Speaker talks about the leadership style of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Thomas Segar: 'We look at what he did ... but we don't always look at how he did what he did'

By HEATHER KEELS
heather.keels@herald-mail.com

10:04 PM EST, January 15, 2011

HAGERSTOWN

It was not just what Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. helped achieve for civil rights in this country, but how he went about doing it, that have made a mark on history, a local scholar said Saturday at an event in downtown Hagerstown.

"The one thing we miss out on a lot is his contribution to leadership," Thomas Segar, assistant vice president of student affairs at Shepherd University, said during a talk about King at The Contemporary School of the Arts & Gallery Inc. at 4 W. Franklin St.

"We look at what he did, the impact of what he did, but we don't always look at how he did what he did," Segar said. "We don't look at how what he did is situated into a history of civil rights movements and how he changed that process up until that point."

Segar, a Hagerstown resident, said he has spent a lot of time studying the notion of leadership as it relates to college students and is writing a dissertation on the subject.

"What I've learned in looking at Dr. King and looking at the way in which he led, is that he did something that is very different," Segar said. "In fact, there are leadership development models that are used in academia ... that are influenced by his legacy."

Segar said a model was created in the 1990s for teaching students how to make positive social change, and that model was based on the characteristics of Gandhi, Malcolm X and King.

For example, King never allowed his methods to get in the way of his message, Segar said.
He was also consistent, Segar said.

"The way he walked, the way he showed up, the way he got dressed in the morning, the way he laid his head down at night — his message of change, his message of love was powerful, and it was in everything he did, and leaders who are effective do just that," he said.

Saturday's event also included a piano performance by Joshua St. Hill, 9, of Hagerstown.

Joshua, a student of piano teacher Aaron Worthy, said he had been playing piano for about two years.

Joshua said he enjoyed the event and had learned a lot about King.

"He was a very good speaker and he could write a lot, and also he had a very good education," Joshua said.
TechConnectWV to launch innovation transfer consortium study

January 16, 2011 @ 12:00 AM
The Herald-Dispatch

CHARLESTON – TechConnectWV, a nonprofit coalition dedicated to promoting West Virginia's innovation economy, will conduct a study to determine the need for an Innovation Transfer Consortium serving the state's smaller colleges and universities.

Funded through a grant awarded by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, and supported by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the survey will involve 18 smaller colleges and universities, both public and private.

Anne Barth, executive director of TechConnectWV, said, such a consortium could connect researchers at the smaller institutions of higher education with private sector partners who could help them commercialize new products, services and technologies.

Paul Hill, vice chancellor for Science and Research for the HEPC and a member of TechConnectWV's board, noted that both Marshall and West Virginia universities have technology transfer offices that exist to find commercial applications for research.

"What we want to find out is whether a consortium organized around the smaller institutions in the state could be instrumental in moving research into the marketplace, which could create jobs," Hill said.

Schools to be included in the assessment include Bluefield State College, Concord University, Fairmont State University, Glenville State College, Shepherd University, West Liberty University, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, West Virginia State University, WVU Institute of Technology, Alderson-Broaddus College, Appalachian Bible College, Bethany College, Davis & Elkins College, Mountain State University, Ohio Valley University, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Wheeling Jesuit University and the University of Charleston.

TechConnectWV works to enhance awareness, spur collaboration, and raise the discussion of issues surrounding technology-based economic development. Its goals are to diversify the state's economy, promote economic prosperity, and create high-paying jobs.
Memorable speech on memorable holiday

By Rhonda Simmons

A Lignum preacher delivered a spirited speech during Monday’s annual tribute to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at Antioch Baptist Church, marking the 25th anniversary of the federal holiday for the celebrated civil rights leader.

Starting with a soft, methodical delivery, the Rev. Douglas Greene’s voice rose to a rhythmic, booming baritone toward the middle of his “Don’t Give Up On The Dream” sermon.

The preacher’s energetic tone inspired the at-capacity crowd into a form of call and response, stirring spontaneous “Amen” and “Thank you, Lord” exclamations throughout his speech.

“I’m certain that every individual on this planet, no matter what race, culture, nationality or status (that) she or he happens to be has a dream of some sort,” said Greene, pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church. “The ability to dream is a natural instinct instilled by the creator. And as we grow older, our dreaming should never cease.”

Referring to the well-known “I Have a Dream” speech, Greene recounted how King shared his vision
before hundreds of thousands of people as they stood at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., in 1963.

"It was so broad and sweeping in its appeal that any of millions of black Americans that watched him on television could have easily substituted themselves each time he said, 'I Have A Dream.'" said Greene, who earned his bachelor's in theology from the International Seminary in Plymouth, Fla.

At 35, King — a married father of four — was the youngest man to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for his non-violent stance on ending racial segregation and discrimination.

On April 4, 1968, King’s young life was cut short by an assassin’s bullet at a motel in Memphis, Tenn.

Monday’s one-hour ceremony also featured Ebenezer Baptist member Chaka Meney, who recited a selection of King’s “I Have A Dream” speech and the Ebenezer Baptist Church Cathedral choir, which sang “Lift Every Voice,” “I’m Free” and concluded with a soulful rendition of “We Shall Overcome.”

Before his speech, Greene also led his choir in the song, “We’ve Come This Far By Faith.”

The event was sponsored by the Culpeper branch of the NAACP. Newly elected president Bettie Turner thanked the Antioch congregation for opening its doors once again for the “One Nation Marching for the Dream” celebration.

Three Shepherd University students — VanChesca Allen, Jessica Adkins and Ciara Hillia — also delivered a musical selection.

At the beginning of the event, Dr. Hortense Beck Hinton welcomed the crowd, noting that Monday’s celebration was considered “A Day On, Not A Day Off.”

“We thank you for coming out and making this a day of service. People around the country today are participating in service projects of all kinds in commemoration of Dr. King, who gave a lifelong service,” said Hinton, addressing the captivated crowd. “And we come today to commemorate and celebrate such a life and take some time from our busy schedules to just reflect.”

Local leaders in attendance at the Monday event included Culpeper County Sheriff JimBranch, Town Police Chief Chris Jenkins, Town Councilman Frank Reaves, Eastern View High School Principal Roger Mello and Culpeper County Commissioner of Revenue Terry Yowell.
Shepherd to host robotics contest

By MEGAN FISHER

Dates: January 19, 2011
Publication: The Journal

SHEPHERDSTOWN — The Department of Computer Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering at Shepherd University will host its first 2011 Robo Fest robotics competition on March 26 and 27 at the Center in Shepherdstown.

Seon-yeon Kim, assistant professor of computer and information sciences, said the event will be the non-competitive competition to take place on the East Coast.

"We’re hoping to make it an annual event and promote the campus and the Department of Computer Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering at Shepherd," Kim said. "We hope to bring people to Shepherdstown for economic development as well as awareness of STEM field education."

