducted member of Phi Mu Alpha, Xi Epsilon Chapter, the national music fraternity, and an honorary member of Sigma Alpha Iota, the national women’s music sorority. Cook performs throughout the region and is in demand as a jazz clinician and adjudicator. Cook is a guest lecturer in music theory and composition at the Barbara Ingram School of the Arts in Hagerstown, and is currently writing an online textbook, “Foundations of Music Theory,” to be released in July.
Clarke Students Make Dean’s List at Shepherd University

By News Staff on Jan 25 2012. Email This Article

Two Clarke County residents have been named to the Dean’s List at Shepherd University, Chelsea

Alesea Korbini and Taylor Corinne Wann

To be eligible for the Dean’s List, a student must maintain a 3.4 grade point average for the semester and carry at least 15 hours of course work or be in a professional teaching block.
Shepherd announces promotions

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Three Shepherd University student affairs staff members have received promotions, Thomas C. Segar, vice president for student affairs, recently announced.

- David B. Cole Jr., of Williamsport, Md., has been named dean of students. He will serve as the senior student conduct officer for Shepherd and will work with university police, lead the institution’s behavioral intervention initiatives and serve as a liaison with parents, students, faculty and staff on student behavior issues.

Cole earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from Western Maryland College — now McDaniel College — and a master of arts degree in psychology from Hood College. He has worked at Shepherd for 15 years in various capacities including assistant dean of students, assistant director of physical plant, financial aid counselor, residence life hall director, head women’s softball coach and assistant baseball coach. Cole also is a member of the Shepherd Athletic Hall of Fame.

Cole worked at Hagerstown Community College for 13 years as director of student services and student activities coordinator.

- Holly Morgan Frye, of Shermont Junction, has been named assistant vice president for student affairs.

Frye holds a bachelor of arts degree in communications from Western Maryland College — now McDaniel College — and a master of arts degree in college student development and administration from Shepherd University. Frye has worked at Shepherd for 12 years, most recently as director of student community services and student life.

- Christina J. Johnson, of Stephens City, Va., has been named assistant vice president for student affairs for student success.

Johnson earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and ethnic studies from Cornell College in Iowa, a master of science degree in education leadership and policy studies from Iowa State University, and is working toward a doctorate in college and university leadership from Colorado State University.

She has served as the director of multicultural student affairs and disability support services at Shepherd for six years.

Johnson also served as the assistant dean of students/director of multicultural life at Cornell College and as director of student activities at St. Olaf College in Minnesota.
Shepherd to perform ‘Sweeney Todd’

January 26, 2012
By Juliet Seligman - Special to The Journal, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN—Morbid pipe organs open for this dark musical comedy originally written between 1846 and 1847 by James Malcolm Rymer and Thomas Peckett Prest, later adapted by Stephen Sondheim in 1979 for Broadway.

Directed by Richard Heidbolter, who also serves as vice president for Shepherd University’s Academic Affairs Office, along with Musical Director Erik Reid Jones and Production Manager Patrick Wallace, “Sweeney Todd” will be featured at Shepherd University during the first two weekends in February.

The dark musical comedy showcases many of Shepherd’s most talented vocal performance students, who deftly reach wide musical notes via choruses, duos and solos in scenes set in 1800s London, England.

“Sweeney Todd’ is one of Sondheim’s most complex and difficult works vocally and instrumentally. The fact that our students can master the material at this level certainly speaks to not only to their talent but to the quality of music education they receive by Shepherd’s faculty,” Helldobler said.

Lights dim - and then shine, when all at once a stunning and charismatic opening chorus immediately captures the audience's attention toward the musical's title character, "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street."

Scott Donaldson, a senior vocal performance major with talent and hopes of Broadway, plays Sweeney Todd, a barber who 15 years prior to the play's opening is wrongfully accused on trumped-up charges by the self-righteous Judge Turpin. Turpin, played by student Daniel Plante, desires Todd's wife, Lucy, for himself, and to fulfill his evil scheme, the judge banishes Todd to Botany Bay, Australia, where Todd spends over a decade plotting his revenge.