The robotics competition will be divided into three events for a wide range of ages.

The first event, the Fiercetigers Robot Contest, is open to middle school and high school students. The challenge will consist of a maze. Within the maze will be four power units and robots have to locate and extinguish each flame autonomously.

The second event, the Mech-Warriors Contest, is designed to "create a real-life robotic arms competition but stress the scenario based in sci-fi universes..."

See ROBOTICS B2

IF YOU GO

What: 2011 Robo Fest robotics competition

When: March 26 and 27

Where: The Burcher Center on the Shepherd University campus

Information: Participants and spectators are asked to register as soon as possible and registration forms are available at www.shepherd.edu/robofest.

See ROBOTICS B2

Robots will build 1/24-scale armed robots which they will pilot through a wireless first-person
POV system.

They are also competing in this contest are in an arena resembling a city, which will be created by Shepherd’s Department of Contemporary Art and Theater and the technical director Patrick Wallace.

"The robots will shoot each other with aircraft guns, and they have a scoring dashboard." Kim said. "If you hit the other robot, you get some of their points."

The Mech-Warriors Contest is open to all ages.

"The first developer of (the Mech-Warriors Contest) are also bringing their own humanoid type of robot to compete," Kim said. "The Lego League Contest is the last event of the two-day competition and is open to students in grades four through eight. The participants’ goal in the Lego League Contest is to create a robot from a kit, which can perform a set of tasks designated by the judges."

More information on Lego League is available at www.first.org.

The competition is funded by a three-year grant from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Division of Science and Research and the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research. Participants and spectators are asked to register for the event as soon as possible due to limited space. It is free to attend and participate in the event. Registration forms are available at www.shepherd.edu/robofest.

Staff writer Megan Fisher can be reached at 304-263-1381, ext. 122, or mfisher@journal-news.net.
SHEPHERDSTOWN — The Butcher Athletic Center hasn’t been kind to Fairmont State’s men’s basketball team in recent years.

Wednesday evening that trend continued here as Shepherd University held off a late comeback attempt by FSU and upset the Falcons, 68-66.

The loss dropped Fairmont State to 10-3 overall and to 8-3 in the West Virginia Conference. It also knocked the Falcons out of second place in the league and dropped them to third.

Shepherd, on the other hand, improved to 7-9 overall with the victory and to just 4-8 in the WVC.

Fairmont raced to a 12-3 lead less than eight minutes into the game, but the Rams methodically fought their way back into contention and knotted the score at 20 with 7:29 left in the opening half. After that the contest was close the rest of the way.

"Honestly we got off to a good lead and then we made a couple of crazy mistakes that you really can't afford to make when you're playing on the road," said FSU coach Tim Murphy. "We missed a layup which would’ve put us up by 11 and they came down and got a dunk. Then one or two possessions after that we turned it over and they came down and whacked a three on us and they were right back in it.

"I know it was early in the game, but that really changed the momentum. If we had converted the layup and had done a better job of taking care of the ball then we would’ve continued to build on the lead and maybe have been able to extend it a little and frustrate them. But that didn’t happen."

The first 20 minutes decided nothing as the teams left the floor for halftime tied at 36. In the second half, though, Shepherd’s 6-5 sophomore forward Chad Moore came to life and Fairmont simply had no answer for him. Moore, who led the Rams with 17 points and 10 rebounds, did virtually all of his damage for Shepherd in the final 20 minutes. He was held scoreless in the first half and had just two rebounds. In the second half he pulled down eight boards, seven of which came on the offensive glass and more often than not he converted them into points. No other Shepherd player had more than one field goal in the second half.

"He obviously hurt us," said Murphy. "We just couldn’t keep him off of the glass in the second half. He was rebounding and scoring with it."

The Rams also did a masterful job of keeping the Falcons from running with the basketball which they like to do and forcing them to play a halfcourt game.

"They forced us to play a halfcourt game," said Murphy. "Give them credit. They were patient with the ball and when we had it they did a good job of guarding us. Our guys are going to have to learn how to play in games like this and play in the halfcourt. We do well doing that at times, but we’re not real consistent with it.

"Both teams played hard, but if I had to flip a coin and make a choice I’d have to say they played a little harder."
Shepherd built a 66-60 advantage with 2:23 remaining, but FSU led by Isaac Thornton, who reeled off six unanswered points in less than a minute, rallied back and tied it at 66 with 43 seconds left to play.

The Rams then got the game-winner from Marcus Pilgrim who nailed a jumper with nine seconds left. After both teams called timeout Fairmont attempted to tie the game and force overtime on a drive to the bucket by Thornton. He received a lot of contact on his way to the rim, but nothing was called and his lay in attempt rolled off the rim and Shepherd's Maik Dauda cleared the rebound as the final horn sounded.

Brantley Osborne chipped in 14 points for the Rams, while Pilgrim added 13.

FSU was led by Steve Custis, who posted his first double-double of the season finishing with a game-high 21 points and 12 rebounds. Thornton, who came into the contest averaging over 22 points per cutting, was held to just 14 points, 10 of which came in the second half. The Falcons also got 10 points and six rebounds from Terrence Green, who suffered a slight ankle sprain in the loss.

Fairmont State will attempt to rebound Saturday afternoon when it returns to the Joe Retton Arena to host Alderson-Broaddus at 4 p.m. The Battlers (11-4, 7-4) have won four straight. FSU won the first meeting between the two schools back in December, 90-72.
2011 RoboFest to be held at Butcher Center

The Department of Computer Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering at Shepherd University will host the 2011 RoboFest robotics competition on March 26 and 27 at the Butcher Center.

Part of the funding for the competition came from an Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) grant recently received to promote the department.

So far, the competition has drawn the attention of local high schools and technical schools. The competition will include three events for various age groups. The first event, the Firefighting Robot Contest, will be held for middle school through college-aged students. Event two, the Mech-Warfare Contest, is open to participants of all ages, and event three, the Lego League, will be held for students in grades 4 through 8.

"We hope that this will bring economic development for the area and attract more computer sciences and engineering students," said Seung-yun Kim, assistant professor of computer and information sciences. SU's Department of Contemporary Art and Theater will create the arena for the Mech-Warfare competition, partnering with Patrick Wallace, theater technical director.

This nationwide competition is the only competition with this diversity on the east coast. "We hope that this will bring economic development for the area and attract more computer sciences and engineering students, as well as retain current students to help them successfully graduate," said Seung-yun Kim, assistant professor of computer and information sciences, in a press release.

Registration is free and open to all. Participants are encouraged to register early due to limited teams and seats available.

A registration form is available at www.shepherd.edu/cnweb/sfr. Contact Kim at skim@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5017 for more information.
Multicultural Affairs office celebrates life of MLK

By Kelly Cambrel
Special to The Chronicle

Shepherd University’s Multicultural Leadership team participated in a Day of Service project to honor Martin Luther King. Monday and plan to help host a panel discussion to discuss his life and mission. According to Christiana Johnson, the director of Multicultural Student Affairs and Disability Support Services at SJU, members of the multicultural leadership team

See MLK —— page 16

MLK

from page 1

participate in a Day of Service project every year on MLK Day to celebrate King’s legacy.

This year Johnson and the approximately 20 students who participated in the event decided to pick a project that allowed them to work together as one big group.

Johnson said in years past the group has split itself up at different sites, concentrating on many projects. But while working at a soup kitchen last year, the team was inspired by an activity that they witnessed — members of a church participating in a project which found them creating sleeping bags out of all recycled materials for the homeless.

The supplies for the bags included things like old quilts, pillow cases and sheets and were donated by the Shepherd community. Johnson said, “We sent out an email to students asking them to chip in any materials that could be used for the project.”

For Johnson, the Day of Service event is an opportunity for students to continue the mission she believes King stood for.

“As college students, we are privileged ... If we have work, we need to do good for others,” she said.

The team plans to donate the bags to one or two new emergency cold weather shelters in Jefferson or Berkeley County depending on the need.

Though the team has yet to make any formal plans for next year’s Day of Service project, Johnson said ideas are floating around amongst the group, which has discussed the possibility of a project involving the whole campus community.

In the meantime the group will continue to work toward achieving King’s dream, and the Multicultural Affairs office is set to extend the celebration of King’s life and work to Monday night, Jan. 24, by hosting a panel discussion and forum on MLK. This year’s panel will include a student member of the Multicultural Leadership Team, Basset Franks, a senior music major and resident assistant.

According to Franks, who participated in the Day of Service project, the discussion Monday night will center on things like Obama’s presidency and the women’s movement toward civil rights, as well as MLK’s legacy.

Franks admitted that he is nervous about the debate but looks forward to the unique learning opportunity.

Serving on the Multicultural Leadership team for the second semester, Franks said he views the team’s work on MLK day and the corresponding panel discussion as opportunities to achieve an extension of what Martin Luther King was striving for.

He explained that though he learned about civil rights and Dr. King in grade school, he did not realize that the King holiday was considered a day of service until he came to Shepherd. He now believes that part of MLK’s dream is that each citizen give of yourself for the betterment of the public, as King did.

The panel discussion will be held on Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies. Along with Franks, the members of the panel include Elizabeth Stoner, assistant director of the student center; Creek Litt and Commuter Affairs and David Hostetter, director of programs and research for the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies.
How seats directly affect the county

Last week we talked about the redistricting in West Virginia of 32,000 people and how that might affect the amount of representation the Eastern Panhandle would get when the Legislature redistricts itself later this year. 32,000 is the difference between the 1,820,000 people living in our state according to the US Census Department’s estimate of July 1, 2009 and the 1,852,000 living here on April 1, 2010 according to the official Decennial Census (the figure we must use for redistricting). We know the county-by-county population figures for the 1,820,000 but not the county-by-county figures for the extra 32,000.

I mentioned that Jefferson, Berkeley and Morgan Counties could get collectively anywhere from one to three extra seats in the House of Delegates from redistricting this year. But how would this directly affect Jefferson County? If our three-county area ends up getting only one additional delegate seat, then Jefferson (which has about a third of the population of the three-county area) would get an additional one third of a seat.

Instead of having the 2.4 delegates we have now we would have 2.7 to 2.8 delegates.

Practically speaking this would mean we would still have two delegate districts entirely within Jefferson County and share a third delegate with Berkeley County. The difference would be that the district we share with Berkeley would have two-thirds of its population in Jefferson County. Presently slightly less than 40 percent of the population of that third district is in Jefferson County. Each of the two districts entirely in Jefferson County (represented right now by Delegate Tiffany Lawrence and J) would have to lose the equivalent of one medium size precinct to that third district now represented by Delegate Eric Householder of Berkeley County to bring the three districts into population conformity.

If the Eastern Panhandle picks up two additional delegate seats, Jefferson would gain about two-thirds of a delegate seat (for a total of about 3.37 seats). Because the legislature likes to redistrict along county lines whenever possible, this would mean that Jefferson would have exactly three delegate districts within its borders (since that .07 divided between the three districts would not put them more than 5 percent above the "optimal" population for a delegate district we discussed a few weeks ago).

Each of the two existing full districts would have to surrender the equivalent of two medium size precincts to the third district to make it whole.

If, however, Jefferson, Berkeley and Morgan Counties pick up three delegate seats then Jefferson would end up with three delegate districts and over half of a fourth. The district we share with Berkeley County would have the same number of people living in Jefferson County that the current split district has but that there would be many fewer people in it living in Berkeley County. The population of Jefferson outside the split district would be divided into three delegate districts instead of two.

See Seats —— page 8

Seats

from page 5

All of this is, of course, speculation until we get the final county-by-county population figures from the US Bureau of the Census in March or April.

The configuration of our new senate districts also depends on how these county-by-county numbers end up. If the numbers show the Eastern Panhandle has a really high percentage of the 32,000 people whose whereabouts are unknown (on the theory that most of them are in areas that have been growing) then at least half of one senate district will be in Jefferson County. The rest of the population of that district will be in Berkeley. The next senate district west will have the rest of Berkeley County plus Morgan and Hampshire Counties.

If the Eastern Panhandle has about the same share of these 31,000 people as it does of the 2009 estimate then we’ll have one senate district with all of Jefferson and a slightly larger number of people in Berkeley. The next district west would have the rest of Berkeley, all of Morgan, all of Hampshire and either all of Hardy County or part of Mineral County. If the Eastern Panhandle has a considerably lower share of the 32,000 than of the 2009 estimate, then we’ll have a significantly larger share of Berkeley County in the easternmost senate district. The next district west could include all of Mineral County.

Some people seem to think that if a new senate district is created that has no incumbent in it that district would elect two senators in 2012, not just one. Not so. These are election districts. The 17 senators elected in 2010 will continue to represent the districts that elected them (in their current format) until 2014. The only way a senate district would elect more than one senator is if the state Senate increased its membership, adding one or more two-seat districts.

That is very unlikely to happen.

All of us representing the Eastern Panhandle will work to get the most representation possible for our area when we do redistricting. I think our area should have all of its Senate and House districts redistricted, because everybody knows we’re going to continue to grow.

But most legislators from other parts of the state will fight us. It was only because then-House Speaker Bob Kiss went to bat for the Eastern Panhandle in 2001 that we got a good deal in House redistricting that year.