Indeed, the same spirit that compelled Alexandre Dumas in The Count of Monte Cristo to escape the confines of his own water-walled prison similarly urge Todd to swim into Botany Bay toward his freedom, theoretically symbolized by nothing more than a blank horizon. As good luck would have it, he eventually is rescued by Anthony, a sailor on board "the good ship "Bountiful." Anthony is played by Ross Tamaccio, a Shepherd sophomore majoring in vocal performance.

Anthony delivers Todd safely back to London during which journey... for the kinder, more beautiful, female sex, though it is from differing perspectives: Todd mourns his long-lost, virtuous wife, who is rumored to have committed suicide by arsenic poisoning after being raped by the judge. And Anthony, an as-of-yet single, sea-faring adventurer, dreams of falling in love for the first time.

All the players wear period costumes of long, flowing skirts and corsets for the women, and burlap trousers and suspenders for the men. Intermittent pipe organs emphasize the crescendos of both the play's subject matter and the ever-talented actors' and vocalists' solos, duos and choruses.

Photos courtesy of Richard Helldobler
Now safely back in London, Todd meets up with an old friend, Mrs. Lovett, played by Joanna Moorman. Mrs. Lovett, a spinster with domestic aspirations and who is renowned for her famously delicious meat pies, entertains dreams of settling down by the sea shore where, among other notions, she and Todd can eat "kippered herring." She goes to great efforts to calm Todd's aching heart and make him forget about his wretched past so that he will agree to marry her. Indeed, it is she who tells Todd about his long-lost wife's ill-fated poisoning by arsenic.

In the meantime, Todd, who is bitter to his core, meets the Italian Pirelli, also a barber, and the two enter a contest to determine which man can offer the "closest, cleanest shave." Pirelli is played by Paul Cabell, a junior majoring in music education. Unfortunately for Pirelli, who remembers Todd from before his banishment, he is murdered by Todd so as to keep Todd's identity a secret. Thus begins a murderous rampage for those to whom Todd deceptively offers "the closest shave one can imagine," a rageful campaign about which the conniving Mrs. Lovett quickly becomes aware and for which she hatches a capital plan. The two conspire to get rid of the dead bodies by utilizing them for the meat which comprises Mrs. Lovett's famous pies, which are in great demand by the town, a two-fold effort by which Mrs. Lovett also can cut materials costs.

The scene is vastly comedic as the duo tosses around ideas for persons who can present a wide array of differing flavors for the pies.

"How about rear admiral?" Lovett quips.

"Too salty," Todd responds.

"Then how about a general, and do you want his privates too?" Lovett answers.

Weaving in and out of scenes is a beggar woman, played by Megan West, a senior majoring in music education and music theater performance. Her hunched-over form drags the stage emitting from the audience both pity and sadness, but it is not until the end of the play when her true identity provides a surprising twist to the entire story and her presence is validated.

Brian James, a junior majoring in music theater and music education plays Tobias (Toby), a street urchin who forms a bond (at least on his part) with Mrs. Lovett. Providing both a sense of refreshingly honest emotional commitment and comedic relief via his reprieve with Mrs. Lovett, Toby sings a moving piece toward the end of Act I vowing his allegiance and dedication to the elder woman, "Nothing can harm you, not while I'm around."

Of course, the opportunistic Mrs. Lovett immediately recognizes a use for the errant wench, and she quickly locks Toby in the room where the meat grinder is kept. She tells him the secret to making sweet and tender pies is to grind the meat three times, a chore which Toby dutifully embraces. After discovering a hair and finger nail, however,
Toby soon learns the secret recipe for Mrs. Lovett’s famed meat pies when a dead body plummets through a crafty trap door that has been fashioned by the conspiring Todd and Lovett from Todd’s barber chair directly to the grinder. Though horrified to discover the culinary plot, Toby maintains his adoration for Mrs. Lovett.