And federal court rulings encourage districts to be as close to the "optimal" number possible. Exceptions to that rule include geographic compactness, commonality of interest, using existing political boundaries and even incumbent protection. But no court ruling has said we can use "projected growth" as a reason for drawing a line a certain way.
Released documents shed light on Eastern Panhandle’s Cold War role

By Rick Steehausme

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — In the fall of 1952, as the Soviet Union reinforced its Iron Curtain around Eastern Europe and prepared to test its first hydrogen bomb, thousands of American troops fought communist Chinese troops in Korea.

The Cold War had heated up, and in Washington, government planners began thinking the unthinkable: How to keep the machinery of the federal government moving if its wheels were blown off in a nuclear attack on the nation’s capital?

Until буквally continuity of government sites could be carved out of the mountains of Virginia and Maryland, or under an addition to The Greenbrier resort in West Virginia, temporary evacuation sites near Washington needed to be identified and prepared.

According to recently declassified documents from the 1950s, Cabinet heads and agency directors were charged with finding emergency relocation centers in government buildings, warehouses, schools or hotels within 75 miles of Washington and Fort Ritchie, Md., then the designated relocation center for the Department of Defense.

In West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle, sites in both Martinsburg and Shepherdstown were chosen. The old Federal Building in downtown Martinsburg, which now houses a center for the arts, was selected as the relocation center for top officials in the Department of Justice, including the attorney general’s staff and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Shepherd College, now Shepherd University, was chosen to serve as the relocation site for the FBI.

Documentation of the Cold War roles played by the two West Virginia facilities is among more than 600 pages of memos and reports, some previously designated Top Secret, contained in an FBI file titled “Emergency Relocation Plans for the Department of Justice (DOJ) 1954-56, 1966.”

The file was released last October and its contents posted earlier this month on www.govwebactic.org, a nonprofit clearinghouse for government documents brought to light through Freedom of Information Act requests.

According to memos in the file, Shepherd was designated a relocation site in October 1952, “When a memorandum was sent to the attorney general advising that the West Virginia Department of Education had approved the use of Shepherd College by the FBI.”

Shepherd was selected to serve primarily as a relocation facility for the FBI’s Washington field office. But it was also considered a backup site for all key FBI and Department of Justice headquarters personnel in the event that Washington had to be evacuated and the FBI’s Quantico, Va., training academy became “unenable” as the primary evacuation site for essential members of the FBI headquarters staff.

In a 1954 memo to FBI Associate Director Clyde Tolson, discussing the possibility of Shepherd accommodating both the Department of Justice and the FBI, H.T. Harbo wrote that the college at that time was large enough to do the job, and “in a state of good repair.

“It would be possible to allocate certain buildings to Justice and the remainder to the FBI, thus giving us complete control of our operations, yet immediate proximity to the Department. The location is excellent from the standpoint of other Government agencies, being in the 25-mile radius of Fort Ritchie,” Harbo wrote. “It is 71 miles from Washington, D.C. It has good roads, railroad and is just off the Potomac.”

According to the memo, the FBI equipped the college with emergency telephone and teletype equipment, including a “450 watt code radio station.”
As FBI microwave telecommunications station was installed at a cost of $50,000 on land leased from the Potts Estate on the outskirts of Shepherdstown along Shepherd Grade. (In the 1960s, Shepherd University bought the 226-acre estate, and the mansion-like Potts home became the university president's residence.)

Meanwhile, about 10 miles to the west in downtown Martinsburg, plans were being made to use two floors of the federal courthouse and post office (now known as the Old Federal Building and occupied by The Arts Centre) as the Department of Justice's primary emergency relocation center.

The site was chosen for several reasons, according to a May 1955 memo from A.H. Belmont, the FBI's domestic intelligence chief, to headquarters staffer I.V. Boardman.

In addition to being only about 65 miles from Washington, Martinsburg "is on the main line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and has an airport," Belmont wrote.

"In the event that highway or railroad transportation is not available, it might be possible to take a light plane from Quantico (the primary FBI relocation site) to Martinsburg, thus reducing travel time. It will more than likely be possible to arrange with the Marine Corps at Quantico to have a plane available should this become necessary."

If Washington were attacked, "all Departmental officials including the Attorney General would go to the Departmental relocation site at Martinsburg, West Virginia, where they would occupy quarters in the courthouse," according to an April 21, 1955 memo from John Airhart, the Department of Justice's relocation coordinator.

Airhart wrote that essential Justice Department personnel and their families "would occupy the Shenandoah Hotel in Martinsburg," while "nonessential Departmental Personnel and their families would occupy the George Washington Hotel in Winchester, Virginia." After meeting with his staff at Martinsburg, the attorney general "would probably accompany the President with other Cabinet members to the President's relocation site."

Planners determined that about 175 FBI and 100 Justice Department staffers were considered "essential" and would be evacuated in the event of an attack.

No evacuation drills were held at the FBI relocation site at Shepherd "because the influx of Government personnel into the college during a test would severely hamper college operations," according to the Belmont-Boardman memo. About 600 students attended the college in the mid-1950s.

According to one memo, the FBI considered buying the Potts Estate next to Shepherd and using the mansion house as a communications center during relocation drills. Should a real emergency occur, FBI personnel could "run a cable over to the college" from the large brick home to establish proper communications and "take over the college on a going basis."

Drills were held at the Justice Department relocation site in the Martinsburg Federal Building in 1955 and 1956. The exercises were apparently held in conjunction with Operation Alert, a Civil Defense Administration exercise involving nuclear attack scenarios.

According to a 1955 New York Times article, the exercise "was the first civil defense test in which the government actually left Washington, and in which account was taken of the lethal and widespread effects of radioactive fallout."

During the 1955 drill, 57 Justice Department staffers were sent to the Martinsburg Federal Building, where communications technicians and their gear occupied Rooms 9 and 10. That gear, in turn was linked to a pair of 10-axle Army Signal Corps trucks parked on the grounds of the Martinsburg Veterans Administration Hospital, 4.5 miles away.

The exercise had its problems, including one involving Jim Crow laws outlined in a 1956 memo from Boardman to Belmont.

During the 1955 drill, Attorney General Herbert Brownell had "considerable difficulty in housing the Negro chauffeur in Martinsburg," and was "quite apprehensive of the response which the Negro chauffeur might get in the West Virginia area if there were motor trouble or if it became
necessary for the chauffeur to perform some errand for him during the drill."

Boardman wrote that Airhart, the Justice Department relocation officer, had asked him if the FBI would consider assigning an agent to perform the driving duty. Belmont replied that the request should be denied, since it would be improper to tie up an agent for several days with "a chauffeuring and errand-running job." Should the press get wind of an agent substituting for the chauffeur, it would embarrass the bureau, he added.

It's not clear how the attorney general's chauffeur's situation was resolved during the 1956 drill, but the relocation exercise at Martinsburg earned "outstanding" ratings in several categories, including security and high-level participation, and "adequate" scores in communications.

But it didn't go off without a hitch. Since relocation sites were supposed to be kept secret, Operation Alert relocation drills were designed to avoid public attention. That's why organizers of the 1956 Martinsburg drill expressed concern in one memo over five fully uniformed U.S. Border Patrol officers arriving at the federal building to take part in the exercise.

According to a post-drill memo to Belmont, the Border Patrol crew "drove up to the site from Brownsville, Texas, in two INS trailers," and stayed at the relocation site around the clock. Gen. Joseph May Swing, the INS commissioner, had been asked to supply security guards for the exercise, but apparently did not pass on orders for them to be discreet, according to the memo.

In a memo sent shortly after the 1956 Operation Alert drill, Justice Department staffer R.R. Roach wrote Belmont that Attorney General Herbert Brownell Jr. wanted to move the department's relocation center out of Martinsburg and into an unidentified "composite site."

"As a matter of observation, it is well known that the attorney general is not satisfied with the physical setup of the present Department relocation site," Roach wrote.

But soon afterward, the attorney general said he decided to keep the department's relocation site in Martinsburg, although he had questions about keeping the center staffed year-round -- as President Dwight Eisenhower apparently wanted all Cabinet-level relocation centers to be. Other than checking the communications gear once a month, the Justice Department had no regular presence in the Martinsburg courthouse except during drills.

The attorney general's staff asked if the FBI could provide even token staffing of the office in order to comply with the directive. While a resident FBI agent was already assigned to Martinsburg, with his office in the Federal Building, his work kept him in the field most of the time.

In another memo, the attorney general's office asked if the FBI could hire a secretary to maintain a presence in the relocation site, but was told there wouldn't be enough paperwork to justify a full-time presence.

During the 1956 Martinsburg relocation drill, key Justice Department staffers were briefed on the attorney general's "Portfolio for the Emergency Detention Program," according to a Belmont memo. The portfolio, if signed by the president, would have, among other things, allowed the FBI, following the outbreak of war, to detain certain "dangerous persons" without habeas corpus protections, including hearings to determine whether they had been legally detained.

"As Justice Department briefed Fred Ford mentioned to me later," Belmont wrote, "they will probably forget all of it in two weeks, except that portion concerning the writ of habeas corpus, which is the part they should forget, from the standpoint of secrecy."

By 1959 work was underway on the blast-proof, fallout-resistant congressional relocation facility under The Greenbrier, and partially complete at another secure federal installation being burrowed into Mount Weather, a peak in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Bluemont, Va.

Code-named High Point or Highpoint during the 1950s, the site is now operated by the Department of Homeland Security as the Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center. According to a 2009 FEMA fact sheet, the site includes "a secure underground facility," office space for several government agencies, and "supports a variety of disaster response and continuity missions, mostly classified."
In a July 1959 memo to Belmont, FBI staffer F.A. Prohose announced that the Justice Department and the INS "have relinquished Martinsburg, West Virginia, as a relocation site and will now relocate to Highpoint."

In a January 1961 memo from the FBI director's office, the new attorney general, Robert F. Kennedy, was informed that he would be taken by FBI agents to the Mount Weather facility in an emergency. Later, he could choose to be taken to "Martinsburg, West Virginia, the department's secondary relocation site."

Later that year, the federal court facilities and post office were moved out of the old Martinsburg federal building and into a new one across the street. In 1970, the Federal Aviation Administration took over the former courthouse for use as its regional records center.

Despite its benign name, the FAA records center operated in an air of secrecy. In 1973, the building was visited by an architect as part of the process of nominating the building for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

When the architect attempted to tour the inside portions of the building, he was told it was not possible to inspect the interior, "because the building houses aviation testing records which are apparently 'top secret,'" he wrote on the nomination form. "Consequently, admittance is allowed only to specific authorized personnel."

The architect wrote that his description of the building's interior was "based on an interview with the supervisor of the records center, floor plans which he produced for examination, and whatever visual inspection that could be made from the vestibule in which the interview was granted."

The FAA records center was vacated in the 1990s. In 2001, it became the Marinsburg Arts Centre.

Upon taking over the building, it immediately became apparent "that something had gone on here besides records storage," said Mary Lewis, president of the Arts Centre's board of directors.

On the first floor, there was a raised, carpeted platform with enhanced electronic fixtures and stairways leading off its corners.

"We called it the command center, because that's what it looked like," said Lewis. "There were bunk beds on the fourth floor, and some on the third. We later gave them to the Boy Scouts. There is some pretty interesting stuff to see in the basement. It looked like the building had been left from a different era."

The recently released FBI-Justice Department files contain no mention of Shepherd's former role as a relocation site after the mid-1950s.

Shepherd spokeswoman Kay Young said several longtime members of the university's staff were contacted to see if they had any information about Shepherd's former designation as a relocation facility. They couldn't remember anything, and no records could be found, she said.

Reach Rick Steelhammer at rsteelham...@wvgazette.com or 304-348-5169.
'Best of the best' play at Franklin-Fulton County Band Festival

About 1,000 people attend the event at the Greencastle-Antrim High School auditorium

By ROXANN MILLER

roxann.miller@herald-mail.com

6:43 PM EST, January 22, 2011

GREENCEASTLE, Pa.

Darlene Caufman and her husband, Ken, arrived more than an hour before Saturday’s Franklin-Fulton County Band Festival with the goal of claiming a seat as close to the stage as possible, without actually sitting on stage with her grandsons.

When your grandsons are some of the "best of the best in the county," as Caufman said, you want to have a front row seat.

"We wanted to come because we love band. But, we have grandchildren in it, and that makes it even more special," said Caufman, a Greencastle resident whose grandsons, Hunter Rawlings and Sean Martin, performed in the band.

This year, about 1,000 people attended the festival in the Greencastle-Antrim High School auditorium.

After two days and nearly eight hours of practice, more than 220 student musicians from 10 area school districts, in grades seven to 12, performed at the annual event.

Each school’s band director selected students for the band. Trever Famulare was guest conductor for the junior high band and Mark McCoy was guest conductor for the senior high band.

"I think it’s a big deal for all the students because they're working with like-minded students — students interested in music. These are the best of the best. These are kids who want to excel," said Eric Plum, Greencastle-Antrim Middle School band director.

Ryan McClure, 18, a Chambersburg Area Senior High School senior, has participated in the band for five years.

"You are used to constantly being in your group and your band. That's all you ever hear, but with county
you get to hear how other people sound. It's just an opportunity to be under a different director and see how other people interpret music," said McClure, who plays the bassoon and plans to major in music education at Shepherd University.

"I'm glad I'm here because this is the opportunity for all the schools around the district to send the best players from their group to combine their talents to create the best music possible for this area," said Griffin Harbach, 17, a CASHS senior.