Jessica Adkins, a sophomore majoring in vocal performance, plays Joanna, who upon first sight becomes Anthony’s agreeable amour; however, their burgeoning romance is not without difficulty and challenge. In an effort to assuage guilt for stealing Todd’s wife and banishing Todd himself to Botany Bay, the judge adopts Joanna, who is an orphan, only to raise her with lecherous plans to eventually ravage her ripening form, though under the rueful social guise of a formal marriage proposal, which Joanna of course rejects.

Throughout the play, Adkins provides stellar vocal performances, reaching high notes that are both pure and strong and emit the sweetest of passions. However, with the assistance of Beadle, played by Nick Bavini, whose character is a political do-gooder who wishes to come into the good graces of the judge, Joanna’s passionate heart song is soon squelched, when she is thrown by him into an asylum in order to keep her away from Anthony, with whom she has fallen in love.

Todd quickly puts the pieces together and seizes an opportunity to avenge his honor by hatching a plan to murder Judge Turpin. With Anthony’s and Mrs. Lovett’s assistance, he hatches a plan to rescue Joanna from the asylum by ordering her specific hair shade (“flaxen blonde, not tawny”). Todd sends the judge a note advising him of his recent custody of the girl, whom the self-centered, self-righteous judge may come to fetch at his convenience.

The final scene will come as a sudden and pitiful surprise when the beggar woman initiates a visit to Mrs. Lovett’s to inquire about the “awful stench” being emitted from her ovens.

Sweeney Todd opens Friday, Feb. 3, at Shepherd University’s Frank Center Theater. Tickets are $15 general admission, $10 for students and under and Shepherd students can enter for free.

More information is available by calling 304-876-5555 or by visiting www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Student recitals

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Shepherd University Department of Music will host its annual honors recital at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Frank Center's McCoy Rehearsal Hall. The honors recital, presented by Shepherd students, and awards ceremony, including performances by each of the chosen prize winners of the Shepherd Vocal Competition, will be free and open to the public.

The Shepherd Vocal Competition is an annual event organized by the Voice Department at Shepherd University in an effort to provide young singers the opportunity to perform for and receive feedback from professional musicians. This is also an opportunity for these young artists to become familiar with Shepherd University's music program and what it has to offer as they consider their options for college.
AHA! exhibit lauds conservation

CHARLES TOWN - The current exhibit at the AHA! Fire Hall Gallery puts the spotlight on the theme of conservation. Artwork created by Shepherd University graphic design, photography and studio art majors provide a provocative and exciting visual experience.

The students were enrolled in Visual Thinking Skills I, a freshman course where students begin to understand the nature of contemporary art.

They learn how concepts and ideas are conveyed through the language of visual information.

Artists are Christine Soares, Richard McClung, Jake Lichtman, Sara Brister, Austin Bridge, Trenton Meiron, Samantha Jones, Kaitlyn Jones, Mariah Donavan, Kyla Johnson, Ana Lopez, Emma Frank, Brittany Bates and Evan Barke.

The AHA! Fire Hall Gallery is located at 108 N. George St., within the Charles Town Visitors Center. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit will end March 1.

For more information about AHA!, visit www.ahajc.org.
Eric Daniel Merkle of Williamstown has been named to the Dean’s List at Shepherd University in West Virginia.
Shepherdstown
Shepherd University Police Department recently added Gunther, a two-year-old golden Labrador retriever to its department.

Gunther, who was bred in Germany, received 12 weeks of training at Southern Coast K-9 Academy in Florida before arriving on campus.

Gunther is trained in narcotics detection and one of his jobs will be to conduct random, free-air searches around cars, building, and sidewalks. This will occur as a regular part of Officer Jim Cummings' daily patrol duties, occasionally as part of a specific investigation, and in periodic visits to the residence halls. Gunther also will undergo tracking and search and rescue training. Gunther and Cummings will be available to assist area emergency service personnel and police forces if an emergency need arises. Gunther also will do demonstrations in the community.

Cummings said that Gunther joined the department to reduce the amount of narcotics being brought onto campus.