Lisa Wenschhof of McConnellsburg, Pa., said performing in the festival is an invaluable experience for her daughter, Emily.

Emily plays the trumpet in the McConnellsburg band, which, with about 30 musicians, is small compared to other area district bands.

"It gives her a chance to perform with other students and other conductors. I think it's just a good way for them to practice their music skills," Wenschhof said.

Greencastle-Antrim High School band director Sam Forney wants the quality of music to be top-notch, but he said the experience is not solely about the end product.

"It's not always about the performance. It's also about the education. We work toward the performance, but these students also received a lot of different tips from these conductors," Forney said.

Students from the following schools participated in the concert: Chambersburg Area Senior High School, J. Frank Faust Junior High School, Corpus Christi School, Fannett-Metal High School, Forbes Road Junior/Senior High School, Greencastle-Antrim Middle and High Schools, James Buchanan Middle and High Schools, McConnellsburg Middle and High Schools, Mercersburg Academy, Southern Fulton Junior and Senior High School, and Waynesboro Area Middle and High Schools.
Two WV Sites Picked as Government Office Relocation Centers in Cold War

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP)

Recently released FBI files show two sites in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle were selected as government office relocations centers during the Cold War in case of nuclear attack.

Posted: 11:37 AM Jan 24, 2011

Recently released FBI files show two sites in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle were selected as government office relocations centers during the Cold War in case of nuclear attack.

The Sunday Gazette-Mail reported the documents from the 1950s were recently declassified and released in October. A nonprofit clearinghouse posted the files online earlier this month.

The documents show Cabinet and federal agency officials were assigned to find emergency relocation centers within 75 miles of Washington, D.C. and Fort Ritchie, Maryland, which then was the designated relocation center for the Defense Department.

The old Federal Building in Martinsburg was picked to relocate top officials in the Justice Department, while Shepherd College was chosen as the relocation site for the FBI.
Documents show E. Panhandle's role in Cold War

Associated Press - January 24, 2011 2:35 AM ET

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) - Recently released FBI files show two sites in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle were selected as government office relocations centers during the Cold War in case of nuclear attack.

The Sunday Gazette-Mail reported the documents from the 1950s were recently declassified and released in October. A nonprofit clearinghouse posted the files online earlier this month.

The documents show Cabinet and federal agency officials were assigned to find emergency relocation centers within 75 miles of Washington, D.C., and Fort Ritchie, Md., which then was the designated relocation center for the Defense Department.

The old Federal Building in Martinsburg was picked to relocate top officials in the Justice Department, while Shepherd College was chosen as the relocation site for the FBI.
$14 million slated for second phase of Shepherd arts center

By RICHARD F. RELISLE
richard@herald-mail.com

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Groundbreaking for the second of a three-phase building project for Shepherd University's Contemporary Arts Center complex will be held in April, a school spokeswoman said Tuesday.

The university received a nearly $12 million state grant to add to $2 million it raised locally to build the 28,000-square-foot, three-story building, according to Valerie Owens, executive director of university communications.

Shepherd President Suzanne Shipley was not available for comment Tuesday, an aide said.

The complex's first building — which is separated by a large student parking lot below and in front of the Frank Creative Arts Center on the West Campus — opened in 2008. The new second phase, which is scheduled to open in the fall of 2013, will sit in front of the first, Owens said.

Whenever the third phase is built, it will sit in front of the other two and face W.Va. 480. It will house a large theater, Owens said.

The Frank Center currently houses music, theater and art programs. The music department will remain there, but the other two will migrate to the new building, she said.

The new building, when finished, will alleviate overcrowding in the Frank Center, Owens said.

The interior will include theater performance space with lighting catwalks, audio-visual and similar support features, a scene shop, prop shop, sculpture studio, art gallery, general and multipurpose classrooms and computer labs, she said.

The second building will be similar in design to the first and will have a copper roof and shingles.

Holzman Moss Bottino of New York, the architect who designed the first building, is designing the new one, Owens said.

The nearly $12 million West Virginia grant for Shepherd announced Monday by acting Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin stems from the sale of more than $75 million in higher education revenue bonds earlier this year. The bonds are part of Build America Bonds program under the federal stimulus act of 2009.

The $2 million was raised locally by Shepherd's Create the Future Campaign that was launched in 2006. The campaign, including the public phase which opened in 2006, has raised $16 million, mostly for student scholarships, faculty excellence and capital building projects.

"The campaign ends June 30, a year early and over goal," Owens said.
Shepherd faculty among finalists for Professor of the Year award

Shepherdstown, WV—Dr. Ed Snyder, director of the Institute of Environmental and Physical Sciences and professor of environmental studies at Shepherd University, was recently nominated as one of five finalists for the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia’s 2010 Professor of the Year honor. Snyder, who joined Shepherd’s staff in 1986, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He was named Teacher of the Year at Shepherd in 1991. 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’s...”
Shepherd alumnus endows chemistry chair

The Shepherd University Foundation has announced the creation of the John T. Reynolds Endowed Chair for Chemistry funded by John T. Reynolds, of Martinsburg. Funds from this faculty excellence award will be used to recruit, recognize, and retain outstanding chemistry faculty. Areas in which awards may provide support include relocation and housing allowances, salary enhancements, research, and academic travel.

Reynolds, a 1964 Shepherd graduate, looks back fondly on his time as a chemistry student. Widowed in 1992, Reynolds lost his only child in an automobile accident six years later. At 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 Endowed Chair for Chemistry, a deferred gift made through his estate plans. With the gift, Reynolds also joined the Joseph P. McMurran Society, a distinguished group of more than 100 members who have let Shepherd know they wish to provide for the future of the university with a planned gift or bequest.

After earning a B.S. 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 currently active in Tuscawora Presbyterian Church and serves on the board of directors for the Shepherd University Foundation. Reynolds also established the Thomas Guy Reynolds Endowed Scholarship in 1999 to honor his father, a 1933 graduate of Shepherd.

For more information about establishing an endowed scholarship, program, or faculty excellence award through the Shepherd University Foundation, please contact Monica Lingenfelter, Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV, 25443-5000, 304-876-5397, mlingenf@shepherd.edu or visit www.shepherd.edu/indhoven.
Shepherd to host ‘Double Reed Day’

The Shepherd University Department of Music will host its annual “Double Reed Day” on Saturday, February 26 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Frank Arts Center on the Shepherd Campus. The event is for “people who play” and “people who teach people to play” double reed instruments. The free one-day seminar is open to high school double reed players (grades 9-12), college students and instrumental music teachers and directors who have an interest in double reeds.

The seminars will be devoted exclusively to working with oboe and bassoon performance techniques, the audition process and purchasing new and used instruments. The event will end with a Mass Double Reed Performance Ensemble open to all the participants who wish to play.

The seminar is free but registration is required. For more information and/or a brochure and registration form, call Lisa Oswald at 304-876-5555 or visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.
Art faculty exhibit part of traveling project

Shepherd University faculty members Kristy Cherry, Sonya Evanisko, Robert Farmer, and Karen Gergely are part of a traveling “Sketchbook Project” hosted by the Art House in Brooklyn, New York. The artists are charged with filling a blank sketchbook with their personal drawings, paintings, collage, and writings and shipping them off to the Brooklyn Gallery where the sketchbooks will be bar-coded and exhibited in an exhibition that includes artists from 94 countries around the world.

Documents show Eastern Panhandle’s role in Cold War

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — Recently released FBI files show two sites in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle were selected as government office relocations centers during the Cold War in case of nuclear attack.

The Sunday Gazette-Mail reported the documents from the 1950s were recently declassified and released in October. A non-profit clearinghouse posted the files online earlier this month.

The documents show Cabinet and federal agency officials were assigned to find emergency relocation centers within 75 miles of Washington, D.C., and Fort Ritchie, Md., which then was the designated relocation center for the Defense Department.

The old Federal Building in Martinsburg was picked to relocate top officials in the Justice Department, while Shepherd College was chosen as the relocation site for the FBI.
Masterworks Chorale announces auditions for vocalists

The Masterworks Chorale will be holding auditions for Haydn’s masterpiece oratorio, The Creation, to be performed on Saturday, April 30 at 8 p.m. at St. James Catholic Church in Charles Town. The program will be repeated on Sunday, May 1 at 7 p.m. at the Frank Arts Center Theater as part of the Friends of Music Concert Series.

The 130-member vocal ensemble, comprised of Shepherd University vocal students and members from the surrounding community, presents two full-length concerts per year of great masterpieces from the choral literature as well as appearances at the Annual Holiday Gala and Family Concert. Auditions are open to everyone, and consist of vocal exercises. Singers are not required to prepare a piece in advance.

The Masterworks Chorale meets Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the Frank Arts Center rehearsal hall. Anyone interested in being part of the group should attend the rehearsal of the ensemble on Monday, January 10 or Monday, January 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Rehearsal Hall in the Frank Arts Center. For more information or to schedule an audition, contact Dr. Erik Reid Jones at 304-876-5371 or e-mail ejones04@shepherd.edu.

Shepherd to sponsor lecture with Amy Roloff

In recognition of National Recreational Sports and Fitness Day, Shepherd University Intramurals will sponsor a lecture by Amy Roloff on Tuesday, February 22 at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Storer Ballroom. The event is free and open to the public. Sponsors of the event include the Student Government Association, Multicultural Student Affairs, Residence Life, the Student Center, and the Program Board.

Rolloff is best known for her TLC reality show Little People Big World that shares the story of her family’s life. Roloff has used her newfound celebrity to inspire positive change in the world for kids and families globally. Her story of overcoming challenges has led to appearances on Oprah, Good Morning America, the Rachel Ray Show, The View, and Jay Leno, as well as interviews with The New York Times, People Magazine, and McCall’s.

To learn more about Roloff, visit www.amyroloff.com. For more information, contact Keith Worrell, director of intramurals, at kworell@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5076.
Shepherd receives $11.8 million for expansion

BY MEGAN FISHER
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Acting Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin announced Monday that the state of West Virginia, through the Higher Education Policy Commission, sold higher education revenue bonds totaling $76,865,000 to be used toward higher education projects across the state.

"Through the sale of these bonds, West Virginia has positioned itself to make needed additions and improvements that will benefit students for generations to come," Tomblin said.

In addition to $2,085,000 from private funding, Shepherd University received $11,815,000 from the revenue bonds sale to benefit their visual arts program.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Richard Helldobler said that the money will fund the second phase for the Center for Contemporary Arts, which includes a 26,000-square-foot facility.

The LEED-certified facility will house a 175-seat theater, four classrooms for the graphic design program, a sculpture studio and a costume and props studio. Lighting, catwalks, audio and visual equipment will be just a few features special to the acting theater.

"We don't currently have a space designed and built as a theater," Helldobler said. "This will be our first acting theater space on campus."

The bonds sale enables students to relocate to a proper theater facility from the music hall, a location which is not adequate for visual arts performances, Helldobler said.

"The new theater will certainly be a lovely and very comfortable venue for the many patrons that visit us during the academic year and the summer," Helldobler said.

The theater also will host the nationally recognized Contemporary American Theater Festival each year. Helldobler said the groundbreaking will occur in April 2011, and students will occupy the facility in full semester of 2013. The project's total estimated cost is $13,500,000.

— Staff writer Megan Fisher can be reached at 304-263-3381, ext. 132, or mfisher@journal-news.net
SU faculty part of scrapbook project

Shepherd University faculty members Kristy Cherry, Sonya Evansko, Robert Farmer and Karen Gergely are part of a traveling "Sketchbook Project" hosted by the Art House in Brooklyn, N.Y. The artists are charged with filling a blank sketchbook with their personal drawings, paintings, collages and writings and shipping them off to the Brooklyn Gallery where the sketchbooks will be bar-coded and exhibited in an exhibition that includes artists from 94 countries around the world.

During the exhibition, bar-code scanners will be utilized by viewers to scan the sketchbook they want to review and information will be sent to the artist so they can track how many viewers interacted with their work. Artists can stay connected with where their sketchbook travels through a personalized website which allows artists access to their sketchbook's activity.

Cherry, Evansko, Farmer and Gergely are all studio artists and professors of contemporary art at Shepherd.

The "Sketchbook Project," which includes the highly personal work of thousands of artists worldwide, will form an exhibition starting in March that will travel across the nation. See Project —— page 18

Visual Arts program gets $11M in funds

Shepherd University Visual Arts program received $2,085,000 in federal and/or private funding and $11,815,000 from the state Higher Education Policy Commission bond funding to provide 30,000 square feet of additional space for the visual arts program and a studio theater.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin today announced that the State of West Virginia, through HEPC, sold higher education revenue bonds totaling $76,865,000 earlier this month. The proceeds of the bond sale will be used on a variety of projects across the state's system of higher education and will invigorate construction jobs, while strengthening higher education infrastructure for West Virginia students.

"Through the sale of these bonds, West Virginia has positioned itself to make needed additions and improvements that will benefit students for generations to come. The projects funded with these bond proceeds will help diversify West Virginia's economy by supporting students in key areas like science, technology, engineering and mathematics," Tomblin said in a release. "In addition, capital projects are proven economic enhancers — and the immediate potential for new and vital West Virginia jobs is very good news."

Project —— page 14

Although the artists spend weeks filling the pages of their personal sketchbooks with often times elaborate drawings and paintings, the work becomes the property of the Art House and remains in the public collection of the Brooklyn Art Library.

The Art House is recognized for creating massive international art projects that aim to bring thousands of artists' work together. Most of the exhibitions take place at the gallery in Brooklyn, but in an effort to provide more people the opportunity to view the artwork select projects travel to guest galleries around the country. Last year's project was covered by CNN news to highlight how a simple sketchbook and the act of making art can become a worldwide project.
Inter-tribal pow wow to be held at University

By Jennifer Weitzl
Chronicle Staff

Eight Native American tribes will convene Saturday at Shepherd University for a fundraiser and inter-tribal pow wow with all proceeds going to the Healing Wolf Organization. The pow wow will feature dancers from different states performing in their dance regalia.

"Dancers are very proud of their hand-made regalia. Symbolic beads and feathers adorn many of the dancers," said Joe Hatfield of Ranson, part of the organizing team. The dancing events will take place in the dormitory ballroom. The grand entrance will be at 12 p.m. There will be several interactive dances, where the audience can learn a few steps. There will be a "give away" dance for the children, and one to honor any veterans who attend.

"We want to bring our culture to the university," said organizer Reed Brown, Jr.

The student center will have a variety of vendors and traditional foods — fry bread, Indian tacos and reservation stew. There will be no charge to enter the student center.

It will cost $7.50 for adults to attend the pow wow at the ballroom. It will be free to any veterans, all Shepherd University students and children under 12. Doors will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The pow wow will raise funds for the Healing Wolf Organization from Wampanoag, S.D. Oglala Sioux Elder Reed Brown, Sr., is organizing the relocation of an abandoned school onto the Pine Ridge Reservation. Once the building is moved, it will be transformed into a museum. They will display a collection of artifacts, including Crazy Horse's Tomahawk. They hope the museum will create new jobs and renewed interest in their history.

For more information visit the website at www.wamprata.web.com. Donations will gladly be accepted via PayPal at this website.

SU faculty member nominated as state Professor of the Year

Ed Snyder, director of the Institute of Environmental and Physical Sciences and professor of environmental studies at Shepherd University, was recently nominated as one of five finalists for the faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia's 2010 Professor of the Year honor.

Snyder, who joined SU's staff in 1986, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He was named Shepherd's Teacher of the Year in 1991.

In 1994 he launched the environmental studies program at Shepherd which was introduced 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 these 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," Snyder said in a release.

The Faculty Merit Foundation started to recognize and reward excellence in higher education at private and public colleges in the state. Candidates are nominated by students and colleagues in the fall.

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 Scott Board and Jerry Thomas, finalists in 2009 and 2007, and Sylvia Bailey Shuttrett and Linda Tate, winners in 2006 and 2004.
Counties to secede from state? Ha!

Delegate Larry Kump, a freshman who represents northwestern Berkeley County and northeastern Morgan County, has introduced a bill that would provide for a non-binding referendum in Jefferson, Berkeley and Morgan counties to determine if a majority of residents of these three counties would like to secede from West Virginia and rejoin Virginia.

In the days since that introduction I have tried to determine what to make of his action. I go back and forth between mirth and outrage. I think this idea is the epitome of nonsense.

The image of the Eastern Panhandle over most of West Virginia is one of elitism. Many West Virginians outside the Panhandle think we consider ourselves to be better than they are. Talk of secession reinforces that image. It also makes it more difficult to get the attention of state government to our serious problems that are different from those of the rest of the state.

We've had a tough time getting salaries for public school and state employees that are adequate for the cost of living here. We've also had a tough time getting attention to the fact that our property tax structure is not equal to our area. The difficulty in accomplishing these things is exacerbated by the widespread view over most of the state that "you folks in the Eastern Panhandle don't really want to think of yourselves as West Virginians."

Periodically someone somewhere in the Eastern Panhandle raises the question of returning to Virginia from whence all of West Virginia came. There might be some logic in raising the question if such a move could in fact be accomplished.

But the United States Constitution says that you cannot take territory from an existing state without that state's permission. West Virginia will never give us permission to leave, even if we wanted to. So, there. West Virginia was able to secede from Virginia after Virginia tried to secede from the union. So, ask some, why can't the Eastern Panhandle do the same thing?

When Virginia tried to leave the union by force of arms most of what is now West Virginia didn't want to go. Also, many people in the county on the western slope of the Alleghenies most of what is now West Virginia wanted to leave Virginia and form a new state anyway. Their representatives in the Virginia Legislature called themselves into session. When the legislators from the pro-Confederacy parts of Virginia didn't show up, the westerners voted themselves permission to leave. President Abraham Lincoln, using the extraordinary powers granted him under martial law, recognized the action as legitimate.

So, if the country is divided again, could the Eastern Panhandle form a new state?

Some have suggested that Virginia might want to pay West Virginia money to get our three counties. Fat chance. I'll wager that even if Virginia were willing to pay something for us it wouldn't be anywhere near what West Virginia would demand.

Personally, I think we'd be better off in West Virginia than we would be in either Virginia or Maryland. Those states are primarily urban in nature, and the rural areas of both states under represent the voting power in Richmond and Annapolis.

The eastern three counties have about ten percent of West Virginia's population (and will have therefore about ten percent of the representation in the Legislature after redistricting this year). We would have about three percent of Maryland's population and only two percent of Virginia's, with a representation percentage to match in each.

I think the voters of each of our districts sent us to Charleston to do serious work toward solving our problems, not to make quixotic statements that command media attention but are ultimately counterproductive.
TLC Star to Speak at Shepherd

Amy Roloff, who with her family appears on the TLC show “Little People, Big World,” will speak at Shepherd University Feb. 22 in recognition of National Recreational Sports and Fitness Day.

Roloff’s speech will begin at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Storer Ballroom. The event is free and open to the public.

Roloff has used her role as a TV personality to inspire positive change in the world for kids and families globally. In 2008, she founded the Amy Roloff Charity Foundation, a nonprofit that works to advocate, support and inspire kids including youth at risk, kids with special needs and other challenges. She has raised money to help educate and support children in foster care, teen moms, recreation centers, children’s hospitals and homeless children.

Roloff also serves on the board of her children’s school, participates in other volunteer work and is active on the board of Little People of America, an organization that advocates for people with dwarfism.

To learn about Roloff, visit www.amyjroloff.com. For information on her speech, contact Keith Worrell, director of intramurals, at kworrell@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5076.
'Diner'

Shepherdstown Film Society will present "Diner," the first of Barry Levinson's films featuring Baltimore. Rated R. Series kickoff from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. today at War Memorial Building, corner of German and King streets, Shepherdstown, W.Va. Film at 7 p.m. in Shepherd University's Reynolds Hall, off King Street, Shepherdstown. Free. A discussion follows. Call Lisa Welch at 304-876-1837 or e-mail lwelch@frontiermet.net.